

January 2013

19 Tevet - 20 Sh'vat 5773

volume 34 issue 5

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## ART AUCTION

**Saturday, February 2, 2013**

Preview: 8 pm      Auction: 9 pm



Admission: \$10.00 per person / \$18 per couple - Bring your friends.  
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For Tickets or Information contact:

Marcie Kfare 732-238-3819, [kfare@comcast.net](mailto:kfare@comcast.net) or Joel Gerbman 732-937-5114, [gerbsfam@aol.com](mailto:gerbsfam@aol.com)

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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

## A Message From Rabbi Robert Wolkoff



How does one speak about the unspeakable? Trying to find words at this moment, when dozens of families, an entire community, indeed an entire nation is grieving for the loss of so much innocent life in Newtown is a daunting task. What could possibly be said in the presence of murdered children that doesn't trivialize the horror of what has occurred?

But I am aware that you will be reading this several weeks after the events, when grief can, and should, give way to reflection. So I am trying to imagine what it would feel like to discuss the destruction rationally, without being overwhelmed by emotion.

**My first thought** is that we have been here before. The quiet, troubled child. The obscene firepower. The camouflage outfits. The sense of powerlessness, the idea that nothing can be done to avert this recurrent nightmare.

**My second thought** is that it doesn't have to be this way. There is a great deal that can and must be done to keep us from going through this again.

The first is to deal with the guns. It is not surprising that an organization as primitive as the NRA would pollute our minds with the vacuous assertion, "Guns don't kill people. People kill people."

The simple fact, though, is that "People with automatic weapons kill lots of people very quickly." And anyone above the level of troglodyte knows it. It appears that the guns used in this assault, as is so often the case, were purchased legally. And that speaks volumes.

The idea that anyone can own weapons of mass murder is, itself, bizarre. Of course, the NRA would defend people owning weapons of mass *destruction*, because if "they" take away your G-d given right to own nukes, we're on the slippery slope to the black U.N. helicopters flying over the powerless citizens of Montana.

But back in the real world, we should be revolted that our safety is being held hostage by people suffering from paranoid delusions, and by spineless politicians who don't have the guts to stand up to a powerful lobby. Two thousand years ago, our Mishnah recorded the law that it was forbidden for Jews to sell weapons to the Romans, because the Romans could not be relied upon to use them responsibly.

If anything, that prohibition is today even more urgent.

**My third thought**—one that echoes the feelings of many people who have spoken to me about this—is that there are all too many profoundly troubled people out there who are not getting the help they need. If I could wave my magic wand, I would put dozens of social workers and guidance counselors in every school in America to try to avert this kind of disaster. Instead of cutting school budgets, we should be increasing them in order to put our resources where they are most needed—and after something as horrible as this, it's hard to think of a place where intervention would be more crucial.

It is at the nexus of powerful weapons and profoundly troubled children that we have the greatest opportunity to do something constructive. As regards Newtown, for example, it was clearly disastrous to have five powerful guns in a household where there was a child with a severe personality disorder—and that should have been obvious to any rational observer. We have no room for willful ignorance. There's too much involuntary ignorance already.

Finally, I return to my first feelings: that is, the horror. We might hope that, as regards policy, some sanity comes out of this terrible tragedy. And if it does, we might even venture to say that the death of the innocents was not in vain. But for those who have suffered this loss, neither that nor anything I can think of can ever make them whole.

May G-d, Who heals the broken-hearted, comfort them.

Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

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 or put submissions in the HAKOL Box in the synagogue office. All articles are subject to available space and editorial constraints.

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

Full-page flyers will be reduced to half page or less, at the editor's discretion.

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## From the Desk of Cantor Bruce Rockman



Save the Date: L'dor Vador Returns April 28<sup>th</sup>  
...but there's more!

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, singer and songwriter Craig Taubman soared at B'nai Tikvah. For five years, L'dor Vador has engaged extraordinary talent for our inspiration and entertainment. This year, we took a risk and scheduled the Rejoice Festival for December, in L'dor Vador's usual winter slot on the calendar. So far, this appears to have been a good decision.

Rejoice was a hit on December 2, 2012; well over 1,000 people came to B'nai Tikvah for our festival of culture and caring. Rejoice & Rebuild represented the best of B'nai Tikvah as a vehicle for Community outreach, entertainment, culture, shopping, recreation, and Torah.

L'dor Vador returns this spring on April 28<sup>th</sup>; Josh Nelson will be our musical artist. I suspect most of you will be here; after all, the word of mouth on the concerts has been excellent. We promise another memorable event. You can check out Josh Nelson's music on YouTube or at his website. I will be sharing more information with you in the coming months.

Just as Craig Taubman, Debbie Friedman, Greg Wall, & Neshama Carlebach presented concerts that soared and reached us, I am confident that Josh Nelson in Concert will have that same joyful and uplifting impact on the greater B'nai Tikvah community.

In the book of Isaiah, G-d reminds us of the covenant He made with the Jewish people: *"My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring's offspring,"* says the LORD, *"from now and forever."*



## Thank You!

Thank you to all our volunteers who worked so hard on Rejoice & Rebuild this year and each year. Thanks to Aaron and Danny for inspiration. Jill Eisner was responsible for the wonderful and successful vendors fair. Doug Smoller helped me with communication and advertising. Steve Juro and Joel Gerbman handled our "day of" logistics and planning.

