

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.

#### CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK

September 2003 Elul 5763/Tishrei 5764 Volume 25, Issue 1

# hakol

# לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו

#### Inside this issue:

Rabbi's Message	2
Schedule of Services	2
Our Hazzan's Voice	3
B'nai Mitzvah	3
President's Message	4
Expansion Update	4
Religious School	5
Family Shabbat Tot Shabbat	5
B'nai Tikvah Youth	6
BT Community	8
Contributions	16

# SCHEDULE OF HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

#### <u>S'Lichot</u> Saturday Night, September 20th Program: 9:00 PM Service: Midnight

Erev Rosh Hashanah Friday Evening, September 26th Service: 6:15 PM

#### Rosh Hashanah—First Day

Saturday September 27th Morning: 9:00 AM Evening: 6:00 PM

Be a part of USY's "Corner of Fields" Food Drive this High Holiday Season

For details, contact USY coordinator Steve Springer at 908-227-3750. Rosh Hashanah—2nd Day

Sunday, September 28th Morning: 9:00 AM Tashlich: 5:30 PM Evening: 6:15 PM

<u>Erev Yom Kippur</u> Sunday Evening, October 5th Kol Nidre: 6:00 PM

Yom Kippur Monday, October 6th Morning: 9:30 AM Mincha-Neilah/Ma'ariv: 4:15 PM



An "Orígínal and Electrífyíng" Musícal Kabbalat Shabbat Servíce 7:00 PM Fríday, September 5th

Featuring Cantor Bruce Rockman and The Sons of Tikvah Band

See details on page 11

# **RABBI ELIGBERG LEADS**

"T'shuva"

Dear Friends,

One of the treats of our summer vacation was the opportunity to spend a Shabbat visiting friends. As we sat in shul, the gentleman announcing pages invited us to turn to the Haftarah, noting that it was the first of the Three Haftarot of Rebuke recited in the weeks leading up to Tisha B'Av. My mind did some quick calculations. Three weeks of Haftarot of Rebuke, followed by seven weeks worth of Haftarot of Consolation, equals ten weeks to Rosh HaShannah. "Ahhhh!" was my next thought. "Too soon... Not

enough time to prepare... The obstacles to being ready seem immovable!"

The chanting of the Haftarah brought me back from my moment of panicked realization. The serenity of Shabbat and the company of family and friends were able to dispel the fearful specter of what was lurking behind the soon to be turned calendar page. Like the pages of a calendar

from an old movie, the days continue to slip away and I find myself once again facing the challenge of being ready for the High Holy Days.

By ready, I do not mean standing before you with sermon in hand, but rather, I refer to the challenge we all share of standing in the presence of the Holy One, of being prepared to engage in the process of T'shuvah. Literally, the term means returning. Our sages, of blessed memory, sought to emphasize that T'shuva is a process and not a static description of our state of being. Our tradition challenges each of us to return to our core being, to our essential essence, and examine our words and actions in the light of what we find reflected there.

The process of T'shuva is easy to grasp intellectually. We can all understand the need for critical self-examination, for doing an "accounting of our soul" as our

teachers described it. Finding the emotional strength to begin this journey and move along the obstacle strewn path is a very difficult and highly personal process.

Each of us must find our own "on ramp" to the T'shuva Turnpike, traveling its length at our own pace and consulting our guide book when necessary. I believe the obstacles we face are often ones we share. The first, and perhaps greatest, obstacle to seeking T'shuva is our unwillingness to admit that we have done something that requires repentance. We find increasingly creative rationalizations to avoid admitting, even to ourselves, that we have done

something shameful. If we are honest with ourselves we would admit that. Over the course of the year we have all done or said something that has hurt another person.

If you are struggling to think of something, try asking your spouse, your partner, a parent, a sibling, a child

By focusing our attention on the year just ending, our sages of blessed memory gave us the ability to overcome another obstacle, the crushing weight of a lifetime of memories. To review a life, to grapple with mistakes from years long past, would cripple most of us and leave us broken on the side of the road to repentance. Go back, but only one year, and think hard about it. Have I done something that, in the innermost part of my being, I know I should not have? Have I been the best spouse, parent, child, sibling, friend that I can be? Did I react with a harsh word? Did I miss an opportunity to say a gentle or loving word? Am I living up to the potential with which the Holy One has blessed me?

T'shuva affords us an opportunity to recognize that we are human and that we make mistakes. T'shuva also reminds us that we are created in the Divine image. T'shuva invites us to use our spiritual and emotional strength to transform mistakes into stepping stones that lead us to become true to the singular and remarkable individuals that God placed within us.

