

December 2011

Kislev 5 - Tevet 5 5772

volume 33, issue 4

**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.



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19th**  
**At 8:00 pm**

### SCHOOL BOOKFAIR

December 4th, 12:30 pm—3:00 pm  
at Barnes & Noble in North Brunswick

L'dor Vador Concert  
Generation to Generation  
Sunday, Dec 11  
4:00 PM

For tickets and information  
**732-297-0696**

or [www.bnaitikvah.org/concert.html](http://www.bnaitikvah.org/concert.html)

*1001 Finnegans Lane  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902*

**Happy  
Hanukkah**



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CHECK OUR WEBSITE: [BNAITIKVAH.ORG](http://BNAITIKVAH.ORG) FOR EVENTS & SCHEDULE UPDATES THROUGHOUT THE MONTH  
MAIN OFFICE PHONE # 732-297-0696 NURSERY & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PHONE # 732-297-0295

## Let's Celebrate Chanukah!

Are you excited that Chanukah is almost here? This wonderful holiday is filled with important lessons. I am proud to be a part of a congregation that takes these lessons to heart. But before I continue to be preachy, let me say that I look forward, most of all, to our traditional family celebration. Stacey and I exchange gifts, decorate our home, sing traditional songs, and eat fun food. We are grateful for our good health and comfort and teach our children that we must share our good fortune.

This year we will offer an expanded Chanukah Party, following religious school (6:15 PM) on

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 21,  
THE SECOND NIGHT OF CHANUKAH,  
BRING YOUR MENORAH (CHANUKIA)  
TO THE SYNAGOGUE FOR OUR ANNUAL  
CANDLE LIGHTING.**

We will spin our dreidles; feast on latkes, donuts (which is an Israeli Chanukah tradition), baked ziti, and pizza (a B'nai Tikvah tradition!) as we watch the glow of our melting candles. Check out the flyer in this Hakol for all of the details about the party.

JOI, the Jewish Outreach Institute, is an organization that celebrates the diversity of our Jewish community. In describing Hanukkah they say... "When all is said and done, perhaps the most important message of Hanukkah may be found in the name of the holiday itself: Dedication. When Jews have dedicated themselves, through faith and action, to the pursuit of high religious and human ideals, Judaism has been strong. That imperative, to strengthen our religion and our people, remains an important challenge at this season, in every generation."

Obviously, the commercialism of the winter holidays is often ridiculed and therefore our response is who we share our good fortune with those that are less fortunate.

Without a doubt, if you surf the Internet to learn more about Chanukah, you will be impressed to see that each Jewish organization stresses doing acts of lovingkindness, tzedakah.

Our Conservative movement posts a number of suggestions for a meaningful celebration of the holiday. "Chanukah-The Gift of Giving;" is an outline that enumerates eight suggestions to make each night of candle lighting more meaningful and illuminating.

Each night has a unique focus; as we light the candles, we retell the story of the holiday through the acts that we can do today to improve our world. Giving and doing for others is our theme. The complete list is online at [www.uscj.org](http://www.uscj.org), the website of the Conservative movement. I will so be glad to give you a copy of the list.

The Reform Judaism website links you to eight sites. "Each night, after candles, songs, gifts, food, and games, we visit one website about a significant cause. An enhancement of this ritual would be to ask each family member to commit to one action to forward this cause. We would thereby put into effect four central Chanukah themes of: freedom, which the Maccabees won; dedication, the translation of the word, Chanukah; faith, the willingness to take a step towards living out God's values, that is, lighting the oil, even if resources seem inadequate; and light, the defiance of our darkest time of the year by working to brighten our world.

Humanistic Jews celebrating Hanukkah embody the same Jewish values while concentrating on the role of the individual and the community and not on God ... as a reminder that human beings can use their abilities to enhance the quality of life. The lights of the *hanukkia* serve as a connection with our past, as a link to other Jews, and as a reminder of the fragility of life. We kindle the lights for our values: action, courage, human dignity, freedom, justice, Jewish values.

Whatever your point of view, Chanukah is an opportunity to grow stronger in our resolve to make this a better world. We can once again thank God for the chance and the responsibility to contribute to worthy endeavors. May our love for God, the Jewish people, and our fellow citizens of the world grow each day.

Celebrate with joy,  
Cantor Bruce Rockman

## From the Desk of Cantor Bruce Rockman

L'dor Vador  
presents  
"Craig Taubman and His Band"  
The Claire and Irving Teicher  
Concert

"Song is an expression of the soul ,an expression of the heart and speaks louder than any words." *Craig Taubman*

I am so excited by our L'dor Vador Concert starring Craig Taubman and his band. I look forward to seeing you ALL here. The concert is going to be great. We will all experience one of the finest and most exciting Jewish artists in America. Singing and dancing in the aisles will be the rule for the day.

**Sunday, December 11, at 4PM**  
**You have to be here!**

Each year, when we plan and promote these marvelous events, I feel that I have to be half carnival barker, promising the experience of a lifetime, and half evangelist, guaranteeing eternal salvation! My goal is to see our sanctuary and social hall filled, just like on the High Holy Days. I really believe that you will be happy because you were here.

It is not simply hype to tell you that it is an event to be cherished and shared. Each year our L'dor Vador concerts and programs send you home wanting more of the positive vibe that each event radiates. Craig's musical style is a fusion of our eastern European tradition and American contemporary rock. Craig Taubman and his band will help us transcend and be inspired by his joyful music!

Certainly, there is great injustice in the world. I see our mission as being optimistic realists who work to fix the world brick by brick. I am inspired by music and I hope you feel the same.

One of our former L'dor Vador artists, the jazz Rabbi Greg Wall, recently wrote:

*"It is our mission as human beings to seek out the presence of G-d. We cannot today 'see' any image, or 'hear' any distinct voice, but we can certainly see and hear the effect of G-d in the world, if we only take the time to look and listen. Our lives can be so much richer for it, and we need not sacrifice anything at all."*

Craig Taubman's original music is a modern expression of our ancient heritage, reinterpreting psalms and prayers written for us by King David. The future of the Jewish people is in good hands, as I'm sure that Craig's music will inspire future generations to express their aspirations, their love of God, of Israel, and of the Jewish people.

We are grateful for the generosity  
of our L'dor Vador benefactors,  
Cindy & David Teicher and  
Judy & Mark Roller  
Your continuing commitment to  
extraordinary artistic expression at  
B'nai Tikvah will inspire  
and enlighten us,  
ensuring our future from  
Generation to Generation,  
**L'dor Vador.**

With Joy!  
Cantor Bruce Rockman

P.S. Without putting my head in the sand, I am a very positive person. I am devastated by bad news. So I look for all that is good and positive and hope and attempt to work and to foster affirmative change.

The Newsletter of  
**Congregation B'nai Tikvah**  
**JCC of North & South Brunswick**  
 1001 Finnegan's Lane  
 North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Published monthly, except for July and August.  
 Submissions are welcomed about Congregation  
 events, group activities, and other material relevant  
 to the Jewish community

All Submissions for **HAKOL**  
 are due by the **12th** of the  
 preceding month

**Please send submissions and correspondence  
 via e-mail to:**

**Hakol.CBT@gmail.com**

All e-mail submissions are acknowledged via e-mail.  
 You may also put submissions in the HAKOL Box in  
 the synagogue office. All submissions are subject to  
 available space and editorial constraints. Please call  
 Michael Weiss, editor at 732-246-0306 or email at  
 meweiss@optonline.net if you have any questions

#### **SUBMISSION FORMATS**

##### **TEXT:**

Editorial submissions should be in MS-Word, plain  
 text, rich text format or typed directly into the body  
 of an e-mail. No special fonts will be used without  
 prior arrangement. Graphics embedded in a text file  
 will not be used. Graphics and photos must be submitted  
 separately, rather than inside other files or documents.