The food by Evan Bernstein and Classical Caterers was outstanding and Phyllis Safeer, Ruth Anne Koenick, and the Mitzvah 613 Committee organized another stirring Torah event.

Our office staff, led by Lynne WeissMarsall and Gary Bergman, provided support every day, before and after the event, and made certain that the building was ready and safe, inside and out.

Thank you Marty Engel for arranging to have a Bloodmobile at the festival. This was one of the tangible ways in which we were able to help the victims of Superstorm Sandy. We were also able to fill a van with food for the South Brunswick food pantry and loaded a pick-up truck with cleaning supplies for Point Pleasant Beach.

If you enjoyed the music, the food, and the exciting attractions in our gym, please let me know and maybe we can do it again next fall.

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

*With Joy!*  
Cantor Bruce Rockman

*The Rejoice & Rebuild Committee*  
Chairpersons: Steve Juro, Joel Gerbman, Doug Smoller, and Jill Eisner

*Volunteers: Bobbi Binder, Michael Weiss, Craig Cohen, Aime Zimel, Barry Safeer, Bill Greenberg, Stacey Rockman, Gary Bergman, Joe Grodman, Marty Engel, and Spencer Rockman of Rovers Soccer*

*The Mitzvah 613 Committee*

*Cantor Bruce Rockman-chairperson*  
*Aaron Rosloff-founder*  
*Danny Greenberg-treasurer*



### FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER SERVICE

January 18, 2013 6pm - Multi-Purpose Room  
Services begin at 7 pm

RSVP is a must by January 16, 2013



This program is geared to anyone who has children/grandchildren, etc., between the ages of 2 and 7!

**Everyone is welcome – Bring a friend or two!!!**

**Baked ziti dinner, plain pasta, mac and cheese; salad; veggies to nibble on.**

**PEANUT-FREE DINNER AND DESSERT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children (up to 12 years) \_\_\_\_\_ (free) Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
{ } \$18 is enclosed to sponsor the Kiddush. Please announce the following:

Make check payable to "Congregation B'nai Tikvah", mark your envelope "FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER" drop off at  
The office or mail to the synagogue  
RSPV by January 16, 2013. **Contact Bobbi Binder 732-274-2797 or eemaof3@comcast.net**

## 300,000 PENNIES

On December 2nd, the Chai School students baked and then sold Chanukah cookies. Of course, each batch was taste-tested first. The sale was to help toward the Hebrew School goal of collecting more than 300,000 pennies. This amount is representative of the number of letters that will be in our new Torah next May!!!!

We've already raised more than 4,000 pennies!!!  
Please continue to send in your pennies so we can reach our goal.



## JOINT MEN'S CLUB AND SISTERHOOD MEETING

### SUSHI MAKING DECEMBER 16, 2012



## ANOTHER VIEWPOINT



### The Cross

From time to time I receive mail from organizations that are looking for support to put up a cross in public places as a memorial to fallen soldiers. I usually just discard them with no further thought because some people are trying to claim their religious rights to do something that is illegal, that is, until I received an email from my friend Cathy McKenna.

Although Cathy and I have been friends for years it is not likely that we will ever meet. I became acquainted with Cathy after I bought my first computer about fifteen or twenty years ago and needed tech support as soon as I took it out of the box. I called and was connected to a pleasant female voice who patiently walked me through some simple steps, and during the pauses, while the computer was trying to catch up with its commands we talked and became long distance friends. I in New Jersey and Cathy in British Columbia.

As her employer would not permit personal phone calls or emails, I gave her mine and we stayed in touch. She told me about her divorce, her re-marriage, her son, and I told her what was going on in my life. It was purely platonic and gave us both a way to sound off with no consequences. That is, until Cathy sent me, by email, a request from an organization that wanted to be allowed to erect a large memorial cross in a public place and needed financial and political support.

After I recovered from the shock, I responded to Cathy as diplomatically as I could that not all soldiers are Christian. She sent me back an abject apology and said that she knew very little about the Jewish religion and did it include anything about Jesus.

I remembered that there are huge areas in North America where there are very few Jews. In many towns the only Jews were the owners of the hardware or dry goods store. I recall my own experiences in the army where I met men who had never met a Jew and were surprised that I looked like a normal person.

Judging from everything that we had talked about I do not think of her as an ignorant person, but she knew nothing at all about Jews and Judaism. Zip – nada. I had to start from scratch. I explained how Christianity had grown out of Judaism and the consequences for us that followed these two thousand years. I went from Abraham to Auschwitz.

Her response was “How could people do that to each other?” This from a woman who has been around the block a few times!

Boy, have we got a P.R. job to do!

## GOT BLOOD? GIVE LIFE!

**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 13  
11am-3pm**



## GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE!

If you weren't available to donate at our Rejoice Festival, here's another opportunity to perform a vital mitzvah.

Donors of age 17 and up (16 with parent/guardian written OK) must be in good general health and weigh at least 120-lbs.

No need to make an appointment.

Please eat before you donate and be sure to have an ID with your signature. A donor number or social security number is a requirement for registration.

