

**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.**



# Happy Chanukah

- |                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup></b>    | <b>Rabbi Q&amp;A</b>               |
| <b>Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  | <b>Lunch with Rabbi</b>            |
| <b>Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup></b>   | <b>Virtual Trivia Night</b>        |
| <b>Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup></b>   | <b>Junior Congregation</b>         |
| <b>Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup></b>     | <b>Kadima</b>                      |
| <b>Monday, 7<sup>th</sup></b>     | <b>Board of Directors</b>          |
| <b>Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Rabbi Lecture</b>               |
|                                   | <b>CBT Book Club</b>               |
|                                   | <b>USY Board</b>                   |
| <b>Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Lunch with Rabbi</b>            |
| <b>Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Erev Chanukah</b>               |
| <b>Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Men's Club</b>                  |
|                                   | <b>School Chanukah Celebration</b> |
| <b>Monday, 14<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Sisterhood Board</b>            |
| <b>Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Lunch with Rabbi</b>            |
| <b>Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Executive Committee</b>         |
| <b>Friday, 18<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Birthday Shabbat</b>            |
| <b>Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Junior Congregation</b>         |
| <b>Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Congregational Meeting</b>      |
|                                   | <b>Man of The Year</b>             |
| <b>Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup></b>   | <b>Rabbi Q&amp;A</b>               |
|                                   | <b>Sisterhood Book Club</b>        |
| <b>Friday, 25<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Chesed for Chanukah</b>         |



## From Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

### May We See the Light



An intriguing aspect of the holiday of Chanukah, which we will soon celebrate, is the fact that Chanukah *always* includes the darkest day of the year. We all know that Chanukah falls near the time of the winter solstice, the day with the fewest minutes of daylight. Over and above this, however, the new moon always appears in the middle of the holiday. In other words, not only are the days of Chanukah among the shortest days of the year, but the nights of Chanukah, when no moon illumines the long winter evenings, are the darkest of the year.

Thus, as is so often the case with Jewish holidays, natural conditions reflect historical ones—the darkness of the winter reflects the darkness of despair over the fate of our persecuted people. The reappearance of the moon, and the noticeable lengthening and brightening of the days, serve as a parallel to the reawakened hopes and aspirations of our people. After the gloomy persecution by the wicked Antiochus Epiphanes and the dark betrayal of Jewish values by his assimilationist quislings the unexpected victory of the Maccabees and the restoration of Jewish sovereignty and integrity was indeed a divine miracle of light. This is what the Chanukah menorah symbolizes.

In addition to the natural and historical aspects of the holiday of Chanukah, however, there is a philosophical, one might even say metaphysical, dimension. Chanukah reflects, in a profound sense, the human condition. This is illustrated by a beautiful legend, somewhat less well known than other, more familiar, Chanukah stories. The Rabbis tell us that when Adam first witnessed the days getting shorter and shorter, and the darkness coming earlier and earlier, he became terrified. He was laboring under two misconceptions: first, that the world was returning to chaos, the primordial darkness from which it came; and second, that the

reason it was doing so was his, Adam's, fault, a result of Adam's sin in the Garden. According to the legend, he entered into a period of prayer and supplication to G-d, a period that lasted—can you guess?—eight days. When he then, with relief, noted that the days were getting longer and the sun was getting brighter, and the moon was shining with ever more strength in the night, he realized that such was the way of the world—light is followed by darkness, and darkness by light.

And G-d, Adam realized, is the Source of it all.

This is a message that bears repeating. There is much today in the world around us that seems dark and confused. Like Adam, we are sometimes driven to feel that the world is indeed returning to chaos. This is because of the pandemic, but also with regard to the political situation here and in Israel, and with regard to climate change with its attendant challenges. For all intents and purposes, these are plagues of biblical proportions. It surely does look like the world has gone meshugah. But Judaism, and the holiday of Chanukah, in particular, teach us not to despair. Rather, we must gather our strength to fight against the darkness, to light a candle even when there seems to be no hope, to remember that it is the way of the world for darkness to follow light—and for light to follow darkness.

May we, this Chanukah, truly experience the joy of Hashem's light in all its forms: natural, historical, and philosophical, illumination, enlightenment, and radiance.

Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

## From Cantor Bruce Rockman

### Bring Down Barriers



**“The best way of breaking down barriers between people or communities is through simple, unforced acts of kindness. One act can undo years of estrangement.” Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z”l**

*Stacey, Rabbi Sacks died! I heard that he was sick but he died today! I’m so sad.*

As Shabbat concluded on November 7<sup>th</sup>, the word spread throughout the Jewish world and beyond that a great Rabbi, who had left his indelible impression on so many of us, had left our realm for the World to Come. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks was a Rabbi of great depth and understanding, a Rabbi for all denominations, revered by people of faith across the spectrum of humankind. He was an extraordinary communicator and a brilliant teacher. One of Rabbi Sacks’ most endearing qualities was his ability to empathize, change, and grow.

Among the lovely tributes that were offered for Rabbi Sacks was a Chasidic story about the The Baal Shem Tov, Rabbi Yisrael ben Eliezer, the founder of the Chassidic movement, shared by Liel Lebovitz on Tablet Magazine’s podcast “Unorthodox.” This story inspires and comforts me. I hope it will be meaningful for you as well.