##### **GRAPHICS & IMAGES:**

Advertisements should be submitted in one of the  
 following formats: PDF, TIFF, or BMP. JPEG files  
 may also be used, but may print as lower quality.  
 All text should be converted to black and white. All  
 images should be converted to grey scale. All images  
 submitted for scanning must be photo or photo  
 quality images.

##### **ORDER FORMS & FLYERS:**

In most cases, full-page flyers will be reduced to  
 half page or less, at the editor's discretion.

##### **FOR ADVERTISING INFO:**

www.bnaitikvah.org/hakol.html

Hakol.CBT@gmail.com

Or

Michael Weiss, editor at 732-246-0306

CarolAnn Harkavy, advertising at 732-438-0796



## **Hanukah Blessings**

The first two blessings are recited each night. The third  
 blessing is only recited on the first night of Hanukkah,  
 when the menorah is kindled for the first time.

### **Blessing 1 English:**

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
 who has sanctified us with Your commandments, and  
 has commanded us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.

### Sephardic/Modern Israeli:

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech Ha-Olam, asher  
 kiddeshanu b'mitzvotav, vitzivanu, lehadlik ner shel  
 Hanukkah.

### **Blessing 2**

*This second blessing, which asks us to remember the  
 miracles performed for our ancestors, is also said prior  
 to the Megillah reading on [Purim](#).*

### English:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
 who wrought miracles for our fathers in days of old, at  
 this season.

### Sephardic/Modern Israeli:

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech Ha-Olam,  
 she-asah nissim la-avotaynu bayamim ha-hem bazman  
 hazeh.

### **Blessing 3**

*This blessing is recited only on the first time the  
 Hanukkah menorah is lit. Called the [Shehechyanu](#), it is  
 an important blessing that thanks God for sustaining us  
 and reminds us to appreciate the goodness in our lives.*

### English:

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
 who has kept us alive, and has preserved us, and enabled  
 us to reach this time.

### Sephardic/Modern Israeli:

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech Ha-Olam, she-  
 hekheyanu v-kiyamanu v-higgianu lazman hazeh.

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## A Minyan Moment

When our friend Arnie Miller, of blessed memory, passed away and his wife Susan and daughter Elisa couldn't say kaddish one night, it just bothered me. Something isn't right. Why doesn't the congregation support our minyan? So, I picked up the phone, made some calls, and everyone said yes! Now our minyan is becoming stronger. We have a congregation which is there to support our own B'nai Tikvah family members when they need us and that's a good feeling. But is this enough?

I really appreciate the response I've gotten from my phone calls to the congregation. We haven't missed a night in over a month. You have all been very supportive of our evening minyan. I've been asked if this is something I'm doing, assuring a daily minyan. Even my wife Nancy asked, "So is this your thing?"

This is something I think is important, but the minyan is not MY thing; the minyan is OUR thing. I would like to help foster an atmosphere that will assure all of us a place and time to pray to G-d

surrounded by a caring community, a minyan. This is not something that is going to be done by committee. I feel that this has to happen by us wanting to be there. You want to be there for your friends. You want to be there for yourselves. I hope that you will find it meaningful. You'll see old friends – you'll stop and kibitz a little. You'll feel good about yourself. You did a mitzvah. I hope that you will want to come back to another minyan without being called.

Before we run, we have to walk and before we walk, we have to crawl. So pick a night, any night. Make it your business to be there and pretty soon it won't be a chore on your list of many other chores. It will be on your calendar as someplace you want to be.

I would like to thank you for the positive response I have received from my phone calls and I hope to see you at minyan, again.

Have a Good Shabbos,

Elliott Danto

# ANOTHER VIEWPOINT

## Love Notes

My friend, Bill Greenberg, called me to tell me that if I would prepare my old papers for demolition, he would take them over to the recycling place for me.

It's a job that I have been putting off for years. Mili passed away six years ago. She was a compulsive saver. She still had boxes of cancelled checks going back almost fifty years, to say nothing of the stacks of loving greeting cards that we had exchanged for birthdays, holidays, and special events. She also kept all the cards that we ever received from kids, family, and friends.

Well, I felt that I had to take advantage of my friend's offer, and started to assemble a couple of bags of records. It wasn't easy. Mili was a writer. Every time I picked up a piece of paper with her writing on it, or even if it was typed, I felt that I had to see what she had written. There were letters and articles that go back to the 1960s. Papers that she had received about projects that she had been involved with.

Stuff I had long forgotten about. I found a letter from 1975 from the Kendall Park Fire Commissioner in which I was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Kendall Park Volunteer Fire Department. Who remembers? I would not have thought that I would forget something so completely that I must have felt proud of back then, but Mili had saved the letter.

How can I throw out a birthday card so old that it had turned yellow around the edges, with a love note in her handwriting? They say that life is too short – and for many unfortunately it is too short. But how long is long enough? We had been married for 62 years. Was that long enough? Perhaps for some it is, but for others, it is just the beginning and never long enough.

As I read these old cards, some to me and some from me, I am touched just as much today as when my hair was dark and my stride was strong.

Old soldiers fade away, but true love never dies.

Aaron Rosloff

Mili also wrote articles for Hakol (The Park Light).

Following is part of an article from the June, 1960 ,issue, Vol.1 No. 6:

### Parking Lightly

By Millie Rosloff

(note her change in the spelling of her first name)

This has been a busy year at our temple Beth Shalom. There were services, discussion groups and Hebrew lessons on Friday nights, and activities ranging from dance and art classes, First Aid, Youth Group, Sunday and Hebrew School, Men's Club, Women's Group, parties for Adults and Children, and the use of our building for other community activities such as the Democratic Club meetings.

Next year gives promise of almost 100% use of the premises. We may even find something to fill the afternoons, when the building is empty.

There may be a time when we are no longer an anonymous unmarked structure, when the gas meters are closeted, the ceilings painted, the building and membership expanded, the Rabbi here full time and while we are dreaming, the mortgage burning while we all dance a hora.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You will never hear me say "I would like to thank so and so" because I much prefer to "actually" thank them. I apologize that the timing of submitting my article to Hakol prevented me from doing that last month so, please bear with me as I now take the opportunity to thank those who volunteered to help make this year's High Holy Day services run as smoothly and orderly as they did.

To Jeff Cadoff and all the ushers who greeted people as they arrived and advised those waiting for the sanctuary doors to open at the proper times. In no particular order, I thank:

Mirah Becker	Marty Abschutz
Lauren Cohen	Gale Dillman
Rob Blackin	Michael Weiss
Marcie Kfare	Doug Smoller
Mark Sherman	Gilda Gildenberg
Svetlana Veksler	Marty Haller
Barbara (Bobby) Bergman	Kim Riemann
Renee Juro	David Cukor
Ben Gottesman	Linda Fellen
Ann Gold	Wayne Gonchar
Dorothy (Dot) Cohen	Charles Valan
Allen Weg	

To Phil Welsher and all the inside ushers who helped those who were receiving honors, I thank:

Marc Binder	Renee Levin
Irwin Millinger	Mark Roller
Allison Nagelberg	Danny Greenberg
Kevin Krane	Ben Gottesman
Herb Mars	

To Marci Oslick, who coordinated the Torah readers, I give thanks to:

Sam Rosenzweig	Howard Waksman
Rachel Ruchlin	Allison Nagelberg
Evan Gottesman	Lauren Wistreich

I would also so like to thank (so, I hereby do) those who served as Gabbai'm:

Stacey Rockman	Ruth Anne Koenick
Marc Binder	Marci Oslick
Bobbi Binder	Danny Greenberg

A special thanks goes to Ann Rosenzweig, who has become somewhat of a fixture at the honors desk, and to Alex & Stephanie Welsher who jumped in when Ann had to leave because of Sam on Yom Kippur morning.