If you'd like to help us have a successful day, please call Marty Engel, 732-297-7316, to volunteer. Thanks

For parent/guardian permission forms, ALYX Double Donations, & for other Donor opportunities info... call 1-800—BLOODNJ or visit the Blood Center of New Jersey website at [www.bloodnj.org](http://www.bloodnj.org).

**SOUTH BRUNSWICK  
COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK**



I do hope all my Kadima families had a wonderful Hanukkah with their relatives and friends and a Happy New Year!

Congratulations to Leah Blackin for being the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter member who attended 10 events so far this year! She is going to receive a reward from our Incentive Program at our Closing Event. For every 10 events you attend, including Chapter & Regional, it goes toward a reward. You can receive multiple rewards. Many of you also are close to winning your 1<sup>st</sup>. Go Leah; I love having you in attendance at our events!

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we had a joint event with the East Windsor Chapter. We met at the renovated Quakerbridge Mall and shared a great time having a Mall Scavenger Hunt with the 7 members who attended. We mixed the teams so the kids got to meet friends from East Windsor. Thanks to Rachael Tanner for helping to chaperone a group of kids!

On the weekend of November 30<sup>th</sup>, we had our 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Shabbaton in East Windsor. We had 8 Chapter members in attendance & also 2 members who came to the dance. I heard the weekend was a lot of fun, especially for those members who stayed for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Lock-In.

By the time you read this, we will have had the following events –

**December 2nd**

REJOICE Festival – It was a wonderful day of great music and family fun. Thanks to the Kadimaniks and Lori Sookerman who helped with the coat check and raised some money for Hurricane Sandy relief.

**December 12th**

B'nai Tikvah's annual Hanukkah Party. Having the Kadima kids in attendance is always nice.

**December 20th**

Feed The Children with our USY Chapter.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**January 3rd**

Jeopardy in the Youth Lounge from 7-8:30 pm. There will be prizes for the winners! Snacks will be served. RSVP by 12/30.

**January 6th**

Regional Roller Rama. Details to follow in our weekly emails.

**January 20th**

Bounce U, 410 Princeton-Hightstown Rd, West Windsor from 2:10-3:40 pm. The cost is \$10 & the Youth Fund will pick up all remaining costs. Come Bounce w/ your Kadima friends. You must wear socks & parents must fill out the waiver [http://cdn.bounceu.com/docs/release\\_and\\_waiver\\_faxable.pdf](http://cdn.bounceu.com/docs/release_and_waiver_faxable.pdf) We will meet at Bounce U; I can help set-up carpools if needed. RSVP by 1/14.

**January 26th**

Regional Saturday Night Live in Metuchen.

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

Need-based scholarships are available to help with some of the costs for programs. Please contact Steve Juro at [732-960-1215](tel:732-960-1215) for all requirements. All conversations are confidential and we appreciate the same respect.

Contact me with questions or concerns throughout the year! If you need another application, just ask; it's always accepted.

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



USY has had a lot going on as we wrap up 2012 and only more excitement to come in 2013!

### By the time you read this article...

Our USYers will have enjoyed B'nai Tikvah's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Rejoice Festival and volunteered in the gym to watch the little ones in the bounce houses. They raised SA/TO money selecting their favorite movie to watch and enjoyed some delicious Chinese food at one of our most-famous/asked-for events, Chinese Food & Movie Night and enjoyed a rousing Dreidel Tournament at the Hanukkah event following B'nai Tikvah's Annual Hanukkah Party!

USYers also will have had a blast dancing with all of their friends from the region at the Regional Membership Dance in Scotch Plains (for which we had more than a FULL BUS of USYers present!) and helped those in need at our joint event with Kadima, where USYers volunteered by packing up food and hygiene kits for those in need.

USYers will have attended the International Convention in Boston – we're so glad we had a representation of NSBUSY at the International level!

## January 2013

**Tuesday, Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8pm**  
**(W)rap Night – Youth Lounge @ BT**

This will be NSBUSY's very first time hosting a (W)rap Night! Join us while we learn to wrap t'fillin, listen to rap music, and eat delicious wraps!

**Saturday, Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 8-11:30pm**  
**Regional SATO Dance, East Windsor, NJ**

Please note: We will NOT be having a bus for this dance due to its proximity. The cost of the dance will be \$8, to be paid at the door. I will still need RSVPs so I can tell Region how many USYers to expect.

**Wednesday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30-8pm**  
**TBD EVENT – Youth Lounge @ BT**

Please stay tuned to your emails for another fun-filled event! If you do not currently receive emails from [nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com) and would like to, please reach out.

## Sneak Peek at February 2013!

**Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Mid-Winter Kinnus East Brunswick**

**Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8pm**  
**Multicultural Night**  
details to follow

**Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Senior Shabbaton**

**Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8pm**  
**Purim, Pizza, & Planning Night**

**Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**B'nai Tikvah's Annual Purim Carnival**

If you do not currently receive emails from [nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com) and would like to, please contact me.

**Keep an eye out for emails from [nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com) for updates on January's events and what we have coming up for February!**

Need-based scholarships are available to help with some of the cost of USY programs. Please contact Steve Juro at 732-960-1215. All conversations are strictly confidential.