*Once upon a time, there was a very rich Jew who had read that a lot of people were having encounters with the Prophet Elijah. Elijah the Prophet is supposed to be at the Passover Seder and at brises. This rich man was determined. He really wanted to meet Elijah the Prophet, too! He went to the Baal Shem Tov and told him that he “really wanted to meet Elijah the Prophet” and asked for his help. The Baal Shem Tov told him that he could help. He had an address. BUT- the Baal Shem Tov told him: “You cannot go to the house empty-handed. When you’re going to meet such an important person like the Prophet Elijah, you need to show respect. Bring some chicken, bread, and soup.”*

*The man went to the address and he saw a small rickety house. He knocked on the door and was greeted by a tired young*

*woman, and noticed that there were six or seven children running around. The man told her why he was there, gave her the food, and waited and waited for Elijah the Prophet to come. But Elijah did not show up. Eventually, the man left.*

*The next day, the man went back to the Baal Shem Tov and told him what happened, how he waited and waited, but Elijah did not show up. The great Rabbi apologized profusely and he gave the man a different address. The man again bought the food and went to the house. This second house was even smaller, in worse shape, and in a terrible neighborhood. It was a repeat of the first day, with no Elijah the Prophet.*

*For the third time, the man went back to the Baal Shem Tov, and again he tells the Rabbi that he must have the wrong address. The Baal Shem Tov apologizes once more and gives the rich man another address. The man goes through the routine for a third time. He buys everything: the chicken, the potatoes, bread, soup, and wine. This time, the house is a shack! The rich man is really annoyed and does not even knock. The man thinks – I am going to give the Baal Shem Tov a piece of my mind. He must be playing a trick on me. This is clearly not the place where you’re going to meet the Prophet Elijah!*

*Just as he is about to leave, the rich man heard the voice of a little girl crying “Mommy- I’m hungry.” The mother responded “Don’t worry my love, the Baal Shem Tov promised that in a very short time there will be a knock at the door and the Prophet Elijah is going to walk in and bring us dinner.”*

It is very easy to sit and wait for someone to be our redeemer and solve our problems; it is harder to be that person for those who need it most.

Let’s honor this moment of transformation by being the Prophet Elijah rather than waiting for him ourselves.

Thank you to all of our Elijahs, past and present, who make our lives and the lives of those forgotten, and those in need, more meaningful.

Worship the Lord with Gladness,  
Cantor Bruce Rockman

## HAKOL

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

Published monthly, except July and August. Submissions are encouraged about events, group activities, and anything relevant to the Jewish Community. All articles emailed to Hakol@bnaitikvah.org are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month and are subject to available space and editorial constraints. We discourage the use of PDF files. All issues are archived at bnaitikvah.org/hakol and emailed via the CBT Newsletter. Editors: Gary Bergman, Ann Gold, Arthur Biderman, Janet Weiss, and Sandy Sharon. Advertising: Meryl Harris and Janet Weiss.

## From President Marty Abschutz

### Financial Update



Here is a quick update on some of the things our Board and administration have accomplished on behalf of Congregation B'nai Tikvah. When the federal government allowed religious organizations to apply for Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) funds, we applied. Working through our bank, Bank of America, several of us struggled with changing rules and many technical details. Among those who worked on the application were Andy Ross, Treasurer, Marc Rosen, Assistant Treasurer, and Gary Wesalo, Budget & Finance Committee Chair. With all their hard work and perseverance, we received more than \$83,000. The PPP rules may enable us to convert the loan into a grant, meaning we would not need to repay it. I will keep you informed as we go through the application to convert the loan to a grant. The good news is that whatever part of the loan remains after our application, if any, would require repayment over time and at a one percent interest rate.

Recently, Adrienne Ross, Immediate Past President, became aware that the Middlesex County government had \$30 million available for grants to small businesses. As it happens, religious organizations (of a certain size) fell within the County's definition of a small business. Working with Andy Ross, Gary Wesalo submitted the application and followed up with County officials. After a wait of more than four weeks, we were approved for the maximum grant of \$30,000.

While significant, these amounts have not replaced the amounts we expected to raise from our fundraising events nor replaced the lost revenue from our Caterer not being able to cater parties at the previous guest counts, if at all.

If you have made and fulfilled your High Holy Day pledge, thank you for helping Congregation B'nai Tikvah meet its obligations. If you have made a pledge, thank you. Consider paying your pledge before January 1 to make it eligible for a tax-deductible donation in 2020. For those of you who have not made a pledge yet, please consider making a pledge. You can make a pledge and pay it at our website, [www.bnaitikvah.org](http://www.bnaitikvah.org). No amount is too small.

### "HELP A NEEDY FAMILY" PROGRAM REVISED FOR THE PANDEMIC



Janice Baer

This will be our 19<sup>th</sup> year helping families in need. Over the years, we have helped 100+ families. In the past, we have purchased winter clothing, blankets, boots, towels, sheets, dishes, silverware, personal hygiene items, and toys.

Since the pandemic, I have given much thought to how to continue this mitzvah without jeopardizing the health and safety of our very generous community. I have discussed the needs of several families with the school social worker I have worked with over the years. She stated that many of them have lost their jobs and feeding their children has become a huge problem. In addition, household and clothing needs, are still realities. Therefore, instead of purchasing items for these families, we will be collecting money so that we can provide gift cards to stores where the families can purchase the food and basic household items they need. This way, we will be safe and the families will get what they need.

#### HOW TO DONATE

Write a check, payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah Needy Family Program, and send it to the synagogue.