Also, to Joseph and Etan Wolkoff who helped pick up the books left on the chairs and put them back on the table after each service, and to all the USYers who helped set up the chairs a few days before the services.

Thank you all for helping our clergy to make the holiday experience as meaningful and enjoyable as it truly was.



Gary Bergman, President

## HOW DO WE SPELL IT???

Why does Hakol spell the name of this season's holiday in so many ways? (No, not bad proof-reading.) It's because there is no universal "right" or "wrong" spelling...our writers have a preference...traditional and modern Hebrew differ...Ashkenazi and Sephardic differ...some scholars believe the changes are a positive. So, Hakol is permissive and always everyone who writes for it to make a personal choice.



A big thank you to Lisa, Richard, and Adam Seidman for inviting his Kadima friends to their Sukkah. Everyone had a great time building edible Sukkah's.



**December 8** - Movie Night in the Youth Lounge from 7-9 pm. Snacks will be served & bring along your favorite movie! We will be voting as a group! RSVP by 12/5.

**December 9 - 10th** - Regional Shabbaton in Teaneck. There is a dance on Saturday, the 10th, for those attending the Shabbaton & also for those who want to just go to the dance. I will be running a bus for those going to the dance on Saturday night & for those who need a ride home after the Shabbaton and dance. Space is limited since we are sharing w/ other Chapters, so RSVP, ASAP. The cost is \$10 & you can leave it in the Kadima mailbox. Please remember you need my signature on your permission form for the Shabbaton & you can bring it along to the next event. Scholarships are available if needed & you can contact Steve Juro directly at rsjuro@verizon.net to apply.

**December 21** - Synagogue Hanukkah Party, Don't miss this fun event! Details to follow.

**January 14, 2012** - Save the date for our Annual-Lock-In, from 7 pm until 10 am ! If you don't want to sleep over, you can be picked up by 1 am. This year we invited the Cranford Chapter to join us & I hired Ross The Entertainer who was at Encampment as well as the Opening Regional Event.

The charge to our Chapter is only \$5 & the Youth Fund will pick up the balance. Snacks & breakfast will be served. RSVP's will be required in advance & can start at anytime!

In addition to the Hakol articles each month, all communications will be going out through weekly emails. Please make sure to let me know if you change your email address during the year.

Contact me with questions or concerns throughout the year! Applications are available and always accepted at:

[bnaitikvah.org/app-usy-kadima-2011-12.pdf](http://bnaitikvah.org/app-usy-kadima-2011-12.pdf)

Jordana Andersen  
[btkadima@gmail.com](mailto:btkadima@gmail.com)  
 732-422-7457





## Shalom!

This past month, USY has had some great programs! During Sukkot, we had Chinese food in the Sukkah; that night had a great turnout of 24 USYers! Many thanks to the Shindler family for the use of their Sukkah. On November 5, we had a SATO Movie Night where we watched "Mean Girls" and raised more than \$85.00!! Thank you everyone for coming out and making them such successful programs. USY also will have a busy month this December!

### Here is what's coming up!

#### December 13

##### ISRAELI MOVE NIGHT IN THE YOUTH LOUNGE!

We will be bringing in several Israeli movies from which to choose, including "Gei Oni (Valley of Fortitude)," which was shown at the Rutgers New Jersey Film Festival and focuses on life in Northern Israel during the First Aliyah in the 1890s; "Sallach Shabbatt," an excellent film about the Ohlim Chadashim in the 1970s, or a series called "Srugin," about a group of religious Jews living in Jerusalem, that is hailed as the "Israeli Friends." If you have any suggestions of another good Israeli movie, please do not hesitate to email me. Please RSVP, ASAP, for this night of a movie and snacks.

#### December 17

##### REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP DANCE IN BRIDGEWATER.

We will be hosting a bus, so please let me know if you are interested in coming. RSVP, ASAP! We have limited seating on the bus because we are sharing it with two other chapters. The cost of the bus is \$10.

#### December 23- 29

##### USY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN PHILADELPHIA!

The Marlboro chapter will be hosting the Pre-Convention, locally, on the 23rd and 24th, and then the students will be taken by bus to Philadelphia for a few days of pure USY fun!

The deadline for the applications has been extended, so if you are interested in attending, please contact me.

I want to formally thank everyone who helped out with Fall Kinnus! There is no way we could have done it without your help! A big todah rabbah to all who hosted students, chaperoned the dance and helped with meals. The event was a success because of you!

A very special thank you to Mark Moscarello, the painter who generously donated his time to paint the Youth Lounge!! If you peek in, the color is just amazing. If you are looking for a painter, he is very reasonable and would very much appreciate the business!!. His phone number is 609-540-0304. Please check out his ad in this edition of Hakol.

A big, personal thank you to Ken Wistreich, Lauren's dad, who worked so tirelessly on many evenings replacing the old verticals with new faux wooden blinds. He also painted a very cool chalkboard on one of the walls and built the molding around it. Lastly, thank you to Dorothy Cohen for donating the chalkboard paint and to Steve Juro and Alan Woller for assisting in taking down the old verticals.

If you are not a member of the USY chapter and would like to become one, the link to the application is here:

[bnaitikvah.org/app-usy-kadima-2011-12.pdf](http://bnaitikvah.org/app-usy-kadima-2011-12.pdf)

בשלום ואהבה

Kimberly Syvarth

Rutgers University 2013

English and Jewish Studies

Rutgers Hillel Conservative Community Co-Chair  
2011-2012

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**SAVE  
THE DATE**

**JCC of North & South Brunswick and  
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# Barnes & Noble Bookfair

**Sunday, December 4th, 12:30 pm—3:00 pm  
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**Join us for a fun afternoon featuring**

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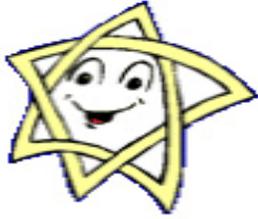
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תקווה

B'nai  
Tikvah



Congregation B'nai Tikvah Religious School



December may bring cold weather and snow, but it will also bring smiles. The Religious School is planning wonderful activities.

On December 4<sup>th</sup> we will be partnering with the Nursery School for a fundraiser at Barnes and Noble in North Brunswick. We will be at Barnes and Noble from 12:30-3:00. There will be special performances by the students as well as a free raffle. You must be present to win the raffle. Remember to present a voucher (page 10) when making your purchases. A percentage of all purchases from that day will be given back to both the Religious and Nursery Schools.

Until December 9<sup>th</sup> ten percent of all purchases at Five Below will be given back to the Religious School.

The Aleph Naming Ceremony will be held on December 11<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony will take place in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. A brunch will be served following the ceremony in the Youth Lounge. I look forward to sharing this special occasion with everyone.

Craig Taubman will be at Congregation B'nai Tikvah on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are reasonably priced so that everyone can attend this special event.

The Dalet Family Education Program will continue to focus on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Process.

We will meet on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Lounge. This second program will deal with Mitzvah Projects, Torah and Haftorah portions. The second Chai Breakfast with the Rabbi will be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> in the gym.

Everyone is invited to the Hanukkah program on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:15 p.m. We will light the candles, sing songs, eat, and have a great time.

Junior Congregation notices have been sent out. Hebrew evaluations have been completed and you parents will be informed if their child needs extra help with the Hebrew Program.

Enjoy the winter break. Keep safe and stay warm. Happy and Healthy New Year! See you in 2012.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

December 4	Barnes and Noble Fundraiser
December 11	Aleph Naming Ceremony, Craig Taubman concert
December 12	Religious School Committee meeting 8 p.m.
December 18	Dalet Family Education Program Chai Breakfast with the Rabbi
December 21	Hanukkah School Program at 6:15 p.m.
December 25	Winter Break (No School) thru January 1

Each issue of Hakol reaches more than 400 Jewish households. It is one of the most cost effective ways to reach our community. Hakol is published monthly, except for July and August. Advertisers get free hyperlinks to their websites at bnaitikvah.org.