Applications are available online at <http://www.bnaitikvah.org/usyform.html>

Amanda Dillman  
[nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com)  
908-930-2526



## B'nai Tikvah's COLLEGE CONNECTION...

Please complete and return the form at the BT website [bnaitikvah.org/college.html](http://bnaitikvah.org/college.html) in order to enable your college student(s) to receive care packages from the BT College Committee throughout the year. Thanks! *B'shalom, Phyllis Safer 732-432-9622 PBJSR@comcast.net*

Congregant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregant Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregant Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Student(s) Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
(freshman, sophomore, junior, senior)

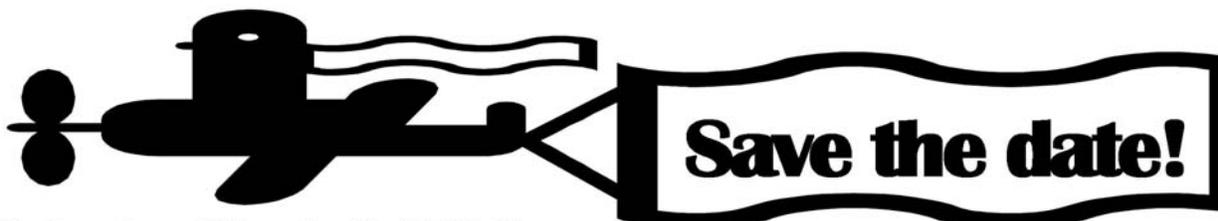
Student(s) email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) School: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of 2013 spring break: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\* Please note that College Connection care packages are limited to children of Congregants \*\**



**Saturday, March 2, 2013**

**We're goin' down the shore... come along for the ride.**

Enjoy a night of **Jersey Shore** fun with great food, open (sand) bar and classic jersey rock all night long!



**Look for your  
invitation in the  
mail soon!**

And be there to

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**Barry and Phyllis Safer**

**Ruth Anne Koenick and Paul Herman**

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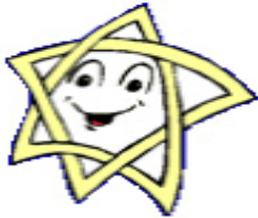
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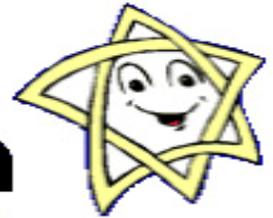
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Congregation B'nai Tikvah Religious School

Ann Ruth Nimberg  
Religious School Principal



I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The second half of the Religious School year is filled with many events. I look forward to sharing these occasions with you, your child, and your families.

The Aleph Naming Ceremony will be held on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am, in the Sanctuary. A brunch will follow the ceremony in the Kiddush Room. I would like to extend an invitation to the Congregation to join the Aleph students and their families as the children receive their Hebrew names. It is an experience you will always remember.

The Religious School Committee will meet on Monday evening, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:45pm. Your input is important to us.

The Rabbi's discussion with the Aleph parents will take place on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m., in the gym.

Report Cards will be given out to our Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade students on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. If you wish a conference with your child's teacher, call the school office to set up an appointment.

Report Cards will be given out for our Aleph-through-Hei students at Parent Teacher conferences. The conferences will be held on Wednesday evening, January 30<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:15 p.m. The students will be dismissed at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be posted outside your child's classroom. If you are unable to attend the conferences, call the school office to schedule an appointment.

Jr. Congregation is a requirement in the Aleph-through-Hei grades. If you have any questions about Jr. Congregation, contact Barry Safer "732-407-8429 or safer@comcast.net". Barry runs the Jr. Congregation services.

Continue to send in pennies for our Penny Jar. The new Torah will be arriving on May 5<sup>th</sup>. You can see the number of pennies we have collected by checking our Penny Thermometer. The goal is to collect more than 300,000 pennies.

JANUARY EVENTS

- January 2 Religious School resumes
- January 6 Aleph Naming Ceremony
- January 20 Martin Luther King Weekend (No School)
- January 21 Religious School Committee Meeting at 7:45 p.m.
- January 27 Rabbi-Aleph Parents discussion
- Kindergarten-Grade Two Report Cards
- January 30 Parent Teacher Conferences and Report Cards

Mensch for December 2012

- K1 - Savannah Newman
- Grade 2 - Jaiden Radoczy
- Aleph - Brandon Weber
- Bet- Rachel Stolly
- Gimmel - Brooke Valens
- Dalet - Sarah Hudes

Pre-Kadima Pizza Movie Night

On December 1, Pre-Kadima had its third successful event. Twenty-five third-to-fifth graders came to a Pizza and Game Night at Temple Beth El, Somerset. Everyone had the opportunity to roll out his/her own pizza dough and create unique pizzas. We then had corners of the room set up for playing games. The room was loud and lively with lots of giggling throughout. The kids left with smiles on their faces.

Our next event will be Family Roller Skating on Sunday, January 6th, from 2:00-3:30pm, at the Kendall Park Roller Rink.



Mensch for November 2012

- K-1 Connor Levine
- Grade 2 Shayna Jiorle
- Aleph David Cohen
- Bet Sydney Botnick
- Gimmel Corey Sookerman
- Dalet Adam Nass
- Hei Emilee Botnick

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Asked of Phyllis Edley, B'naiTikvah Teacher  
by Ann Ruth Nimberg

**What can you tell me about yourself and your family?**

I have two children, Scott and Abby. I have been married to my husband Jerry for thirty-two years. We are members of Congregation B'nai Tikvah.