Or visit

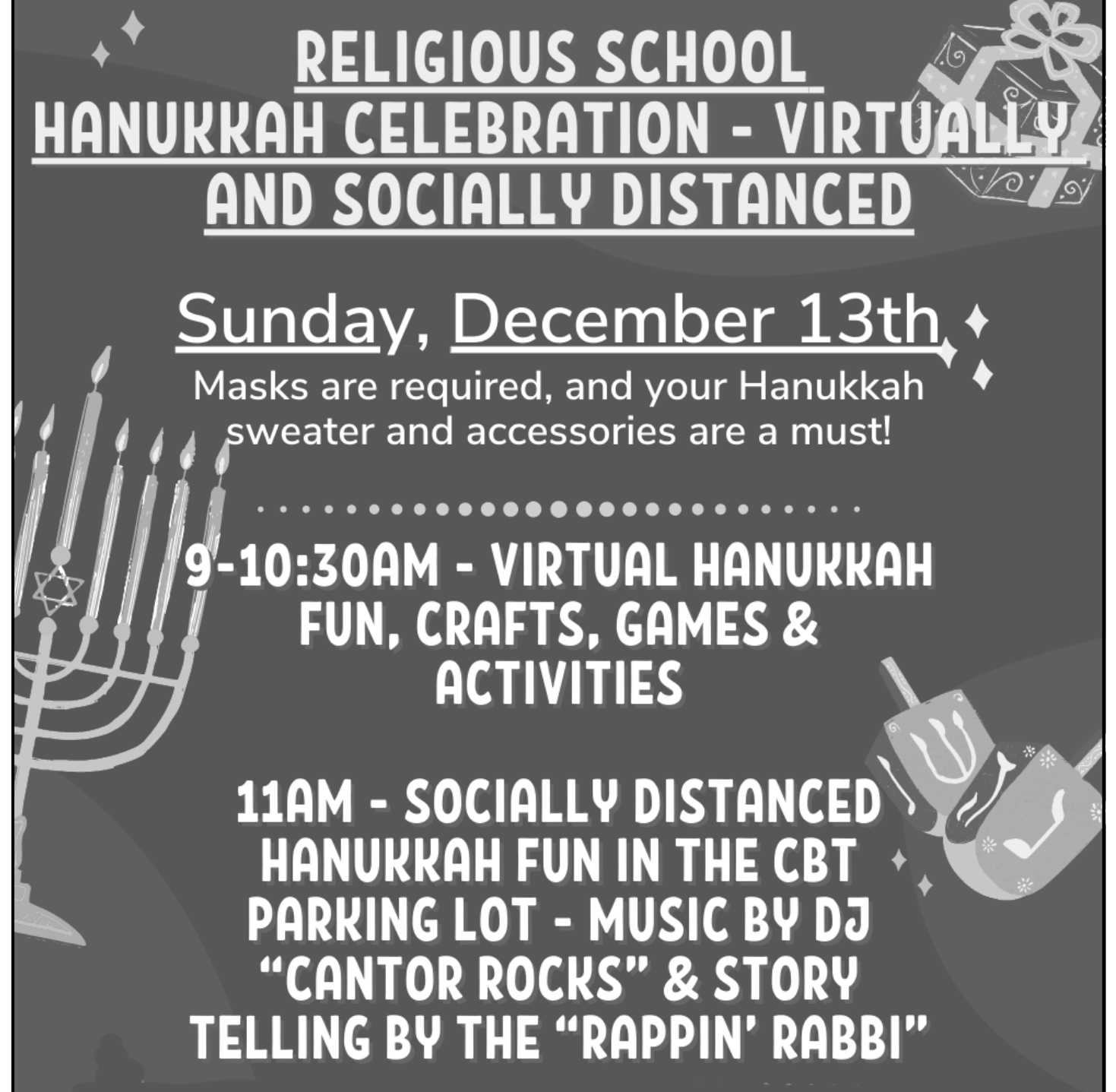
<http://bnaitikvah.org/donations/needy-family/>

As these are very difficult times, families are in greater need than ever. Please contribute. Your donations will make a significant impact on these people's lives.

Please ask your family and friends to donate to this very worthwhile mitzvah. Every penny donated goes directly to a needy family.

For additional information, please email me at [Jbbd11@verizon.net](mailto:Jbbd11@verizon.net)

Thanks so much!  
Janice Baer



# RELIGIOUS SCHOOL HANUKKAH CELEBRATION - VIRTUALLY AND SOCIALLY DISTANCED

Sunday, December 13th ✨

Masks are required, and your Hanukkah sweater and accessories are a must!

.....  
**9-10:30AM - VIRTUAL HANUKKAH  
FUN, CRAFTS, GAMES &  
ACTIVITIES**

**11AM - SOCIALLY DISTANCED  
HANUKKAH FUN IN THE CBT  
PARKING LOT - MUSIC BY DJ  
"CANTOR ROCKS" & STORY  
TELLING BY THE "RAPPIN' RABBI"**

The Religious School Parent Committee is preparing a Hanukkah goody bag for each student that will be available for curbside pick-up from December 7<sup>th</sup> until Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Please call Meryl at the CBT office (732-297-0696) to coordinate your pick-up time. These goody bags are to be used during the virtual portion of our Chanukkah Celebration.

For questions, contact Cheryl Crick: [CherylCrick13@gmail.com](mailto:CherylCrick13@gmail.com)  
or Sharon Cohen: [Goldberg\\_Sharon@hotmail.com](mailto:Goldberg_Sharon@hotmail.com).

