

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

HAKOL

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2004 B'nai Mitzvah Class Donates Megillah Case

On May 26th, the B'nai Mitzvah class of 2004 proudly presented Congregation B'nai Tikvah with a sterling silver Megillah case which will hold the Congregation's Purim Megillah scroll. The 2004 B'nai Mitzvah class consists of Hei, Dalet, and Solomon Schechter students.

Chai Anniversary Shabbat

Saturday, June 26



Info Page 10

CONGREGATION MEETING

Elections and Budget

Monday, June 28

Info Page 9

Tish'ah B'Av

Monday & Tuesday July 26 & 27



Info Page 2

Rabbi Eligberg Speaks:

If I Forget Thee Jerusalem...

The Fast of the Seventeenth of Tamuz

Tuesday, July 6, 2004 Services at 7:00 AM and 7:30 PM

Tish¹ah B¹Av

Monday, July 26, 2004 at 8:00 PM Tuesday, July 27, 7:00 AM and 7:30 PM

The following is excerpted from A Guide to Jewish Religious Practice by Rabbi Isaac Klein.

The Fast of the Seventeenth of Tamuz

The seventeenth of Tamuz marks the beginning of the destruction of Jerusalem, for it is the day on which the Romans breached the walls encircling the city (M. Ta'anit 4:6). During the siege preceding the first destruction of Jerusalem, the wall was breached on the ninth of Tamuz, but both events are commemorated on the same date.

The rabbis mention a number of other calamities that were believed to have occurred on the seventeenth of Tamuz: the breaking of the Tablets by Moses; the cessation of the daily sacrifices during the Roman siege of Jerusalem; the burning of the Torah and the erection of an idol in the Temple by Apostomos during the period preceding the Maccabean revolt (M. Ta'anit 4:6).

The fast begins at sunrise and concludes at sunset of the same day. Fasting is the only restriction imposed; working and bathing as usual are permitted.

The seventeenth of Tamuz is marked in the liturgy by additions to the regular daily service as well as some special variations. After the Amidah, both at Shaharit and at Minhah, Avinu Malkenu is recited. The Torah is read at both Shaharit and Minhah. The reading, which is the same for both services, begins with Exodus 32:11. The reading continues with Exodus 34:14 10 and is followed by a Haftarah.

Certain verses (Exodus 32: 12, Exodus 34:6, and Exodus 34:9) are said aloud, first by the congregation, and then by the reader. These verses receive special attention because they are verses of comfort; their selection was prompted by the fact that they speak of God's mercy and readiness to forgive. They are chanted with the cantillation used on the High Holidays as a further reminder that the fast calls for repentance and good deeds.

The Three Weeks

The days between the seventeenth of Tammuz and the ninth of Av are considered days of mourning, for they witnessed the collapse of besieged Jerusalem, beginning with the breaching of the walls on the seventeenth of Tammuz, and culminating with the burning of the Temple on the ninth of Av. Since exactly three weeks passed between these two events, the period is known as the "three weeks."

Weddings and other joyous celebrations should not take place during this period. A further element of mourning is added during the nine days between the first and ninth of Av. During this period the pious refrain from eating meat and drinking wine, except on the Sabbath or at a Se'udat Mitsvah, such as a Brit Milah or upon completing a treatise of the Talmud. In addition they do not have their hair cut.

The somber mood of the "three weeks" is accentuated by the special Haftarot chanted on Shabbat. The Sabbath preceding Tish¹ah B'Av is called Shabbat Hazon, from the first word of its Haftarah which is chanted almost entirely to the tune of Eicha (Lamentations).

In some synagogues, during the "three weeks," it is customary to chant L'cha Dodee, with the exception of the last two verses, to the tune of Eli Tsiyon, the hymn which concludes the service on the night of Tish'ah B'Av.

Tish¹ah B¹av

The ninth of Av is the saddest day in the Jewish calendar. According to the Talmud, God marked the ninth of Av as a day of calamity because of an incident, recounted in Numbers chapters 13 and 14, which took place on that day during the period of the sojourn in the wilderness. The spies sent to Canaan brought back a discouraging report, and the people, displaying ingratitude and a complete lack of faith in God's promises to them, tearfully bemoaned their lot. As a result, God declared: "You wept without cause; I will therefore make this an eternal day of mourning for you." It was then decreed that on the ninth of Av the Temple would be destroyed and the children of Israel would go into exile (B. Ta'anit, 29a).