**Who has been the most influential person in your life? Why?**

My parents were the most influential people in my life.

**What do you like to do for fun?**

I love to read, play Scrabble, see shows, and travel.

**If you were to make a list of the top ten things you would like to do in your life, what would be number one and why?**

I would want to be healthy, so that I can continue to enjoy my life.

**If you were stranded on a desert island, what would be your two must-have items?**

I have three things. I would want my family, my iPad, and a bottle of water.

**Why did you decide to become a Hebrew School teacher?**

Ann Kanerek was relentless. She kept asking me until I gave in.

**How long have you been teaching at CBT?**

I have been teaching at CBT for fifteen years.

**Do you work in any other field?**

I work in a preschool.

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Asked of Marlo Hirshon, B'nai Tikvah Teacher  
by Ann Ruth Nimberg

**What can you tell me about yourself and your family?**

I have been married to Matthew for twelve years.

**What do you like to do for fun?**

I love to exercise, read, be with friends, and travel.

**If you were to make a list of the top ten things you would like to do in your life, what would be number one and why?**

I love my life as it is and would only want it to continue.

**If you were stranded on a desert island what would be your two must-have items?**

I would want a book and an iPod.

**What one sentence best describes you and why?**

I am a very energetic and enthusiastic person. I love living life to the fullest and laughing all the way through.

**Why did you decide to become a Hebrew School teacher?**

I wanted to teach children to love Judaism.

**How long have you been teaching at CBT?**

I have been teaching at CBT for twelve years.

**Do you work in any other field?**

I work in auto sales.



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Order your Mah Jongg League cards now for you and your friends and be ready to play with your new 2013 cards by April. Once again, prices have not increased. Orders only will be accepted by Sisterhood until January 25th. Checks should be made payable to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood and sent to:

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# Men's Club

On Wednesday, November 14th, the NJ Northern Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs gathered for its annual Man-of-the-Year dinner. The B'nai Tikvah honoree was a well-deserving Bill Greenberg. CBT had a strong contingent of family and friends in attendance to share in the simcha. Congratulations Bill!!!



## World Wide Wrap XIII (Bar Mitzvah Year of the Wrap) Sunday, February 3, 2013.

The World Wide Wrap is a signature program of the FJMC, teaching thousands of people about the mitzvah of wrapping tefillin!

Come join Rabbi Wolkoff, Cantor Rockman, and fellow congregants in this pleasurable, international family event. Breakfast will be provided, courtesy of the Men's Club.



### CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

We are accepting scheduled monthly or quarterly payments by credit cards with no processing fees.

You pick the day of the month and we will process your payment. Call the office at 732-297-0696

### CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS

The constitution Committee has proposed many changes to our current document. Many of which have not yet been reviewed by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors.

To see these proposals and to comment on them, please visit [bnaitikvah.org](http://bnaitikvah.org). Follow the path: About Us... Leadership... Bylaws/Policies... Constitution. All proposal are in red

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### Save the Date

**Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 8 pm – 9:30 pm**– Make-Your-Own Amazing Chocolate Gift Basket Class. **RSVP Required by Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, to Phyllis Safer at [pbjsr@comcast.net](mailto:pbjsr@comcast.net) or 732-432-9622.** Spend an evening working alongside professional chocolatier Michael Greenstein of Susie's Sweets, as we make some unique and amazing creations. Everyone will go home with gift baskets filled with delicious treats that you will create, plus some extra-special gifts created by Michael and his staff. All supplies and baskets are provided by Susie's Sweets, so relax and enjoy a yummy, chocolate-filled evening.

**Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013** - Please join us for Passover Poker starting at 8:15 pm. (see page 27)

### **!! HURRAY FOR SISTERHOOD !!**

Congregation B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood was presented with the **Ruby Level** "Jewels in the Crown Award" at the Women's League for Conservative Judaism Convention in Las Vegas on December 3, 2012. Only 12 Sisterhoods in all of North America received the Ruby Award! We were recognized especially for the following programs:

**Breast Cancer Outreach Program, 10/21/2010:** The panelists were a genetic counselor from the Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Kim Reimann (Sisterhood member and breast cancer survivor with BRAC-1 gene mutation), and Dr James Salwitz (a medical oncologist & trustee of the Amy Foundation). They discussed breast cancer, gene mutations and genetic testing. (This program was created by Caryl Greenberg & Shelly Talmud.)

**Alborada Spanish Dance Theater, 11/18/2010:** The Alborada Spanish Dance Company came to B'nai Tikvah and, through a performance of Flamenco dancing told the story of Sephardic Jewry during the Spanish Inquisition. (This program was created by Renee Juro & Ruth Schindler.)

**Sisterhood Schmooze and Dinner Event, 11/17/2011:** Speed Friendship Networking was used in order that Sisterhood women could get to know each other. (This program was created by Phyllis Safer.)

**Robert Bielsky, 4/7/2011:** (The son of Tuvia Bielsky, from the movie "Defiance"), spoke at B'nai Tikvah about his father's and uncle's experiences as they saved more than 1,200 Jews during WWII in the forests of what is now Belarus. Our "sister" Sisterhoods (East Brunswick Jewish Center, Highland Park Conservative Temple, and Temple Beth El in Somerset) joined us and also shared in the cost of this program. (This program was created by Caryl Greenberg & Shelly Talmud.)