## PRAYER by Ben Baum



The most personal communication,  
Between G-d and me,  
Reaching out to the Almighty,  
No small task.

Evolving from the period of doubt,  
To the philosophizing and reasoning,  
To the wondering whether or not,  
To the acceptance,  
The belief stage.

Striving to communicate through the 613 mitzvot,  
Through Tikkun Olam,  
Through contributing to the community,  
Through daily prayer.

Recognizing that no man is as perfect as G-d,  
Yet man can always strive to be better,  
To live his or her religion,  
Every waking hour.

To observe on every day,  
Not just holy days,  
To practice honesty, humility, and love,  
To wear your Jewish heritage proudly.

Enthralled by the melodious Hebrew phrases,  
By the repetition of concepts known and unknown,  
By the Shabbat traditions,  
By the prayers.

## READ, ZOOM DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> WITH CBT BOOK CLUB

Keep your brain active. Read an interesting book and discuss it with an interesting group of CBT congregants. Our December 8<sup>th</sup> book is "The Last Watchman in Old Cairo" by Michael David Lukas. We start at 7:30pm and usually go 'til 9pm. For the Zoom passcodes, contact Lynn Biderman at r.lynn.biderman@gmail.com or at 732-297-6691.

Back by popular demand:



# VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHT



Hosted by NYC Trivia League



Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Start Time: 8pm

\$10 per screen

Constant Contact with  
Sign Up Link to follow!



Join Sisterhood and see what we're all about... We need your support!

We welcome your ideas, participation and enthusiasm!

We hope everyone has been safe and healthy during these times! They certainly are like no other and we have been thinking of ways to keep our Jewish community together!

Please join us and we can still enjoy a creative year that's fun through ZOOM or in a mask and 6 feet apart! We all need to stay in contact and connect with each other!

**Upcoming events will be announced and shared!**

Fill in this form and mail it to our Financial Secretary,  
Elisa Berness, at the address provided below.

We are offering different membership levels. Please choose below:

\$40 Leah Level - open **only** to our Senior Synagogue members : \_\_\_

\$45 Rachel Level - open **only** to Synagogue members: \_\_\_

\$54 Rebecca Level - open to all(including non-synagogue members) : \_\_\_

\$72 Sarah Level - open to all: \_\_\_

Questions? Call Jessica Zink 732-715-4765 or email [jessiczink@optonline.net](mailto:jessiczink@optonline.net)

Please detach and return with payment (please write clearly):

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

CBT Member: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

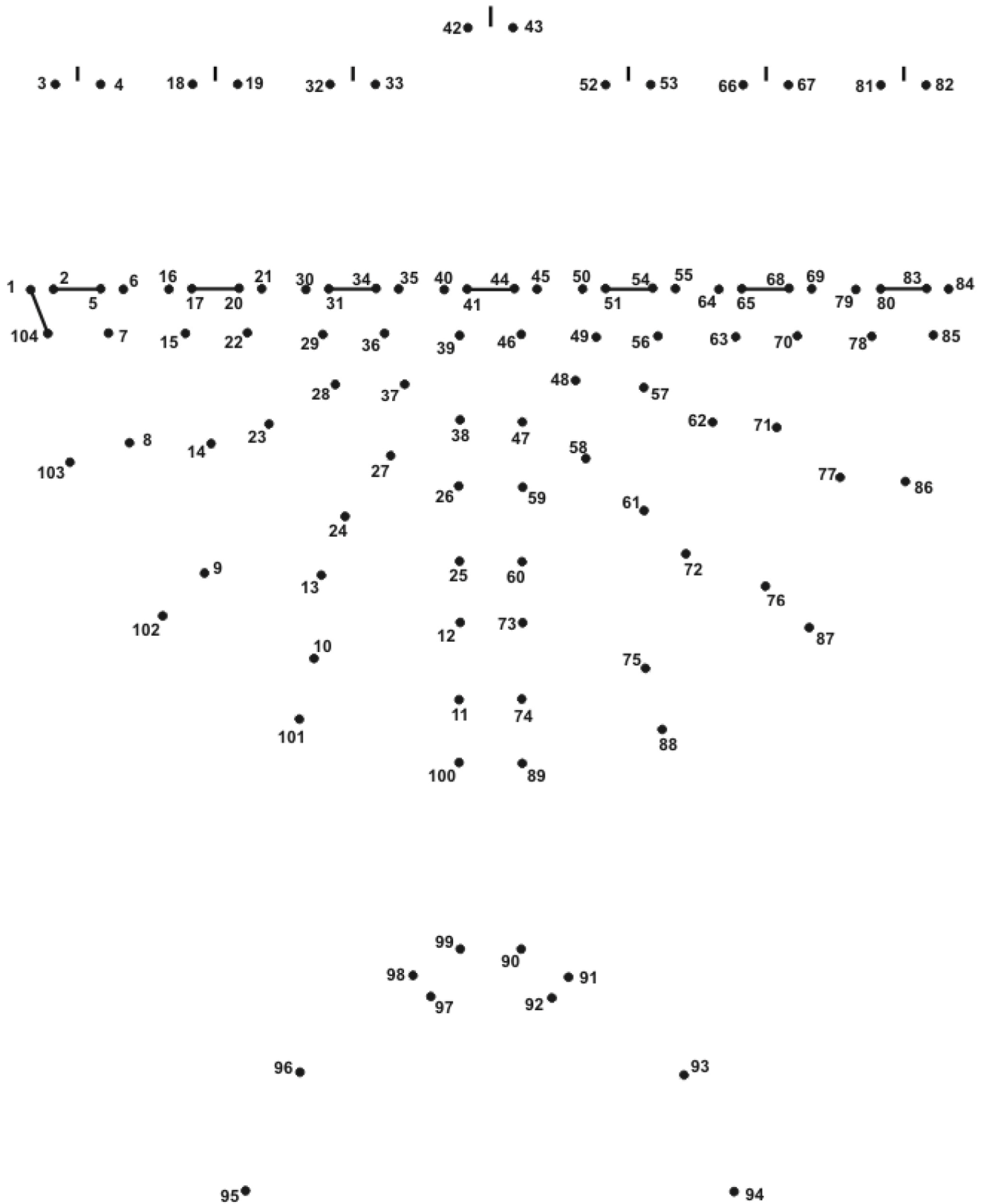
Include a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_, payable to: Congregation B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood

Volunteer Opportunities (check all in which you are interested):

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on the Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing a program | <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping for Snacks      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Packing Purim Baskets  | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling Members      | <input type="checkbox"/> Setting up for a Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean-up after program | <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping for Purim   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):  |

Please mail to: Elisa Berness, 12 Donald Avenue, Kendall Park, NJ 08824  
or drop in the Sisterhood mailbox at the Synagogue.

# Stacey Rockman's KIDS CORNER





# Hanukkah Word Search Puzzle

F T H E M A L G R C C A B E T  
 E E A S E N A I I T E R E H O  
 S D L T H E T H G M O L E Y I  
 T C H A N U K A H H M I T E N  
 I M A U P L E E T T T E O F A  
 V I N N H D S T E H A S L T G  
 A T I H A E D O O F D E I R F  
 L G S R K E C O U H S Y R I U  
 A L S N K S H E S A A D D E S  
 F E I I U L E D L T H L E O I  
 L D M E N O R A H C T E L H A  
 T I W A A S S U S E A A D E F  
 O E I G H T D A Y S R R T H L  
 E R T I E M P L E S M S I E N  
 O D N R A O L I V E O I L M H

### HANUKKAH WORD LIST

- |             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| AL HANISSIM | ISRAEL    |
| CHANUKAH    | LATKES    |
| DREIDEL     | LIGHTS    |
| EIGHT DAYS  | MENORAH   |
| FESTIVAL    | MIRACLE   |
| FRIED FOOD  | NUN       |
| GIMMEL      | OLIVE OIL |
| HALLEL      | RIGHTEOUS |
| HANUKKAH    | SHIN      |
| HEI         | SUFGANIOT |

## “Bite-sized Pieces”

### Inspired from Chuck Lorrie’s Vanity Cards®

Every once in a while an article should be written that aspires to make life better for everyone who takes the time to read it. This is one of those articles. After years of struggle, I've finally figured out how to eat rugelah in bed without getting crumbs all over the place. The trick is to break the rugelah into small bite-sized pieces while still in the box, then, and only then, pop the pieces into your mouth. Get it? There are no crumbs because the rugelah are never bitten, they're only chewed. Of course, there is some downside risk. Whenever you bring an entire box of rugelah into bed, there is a strong likelihood that you will eat everything in the box. This means that your bed, while crumb free, will be filled with guilt and regret. Not to worry. In a future article I will explain how to handle these. Like rugelah, it involves breaking them into bite-sized pieces.

## Come Join Our Jewish Journey with CBT Chai



Stacey Rockman

It is no secret that I am a Jewish geek. I legitimately get excited before EVERY holiday (well, maybe not Yom Kippur so much). I love the children’s and adult songs that go with the holidays and I love the physical stuff-- like eating in the sukkah and lighting Hanukkah candles and even making Passover Seder. Of course, also, the food that goes with each holiday.

When I was given the opportunity to teach our Chai School this year, I was very excited. It was a real chance to share my love and excitement about all things Jewish. Even during COVID and quarantine, it is an opportunity. Zoom has made our world smaller. I can speak with people from all over the world and don’t have to consider airfare!

Judaism has so much beauty. There is Jewish art and music and food. There is something for everyone. There is a natural rhythm to the calendar that makes me feel good. I always look forward to Shabbat. Our family dinners, even during quarantine, feel different on Friday night. I generally “up my game” with the dinner. We sit and laugh and chat and everyone is a bit more relaxed after successfully completing another week.

Then, of course, there is Israel, the heart of it all. If you get my husband going – he never stops – it is his happy place, his sanctuary, his spiritual core. For me, it is a place of joy. There is nothing like being in a Jewish country. I love trying to figure out the store signs in Hebrew that are actually English words. I love the smells and the feel and the sights and the food and even the pushy natives.

As the Chai school leader, I am bringing all of this to the table. I am bringing my passion and excitement for all things Jewish. I love LIVING a Jewish life and I want our teens to get excited, too. Over the past few months, we did a Jewish culture series and a tour of Israel with Moshe Gold, we learned about Judaism and food with Susie Fishbein, we learned how to do micrography with a Jewish twist with Dr Rabbi Iscah Waldman and we saw the influence of music with Doni Zasloff and Eric Lindberg of Nefesh Mountain. Going forward, we will learn about Israel and Jewish ways of “paying it forward” during COVID. We will explore holidays and generally continue to get psyched about this gift that we were given – being Jewish. And yes – we will have more guest appearances – including my nephew, Dr Noam Weissman, who is an author at Unpacked for Educators. He’s really becoming a giant in his field.