As we approach Rosh HaShannah may we all be blessed with successful travels on the path of T'shuva.

Jodi, Sarah and Yonatan join me in wishing you L'Shannah tovah tikateyvu v'teh-chatey-mu. May you and yours be inscribed and sealed for a year of health, happiness and blessing.

Rabbi David M. Eligberg

# SCHEDULE OF DAILY SERVICES

Sunday 9:00 AN	I Shahareet 7:30 PM
Mincha/M	aari v
Monday	7:30 PM
Mincha/M	aariv
Tuesday	7:30 PM
Mincha/M	aariv
Wednesday	7:30 PM
Mincha/M	aariv
Thursday 7:00 A	M Shahareet 7:30 PM
Mincha/M	aariv
Friday Shabbat	8:00 PM Kabbala

# **OUR HAZZAN'S VOICE**

"Peace Be Unto You"

"Shalom Aleichem, Peace Be unto You", is a greeting between friends, the pen name of the noted Yiddish author, Shalom (Rabinowitz) Aleichem, and is the hymn, introduced by the kabbalists in the spiritual city of Sefad that we recite each Friday evening upon returning home from the synagogue. As you know, we also sing Shalom Aleichem each Friday night in the synagogue prior to Kiddush and the oneg. The kabbalists based this hymn on talmudic teaching.

I was recently asked why we repeat each verse of "Shalom Aleichem" three times when we sing it at our Shabbat table. The simplest answer is that it is a "chazaka" (emphasis), to strengthen the interest in the subject matter. The Talmud also gives us an answer through our tradition of story telling. The stanzas each begin, as we pray to God through ministering angels ... "We wish you peace; attending angels....Come to us in peace...Bless us with peace...Take your leave in peace... angels of peace..." (The entire text can be found on page 722 in Siddur Sim Shalom.) The Talmud states that two angels accompany a person as the individual walks home from synagogue Friday night. These angels are in addition to the usual angel who accompanies each of us at all times. Hence, we have three angels in all. Thus we recite "Shalom Aleichem" one time for each angel.

The problem with this answer, according to the Talmud, is that people are usually accompanied by two angels at all times, making four in all. This can be answered according to the Zohar, which states that not two angels but rather two groups of angels accompany a person on Friday night. These, in addition to the usual group of two angels which accompany the person at all times, give us three groups in all. We recite one "Shalom Aleichem" for each group. This also explains the use of the plural "aleichem" -"unto You (plural)" as well.

Another story about the hymn is told by the Kabbalist, Rabbi Yosi son of Rabbi Yehudah said: Two ministering angels accompany a person home on Friday night from the synagogue. One is an angel of good and one is an angel of evil. When the person arrives home to find that Shabbat candles lit, the table set and the beds made, the angel of good says, "May it be [Your] will that the next Shabbat should be the same." And against his will, the angel of evil answers, "Amen." This quaint, almost innocent story makes a subtle point. Angels are spiritual forces sent by God. Rabbi Yosi is teaching us that God wants to help us, but He will only treat us the way we treat Him. If we honor His Shabbat with lit candles, a beautifully set table and a clean house, then through His angel, God promises to assist us to repeat this performance the following week. If we do not honor His Shabbat in these ways, then God has no choice but to assist us to continue the way we have chosen.

Thus, on Friday night, as we gather around the Shabbat table, in the presence of the shimmering candles, wsing a song to welcome the ministering angel. "Come and see how we have prepared for Shabbat. Come and see how beautifully we honor Shabbat. Bless us that it should be so next Shabbat as well!"

Angels, Angels, Angels. Our tradition is filed with these messengers of God. Thus letting us know, with emphasis, that we are truly never alone and God is protecting us. Shabbat is the embodiment of God's protecting presence. We are commanded to slow down; stay close to home, to enjoy hanging out with our family. Enjoy life! Welcome the Angels in to your home and savor your weekly, God given opportunity to have the truly peaceful, restful Shabbat experience with your all of your Angels by your side. This is truly some thing we can look forward to.

Shalom Aleichem. Worship the Lord in gladness; come before God with joyous song.

B'simcha, with joy, Cantor Bruce Rockman



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Arie Behar, President

Most babies take nine months to be born. Our baby, whom we've named "Expansion" was a little more stubborn than most.

The first time that I was introduced to the idea of expanding our facilities was almost six years ago, in the spring of 1997, when I attended the first meeting (which some might call the 'conception') to discuss the feasibility of expansion.