**Torah Fund:** Ann Rosenzweig's dedication as Chairwoman to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood's annual Torah Fund Campaign has been vital in helping Women's League reach its annual goal of more than 2 million dollars in donations. Donations to Torah Fund provide scholarships to students attending the Jewish Theological Seminary.

**Masorti:** B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood's continuing support of Masorti women's groups in Israel.

**Please join us for many more entertaining and informative programs from Sisterhood!!**

**See how special we really are!!**

**Membership** - It's never too late to join Sisterhood. Please contact Caryl Greenberg at 908-216-7616 or Brenda Sherman at 732-940-1110 if you are interested in getting involved. Sisterhood would love to welcome you.

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

### January Special

**\*\* ALL HANUKAH ITEMS TAKE 20% OFF \*\***  
**ALL CLEARANCE ITEMS TAKE 50% OFF**  
**SELECTED TALLIT 50% OFF**

If you missed Rejoice and still need a tallis...there are may new styles to choose from, all Made in Israel.

New: Susie Fishbein's cookbook, Cooking Coach, available now for purchase.

**Social Action** - For the month of January, Sisterhood will be collecting the following items for the Jewish Family and Vocational Services: gift cards to Target, Walmart, or any grocery store. Items for the Food Pantry: peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, powdered milk, cereal, rice, and soup.

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

**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 Rosenzweig, 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 732-329-0687

**Mazel Tosses** - Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood make up soft candy filled bags to sweeten the day! Also great for an ufruf. Contact Joyce Gerbman: [Gerbsfam@aol.com](mailto:Gerbsfam@aol.com) or 732-937-5114.

**Mah Jongg Cards** – Please fill out the Mah Jongg card order form on page 11. Prices remain the same: \$8.00 for large print cards and \$7.00 for standard. Forms will be due by January 25, 2013. Contact Fern Katronetsky at 732-422-4321 if you have any questions.

**Purim Baskets** – Order your Purim Baskets by February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Ordering details will be available between Dec 26 and Dec 29. Contact Bonnie Kudwitt (732-422-7276 or [beedirect@aol.com](mailto:beedirect@aol.com)).

**Passover Wine List** – Be on the lookout for the Passover Wine List and come to our Wine tasting during Purim Carnival on February 24<sup>th</sup>.



## NURSERY SCHOOL



Phyllis Denenberg  
Nursery School Director

In conjunction with our unit on community helpers, the Pre-K went to Magyar Bank. We poured our tzedakah coins into the coin machine. The total collected - a terrific \$114.73- - will be sent to families who were affected by Hurricane Sandy.

**“New Toddler Fun” and “My Kid & Me” Classes  
Starting Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Space is limited.**

**“My Kid & Me” is a Free Class**

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers are welcome. Do you or anyone you know watch a grandchild during the day while your son and or daughter is at work? Want socialization for both you and your grandchild? Come to Bnai Tikvah/JCC of North & South Brunswick Nursery School for **My Kid & Me** (parents/grandparents/caregivers and children aged 12-24 months) or **Toddler Fun Club** (child/parent/grandparent/caregiver separation class for children 24 months to 30 months).

**Toddler Fun Club** runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:30 AM. **My Kid & Me** runs every Tuesday from 10:45 AM-11:45 AM. Mrs. “P” (Jennifer Pollack) has room available in her classes. There is a discount for Bnai Tikvah members who enroll in these (and all) classes. The applications can be found on the Bnai Tikvah website under Nursery School.

Come for a tour or, if you have any questions, email me at [nursery@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:nursery@bnaitikvah.org), or call me at 732-297-0295, extension 22.

Please support our school.

Our next fundraiser - Little Lambs Cookies- - will begin on Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. The frozen dough is divided into cookie - size portions. When your family craves home-baked cookies, all you have to do is pop them into the oven and they are ready in 10 to 12 minutes! New this year: cheesecakes, too!

Please note that school **WILL BE IN SESSION on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**, Martin Luther King’s Birthday.

**Registration for school (2013-2014) begins this month.  
No Tuition Increase!**

The schedule is as follows:

Monday January 7<sup>th</sup> –registration for current students

Monday January 28<sup>th</sup> –registration for the community at large

Register by Wednesday, February 13th, and get our Super Early Bird Special!

**For those families whose children attend school here 5 full days,  
9:00 AM-3:15 PM, there will be monthly discount on tuition.**

Registration for our **summer day camp** will be next month, February 11<sup>th</sup>. We are trying to make it easier for parents by staggering the registrations. **Register for camp by February 28<sup>th</sup> and save \$50.00 off the registration fee.**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013  
“PAJAMA TIME WITH DAD” 6:30-8:00 PM**

Until next month....  
Phyllis

Pre-K Visits Magyar Bank



REJOICE 2012



TEMPLE CHANUKAH PARTY

From the President



Welcome

If you ask any of our active members... and by "active" I mean those who are involved in synagogue life and contribute their time to any of the various activities or programs at B'nai Tikvah (religious or otherwise)... If you ask any of them if we are a welcoming congregation, there's no doubt you will get a resounding "yes." But, what exactly is a "welcoming" congregation? Sometimes I wonder if we truly are. There's no doubt that we are an "accepting" congregation. We pride ourselves on not being judgmental of people's lifestyles and beliefs. It may come as a surprise to some that not all of our congregants truly believe in G-d, just as there are those who don't always side with every action taken by the State of Israel.