I invite all teens between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade to join us in my exciting mission and vision. Please join me! Our next session will be Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions: StaceyRockman@yahoo.com

# KOSHER KITCHEN—TO GO

Four-meal Minimum Order

Order Form on next page.

QTY	Item	Price	Total
	<b>Shabbat Dinner</b> <i>Whole Roasted Chicken With Kasha Varnishkes, Grilled Vegetables and 1 QT Chicken Noodle Soup</i>	36.00	
	<b>Shabbat Dinner #2</b> 3-6 ounce pieces of Braised ShortRib with Mushroom Gravy served with 1 Qt Chicken Soup, Mashed Potato and Coleslaw	48.00	
<b>ENTREES</b>			
	Short Rib Entrée served with Mashed Potato and Grilled Vegetables	18.95	
	Hibachi Chicken served over Vegetable Lo-mein	14.95	
	<i>Baked Ziti (Dairy)</i>	14.95	
	<i>Chicken Fingers (8 pieces)</i>	12.00	
	<i>Dark Meat Chicken Kebab over Herb Rice With Israeli Salad and Tahina</i>	14.95	
	<i>Eggplant Rollatini over Penne Marinara (Dairy)</i>	14.95	
	<i>Filet of Branzino with Lemon Wine Sauce With Rice and Sautéed Spinach</i>	17.95	
	French-cut Chicken w Lemon Garlic Sauce with Mashed Potatoes and Grilled Vegetables	14.95	
	Fresh-cut Chicken with Marsala Sauce with Herb Rice and Sautéed Spinach	14.95	
	Grilled Herb Salmon with Dijon Dill Sauce with Mashed Potatoes and Grilled Vegetables	14.95	
	Homemade Meatloaf with Mushroom Gravy Mashed Potatoes and Grilled Vegetables	14.95	
	Macaroni & Cheese (Dairy)	11.00	
	Pasta Primavera	11.00	
	<i>Penne Marinara</i>	8.00	
	Ponzu Seabass served over Fried Rice	18.95	
	Pulled BBQ Brisket over Mashed Potatoes and Grilled Vegetables	17.95	
	Spaghetti and Meatballs	14.95	
	Stuffed Cabbage with Kasha Varnishkes	14.95	
	<i>Sweet and Sour Meatballs Over Penne Pasta</i>	14.00	
	<i>Teriyaki Glazed Salmon Over Vegetable Fried Rice</i>	14.95	
	<i>Vegetable Fried Rice</i>	11.00	
<b>SOUPS, SALADS, &amp; SIDES</b>			
	<i>Homestyle Chicken Noodle Soup (1 QT)</i>	11.00	
	Homemade Potato Knish (2 per order)	7.00	
	<i>Kasha Varnishkes (1 QT)</i>	11.00	
	<i>Mushroom Barley Soup (1 QT)</i>	11.00	
	<i>Tomato and Cucumber Salad (2 servings)</i>	11.00	
<b>DESSERTS</b>			
	<i>David's Brownies (6 Large)</i>	12.00	
	<i>David's Blondies (6 Large)</i>	12.00	
	Rice Pudding (1 Pint)	5.99	
<b>FRESH MEATS (Uncooked)</b>			
	2 LB Trimmed Chicken Cutlets	18.00	
	2 LB Ground Beef	18.00	
	Whole Chicken	11.00	
	1 LB Trimmed Skirt Steak	26.00	
	<i>Local Delivery</i>	20.00	

\*\*\*Meals are freshly prepared and may be frozen for later use.\*\*\*



Lori Sookerman



Shelly Wistreich

Please visit <http://bnaitikvah.org/sismember> to discover the joy of getting involved in our circle. Sisterhood would love to welcome you. Contact: Jessica Zink - JessicaZink@optonline.net

**Book Club**

Virtual chat about Ronald Balson's new book "Eli's Promise." December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm.

RSVP by December 20 for free Zoom link to: Sheryl Levine - slevine0710@gmail.com

**Torah Fund**

The new pins are available with a \$180-or-above pledge. We would love to welcome you as a Torah Fund benefactor, helping the Women's League for Conservative Judaism to support the Jewish Theological Seminary, its teachers, Cantors, and Rabbis.

Contact: Gale Dillman - DillmanGale@gmail.com

**Gift Shop**

The gift shop is available online or by appointment during regular office hours.

<https://bnaitikvah.org/shop> →

Contact: Serena Blackin 732-390-9515.



**Mitzvah Baskets**

Help us decorate the bima with nonperishable food baskets. We also deliver baskets to other synagogues. Tell your friends about this service. Contact: Teresa Samtur 732-821-8163 or msamtur@comcast.net

**Mazel Tosses**

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood provide these bags of soft candy which will sweeten the day. Also great for an aufruf. Order your Mitzvah Baskets and Mazel Tosses at bnaitikvah.org at least one month before your mitzvah. Contact: Marci Abschutz, 732-735-1946.

*Classical Caterers - Kosher Kitchen*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: NJ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

FORM OF PAYMENT: ( four-meal minimum on all orders )

VISA/MC: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

3-DIGIT CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ SUBTOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Orders must be received by 4pm Friday for curbside-pickup on the following Wednesday between 12:00 and 2pm.

← Scan here or visit [classical.catertogo.com](http://classical.catertogo.com) to place an order online.