The destruction of Jerusalem and the loss of the Jewish state are not the only sad events that have occurred on the ninth of Av. The Mishnah enumerates the following: On the ninth of Av it was decreed against our ancestors that they should not enter the Land of Israel (Numbers 14:29), the Temple was destroyed both the first and the second times, Bethar was captured, and Jerusalem was ploughed up (M. Ta¹anit 4:6).

It is a tragic coincidence that since the time of the Mishnah, many other calamitous events in Jewish history have occured on the ninth of Av. On Tish'ah B'Av in 1290, King Edward I signed the edict compelling his Jewish subjects to leave in England. The expulsion from Spain occured on the same day in 1492. Tish'ah B'Av also marked the outbreak of World War I, beginning a long period of suffering for the Jewish people. Not only did this period witness the pogroms and massacres perpetrated against the Jews of Russia, Poland, and other countries of Eastern Europe, but it was also the prelude to World War II and the savage destruction of six million Jews.

Since the reestablishment of the Jewish state, it has been (Continued on page 3)

Rabbi Eligberg, continued.

maintained in some quarters that Tish'ah B'av and the other fasts connected with the destruction Of Jerusalem have lost their meaning and should be discontinued. Some even claim that with the establishment of the Jewish state the prophecy of Zechariah has been realized, and therefore we should fulfill the second part of the prophecy, observing the fast days as festivals.

Opponents of this view insisted that the fasts must still be observed since the redemption of Israel was not yet complete, pointing out that both the city of Jerusalem and much of the ancient land of Israel still remained under enemy domination. Notwithstanding the changes in the political situation following the war of 1967, with Jerusalem now integrated into the State of Israel and the rest of the land under Israeli control, at least for the time being, there was and is no need for such apologetics. Though the fasts are a challenge, the events commemorated by Tish'ah B'Av cannot be undone, and it is necessary to remember them, to establish continuity with our past, and to help us appreciate the blessings of the present.

Dr. Robert Gordis, in an extensive discussion of the question, concludes that Tish'ah B'Av can perform these basic functions for Jews living in the middle of the twentieth century, with the state of Israel before them as a reality. It can keep Jews mindful of the tasks which lie ahead in the areas of Jewish religious rebirth and of ethical living, both in the state of Israel and throughout the world. It can focus attention upon the universal aspects of the Messianic hope, which have long been integral to Judaism. Finally, it can help to remind Jews of the long record of sacrifices and sufferings of past generations, and thus prevent the cultural degeneracy which would follow from the ignoring of the achievements of Galut or Diaspora (Gordis, Judaism for the Modern Age, page 210).

The fast of Tish'ah B'Av begins the night before, similar to Yom Kippur, and therefore the last meal before the fast must be eaten before sunset. This meal, called the seudah mafseket, because it marks the boundary between the periods of eating and fasting, was characterized by certain mourning customs. As at the meal served to mourners after a funeral, it was customary to eat special foods that were signs of mourning, such as eggs and lentils. Some pious people went so far as to dip the bread in ashes and sit on the ground during the meal. While these expressions of mourning have fallen into desuetude, we retain the mood by keeping the meal modest and simple.

Before the Ma'ariv service, the Parokhet (curtain), is removed from the ark as a sign of mourning. In our congregation we drape the Aron Kodesh (Ark) with a black cloth. As another sign of mourning, the congregants remove their shoes if they are made of leather. Ma'ariv itself is recited in a subdued voice and a mournful tone. Worshippers sit on the ground or on stools for the reading of the Book of Lamentations. It is chanted in a special plaintive cantillation. The last verse of the book is recited aloud by the congregation, and then repeated by the reader. The chanting of Eicha is followed by Kinnot, sorrowful hymns that emphasize the import of Tish'ah B'Av and lament

the tragic events associated with it.