But, if there's anyone in our congregation who doesn't feel truly welcome here, who's fault is that? As president, it ultimately must be mine. When Eve asked Adam, "Do you love me?," Adam looked around and replied, "Who else?" At B'nai Tikvah, we are *accepting* of everyone. But, is that really enough? Do we make a concerted effort to reach out to those who we don't know or who don't fit our particular lifestyle? I once heard the remark that the only time I get a call from the synagogue is when they need money. The tragedy is that there are some who perceive that to be true. As a fellow congregant, and especially as President, I feel honored to be associated with an institution, such as ours, that is made up of people who truly care.

B'nai Tikvah has a long-standing reputation for being an "accepting" institution and am very proud to know that all the people I associate with have that same common belief.

If you have any ideas how we can further demonstrate those ideals, I encourage you to discuss them openly with any of our lay leaders (especially myself). We look forward to hearing from you.

*Gary Bergman*

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## Donations of Games Wanted

Do you have toys in your basement that you want to donate to our Youth Group? Or maybe those unused toys are in your garage or shed? We are looking for donations of any of the following kid's games:

Bean Bag Toss  
 Ring Toss  
 Spin Art  
 Hula Hoops  
 Corn Hole  
 Plastic Bowling Set  
 MiniBasketball Hoop (like Little Tykes)

If you have something else that is similar and are unsure - ask! If you have any of these and want to donate them, please contact Barry Safeer, [732-407-8429](tel:732-407-8429), or [safeer@comcast.net](mailto:safeer@comcast.net)  
 Thank you in advance.



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## Shabbat Shira Lunch & Sing and Tu B'Shevat Seder

**Saturday, January 26, 2013**

Celebrate the crossing of the Red Sea and Birthday of the Trees  
 Interactive Program for All Ages

Dairy luncheon immediately following services  
 Shabbat Services begin at 9:30 am.

**No RSVP necessary**

If you'd like to sponsor a Seder Plate, please send your check for \$18 to:  
 Attn: Ritual Committee - Tu B'Shevat Seder  
 Congregation Bnai Tikvah  
 1001 Finnegans Lane  
 North Brunswick, NJ. 08902

Please write "Tu B'Shevat Seder" on the note line of your check

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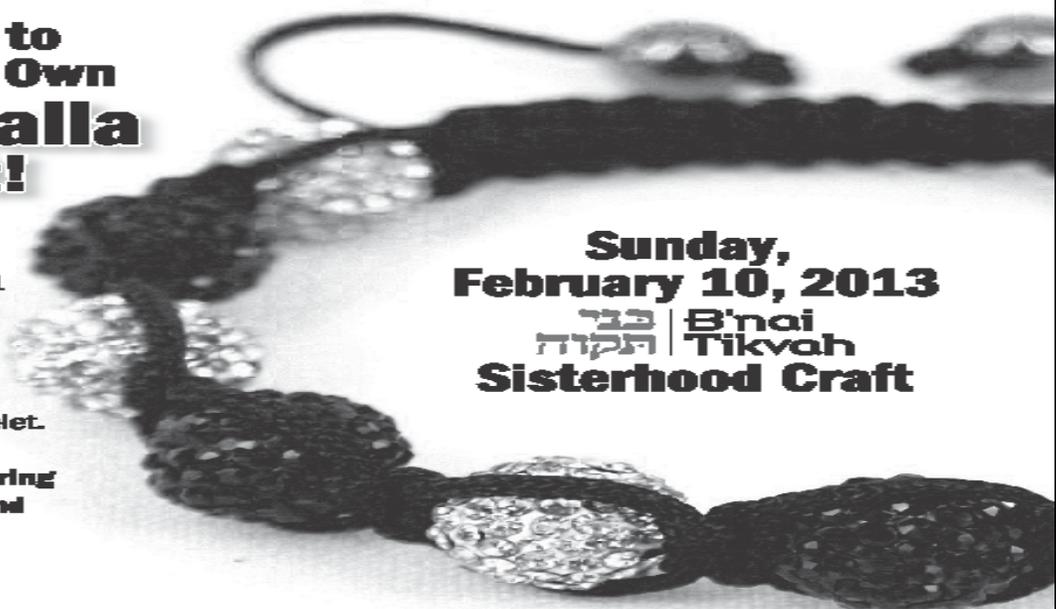
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**Sunday,  
 February 10, 2013**

**בני | B'nai  
 תיקבה | Tikvah  
 Sisterhood Craft**

One night a father overheard his son pray: Dear G-d, Make me the kind of man my Daddy is.  
 Later that night, the Father prayed, Dear G-d, Make me the kind of man my son wants me to be.  
 Unknown source

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 and we'll work something out.



## PARTY POEMS

Some events in our lives our memories spark.  
The dates on our calendars we want to mark.  
Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations ,too,  
Can seem truly historic when they happen to you.

One way to acknowledge your loved one's special time  
Is to express your excitement in meter and rhyme.  
If you'll give me the facts and make them specific,  
We'll come up with a tribute that's warmly terrific.