KITCHENS  
3.5%  
Sales Tax  
NEW BRUNSWICK  
ONLY

# The Aaron Kitchen Design Gallery

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## Social Action



**Laura Waksman**

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, Social Action held its first in-person group project, packing hygiene kits for the homeless on the CBT sidewalk, in gloriously warm weather. Almost all of us had never met before, and it was truly special to meet new people in person during COVID (wearing masks and gloves), while doing the mitzvah of caring for the needy.

Thank you to Julio for setting up the tables and chairs for us. Many thanks to our artists, 1<sup>st</sup> grader Miriam Crick and 2<sup>nd</sup> grader Emma Cohen, for creating beautiful, uplifting cards, which they enclosed in the kits. What a special personal touch! Thanks to Cheryl Crick, Cheryl Goldstein, and Michele Greenfield for helping to pack the kits, to Larry Cohen for delivering the 154 hygiene kits to Elijah's Promise, and to all those who made donations towards this project. Together... we have made a difference.

We at CBT are fortunate that our own Caryl Greenberg is director of the South Brunswick Senior Center. Caryl shares with us that South Brunswick has a special needs registry (check if your town does). You fill out a form and the police will put you in a database giving them the ability to be aware of what you may need should there be some public health issue. For example, if the power goes out and you are on oxygen, they can check on you and bring a generator to you.

For more information on what South Brunswick is doing for its seniors, call Caryl at 732-329-4000 ext.7682.

Our gently worn winter coat drive for adults and kids, and new underwear in packaging collection for adults (to benefit the Central Jersey Diaper Bank and Elijah's Promise), continues through December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting is December 16<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM on Zoom. All are welcome. Please contact me if you want to attend at [Laurawaksman@gmail.com](mailto:Laurawaksman@gmail.com) or 908-812-2274. I look forward to seeing you!



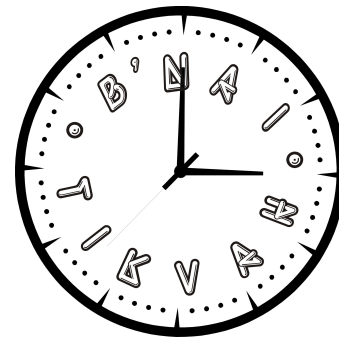
Michele Greenfield, Cheryl Goldstein, and Cheryl Crick



Emma Cohen



Miriam Crick



Sunday	9:00 am & 7:30 pm
Monday	7:30 pm
Tuesday	7:30 pm
Wednesday	7:30 pm
Thursday	8:00 am & 7:30 pm
Friday	6:00 pm
Saturday	9:30 am

## 2021 Mah Jongg Cards From Sisterhood

Order your 2021 Mah Jongg League cards for you and your friends to be ready to play by April. No orders accepted after Jan. 8. Make checks payable to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood and send to:

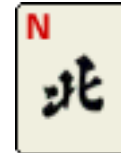


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### Changes Coming This Month

Yahoo announced it is terminating all YahooGroups, effective December 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be transferring all users to another email service (most likely to Google Groups).

There is no action required on your part. If you wish to post a message to all members for the purpose of asking for help or offering something for sale or donation, you may continue to send to [eGroup@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:eGroup@bnaitikvah.org), which will soon be redirected as an alias of the new email group.



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### Please Allocate Donations to:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Allen Karp Memorial Fund       | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Security Fund   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Bikur Cholim                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shabbat Together Fund    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cantor's Special Fund *        | <input type="checkbox"/> Shiva Fund               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Improvements           | <input type="checkbox"/> Shomrei Tikvah           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> L'dor Vador                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action Fund       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Fund                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sons of Tikvah           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Kasdin Memorial Fund      | <input type="checkbox"/> Torah Restoration Fund   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Ritual Fund                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____              |

\* Please send separate checks for these funds.

You can make your contributions online by  
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## Bikur Cholim

The committee wants everyone to know that, while we are unable to fulfill our mission of visiting the sick, we'll pick up prescriptions, do light shopping, and provide transportation. Send an email to [bikur@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:bikur@bnaitikvah.org) if you are willing and able to assist our members. If you are affected by COVID-19, please let the office know.

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We gratefully acknowledge and thank the following contributors for their generous gifts. Your special donations make up a part of our synagogue's total income. We rely on you.

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Judy & Mark Roller, in loving memory of their parents  
Abbey Lorber, in loving memory of Norman Berens  
Danny & Caryl Greenberg, in loving memory of Phyllis Spigelman  
Patricia Rosen, in honor of Jessica Rose Rosen's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Gail & Herb Sussman, in loving memory of Jeanne Zankel

### Cantor's Special Fund

Rose & Jeff Berger, in honor of the marriage of their son Josh to Meredith Allenick  
Rose & Jeff Berger, in honor of the birth of Isaac Uniman  
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Elaine Brackup, in loving memory of Anna Rubin  
Norman & Judith Kauff, in honor of Andrew Melcer's Bar Mitzvah  
Shari & Jon Tell, in loving memory of Philip Presworsky  
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Erwin Lewis, in loving memory of Sylvia Lewis  
Vicki Bauman, in loving memory of Norman Berens  
Janis Hoffman, in honor of the Cantor, Stacey, Rafi, and Bashe  
Toby & Gary Ehrlich, in honor of the wedding of Stephen Cohen and Olivia Hanz  
Patricia Rosen, in honor of Marc and Bobbi Binder

### Bikur Cholim Fund

Lisa & Richard Seidman and Ruth Appel, in loving memory of Robert Biderman  
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Bonnie & Woody Stevens, in honor of the Bikur Cholim Committee