Some things are worth waiting for.

This addition is not just for the sake of adding square footage to our building. We truly and absolutely need this addition. Our school is growing and we needed to replace the trailers and add classrooms. Our programs and activities, for all ages, have expanded and the multi-purpose room will accommodate them all. This addition will allow us to give the youth lounge back to youth. The sisterhood will have their own display for the gift shop. A small chapel will serve those that come for minyan. The Hebrew school can have special activities on a Sunday morning in a classroom, not a hallway.

A large group of people were involved with the design and planning of the building. This one was truly a team effort and we are all very proud of the large and wide support that we received from all our members.

Unlike most babies, who have only two parents, this baby had many parents. This baby is a creation of every member of B'nai Tikvah, from those who supported it monetarily, to the solicitors, the design team, the finance team, the construction team, the room usage team and all the dozens of people who worked in harmony (and sometimes disharmony!) to create this baby.

We don't have time to mention each one of the "special parents" today, but I must highlight a few. Without them we will not be here today.

**Jeff Schwartz** you were the visionary father. As far as I know it all started with you and your vision. You made it happen and saw it through a long, long pregnancy.

**Mark Kasdin**, you were the organizer, the mother-hen. Everything went through you as the expansion chair. You sat on that nest a very long time.

**Mark Dillman** you were the big brother who made sure that we didn't spent what we don't have.

**Mitch Frumkin** you were the Godfather, the Sandak. Without you this baby would still be only a dream. Your leadership and your ability to push the project forward were amazing, and without them we would not be here tonight. I have to admit that at times even I was little bit skeptical, but you always found the energy and wisdom to pull us from the mud when we got stuck. Seeing you inspiring us and leading us was a great lesson for all of us.

**Rabbi Eligberg** you were spiritual father, always available and helpful for anything from a good idea to a good prayer.

Cantor Rockman You were the Motivator Brother always optimistic with supporting words and smile when ever we needed it. Hadas, as always, was a supportive mid-wife.

Thank you to all of you, from the current and future generations of B'nai Tikvah who will make good use of this baby.

L'Shanah Tovah,

# **EXPANSION UPDATE** Mitch Frumkin

For those of you who have not been by the Synagogue recently, things are beginning to happen with the expansion. As of a few weeks ago the trees were removed in the area of the building as well as within the parking lot. A construction fence has been installed and the digging equipment is beginning to arrive. Within the next week the site work and foundations will begin to be installed. The structural steel has been ordered and it is anticipated that the steel erection will begin in mid September, just in time for the holiday rush !! If you are concerned about the impact of construction on the Hebrew and Nursery schools, be assured that every precaution will be taken to isolate the kids from the construction. For now, our suggestion is that you sit back and watch as the new wing begins to take shape. It is anticipated that construction will take about 6 months and we are shooting for completion in Spring 2004.

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to drop a note to the Construction Committee comprised of Arie Behar, Paul Zankel or myself.

> Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year, Mitch

ł

#### SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP IS OPEN MOST SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER!

We are available for all your holiday needs, apple & honey plates, shofrot, hostess gifts and more. We will be open most Sundays in September. Come in and see our latest acquisitions!

Don't forget that will take special orders for Bar and Bat Mitzvah kippot, tallit, tallis bags, tefillin,and help with any other special occasion or ritual shopping you'd like to do over the summer months.

Laurie Waltzer 732-329-9580 Deborah Spigner 732-545-8457

# **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS**

# COALITION FOR ADVANCEMENT **IN JEWISH EDUCATION**

Each summer I am part of a group of approximately 2200 Jewish educators from all parts of the world and from all movements and types of religious schools. We come together to study, to learn from each other, and to share the latest in materials for Jewish education. Over the years I have brought back ideas for programming, curriculum and resources for the education of children and adults. This year was no exception. The Coalition for Advancement in Jewish Education (CAJE) sponsors this annual conference which always recharges my "educational batteries." Throughout the year teachers and students will benefit from my involvement.

This year the CAJE conference was at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. As with the pomegranates in this year's logo, CAJE 28 was full of seeds of mitzvah and the diversity of modalities of learning that only this unique annual conference can provide. Thank you to the Congregation for giving me the opportunity to participate in this exciting five-day re"jew"vinating experience.

## **NEW PROGRAMS, NEW FACES...**

There are a number of new faces on the faculty of our religious school and during the next few months you will be introduced to them through the Hakol. Please welcome them to our school. They are joining a caring, creative, able, and dedicated staff of teachers. Along with new teachers, we have a variety of new programs and curricula. Check out our new and exciting events in the Religious School Parent Handbook/Calendar which you have already received as part of your parent packet.