The cost of this assistance is minimal and fair,  
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Whatever the occasion and whatever its theme,  
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## PERSONALS

Are you the girl I spoke with at the kiddush after shul last week?  
You excused yourself to get more horseradish for your gefilte fish,  
but you never returned. How can I contact you again? (I was the one  
with the stain on my tie.) POB 766.

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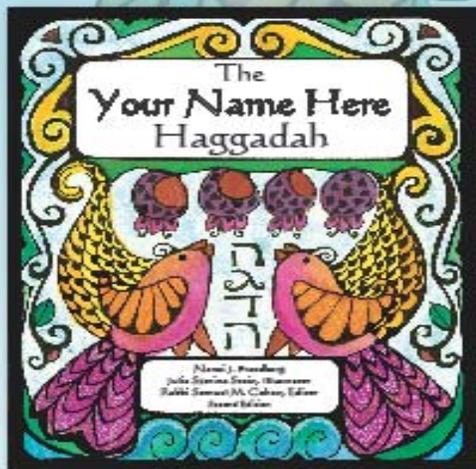
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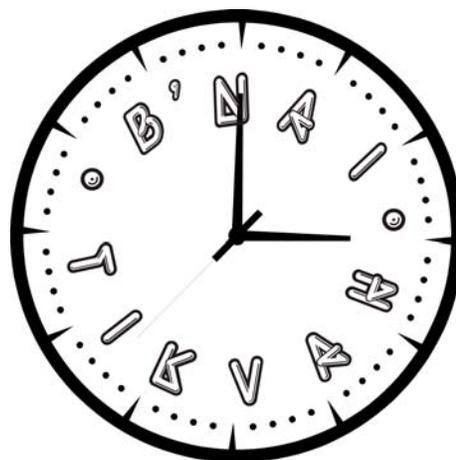
## B'NAI MITZVAH January 2013



Ari Denlow  
Son of  
Alan and Rebecca Denlow  
January 12



Michala Glassman  
Daughter of  
Peter and Jill Glassman  
January 19



### 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

### From the Webmaster

#### I like what's happening

Last month, I wrote that I wasn't a "fan" of B'nai Tikvah. Well, all that's changed.

Our congregant, Kim Riemann, successfully converted our old FaceBook page to properly represent B'nai Tikvah in the world of social media. I like what she's done. So much so, in fact, that I went to our website's home page ([bnaitikvah.org](http://bnaitikvah.org)) and clicked the new "Like" button in the right column under "Events at a Glance."

I hope that you, too, will "like" B'nai Tikvah. And if you really liked something that happened recently, please leave a comment as well.

Thanks again, Kim.

Gary

*Listen to your Twitter followers...*

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**The Office Thanks:**

We thank Bill Greenberg,  
Beverly Leipzig-Silien, Brenda Morgan,  
Jeryl Roller, Mae Rubinstein, for making the  
December birthday calls.

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

A special thank you to Susan Shapiro for her  
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Advance Couvert \$40.00 per couple, \$20.00 per person

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

Couvert at the door will be \$54.00 per couple, \$27.00 per person.

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

Please send your check, by March 21st, to Serena Blackin, 3 Pilgrim Run, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

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

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Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40.00 per couple, \$20.00 per person)

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



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Candle Lighting 4 4:27 pm 11 4:34 pm 18 4:41 pm 25 4:50 pm	Shabbat Ends 5 5:30 pm 12 5:36 pm 19 5:44 pm 26 5:51 pm	1 19 Tevet  Office & School Closed NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 20 Tevet  Nursery Resumes	3 21 Tevet  KADIMA Jeopardy Executive Committee	4 22 Tevet  Nursery School Shabbat Together	5 23 Tevet
6 24 Tevet  USY Event Rabbi Study Day KADIMA Roller- Rama Alpha Naming	7 25 Tevet  Nursery Registration	8 26 Tevet  Israel Stamp Club USY Meeting Men's Basketball	9 27 Tevet  PAC Meeting	10 28 Tevet  Sisterhood Meeting	11 29 Tevet  Birthday Shabbat	12 1 Sh'vat  Bat Mitzvah Ari Denlow Regional SATO Dance ROSH CHODESH
13 2 Sh'vat  Federation Super Sunday School Mitzvah Day Men's Club BLOOD DRIVE	14 3 Sh'vat  Sisterhood Board	15 4 Sh'vat  Men's Basketball	16 5 Sh'vat	17 6 Sh'vat  Youth Committee Bikur Cholim Meeting	18 7 Sh'vat  Family Shabbat Service	19 8 Sh'vat  Bat Mitzvah Michala Glassman
20 9 Sh'vat  No Religious School KADIMA Bounce U	21 10 Sh'vat  Office & School Closed School Board MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	22 11 Sh'vat  Men's Basketball	23 12 Sh'vat  USY Event	24 13 Sh'vat  B'nai Mitzvah Meeting	25 14 Sh'vat  School wide Shabbat Nursery School Shabbat Together	26 15 Sh'vat  Lunch & Learn KADIMA Regional Sat Night Live TU B'SHEVAT
27 16 Sh'vat  Rabbi Discussion with Aleph Class Parents	28 17 Sh'vat  Nursery School Theatre Trip Religious School Registration Ritual Committee	29 18 Sh'vat  Men's Basketball	30 19 Sh'vat  Parent Teacher	31 20 Sh'vat		

**Hakol Deadline**  
Sunday, January 13, 2013

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