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Adrienne & Andy Ross, in loving memory of Miriam Talmud  
John & LouAnne Wolf, in loving memory of Olga Vilko  
Neal & Cindy Gittleman, in loving memory of Phyllis Spigelman

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Neal & Cindy Gittleman, in honor of the wedding of Amy Wolf and Aaron Schwartz  
Neal & Cindy Gittleman, in loving memory of Michael Solomon  
The Katronetsky and Yares Families, in loving memory of Irving Katronetsky  
Herb Mars, in honor of the birth of Amanda and Harry Uniman's son, Isaac Uniman, and grandparents, Gale & Marc Dillman and Diane & Howard Uniman  
Herb Mars, in honor of the birth of Barbra & Bruce London's granddaughter, Nella Tzemeret  
Herb Mars, in honor of the birth of Cal Harper, great-grandson of Natasha Rosenbaum & Erwin Lewis  
Marcie & Steven Kfare, in loving memory of Jack Tarr and Marilyn Kfare  
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Maxine Kasdin, in honor of the birth of Isaac Uniman  
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### Ritual Fund

Arthur & Arlene Cederbaum, in loving memory of Lilly Cederbaum  
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Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Robert Biderman  
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Natasha Rosenbaum & Erwin Lewis, in honor of the Ritual Committee for streaming services  
Paul Fischer & Cheryl Schwartz, in loving memory of Phyllis Spigelman

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Susan Miller, in honor of the birth of Isaac Uniman

### Prayer Book Fund

Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in loving memory of Phyllis Spigelman

## Donations Cont'd

### Shabbat Together Fund

Brenda & Mark Sherman, in honor of the birth of Isaac Uniman  
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and Doris & Ennes Danto  
Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in honor of the birth of Isaac Uniman

### Social Action Fund

Jill Stone, in loving memory of Bella Gandel  
Jill Stone, in honor of the birth of Isaac Uniman  
Janice & Arthur Baer, in loving memory of Beatrice Baer and  
Alvin Baer

### Shomrei Tikvah Fund in Loving Memory of Phyllis Spigelman

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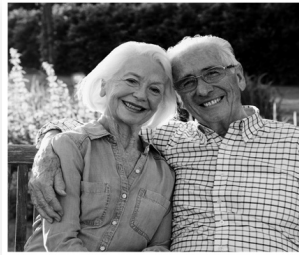
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## THANK YOU



“Thank You” to Margie Atwater, Jay Scheuer, Joyce Fishelberg, Gilda Gildenberg, Risa Stolly, and Bill Greenberg for making birthday calls.

Thanks to Phyllis Pinsky for doing the beautiful calligraphy on the B'nai Mitzvah and Baby Naming certificates.

B'NAI TIKVAH DIRECTORY OF STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

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Hakol Rates Size	Artwork (W x H)	Annually 10 Issues	Single Issue
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½ page	3¾" x 10½" / 8" x 5"	\$525	\$90
¼ page	3¾" x 5"	\$400	\$65
Business card	2" x 3½"	\$300	\$50

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 15 Kislev Rabbi Q&A	<b>2</b> 16 Kislev Lunch with Rabbi Religious School	<b>3</b> 17 Kislev Virtual Trivia Night	<b>4</b> 18 Kislev	<b>5</b> 19 Kislev Jr. Congregation
<b>6</b> 20 Kislev Kadima Religious School	<b>7</b> 21 Kislev Board of Directors	<b>8</b> 22 Kislev CBT Book Club USY Board Rabbi Lecture	<b>9</b> 23 Kislev Lunch with Rabbi Religious School	<b>10</b> 24 Kislev EREV HANUKAH FIRST CANDLE	<b>11</b> 25 Kislev HANUKAH	<b>12</b> 26 Kislev HANUKAH
<b>13</b> 27 Kislev Religious School Hanukah Celebration Men's Club HANUKAH	<b>14</b> 28 Kislev Sisterhood Board HANUKAH	<b>15</b> 29 Kislev HANUKAH	<b>16</b> 1 Tevet Religious School Lunch with Rabbi HANUKAH ROSH CHODESH	<b>17</b> 2 Tevet Executive Committee HANUKAH	<b>18</b> 3 Tevet Birthday Shabbat HANUKAH	<b>19</b> 4 Tevet Jr. Congregation
<b>20</b> 5 Tevet Congregational Meeting Last Day of School Prior to Winter Break Man of the Year	<b>21</b> 6 Tevet First Day Of Winter	<b>22</b> 7 Tevet Sisterhood Book Club Rabbi Q&A	<b>23</b> 8 Tevet School Closed	<b>24</b> 9 Tevet	<b>25</b> 10 Tevet Chesed for Hanukah Office Closed FAST OF TEVET	<b>26</b> 11 Tevet
<b>27</b> 12 Tevet School Winter Break	<b>28</b> 13 Tevet	<b>29</b> 14 Tevet	<b>30</b> 15 Tevet	<b>31</b> 16 Tevet NEW YEAR'S EVE	Candle Lighting 4 <sup>th</sup> 4:13 11 <sup>th</sup> 4:13 18 <sup>th</sup> 4:15 25 <sup>th</sup> 4:19	Shabbat Ends 5 <sup>th</sup> 5:20 12 <sup>th</sup> 5:20 19 <sup>th</sup> 5:23 26 <sup>th</sup> 5:27



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