# PARENT RECEPTION **SEPTEMBER 7**

All are welcome, especially new families, to come together for an orientation to our Religious School program and faculty. Parent reception and orientation for our Kindergarten, Alef, Bet, Gimel, Dalet and Hei families will be held on Sunday, September 7. Meet in the Sanctuary, Sunday, September 7, at 9:00am or 10:40am for a brief reception, discussion and curriculum fair. Parent reception and orientation for our First and Second grade families will be held on either Tuesday, September 9 or Wednesday, September 10 at 4:10-4:30. Please meet us in your child's classroom.

#### Ann Kanarek, Director

## **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2003 CALENDAR**

Sun., 9/7	Parent Reception Day and First Day of Religious Schoo for grades K,3,4,5,6,7

- Tues., 9/9 & Parent Reception Day and Wed., 9/10 First Day of Religious School for grades 1 and 2
- Sun., 9/14 First day of Chai School

# **FAMILY SHABBAT** FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE



A monthly children's service is held on the third Friday night of each month at 7:00 PM. This is an abbreviated service designed for families with young children. Active participation in the service is encouraged.

# **TOT SHABBAT IS BACK!!**

**3—5 Year Olds:** September 13

10 am—11 am Babysitting 11 am-12 pm Tot Shabbat

Join us for the 1st Tot Shabbat of the year. Your 3-5 year olds will learn the songs before the holidays! No need to sign up, just come and be a part of the fun! Come get into the spirit of Shabbat and Rosh Hashana with songs, dances and stories. (Parents are welcome but not required to stay.)

# **B'NAI TIKVAH YOUTH**

# USY

usy@bnaitikvah.org

# An Outlook For A New Year

Steve Springer, Advisor AIM: tiberias77 908-227-3750 Audra Lifson-Assistant Advisor AIM: blondy0131 732-545-8314

Summer has mysteriously passed us by, but that means that we are ready to have a great year ahead of us in USY. We have a talented board, a bunch of new ideas, and after winning *Most Improved Chapter* last year, there is no goal short of *Chapter of the Year* that we will be satisfied with! This year we will be hosting Mid-Winter Convention at B'nai Tikvah. Throughout the year, stay tuned for ways you can help, but in the meantime help us in our drive toward Most Improved Chapter. One of our biggest goals is increased membership, so get yourself and your friends signed up today to take advantage of our great programming!

> I look forward to seeing you all! Steve

Hello everyone. My name is Audra Lifson and I am going to be the Assistant Advisor for USY with Steve. I am a recent graduate of Ithaca College with a degree in Leisure Services. I have been part of Hagalil Kinnus staff for 3 years, as well as past Membership/Programming VP and past President of N/S Brunswick. I am extremely excited to be back in the N/S Brunswick community and hope to make your USY experience as memorable and wonderful as mine was.



Here's to a great year! Audra

# KADIMA Kadima@bnaitikvah.org

# **BT Welcomes New Advisor**

Adam Sackett, Advisor 908-284-1741 adamds73@aol.com

Shalom, my name is Adam Sackett and I am B'nai Tikvah's new Kadima Advisor. I am excited and elated to be joining a great group and have many plans to make it even greater. I am looking forward meeting BT's Kadimanik's and to a successful 2003/2004 year.

Meeting days for the upcoming year will be Thursdays and Sundays on alternating weeks. A plethora of outstanding events and activities are being planned for the upcoming year. Feel free to contact me directly at home or via e-mail.

> CBT Kadima, get ready, and get excited! Adam

# **TORAH READERS' CLUB**

**Starting up in September 2003** For Students in Grades 5 & 6 (Gimel/Dalet)!

Join the Torah Readers' Club and learn to chant Hebrew from the Torah scroll!

The Club meets Saturday mornings 10:00-10:30 am (before Jr. Congregation Family Service) in the school wing at B'nai Tikvah. Members are required to know the *Aleph-bet* and have basic Hebrew reading ability.

The goal of the Club is to learn Torah "trope" – the melodies used for chanting the Torah. Students who have learned trope will continue to work independently under the instructor's direction. Several times during the year, Club members can read from the Torah at a Shabbat afternoon Mincha service or during our

Jr. Congregation Family Service. Several previous members are now tutoring others in trope!