## Advertising rates for 2011-2012

Size	Artwork (W x H)	Annual Contract (10 Issues)	Single Issue
Full page	8" x 10.5"	\$675	\$100
½ page	3.75" x 10.5" or 8" x 5"	\$525	\$80
¼ page	3.75" x 5"	\$400	\$60
Business card	2" x 3.5"	\$300	\$45

Contact: CarolAnn Harkavy 732-438-0796 or CaHarkavy@aol.com  
The deadline for your submissions is the 12<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

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## DONATE SOME TIME

If you have a few minutes ( or half an hour ) and want to do something good, please be part of a minyan at Bnai Tikvah or a shivah house. Schedules and directions are available at [bnaitikvah.org](http://bnaitikvah.org)

Thank you!  
Marci Oslick

Grandma was discussing Noah's Ark with her 5 year old when she asked,  
"How many animals went into the Ark?"  
The child answered: "Two, one mail and one e-mail."



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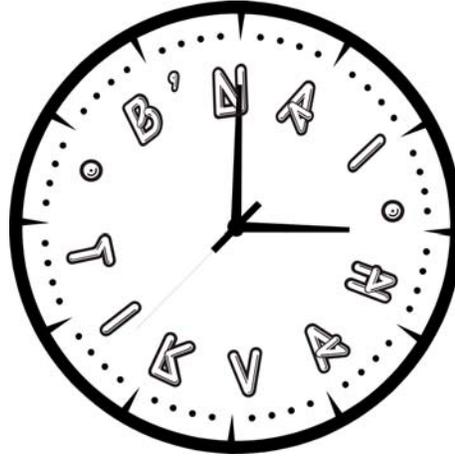
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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICE AND CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES



### Daily Schedule of Services

Sunday	9:00 am & 7:30 pm
Monday	7:30 pm
Tuesday	7:30 pm
Wednesday	7:30 pm
Thursday	7:30 am & 7:30 pm
Friday	8:00 pm
Saturday	9:30 am

### Candle Lighting Times

December	2	4:14 pm
December	9	4:13 pm
December	16	4:14 pm
December	23	4:17 pm
December	30	4:21 pm

### Shabbat Ends

December	3	5:16 pm
December	10	5:16 pm
December	17	5:18 pm
December	24	5:21 pm
December	31	5:26 pm

### Mincha/Ma'ariv and Havdalah

December	3	4:15 pm
December	10	4:15 pm
December	17	3:30 pm
		(Seudah and Study)
December	24	4:15 pm
		(Sundaes on Saturday)
December	31	4:30 pm
		(Sundaes on Saturday)

### Who me? Sponsor a Kiddish?

**Yes! .....** Anyone can help to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat on Friday night or Kiddish on Saturday morning for any reason. You can celebrate a family birthday, wedding anniversaries, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, or any other occasion, or just because you feel like doing it. For more information, call the office at 732-297-0696

## Notes of Board of Directors Meeting November 7th, 2011

We have 395 families.

Our budget tracking for the year has been normal. Looking into accepting credit cards for those who pay monthly.

Marci Oslick is stepping down as chair of the Ritual Committee. We are looking for a replacement and will add two new sub-committees: a ritual activities committee and a kitchen committee for ritual events.

Yahrzeit boards will be fixed this month.

Youth Lounge has been painted, new furniture will be here shortly, and new flooring will be installed.

All work on the parking lot is finished.

Gas leak has been corrected.

Insurance is covering the cost of the sewage pump for the parking lot.

Enrollment in the Nursery School is now at 41, with 15 children in the lunch program.

Religious school has 118 children.

Dot Cohen is stepping down as chair of the Youth Committee. Ruth Shindler is taking over.

BT Daytimers (formerly 50+) is starting up.

We are updating our bank accounts with new signature cards.

Janice Baer is working on the annual winter campaign to help needy families.

Come join us at the next board meeting on  
Monday, Dec.5th, at 8:00 pm

You know  
you're getting  
older when your knees buckle  
but your belt won't.  
The only parts of my body that  
don't hurt, won't work.

The less time  
you have to  
work with, the  
more things you  
get done.

A good website for information  
about being Jewish and answers  
to questions you may have is

[judaism.about.com](http://judaism.about.com)

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# GEORGE SEGAL PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT



Renowned American sculptor George Segal welcomes us into his world through the viewfinder of his favorite Leica camera. In a lovely exhibition, a playful portrait of Segal, nested in the booth of a Freehold diner, welcomes the visitor to the show, "George Segal: Sculptor as Photographer." On view in the Milberg Gallery in Princeton University's Firestone Library, the exhibition is there for you to enjoy through December 30th.

Encompassed within this treasure trove are 7,000 photographs — prints, negatives, slides, and transparencies — spanning 30 years. Only a few dozen of these items have ever been exhibited or published.

The Milberg Gallery in Firestone Library, Princeton University, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. More information at: [princeton.edu/~rbsc/exhibitions/milberg.html](http://princeton.edu/~rbsc/exhibitions/milberg.html) or 609-258-3197.

# COMING NEXT MONTH

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- Jan. 2 Board of Directors  
Schools Resume  
USY Meeting
- Jan. 7 USY Seudah & Study
- Jan. 9 Sisterhood Board
  
- Jan. 13 Birthday Shabbat  
NS Little Lambs Cookie Dough
- Jan. 14 Lunch & Learn  
Kadima Lock-In
- Jan. 18 Adult Ed "Jewish Law"
- Jan. 19 B'nai Mitzvah Meeting
- Jan. 22 Blood Drive  
Sisterhood breakfast & program
- Jan. 23 School Board
- Jan. 28 Seudah & Study  
Passover Poker
- Jan. 29 Parent/Teacher Conference
- Jan. 30 Ritual Committee  
NS Registration Begins

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Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm



IN THE LOBBY OF THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Sunday 9:00am - noon (when school is in session)

If these hours are inconvenient for you, please call Sherry Valan in the office and we'll work something out.



## Anti-Israel/Anti-Semitism

I heard about this occurrence in Midwood, a neighborhood in Brooklyn, on the car radio on my way home from Acme. It made me think how timely our event on anti-Israel/anti-Semitism was this morning at our schul. I have been told by members that we must not focus on anti-Semitism in the US because it is so watered down compared problems in the Middle East, Europe, and other parts of the world. We should focus on getting along with our non-Jewish neighbors. We need to do both. Try to walk in the shoes of those in the community whose parents were in the cattle cars and who arrived at death camps such as Auschwitz. My mother was in Auschwitz.

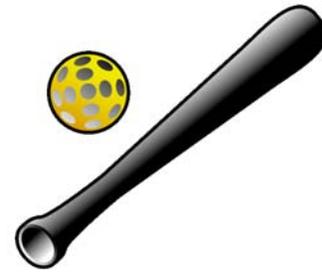
The fact that my mother was there as a teenager and that the records found at the Auschwitz Historical Museum state where she was born, her birth date, where she was put onto the cattle car, the day she arrived at Auschwitz, the ID number tattooed on her arm, and the day she was liberated, represents the single most defining aspect of who I am. For years, I could not absorb that my mother was there. It is still very hard for me to accept all that she went through. Sometimes, I think that is why our parents survived and millions of others perished—so we could be those annoying gadflies in the community who say we need to be vigilant as Jews in this country and that we need to come together at our synagogues and our Jewish Federations-- because ,as history has shown, in the end we only have each other, and it is up to us to work in a united way to secure our futures, here and in Israel.

I pray that I continue to have the strength to not allow people who feel scared by my words to try to shut me down with their bravado. That also has been a problem for other second-generation people I know. But if we stop trying to be heard, then we failed our survivor parents and the ghosts of our great grandparents, all great-aunts and -uncles, aunts and uncles and cousins. So many ghosts whose lives ended in horrific ways.