In accordance with a tradition originating with Rabbi Meir of Rothenburg (ca. 1215-1293), Tallit and T'fillin are not worn at Shaharit as an additional sign of mourning. The T'fillin are termed, "P'air" or "ornaments," and the Book of Lamentations says: "The Lord has cast down Tiferet Yisrael" (the adornment of Israel) which was interpreted as referring to the T'fillin (Munk, World of Prayer, 2:327).

After the Shaharit Amidah the Torah is taken from the ark and Deuteronomy 4:25-40 is read. Three people are called up, with the last also reading the Haftarah, Jeremiah 8:13-9:23, which is chanted according to the tune of Eicha.

After the Torah is returned to the ark, the worshippers sit on the ground or on low stools and recite Kinnot.

At Minhah, Tallit and T'fillin are put on, and the prayers that were omitted in the morning (such as the psalm for the day) are recited. Afterwards, the Torah is taken out and three people are called, the third also reading the Haftarah. Both the Torah reading and the Haftarah are the same as on the other public fasts.

Ma'ariv is the regular weekday service, and it marks the end of the fast. At the meal after the fast one should still abstain from meat and wine, since the burning of the Temple continued until the next day.

Tish'ah B'Av is subject to the same limitations as Yom Kippur: abstention not only from food but also from bathing, anointing oneself, wearing leather shoes, and conjugal relations. In addition, because of the joy it affords, the Sages forbade all study of sacred literature, with the exception of books that fit the mood of the day, such as the Book of Job, the parts of the Talmud and Midrash that tell of the destruction of Jerusalem, and parts of the Book of Jeremiah.

Just as the weeks preceding Tish'ah B'Av are marked by practices that accentuate the sorrowful mood of the period, so the weeks following are marked by some practices that encourage a mood of comfort and consolation. During the seven weeks following Tish'ah B'Av we read Haftarot that comfort the children of Israel with the promise of the restoration of Zion. The first Shabbat after Tish'ah B'av is called Shabbat Nahamu (the Shabbat of Consolation) because the first of these seven Haftarot begins with the words ³Be comforted, be comforted My people (Isaiah 40:1).

Send Off Shabbat: June 5

Going away this summer?—Don't leave without your blessing!

Join us for a "Send Off Shabbat" on Saturday, June 5th If you are going away to camp, USY Pilgrimage, Wheels, or a similar youth program, you are invited to join us at morning services on June 5 to receive a special blessing.

OUR HAZZAN'S VOICE

Cantor Bruce Rockman

In God's Image

Over the last months I have written about the struggles that we all experience as we attempt to grow spiritually. This is the type of growth that is never complete but is not a burden. Spiritual growth is about improvement, self exploration and realization. Spirituality is about our awareness in relationships with our family and community. We learn to embrace what is good through this exploration. Spirituality is the quest for peace, personally, as well as seeking peace in the world. Growth is about seeking both mental and physical health, and about wrestling with conflicts. Spirituality is feeling loved and giving love. Our relationship with God is how I define spirituality. How about you?

One way that we as Jews express our spirituality is through our actions. The Talmud teaches us that "Upon three things the world stands: the study of Torah, serving God, and performing acts of love and kindness." (Ethics of the Fathers, 1:2)

Prayer is one pathway to accomplishing these goals. Rabbi Chaim of Voloz'hin, taught that "... we are created in the image of God, tzelem Elohim. We are partners with God in creation. We are commanded to pray because our input into creation is important. If we accept that man is the 'living image of God,' it follows that prayer is indeed fundamental to our essential humanity. If you do not offer your input concerning how the world ought to be reshaped, daily, you fail to actualize your potential as a tzelem Elohim."

Maimonides presents the mitzvah to pray as follows:

"A person should **plead** in prayer daily, and say the **praises** of the Holy One, the source of all Blessings, and subsequently **request** his needs; the things that he presently requires in the form of a **plea**, and finally, offer praise and **thanks** to God for all the good that He has already given, each person according to his ability"

We plead; we pray to God and make requests. Now move from the theoretical to your reality. Is this is what we are doing when we pray together? I think so. Look around the synagogue and at the marvelous projects that are being accomplished to better the world. The mitzvah crib, collections for food pantries, reaching out to those who are ill through *Bikur Cholim* and comforting bereaved families are just a few of our "typical activities".