Questions? Call Larry Cohen 732-821-4376,

# **USY SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**

September 4thUSY Board MeetingSeptember 7thSomerset Patriots GameSeptember 23rdLaser Tag

# **B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY**

## LOOK MA! NO WIRES!

Last year, we wired the synagogue and school offices with high-speed internet access. This successfully helped reduce our telephone costs and provided our school leaders and administrative personnel with improved communication to our congregants who have access to the internet at work or at home. This year, we're providing an additional service to our congregants who bring their laptop computers and PDAs with them to meetings held in the synagogue.

Just like other public places as schools, libraries, airports, malls and coffee houses, you can now use your Wi-Fi equipped (802.11b) laptop computer or PDA almost anywhere in the building to check your e-mail, search the web, or even pick up documents you may have left on your computer at home.

If you need help configuring your computer or might need to borrow an adapter, feel free to ask. Contact Gary Bergman at Gary.Bergman@BnaiTikvah.org, or call him at 732-246-7285.

# AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

The Programming committee is sponsoring "Theatre Night" to be held one Thursday each month. Most events will be at the synagogue. There will be a nominal charge of \$10 per person for all in-house performances to help cover the cost of refreshments.

We already have some different and unusual acts booked, but we have a few open dates left. If you know of something that might have a broad appeal to the congregation, please bring it to the attention of the committee ASAP, That's theatre talk for Actors Staging A Play.

## **DID YOU GET THE MESSAGE?**

No? Then maybe you're not on the CBT News list. We're not talking about gossip, jokes, political statements, classified ads, or recipes. (For those, you have to join B'nai Tikvah's less formal "eGroup".)

We're talking about the CBT official notices such as important messages about local events, appeals for tzedakah, special programs and services, shiva minyans, and other notices from the synagogue administrator.

Send an e-mail today to

Webmaster@Bnaitikvah.org to get on the CBT News list.

# CHAI BOWLING WITH B'NAI TIK VAH

Our 18<sup>th</sup> bowling season starts on Saturday night Sept. 18 at 8:00 PM for ages 18 & up of varying degrees of skill.

If you're a money-league bowler, our friendly informal league gives you an excellent opportunity to try new approaches, techniques, and equipment without risk to your official league average. If you're new to the game, you couldn't ask for more sympathetic and supportive environment.

Every year the players and teams change, but one thing remains constant: Everyone has fun! For details, visit bnaitikvah.org online or call Gary & Bobby Bergman at 732-246-7285.

#### MAKELAH

If you attended Minyan on Tuesday evening, July 29<sup>th</sup>, you probably noticed a larger, more musical turnout than usual. That is because Makelah, our resident adult choir, has begun their rehearsals for the upcoming High Holiday services.

We've received a very positive, highly supportive response to our new membership drive, and I am very proud to report that we have already more than doubled our number of current members. As a matter of fact, I am very pleased to announce that several of my older kids from Kol Tikvah (*our youth chorus*) have decided to join us, as well. This truly illustrates that the love of music knows no age boundaries, especially at B'nai Tikvah.

However, we are still looking to add yet a few more voices to the group. My goal is to create a big, beautiful sound that will fill our synagogue on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and many other special days to come with luscious, harmonious tones in song and prayer.

We're looking for a few good men, women, and post-Bar/Bat Mizvah teens that are looking to do some singing, have a few laughs, and have the desire to perform. Between Makelah, Kol Tikvah, and the Sons of Tikvah Band, 1993 - 1994 (5764) promises to be a banner year for music at Congregation B'nai Tikvah, so come out and be a part of it. You'll be glad you did.

If you love to sing - *and know you can* – please call me at 732-422-8781 or email me at

Makelah@BnaiTikvah.org, or just come by the shul on any Tuesday evening at 7:45 pm (*preferably 7:30 for Minyan first*) and grab a seat.

Shalom, Marty Angstreich, Director HAKOL

# ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT HAKOL MUST BE IN BY SEPTEMBER 15

Hakol

SUBMISSIONS: Submissions about Congregation events, issues, group activities, and other material relevant to the local Jewish community are welcomed.

Starting with the next issue, there is a change to submission format requirements:

TEXT: We suggest that editorial submissions be submitted in plain text format, with no formatting, tabs, columns or fonts. Just type an email, OR attach a file in one of the following formats: MSWord, Wordperfect, or MSPublisher, attached to an email. Graphics should be submitted separately. Do not submit graphics inside other files or documents.

No order forms, please. Contact the editors for info on distributing order forms with the HaKol mailing.