Our families were not less intelligent than yours; they lived in places such as Galicia now Poland, Ukraine, the former Czechoslovakia, and Hungary. They were assimilated ,kept kosher at home, owned thriving businesses going back generations and, by the time they knew what was happening, it was too late. It is so important to keep Holocaust memory alive because ,if we do, our community will always remember the beautiful Jews who were murdered— each corpse having a name, a face, a story. Then, each of us will be vigilant and one with each other in the knowledge that we can ensure we will never allow our viability as a people to be determined by others.

Thanks for listening. Mirah Becker

## Men's Club



Please join us on Sunday, December 18th, when the Men's Club will honor our CBT Men's Club Softball team again captained by Mark Kirsch. In keeping with the theme, we will be airing the critically acclaimed film, "Jews in Baseball," narrated by Dustin Hoffman and starring Sandy Koufax, Larry King, Kevin Youkilis, Shawn Green, Yogi Berra, Ron Howard, and many, many others.

We are serving our traditional Lox and Bagel breakfast. (We moved this meeting from last month in order to avoid a conflict with the USY Kinnus.)

On January 15th, we would like to organize a Men's Club "road trip." We are looking for suggestions, but some already made were Yogi Berra Museum in Montvale; The Grape Escape - Hands on Winemaking in Dayton; Simeone Automotive Museum in Philadelphia (a \$20 mil+ collection).

We want to stay within 1 hour driving distance.

On Sunday, February 5th, come join us for the annual World Wide Wrap. The World Wide Wrap, an international program of FJMC, brings the global Jewish community together to learn and practice the mitzvah of tefillin.

Please email Steve Katz, Men's Club President ,with any questions to [skatz56@aol.com](mailto:skatz56@aol.com).

Steve Katz



Join us on **Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** at **8:00PM** as our own extremely talented Brenda Sherman will work with us on a craft that will surely delight!



### Save the Dates:

**Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9AM-12PM:** For a really fun time, join us at Chico's for a Wardrobe Party. We will be having breakfast, a lot of fun and retail therapy!!

**Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:30PM:** Passover Poker!!

**Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM:** This is a joint meeting with the Men's Club. Join us for an educational, interactive discussion on 'Sex after 50'. Dr. Theresa Schaer has over 21 years experience as the Chief of the Division of Geriatrics at St. Peters University Hospital and now has a private practice: Signature Health Solutions. Even if you are not quite 50 you will be one day!! Please join us for this very special opportunity to learn and ask questions about the process of aging and how it relates to intimacy.

**Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM:** Martini Mixology. Learn the history, the recipes and ideas for entertaining.

**Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9AM-12PM:** Rosh Chodesh with Bobbi Binder. Don't miss this very special event when our very own Bobbi Binder will facilitate this morning's program. What a great opportunity to have fun, be inspired and perhaps learn something new!

**Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM:** Please join us for this very important meeting on the Torah Fund. Our own Ann Rosensweig will be instrumental in overseeing and presenting this program to us.

**Membership** - We encourage and invite all B'nai Tikvah women to join Sisterhood and help make your Sisterhood even stronger. Please contact Phyllis

Safeer: [pbjsr@comcast.net](mailto:pbjsr@comcast.net) or 732-432-9622 with any questions. To join, please send or drop off a check in the BT office. Dues are as follows: Synagogue members \$36 / Seniors \$26 / Non-synagogue members \$46

*We look forward to sharing fun times together with old friends and new!*

**Social Action** - For the month of December, Sisterhood will continue the collection for the Ronald McDonald House of New Brunswick: \$5.00 gift cards (Target, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Babies R Us, Bed Bath and Beyond), Individual snack packs of cookies, 100 cal. packs, nutrigrain bars, individual packs of raisins, single serve cereal packs, baby socks, onesies, fall/winter sleepers (size preemie-18 months).

These items can be brought to any Sisterhood meeting/event or contact Caroline Scharf (732-735-1345), to arrange a convenient collection time. Thank you for your support!

**Gift Shop** - Hours are Sunday 9AM-12PM, Wednesday 4:15PM-6:15PM or by appointment. Please call Serena Blackin at 732-390-9515.

Hanukah Bazaar is December 4<sup>th</sup> to December 11<sup>th</sup>. We have all you need for Hanukah.

Tallit of the month: all in stock Emanuel tallit 20% off.

Please stop by and see all our new jewelry and expanded clearance section.

**Torah Fund** - Your Torah Fund contribution strengthens and perpetuates Conservative Judaism throughout the world. For information on ways you can support Torah Fund, contact Ann Rosensweig, 732-249-9141.

**Mitzvah Baskets** - Having a B'nai Mitzvah or other simcha? Let Sisterhood decorate the bima with two non-perishable food baskets that match your color scheme! We also deliver the baskets for use at other synagogues so tell your local friends about this service! For more information or to order your bima baskets please contact Andrea Katz: [macysmommm@aol.com](mailto:macysmommm@aol.com) or 732-329-06875114.

## B'nai MITZVAH December 2011



Brittany Fisher  
Daughter of  
Scott and Dina Fisher  
December 3



Samantha Love  
Daughter of  
Christopher and Debra Love  
December 10

## Thank You From the Miller/Berness Family

We would like to thank you all for your caring and support during this most difficult time for our family. We are still trying to grasp the sudden passing of Arnie, and with your help we are getting through this and adjusting. We appreciate all of the kind assistance you have provided us, from sending food, paying Shiva calls, attending minyan, making donations, and even picking up our boys for playdates.

We are truly blessed to be part of the B'nai Tikvah community.

Today Rabah,

Susan, Lawrence, and Brian Miller and Elisa and Brian Berness and family

**blogtalkradio**<sup>sm</sup> 

Tune into Rabbi Wolkoff's Adult Education lecture series on: **"Jewish Law"**

Call in during a live session or text your questions and opinions in order to elicit responses from the rabbi during the broadcast.

Click the icon wherever you see it on the website so you can catch up on previous lectures or participate with us from the comfort of your home or wherever you happen to be.

**Next session:  
Wednesday, December 14th,  
at 8 pm**

Next month, it will be held on  
Wednesday, January 18th, at 8 pm



# Family Shabbat Dinner and Service DECEMBER 16, 2011

**6pm in the Multi-purpose room**

Bring a friend or two!!  
Everyone is Welcome

Baked ziti dinner with salad and challah. Fresh veggies to nibble on before hand. Cost \$8 per adult, \$0 for children 2-12.

**Peanut Free** dinner and dessert.

**Services begin at 7pm**

RSVP Deadline: December 14, 2011

*A unique Shabbat experience geared towards families with children between the ages of 2 and 7. You need not attend the dinner to attend services.*

Is your child or other family member celebrating a birthday or any other special occasion in the month of December? Please let us know so that we can make this announcement. For \$18 you can SPONSOR the Kiddush in honor of that event or any other special occasion. See order form below.

# of adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00/adult Amount due\$ \_\_\_\_\_

# of children \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$0.00/child Amount due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Kiddush \_\_\_\_\_ @\$18.00

Total due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I/We would like to sponsor the Kiddush and have enclosed \$18. Please announce the following:

Make your check payable to "Congregation B'nai Tikvah" with "Family Shabbat Dinner" on the envelope. Mail it to the synagogue or leave your payment in the Family Shabbat Slot in the synagogue office

**PLEASE RSVP BY DECEMBER 14, 2011**

Questions? Call Bobbi @ 732-274-2797 or email eemaof3@comcast.net

You are cordially invited to a fundraiser at...



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And **everything is priced at \$5 or less!**

**JUST IN: SPRING AND SUMMER SPORTS GOODS, APPAREL, AND GIFTS!!!**

## Our event will be held on:

**Date:** November 13<sup>th</sup> – December 9th

**Time:** Any time! Open Monday - Friday 10am-9pm and Sunday 11am-6pm

**Where:** Five Below is located in the Shoppes of North Brunswick Rt. 1 North  
(732 828 1764).

Please contact us for any questions you may have.