Where do we receive our inspiration to fulfill mitzvoth? Our love of God, which we express through prayer, is one answer. On Shabbat and on other times when we pray or communicate with God, we can find ourselves nourished and better prepared to take on the challenges that life offers us. As a group we sing praises to God to bolster our spirits, to ask for the strength to be righteous and to have the motivation to follow through on our good intentions.

Worship the Lord in gladness; come before God with joyous song. B'simcha, Cantor Bruce Rockman,

Thank you,

To The Sons of Tikvah Band, for helping me communicate my prayers to the congregation. This year the Sons took on a new challenge. The Sons, Makehla and Kol Tikvah under the direction of Marty Angstrich, have become a spiritual entities of our congregation, contributing to our prayer experience. Our monthly "Friday Night Plugged-In" has helped created a place for more families to celebrate Shabbat. I look forward to many more interesting collaborations and the growth of our musical programming.

Thank you to Bobbi and Marc Binder, leaders of our vital Shabbat Family Service and to my dear wife Stacey (and Phyllis Safeer who filled when our daughter Bashe was born) leader of Tot Shabbat for making shul enjoyable for our little ones. Congratulations to Barry Safeer on another successful Junior Congregation Family Service season.

Thank you to Jeff Schwartz, Religious Activities chairperson and your committee for all of your support....Thanks to Nancy and Paul Zankel for correcting my spelling, putting out this wonderful bulletin, and not editing this sentence!! Cindy Gittleman, thank you for your support and helping me get the word out. To Rabbi Eligberg, thank you for being my teacher, my friend and for being a generous partner. Welcome home from Israel.

SCHEDULE OF DAILY SERVICES

Sunday	9:00 AM Shahareet	7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Monday		7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Tuesday		7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Wednesday		7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Thursday	7:00 AM Shahareet	7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Friday		8:00 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat
Saturday	9:30 AM Shabbat	*:**PM*	Mincha/Maariv**
	*As appropriate for t	he time of v	/ear

Babysitting available Shabbat morning 10:00—12:00**

HAKOL

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

1001 Finnegan's Lane North Brunswick, NJ 08902 732-297-0696

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

All Submissions for the September HAKOL (to be mailed in late August) must be in by August 1

SUBMISSION FORMATS:

TEXT: We suggest that editorial submissions be submitted in plain text format, with no formatting, tabs, columns or fonts. Just type an e-mail, 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.

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

ORDER FORMS & FLYERS: Contact the editors for info on distributing order forms and inserts with the HaKol mailing.

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

Adult Education Spring 2004

Wednesdays from 7:45pm to 9:30pm



June 2

ADULT DAY CARE

Gwen Simon, RNC
Debbie Kiel, RNC
St. Peter's Adult Day Care at Monroe Township

June 9

LABOR LAW

John Wolf, Esq. Rutgers University

WALK FOR ISRAEL Sunday June 6

Sponsored by Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County

Grove 4 Johnson Park Off River Road in Highland Park

Registration Fee: \$10/Person, \$25/ family of 3 or more Includes free T-shirt while supplies last Check-in 8:15am, Opening Ceremonies 9:00am

Entertainment following the Walk by

Sons of Tikvah Band

See the flyers included with this Hakol, or call Theresa Seilder (732) 432-7711, tseidler@jfgmc.org

ATTENTION VP'S & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Please get Directory Info for all 2004-2005 positions to the Hakol Editors by August 1st so that the September Directory will be correct. Thank you,

Paul & Nancy Zankel

"It was amazing to

about in the Bible.

Only in Israel does

God and land. "

tion between people,

stand at some of the

locations that we read

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Arie Behar

Although I travel to Israel quite often, my last trip with twelve other members of B'nai Tikvah was one of the most memorable. This was the first time in many years that an official delegation, led by our Rabbi, traveled to Israel. We were a mixed group of people: singles and couples, in ages ranging from 40 plus to 80 minus. For some in our group, this was their first visit to Israel. Others had been many times before. I think that

what bonded us together was that we were traveling during a very special time in Israel - both Israel's Memorial Day and Israel's Independence Day. In addition, we were hosted by families in Ramla, the town that sends a group of teens to B'nai Tikvah each year.

Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day) is a very special day in Israel. In a country where one feel the connecalmost every one knows someone who was killed in war or conflict - either a family member, friend, neighbor or classmate - the mood across the country is very solemn and

somber. On Memorial Day every year, at 11 am, sirens sound across the country for a minute. The country comes to a stop. Cars stop where they are on the road, offices grow quiet, and everyone stands for a minute to show respect for those who gave their lives for their country. When I lived in Israel, I remember that during this moment of silence, I tried to silently recite the names of all the young men I knew that had been killed. This year when I tried to silently recite the list of names, the names exceeded one minute. One minute was just not enough.

That day we were traveling around Jerusalem, and as is common is Israel, we passed many monuments to battles and fallen soldiers. For me, finding the names of my friends on

some of those monuments gave the day special meaning. It reminded me that Israel's independence and continued existence was paid for by the blood of some of the finest people I have ever known.

Wherever we visited in Israel, we always had the Bible nearby. It was amazing to stand at some of the locations that we read about in the Bible. Only in Israel does one feel the connection

> between people, God and land. When we traveled to Tel Azaka, we were able to envision Saul sending David to fight Goliath in the valley below. On the top of the Gilboa, we could look down at the site where Saul battled the Philistines, causing him to fall on his sword. Near Jericho, we could see where Joshua entered the land of milk and honey. Israel is a country of contrasts. One of the most exciting moments for me was watching Macabbi Tel Aviv, Israel's top basketball team, beating the Italian team to take the European championship. Most of the

country watched the game that night, and the celebration went on until the next day. Two days after Memorial Day, the country had something to celebrate. Traveling that night to my hotel room, the masses gathered in Tel Aviv extended my 10 minute trip to three hours.

The trip had many memorable moments, and you will hear about them from some of my fellow travelers. For me, one of the important messages that we sent was to tell our friends in Ramla and throughout Israel that they are not alone in their struggle. Their struggle is our struggle. By visiting and traveling to almost every corner of Israel, we expressed our support and our love for Israel, and our hosts understood and were grateful.

JUNE & AUGUST B'NAI MITZVAH



Jessica Gerstein June 12

Daughter of Lawrence & Gina Gerstein



Joshua Kohn June 19

Son of Daniel & Linda Kohn



William & Elizabeth Samtur August 21

Son and Daughter of Marshall & Teresa Samtur



Nicole Rubin August 28

Daughter of Lanny & Elsa Rubin

BOARD AND VP REPORTS

From May, 2004 Board of Trustees Meeting

Administration VP Report Dan Greenberg

Budget Committee continues meeting weekly. We anticipate presenting budget to the Board at the June meeting.

We are hoping to patch the parking lot as well as possible within the next two weeks, (remembering that any patching we do now will be ripped up again in several months).

Activities VP Report Gary Bergman

Bikkur Cholim: The good news is that we now have ample volunteers to visit the sick. The bad news is that we are not getting sufficient names of congregants who are ill to forward to the committee. If the reality is that there aren't many congregants who are in need of the committee, then that is very good news.

Social Action: The calendar for next near has been established and they're trying to get volunteers for the various programs. The next meeting is set for this Thursday and the committee is looking for a new chairperson.

The poor response for the Passover food drive was probably due to poor timing of the holidays.

Membership VP Report Cindy Gittleman

The following is a list of the events and on-going activities of the membership committee and VP responsibilities.

Prospect List: To maintain and update this list throughout the year.

Send mailings and fliers of events at BT. Make periodic phone calls to find out status for joining.

Membership Welcome Bags: Coordinate and distribute welcome bags to new members in a timely manner. (Coordinated with Sisterhood)

New Member Event: (in fall):
This past year this event was a Shabbat dinner (Pot of Gold Shabbat) to honor and welcome new members. It was well attended but recommend to change event where there is no cost to members. Also a first time Speed Meet 'n Greet event was tried to help members learn about committees and

activities in the synagogue.