IMAGES & GRAPHICS: <u>Digital</u> <u>images:</u> Send high resolution (300 dpi) jpeg, bmp, or tiff files. <u>Scannable Images:</u> For good results, submit 300dpi (minimum) black and white graphics printed on glossy paper in hi-res or photo mode. For bad results: Print ink jet regular mode on copy paper.

#### SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO:

Hakol@bnaitikvah.org, or put them in the HaKol mailbox in the synagogue office. All submissions are subject to available space and editorial constraints. Please call Paul or Nancy Zankel at 732-254-6465 if you have any questions.

ADVERTISING INFO: Contact Tammy Zimmerman 732-398-1420

# **B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY**

### **MEN'S CLUB NEWS**

We are looking forward to an even bigger New Year for Men's Club. The "dynamic duo" of Frank Waltzer and Norm Feinstein will be coordinating our programming this year.

The starting lineup will be:

September 14	Minyan Service followed by FREE Bagels & Lox Membership Breakfast
October 5	Minyan Services followed by "Building the Sukkah" (Bring your cordless screwdriver/allen wrenches)

In order to expand our our programming we need input from our membership. Don't hesitate to bring us your own ideas, and feedback.

We are considering doing a building project at Home Depot (a little smaller than the Temple Expansion), a Lawn/Gardening expert, "Evan Live" (demonstrations of kosher delicacies by Classic Caterers own Evan Bernstein and staff), an Accountant/Financial Planner, a slide show on Israel, a sports-related speaker (can we top Phil Mushnick from last year ?).

Ed Birch, President

#### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Interested in getting involved in the Religious Activities Committee [formerly the Ritual Committee]? We've changed our name and need your help! No experience necessary. Come help make B'nai Tikvah your synagogue! Contact Jeff Schwartz at Jeff.Schwartz@bnaitikvah.org.

# PARENT OF A COLLEGE STUDENT?

Your studious sweetie can receive gift packages from the synagogue for Hanukkah, Purim, and Passover. To register contact Marcy Finkelstein by phone at 609-860-9338 or e-mail to Marcy.Finkelstein@bnaitikvah.org.

# MOVIE TICKET AND RETAIL SCRIP

Regal Cinema and United Artist gift certificates are now available for sale. \$10 denominations can be purchased and used toward admission to the theater (as close as Route 1 in North Brunswick) and at the concession. The certificate expires one year from date of sale.

Retail Scrip certificates make great gifts. *GAP; Bed, Bath & Beyond; Home Depot; Macy's and Old Navy* scrip is available in \$25 increments. *Blockbuster; JC Penny, Barnes & Noble* is available in increments of \$10. Other vendors available upon request.

Contact Bobbi Binder at 732-274-2797 or at bjbinder@aol.com.

# **B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY**

#### UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM NEW JERSEY REGION

# FIRST ANNUAL GOLF OUTING MONDAY, SEPT. 15, 2003

Shackamaxon Golf & Country Club Scotch Plains

**Registration is limited to 144 golfers** 

# ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARD USY, KADIMA & YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

# This is the event you DON'T want to miss!

The Day Includes: Golf, Food, Fun, Prizes and a way to meet people from all over the state of New Jersey.

**Golf Includes:** Green fees, golf carts, caddy master, gifts, brunch, cocktail hour with an open bar and a sit down dinner.

Golfers	\$250 a person
Tennis and Dinner	\$150 a person
Dinner only	\$100 a person
Title Sponsorship	\$15,000
Platinum Sponsorship	\$10,000
Gold Sponsorship	\$5,000
Silver Sponsorship	\$2,500
Green and Tee Sponsorship	\$300

For more information about the day and/or available sponsorships contact:

Barry Mael, Exec. Dir. USCJ, Mael@USCJ.org

# FIFTY PLUS GROUP

The Fifty Plus group has been a busy group of seniors during the summer. We had two delightful trips. One was to see the Broadway production of "Say Goodnight Gracie" and the other was to the Freilingheysen Arboretum and Fosterfields working historical farm. Needless to say, a good time was had by all who attended.

Our next event is a matinee theater party to the Off-Broadway musical on Thursday September 18, 2003 to see "A Stoop on Orchard Street," a nostalgia themed matinee presented in English at the Mazer Theatre 197 E. Broadway, N. Y. Bus transportation leaves from B'nai Tikvah's parking lot at 10 am. Cost is \$55 per person and includes transportation and one ticket to the show. We are planning lunch at a fine kosher deli near the theater. There is currently a waiting list for this event. Call Annette at 732-297-3562 or Doris at 609-860-1498 to check on availability.