**And 10% of the dollars we spend  
will be donated back to**

**Congregation B'nai Tikvah Religious School!!!**

**Please don't forget to bring this flyer to the event  
so that we get credit for your purchase!**

## Mitzvah 613 The Experience of a Lifetime

I have no recollection of the first time I heard Torah read out loud.

The oldest member of the congregation (the same one who blew the Shofar on the High Holidays) had the honor, and I thought only men could either understand what it said or got to engage with the text in a meaningful way.

When Mark and I started attending synagogue as a young married couple, I began to view the Torah as a living document that, on occasion, would speak to me directly. One day, while driving to work in the morning, I remembered a line from that week's parsha: "A new pharaoh rose in Egypt and he knew not Joseph."

WOW, my work world captured in a single verse! The last company reorganization had put me in the uncomfortable position of reporting to a new boss who had no idea of, and no interest in, what I had done before. "What have you done for me lately?" was his motto and Joseph's predicament sure resonated with me.

I have taken to following along in English when the reader chants the weekly parsha, and I usually find something that touches me.

I also usually find the collective gasp of the congregation when the Torah is lifted, to be exhilarating.

One time it appeared that there was a flaw in our Torah at CBT, a letter missing a small piece of its form; a small child who had just learned the alphabet was called up to say what letter he thought it was, and he got it right! The Torah was thus still kosher. If the child could not identify it, that flawed letter would have rendered the Torah unsuitable for public reading. Such is the anxiety of a congregation when its precious Torah is starting to age and needs frequent repair.

We are there again today. Walls get a new coat of paint, worn carpeting is replaced, and even serviceable décor is updated, enhancing our environment for worship. We need our new Torah, and this time our congregation is about to embark on a spiritual journey together, to participate in the mitzvah of writing our new Torah in the ancient tradition, one letter at a time.

Please join me and my family in praying that we are successful in this special endeavor.

Judy Roller

### NEW ADULT EDUCATION CURRICULUM

#### SAVE THE DATES

*Minyan Class taught by our own Stacey Rockman*

*Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

*Wednesday, February 22, 2012*

*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

*Yiddish Class taught by our own Arthur Biderman. Dates to come.*

*Talmud and Mishna Class taught by Rabbi Wolkoff with assistance from our own Jon Katz. Dates to come.*

*Adult Jewish Congregation, taught from 9:30 am to 10:30 am on select Saturday mornings by our own Rabbi Wolkoff. Dates to Come.*

MORE DETAILS IN JANUARY HAKOL. THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS TO GROW AND LEARN TOGETHER IN A RELAXED AND OPEN ENVIRONMENT.

**THE ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE HOPES THESE CLASSES SPEAK TO THE INPUT WE HAVE RECEIVED SO FAR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO OUR MEMBERS**



## Regifting Chanukah Boutique Sale

**Want a great way to find a new home for your unwanted, but perfectly NEW and unused items? Unclutter your home and support the JCC at the same time.**

**Please send in any NEW and UNUSED gifts that you have around your house and can donate to the JCC Nursery School for our Regifting Chanukah Boutique Sale.**

**This will be held on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> in the gym from 10:00 A.M.-12:00P.M. and Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-11:00 AM. We will have tables set up in the gym to allow parents to purchase gifts for their family and friends while supporting the JCC.**

**Please send in or drop off the items (NEW & UNUSED) marked Regifting Holiday Items to the Nursery School Office or the Main Office, no later than Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**For questions about the holiday regifting Chanukah Boutique Sale, please contact Terez Slim at [nursery@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:nursery@bnaitikvah.org)**

**Let us help you make holiday shopping a little easier this year!**

**Thank you for supporting our Nursery School!**

### *WE NEED TATTLE TALES...*

Please let us know when a congregant can use our caring support.

Contact Rabbi Wolkoff  
or the Bikur Cholim Committee  
at [bikur@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:bikur@bnaitikvah.org)

# NURSERY



# SCHOOL

The Nursery Classes celebrated Thanksgiving in their own special way. The 2 ½'s, 3's and Pre-k classes sang songs wearing beautiful costumes that they created and prepared a yummy feast that was shared with their families in the social hall. Thank you Mrs. Meghnagi's and Mrs. Winter's classes and their families for sponsoring the Thanksgiving feast.

Thank you PAC parents for helping us set up and for preparing the side dishes. Our special guests included people from Sterling Adult Day Care and members of the DayTimers Club of Congregation Bnai Tikvah.

The Barnes and Noble Book Fair will take place Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM until 3:00 PM. We are sharing the book fair with the Religious School this year. All profits will be shared by both schools, so please support us. Our classes will be performing starting from 1:00. Various Religious School classes will be performing starting at 1:30. **There will be free chances to win one of three \$25.00 Barnes and Noble Gift Cards! You must be in the store to win!**

There will be **free gift-wrapping** for all purchases made that day!

December 5<sup>th</sup> will be Picture Day for our school. On Friday, the 9<sup>th</sup>, a dental hygienist will be visiting.

## Regifting Chanukah Boutique Sale

Want a great way to find a new home for your unwanted, but perfectly NEW and unused items? Unclutter your home and support the JCC at the same time.

Please send in any NEW and UNUSED gifts that you have around your house and can donate to the JCC Nursery School for our Regifting Chanukah Boutique Sale.

**This will be held on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> in the gym from 10:00 A.M.-12:00P.M. and Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-11:00 AM. We will have tables set up in the gym to allow parents to purchase gifts for their family and friends while supporting the JCC.**

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be regular sessions.

**The first night of Chanukah is Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.**

All classes have made special projects for Chanukah. Many have learned the Brachot (blessings) for lighting the Menorah.

On Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> we will be having our annual Chanukah Party. After being entertained by our talented children, Uncle John's Puppets will entertain us. Thank you to Mrs. Horn's class for sponsoring the Chanukah refreshments. Thank you PAC parents for all your preparation.

On Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Pre-K class will be going to the Regency Heritage Nursing Home to sing for the residents. The children will also draw pictures for the residents to hang up in their rooms. What Mitzvah children we have here! We are so proud of them!!

**Reminder: School will be closed for Winter Break from Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> through Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. Classes will resume on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

We wish you and your family a Happy Chanukah!

See you in 2012!

Phyllis G. Denenberg, Director

# "Pride in PJ's"



Sammi Love (shown left) is busy at work on her Bat Mitzvah project with friend Ally Harkavy.

Samantha created a "Pride in PJ's" which collects new pajamas for children in need. The donations are distributed through Ronald McDonald House charities.

In addition to collecting outside Stop n Shop, she has received gifts from her school and family and friends. She is still accepting donations to be sent to:

Samantha Love 14 Darrow Court, Kendall Park, NJ 08824

5th ANNUAL

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# “Passover” Poker

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*Passover Poker  
In January??  
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**...because it's not really Poker  
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***Please join us on  
Saturday night, January 28th, 2012  
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**You don't need to know how to play poker to play Passover Poker.  
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***Open to the entire community!  
Bring your friends for a great time!***

**Advance Couvert \$36.00 per couple, \$18.00 per person**

RSVP is strongly suggested: space is limited and a high demand is expected.

Couvert at the door will be \$50.00 per couple, \$25.00 per person.

**\*Please arrive on time. We can't begin until everyone is seated.**

Please send your check by Jan. 24, 2012 to Serena Blackin, 3 Pilgrim Run, East Brunswick, NJ 08816



Names of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$36.00 per couple, 18.00 per person)

Please make checks payable to: Congregation B'nai Tikvah and indicate **Sisterhood-Poker** in the memo.



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## Food for Bikur Cholim

There is always a place for Elijah at our Passover Seders. We never fail to fill our plates, bellies and souls with the traditional food of the holiday . . . and don't forget the care packages we make for our guests to take home!