The next regular meeting of the FPG will take place on Tuesday, September 23 at 1p.m. in the social hall of the Synagogue. Our program will feature our own Barbara Kuntz reporting on her visit to the exhibit at the Jewish Museum entitled " Entertaining America; Jews, Movies, and Broadcasting. We will have an open forum after the presentation so feel free to bring any articles or items related to this subject. Friends and future members are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Call Doris at 609-860-1498 for more information.

Did you know that we are a HAZAK chapter; the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's organization for mature Jews? HAZAK membership is only \$5.00 per year, added to our dues. Membership entitles you to participate in activities statewide, as well as throughout the United States. Call Ruth at 609-452-7315 for details about HAZAK.

# SHARIM V'SHAROT HOLDS CHOIR AUDITIONS

Sharim v'Sharot, the select Jewish Choir of central New Jersey, seeks male and female singers. Choir director Dr. Elayne Robinson Grossman will hold auditions on September 4, September 9, and by appointment. The Choir rehearses regularly on Tuesday evenings at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ.

Sharim v'Sharot is a non-profit organization sponsored by the Rider University Hillel. For information about Sharim v'Sharot or to audition for the choir, call Steve Cohen at 609-371-9036.

Volume 25, Issue 1

# **B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY**

## SOCIAL ACTION ... SOCIAL ACTION ... SOCIAL ACTION ... SOCIAL ACTION

Please join us for the first social action meeting of the year on Wednesday, September 10th, following minyan at 7:45. In addition to running drives and meeting the needs of our community, we will be initiating service activities where individuals and families can get involved. We need volunteers to make great things happen. Whatever time you can give will make a difference in the lives of countless others. The possibilities are endless.

#### September

The Mitzvah Crib has arrived! What is a Mitzvah Crib? A convenient place for you to drop off new baby items which will be donated to indigent families in New Brunswick. When you do your weekly shopping, pick up an item to drop in our Mitzvah Crib that is located in the synagogue lobby. Suggested items include: toys, rattles, books, diapers, wipes, powder, lotion, bibs, bottles, spill-proof cups and clothes. To kick off this new program, we are asking for everyone to bring a Mitzvah crib item on the second day of Rosh Hashanah. Please help us get this program off to a good start!

#### October

#### The 2003 Crop Walk will be held on Sunday afternoon,

October 26. The CROP Walk is intended to raise money and awareness to lessen the effects of hunger in the world. Our congregation has done a phenomenal job participating in this worthwhile, ecumenical event over many years. We are looking for people who would like to participate by either walking or donating money. The walk itself is 6.2 miles and it usually takes between two to three hours. You may sign up to walk or donate money at the B'nai Tikvah website or you may contact Steve or Renee Levin (slevin@umdnj.edu; 732-422-8590). Please plan to join us this year. It's a great way to spend an afternoon with your family/friends and at the same time help others.

#### **Cell Phone Program**

Do you have an old cell phone you don't know what to do with? Let Social Action take it off your hands! Bring your old cell phone with its battery and charger to the synagogue office. Social Action will be donating these phones to women from Women Aware, a shelter for battered women. All donated phones must have a battery and a charger. This program is ongoing.

#### Mazon Cards

An all occasion Mazon card will be available for purchase in the synagogue office and at the gift shop. Cards are \$5.00 each. All proceeds will go to Mazon. Mazon is a Jewish response to hunger. It is a national nonprofit agency, which allocates donations from the Jewish community to non profit organizations, providing food, help and hope to hungry people of all faiths and backgrounds.

#### BUY SUPERMARKET SCRIP

Before your next trip to A&P, Acme, Pathmark, Shop Rite, Stop 'n Shop and/or Wild Oats, buy supermarket scrip. Congregation B'nai Tikvah earns 5% of all sales. You have to eat so why not support your synagogue at the same time? Purchasing scrip is so easy; in addition to buying the scrip on Sunday mornings you may purchase scrip by calling the synagogue office during office hours OR "visiting" the website at www.bnaitikvah.org OR contacting one of the scrip committee members (list follows). Although the preferred scrip method of payment is by check or cash (5% reimbursement to us), credit cards are acceptable (3% reimbursement).