Hilary Friedman

We are cognizant of anyone who doesn't have a place to go for the High Holy Days and we make sure that they do have somewhere to go; our house.

No one should be alone for the holidays and no one should be without a nice meal.

I cannot think of a holiday or celebration that wasn't somehow entwined with a meal, a nosh, or a shmear. Honestly, I think my life has often centered around finding a reason to cook!

It's obvious that we as a Jewish people understand and appreciate the importance of food!

The Bikur Cholim Committee has been able to assist many of our congregants and their loved ones during a time of need. The needs are various from providing transportation for a medical appointment to visiting the ill and more.

We have asked people to join us and they have. Now we are being asked by the congregation,

**"What can we do to help?"**

and fortunately,  
we have an answer!

\*We are looking for people who would be able to prepare a meal when it is needed. From time to time there is a need to deliver a meal to a congregant or their family.

\*We have limited resources to purchase meals although we are able to do so when we are crunched for time or do not have someone to cook. However, our goal is to deliver a home-made kosher meal.

\*We want to help lighten the load for the family and by making a meal we will have accomplished that.

It is a simple process. When we determine that a meal is needed we will call you. We will give you the details of when it is needed, how many people will be eating and we will talk about what is needed, ie: a chicken, soup, salad, vegetables or some combination thereof. You can simply decide that you can do it or you can't do it and then we can arrange it or call the next person on the list.

Please let us know if you are interested in participating in this mitzvah.

All participants will be kept confidential to the committee and the confidentiality of the recipient will remain intact because the food will be delivered by a committee member.

Please email us at:

bikur@bnaitikvah.org  
or call me directly at  
732-274-2154

Thank you,  
Hilary Friedman, committee chair.

# ANGELS AMONG US

*By Lauren Wistreich*

*B'shem Hashem,  
elohei Yisrael  
B'ymini Michael u-smoli Gavriel  
U-milfanai Uriel,*

*me'acharai Raphael  
V'al roshi,  
v'al roshi, Shechinat-El.*

In the name of God,  
the God of Israel  
On my right is Michael,  
on my left is Gabriel  
In front of me is Uriel,  
behind me Raphael  
And all around, surrounding me.

This song, B'Shem Hashem, is a song I learned at USY on Wheels: Mission Mitzvah. USY is a Jewish youth group for teens, grades 9-12, across the U.S and Canada. We focus on Jewish study and learning, Israel awareness and advocacy, as well as community service and charity. USY on Wheels is a 6-week summer program where international USYers come together and travel the continental United States by bus. Mission Mitzvah is a focused trip that concentrates on community service and "giving back" to all of the communities that we visit.

In the summer of 2010, I was a part of this extraordinary program. On Saturday night, as Shabbat is coming to a close, the bus comes together to sing what we call "Slowach" or slow ruach. Ruach means spirit, and in USY, we use the term to mean all of the songs and tunes we sing.

There is fast ruach, in which everyone is screaming and jumping around, having an amazing time, and there is slow ruach, which is more somber and emotional. The song B'shem Hashem is one of the songs we sing during slow ruach.

It talks about how we have what we call our "guardian angels," the people who look out for us in times of trouble and hardship.

Four angels are mentioned in the song; Michael, the guardian of Israel, Raphael, the healing angel, Gabriel, the angel of courage, and Uriel, the angel of light.

On my trip, we visited many places and did many projects, each taking on a different aspect of these angels. In Portland, Oregon, we acted as Michael when we visited Guide Dogs for the Blind. This is an organization that raises seeing-eye dogs for blind people. Guide dogs protect and look out for their owner; they guard them from any harm that may come their way, just as Michael guards Israel.

Next, we acted as Raphael when we visited the St. Judes Children's Ranch in Las Vegas, Nevada. The St. Judes Children's Ranch is a home for abused and neglected children. They are taken out of their homes and put in this center, which is almost like a rehabilitation center. They undergo psychiatric treatments and are given education, love, and support. When we were there, we set up a carnival for these children, ages 3-18. We played games, and put on a show for them. It was a lot of fun, and the kids were able to relax for a day. This place helps children to heal, physically and emotionally, just as Raphael is the healing angel.

Continued next page

Later on in the trip, we visited a place called Beit T'Shuvah, in Los Angeles, California, where we took on the role of Gabriel, the angel of courage. Beit T'shuvah is a strictly Jewish rehabilitation center for addicts of all kinds. Everything and everyone from drug addiction to alcoholism, shopping addicts and people who are addicted to stealing, all reside at this center. It provides them with shelter, food, and counseling, as well as lessons on how to get a job and buy a house. These people have courage to overcome their addiction, and we were able to witness and support Gabriel, the angel of courage.

Lastly, we attended a place called the Memphis Jewish home, which is a Jewish nursing home. Here, we played the part of Uriel, the angel of light. At this nursing home, we went Mitzvah clowning, which is where we dress in crazy costumes and put on face paint and wigs and act like clowns. We learned how to make balloon animals and tell jokes, and the point was to pretty much just cheer up all of the senior citizens. We were able to sit and listen to their stories, and some of them were pretty incredible. I heard so many war stories, including from several Holocaust survivors. We were acting as the light, shining the light of youth, of the next generation, onto our elders. We provided a sense of hope and encouragement, as well as just getting them to smile. We were Uriel for the day.

In my opinion, there is no visual of what an angel is. Many think that angels are dressed in all white, with the halo around their head, and their wings, flying up and down to heaven. Yet, what about "bad angels?" The angel of death? There is a story that my rosh, the head staff member of my bus, would tell us as we sat down to dinner every Friday night.

He would say "Every Friday night, as we take our walk home from services, we think about Shabbat. We think about our lives, our families, our homes and our jobs. We think about what we just left behind in the past week, and what we look forward to in the coming week. And as we walk home, we are accompanied by two angels.

On the left shoulder, a good angel, and on the right, a bad angel. When we walk in the door of our homes, and we are immediately greeted by our children, dressed in their best Shabbat clothes, and we can smell the challah, hot out of the oven, and we can feel the heat of the candles on our fingertips, and we can taste the wine wafting in the air, and we can hear the sweet humming of niggunim coming from the kitchen, the good angel says 'May it be this way next week,' and the bad angel is forced to say "Amen."

On the other hand, if we walk in the door, and our children are nowhere to be found, and the table is not set, the candles are not lit, there is no wine and no challah, and the house is silent, the bad angel says "May it be this way next week," and the good angel is forced to say "Amen." From this we learn that angels are the messengers of G-d. When we do G-d's work, we are rewarded, especially on Shabbat. We are given all of the good things G-d can give us, but when the angels report back to Him on how we are, how we act, and what we say, the coming week, the coming Shabbat, depends on it.

In conclusion, although angels are all around us, we need to act like angels. We need to be there for other people, to help. We can act like Michael, guarding what is sacred to us. We can act like Raphael; heal those that mean the most to us. We can act like Gabriel; provide courage to people in times of pain. And we can act like Uriel, and shed light on those who are in the dark. It takes pride, it takes confidence, and it takes belief, to be an angel.

On Sunday evening November 20<sup>th</sup>, following an exciting USY fall convention, Lauren Wistreich, a USY VP, addressed our annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service at the Six Mile Run Reformed Church.

The program included music and area clergy teaching about the role of angels in our various faith traditions. Lauren's moving words to the gathering was a highlight of the evening. Having read Lauren's speech, you should know that there are "Angels Among Us."



***Celebrate Chanukah with your B'nai Tikvah Family!***

**Please join us immediately following Religious School**

**Wednesday, December 21, 2011  
B'NAI TIKVAH'S ANNUAL  
CHANUKAH CANDLE LIGHTING PARTY**

**Pizza, ziti and latkes galore**

**Traditional Chanukah goodies to enjoy**

**Musical performances by our Religious School children &  
The Sons of Tikvah Band**

**Bring your family menorah/chanukiyah and candles!**

**New in 2011 – Religious School Toy Drive:**

In the spirit of giving this holiday season and to encourage doing Mitzvot, help us establish a more tangible and meaningful act of tzedekah for our children this Chanukah through our Toy Drive.