Monmouth Junction, Princeton, Kingston, Trenton Rachel Shaneson (chairperson) 732-329-2189 732-329-3185 Linda Feinstein Bette Koffler 732-329-6518 Brunswick Acres Joyce Fishelberg 732-297-6290 Cranbury, Monroe, Plainsboro, the Windsors Sylvia & Erwin Lewis 609-409-0299 Franklin Park, Somerset, Belle Mead, Kendall Park, & Rocky Hill Phyllis Rosen 732-297-5555 North/East/New Brunswick, and Milltown Joyce Gerbman 732-937-5114 Ann & Sam Rosenzweig 732-249-9141 Dayton Rachel Shaneson 732-329-2189

# **B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY**

#### SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood of Congregation B'nai Tikvah ...would like to invite you to their first meeting of the 2003/2004 New Year. It's a meeting people will be talking about for the rest of the year, so don't miss it! Mark your calendar and bring your friends!

#### Sunday, September 21

9:45 am	Prospective members of Sisterhood, please
	join us for a bagel breakfast

**10:30 am** Men's Club and others please join us for the presentation

Dr. Mildred Pollner, filmmaker and social psychologist, will be presenting her documentary

Saddam's Effect On Israeli Children... A Tribute To The Wise Children Of Israel!

The presentation will be followed by discussion with the audience.

The past year has been an exciting and successful time for Sisterhood. Continuing many of our traditional programs and activities, several new events and activities were among the highlights. On Sisterhood Shabbat, so many women read Torah or led a part of the service for the first time that we all said a shehechiyanu tegether. A mah jongg tournament, creation of a special card to honor Suse Rosenstock in support of the bimah flower fund for holidays and a visit to a Mikvah were among the first time activities. The Mikvah experience, led by Stacey Rockman proved both informative and inspiring as we toured and experienced the Highland Park Mikvah.

While maybe not a first time event, having an annual joint meeting with the men's club was well attended and informative. Alan Weg led a discussion of issues important for couples that brought both humor and poignant conversations to the group. The range of other activities of Sisterhood was both broad and varied. Monthly meetings of the Board and membership included films such as "Lost Luggage", a successful Purim basket fundraiser, cleaning of the ark and Bimah to ready it for the high holidays, providing support for a family at Chanukah, making a donation to help Donna Glazer and much more as we served the congregation and the community.

For me personally, the highlight "first" was attending the biannual Women's League convention in Philadelphia. It was, and remains, inspiring, instructive and memorable. Being part of the dedication of the first Women's League Torah, holding a scribe's hand as he wrote, and watching as he finished and explained the last word, was an honor. Being part of a congregation of more than 1200 women as we davened women from across the continent proved to be both enjoyable and fun. The first night I was seated at a table and didn't know anyone (and there is a part of me that really has to work to initiate conversation with people I don't know), but soon met the co-presidents from EBJC, seated next to me and have formed a lasting friendship with them. But perhaps what was best was running into a woman I hadn't seen in 30 years, Ruth Miller Marcus, whose mother and mine were great friends ... their friendship formed through women's league and sisterhood. Ruth and I resumed our once lost friendship and proved yet again that sisterhood is a conduit for lifelong learning and friendships.

We continued to collaborate with other groups in B'nai Tikvah and nothing makes that more evident than the annual calendar meeting where everyone works together to find ways to schedule sisterhood events in an already filled building. The support and assistance we received from Hadas, the Rabbi and the Cantor is invaluable and deeply appreciated. Where are we going in 5764? We are planning a board development session with a Women's League trainer to help us team build and find new ways to keep sisterhood the vibrant organization it is. God willing, we will finally have a real sisterhood gift shop and I know we will be providing new and expanded services through that venue. We will continue to work closely with the synagogue social action committee and strengthen our commitment to be a community-active organization for Jewish women. We will have new and creative

programs, successful fundraisers, and new ways for women in this congregation to learn, grow, accept new challenges and have fun.

I hope you will join me as a sisterhood member and I look forward to seeing you at our opening meeting on Sunday, September 21 at 10:00 am, following the 9:00 am minyan. Please bring bottles of nail polish to be donated to Women Aware, the Middlesex County agency that serves women who are victims of domestic violence.

> Ruth Anne Koenick Past President

# SUSE ROSENSTOCK FLOWER FUND

Sisterhood has established the Suse Rosenstock Flower Fund to ensure that there will always be flowers on the bima of our synagogue during the holidays. To fund this project, Sisterhood is selling beautiful "flower cards". Each card costs \$4, a pack of 5 for \$18. The inside of the card is blank. Thank you Bobbi Binder, Gale Dillman, Caryl Distel, Jodi Eligberg, Joyce Fischelberg, Ann Gold, Michael Greenfield, Shelley Haller, Ruth Anne Koenick, Gloria Landsman, and Janet Weiss for