One suggestion to make this experience more valuable – start at home during the month of December by encouraging your children to do chores and earn extra allowance. The money collected can then be donated toward tzedekah. Plan to take some time to shop with your children for a new, sealed, unwrapped toy, game, puzzle, or books.

More information will follow from your class liaison about when the collection will take place at the synagogue. You may also bring a toy to the Chanukah Party on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>.

This is first of an expanded effort to incorporate more student involvement in giving tzedekah and doing mitzvot throughout their Religious School experience.

For more information, please email us at: [school@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:school@bnaitikvah.org).

**Thank you!**

**The Religious School Committee**

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We would like to thank  
Joyce Fishelberg, Bill Greenberg,  
Jeryl Roller, Mae Rubinstein,  
Sandy Scharf &  
Beverly Leipzig-Silien for making  
November birthday calls.

We would also like to thank Sherry Valan for  
continuing to help in the office.



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Pirke Avot,  
chapters of the  
fathers

## Hakol Donations – 2011 October 10<sup>th</sup> – November 11<sup>th</sup>

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Gale & Marc Dillman

Lydia Levin

Bette & Stephen Koffler, in memory of Regina Kindman  
The Wurmbrand Family, with gratitude to Shirley & Marty  
Engel

### Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Elaine & Alvin Brackup, in memory of Isidore Rubin

The Wurmbrand Family, with love to Shirley & Marty Engel  
Dorothy & Norman Politziner, in memory of Daniel E.

Lubeck

Ilya & Svetlana Veksler

Jodi Marcou, in appreciation of Cantor Rockman's many visits  
to her mom throughout the past two years of her illness and  
for his participation in her funeral, the extraordinary com-  
passion and support he showed throughout, and for letting  
her cry on his shoulder as needed. His kindness will always  
be remembered.

### General Donations

Martha Rotter

Beverly & Isaac Grodzinski, in memory of Shmuel Grodzinski

Shirley Figenshu, in memory of Edith Wexler

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Brams

Shirley L. Figenshu, in memory of Edith Wexler

### Bikur Cholim Fund

Amy & Cliff Smith, in memory of Harriet Edley

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Varan, in memory of Arnie Miller

Adrienne & Andy Ross, in memory of Harriet Edley

Maxine & Mark Kasdin, in memory of Harriet Edley

Adrienne & Andrew Ross, in memory of Edith Wexler

Madeline Gaynor

Jodi Marcou, in appreciation of Gary Bergman visiting her  
mom during her illness and for his support after her passing.

Jodi Marcou, with eternal gratitude to Janice Baer for her un-  
ending support and compassion while her mom was sick.

Janice went above and beyond always and without having to  
be asked.

Jodi Marcou, in appreciation of Stacey Rockman compassion-  
ately feeding their hearts, souls and bodies during a difficult  
time and for all her visits to her mom. Stacey, you are a  
treasure.

### Arnie Miller Memorial Fund

Dan Frankel, Joe Camarota, Allison Clancy & Carol Ander-  
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patty, rick, erica & allie

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Debra & Stu Allen, in appreciation of Cantor Rockman's guidance during Rachel's Bat Mitzvah

### Religious School Education Fund

Debra & Stu Allen, (Runch Program) in appreciation of Rabbi Wolkoff's guidance during Rachel's Bat Mitzvah  
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 Ann & Gerry Nimberg, Religious School staff & Terez, in memory of Harriet Edley  
 Michael & Joy Orlan, in memory of Harriet Edley

### Israeli Youth Exchange Fund

Arie & Julie Behar in memory of Edith Wexler

### Israel Defense Force

Helene & Gary Tinkel, in memory of Joe Finkel

### Tzedakah Fund

Blanche Fruhling, in honor of the 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Florence & Lawrence Lefkof

### Youth Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Boyarsky, in honor of Martin Shindler's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday

### Mitzvah 613

Madeline Gaynor, in honor of Jeremy Stein's holding the Torah during Yom Kippur service  
 Dorothy & Larry Cohen, in appreciation of Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, for organizing a Shabbat Luncheon for all minyon leaders  
 Carol & Seymour Kramer

**Donations Continued**

**Yartzeit Donations**

Roberta & Harvey Bilker, in memory of Jean Rubin  
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 Boris, being elected to the Fanwood Town Council

**Nursery School Fund**

Chelli & Marty Haller, in memory of Karen Kaminsky  
 Michele & Dave Greenfield, in memory of Lila Feinberg

**Shabbat Luncheon Fund**

Adrienne & Andrew Ross, in honor of Neil Dillman's  
 engagement  
 Adrienne & Andrew Ross, in memory of Adrienne's be-  
 loved grandmother, Mollie Margolese  
 Beverly Leipzig-Silien  
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**Amount of your donation:**

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- { } Bikur Cholim { } Tzedakah Fund
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{ }Other \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please send separate checks for these funds.

You can make your contributions online by clicking the "Giving" link at [bnaitikvah.org](http://bnaitikvah.org)

## B'NAI TIKVAH DIRECTORY

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Youth Committee	Ruth Shindler	732-238-6893	ruthshindler@comcast.net

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Candle Lighting 2nd 4:14 pm 9th 4:13 pm 16th 4:14 pm 23rd 4:17 pm 30th 4:21 pm	Shabbat Ends 3rd 5:16 pm 10th 5:16 pm 17th 5:18 pm 24th 5:21 pm 31st 5:26 pm			1 5 Kislev  Youth Committee Executive Committee	2 6 Kislev  NS Magyar Bank	3 7 Kislev  Bat Mitzvah Brittany Fisher
4 8 Kislev  Hei Class JET Sisterhood Gift Shop Hanukah Bazaar B&N Jewish Book Fair	5 9 Kislev	6 10 Kislev  Men's Basketball	7 11 Kislev	8 12 Kislev  Kadima Movie Night	9 13 Kislev  Birthday Shabbat Kadima Shabbaton	10 14 Kislev  Bat Mitzvah Samantha Love Kadima Shabbaton
11 15 Kislev  Aleph Naming Ceremony L'dor Vador Sisterhood Judaica Hanukah Bazaar NS Regifting Boutique	12 16 Kislev  Hakol Deadline School Board Sisterhood Board NS Regifting Boutique	13 17 Kislev  Israel Stamp Club Book Club Men's Basketball	14 18 Kislev  Rabbi's Class "Jewish Law"	15 19 Kislev  Sisterhood Craft Program	16 20 Kislev  NS Shabbat Together Family Shabbat Service	17 21 Kislev  Seudah & Study
18 22 Kislev  Gimel Class JET Men's Club Road Trip	19 23 Kislev  Congregational Meeting	20 24 Kislev  First Candle Chanukah Erev Chanukah Men's Basketball	21 25 Kislev  First Day of Winter NS Chanukah Party Family Chanukah Party Chanukah 2nd light	22 26 Kislev  Last Day of Schools winter break Family Chanukah Lighting Party Chanukah 3rd light	23 27 Kislev  Nursery School Closed Chanukah 4th light	24 28 Kislev  Sundaes on Saturday Chanukah 5th light
25 29 Kislev  Chanukah 6th light	26 30 Kislev  Office & School Closed Chanukah 7th light  ROSH	27 1 Tevet  Schools closed Men's Basketball Chanukah 8th light  CHODOSH	28 2 Tevet  Schools Closed Last day of Chanukah	29 3 Tevet  Nursery School Closed Executive Committee	30 4 Tevet  Nursery School Closed	31 5 Tevet  Happy New Year  Sundaes on Saturday New Year's Eve



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