Advertising / Flyers: Designing and placing ads in the local papers to advertise open houses for prospective new members, also advertising larger social holiday events such as Chanukah and next year Purim and Yon Ha'atzmaut.

Chavurah Groups: Helping Chavurah groups get started in the synagogue which helps to foster friendships and a sense of belonging. One Chavurah group was successfully started which now boasts 6-8 families gathering together on a regular basis.

Tee Shirts: Designing and selling synagogue tees which helps to build spirit and unity. To date a small profit was made. Tee shirts still available!

Chai Anniversary Shabbat:
Honoring member families who are celebrating 18-22 years of continuous faithful membership to the synagogue.
42 families being honored on June 26th.
Buffet luncheon – entire congregation invited. Not to be repeated until 2007.

Exit Interviews: Follow up contact with members who have

(Continued on page 24)

A MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Cindy Gittleman, V.P. Membership

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Barry Wasserman

Charles and Debra Valan and their daughters, Daria and Brooke

Genarro and Lori Izzo and their children Jake and Daniella

The Membership Committee is always looking for new names to invite to synagogue events and send info... please contact membership@bnaitkvah.org

CHAI ANNIVERSARY SHABBAT:

On June 26th B'nai Tikvah will celebrate memories and milestones of dedicated congregants who have reached their Chai Anniversary (18-22 years of continuous membership) with a special Shabbat service. Kiddush Luncheon to follow. See the announcement on page 12.

B'NAI TIKVAH T-SHIRTS!

The fashion item to be wearing to (most) synagogue events, softball games, and all those important meetings! Adult S,M,L,XL,2XL contact Bonnie Eisenberg at 732-355-0887



ISRAEL TASKFORCE

Alan Kane, Chairperson



Israel - Up Close and Personal

Over the last four years, B'nai Tikvah has been involved in an Israel youth exchange program, a joint project with the city of Ramla in which we have been host to over sixty Israeli teens. Last month, a delegation of adults from our congregation visited Ramla to demonstrate our commitment both to the program and to Israel.

Here in America we are very aware of the many groups and organizations doing things to help the "State of Israel." In our B'nai Tikvah community, in conjunction with Federation and United Synagogue, we have often undertaken direct involvement ourselves, in the way of raising funds for specific projects, showing our support by attending rallies, and recently participating in "The Salute to Israel Parade."

It wasn't until we visited our friends in Ramla, that we became aware that these activities seldom filter down to the individual citizens of Israel who, at this time in their history, feel very much isolated and alone.

Although we spent a large portion of our time in Israel playing "tourist", traveling the country, experiencing the foods, and having a fun-filled time, we also had the opportunity to reunite with some of the Israeli teens and chaperones who have been a part of our B'nai Tikvah community over the past four years.

We were privileged to participate in the very solemn Yom Ha'Zikaron ceremonies attended by the citizens of Ramla who lost friends and relatives in the defense of their country. Even though most of us attending the nationally televised memorial concert did not understand the Hebrew narratives and lyrics, we felt the emotion of the evening as if we were an integral part of their community. Ties like this are usually reserved for those who share the loss of family and comrades but, we were made to feel as one of them. And I suppose they needed us too, to help

them feel that they were not alone.

If you read the papers and monitor the Israeli section of our website (bnaitikvah.org/israel.html), I can certainly understand why most people are fearful of taking the journey. However, if you pick up a copy of the Daily News and read it just as carefully, you might think twice about your next trip to parts of New Jersey or New York. In our escorted travels, we did not visit Gaza or any of those areas you read about, and

we never felt unsafe. But, we did feel some of the "isolation" that our Israeli friends live with every day.

We need to continue our support for local organizations that work very hard to convey the message to Israel that "You are not alone", to buy Israeli products, and consider participating in the Ramla youth exchange program. But, what's needed most is to put action into the words: "Next year in Jerusalem".

Gary Bergman

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and other
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Owner receives an attractive certificate suitable for framing.

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WEDDINGS BIRGHDAYS BAR/BAT MITZIAH NEW BABY ANNIVERSARIES GRADUATIONS NEW JOB PROMOTION NEW HOME

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THE OFFICE VOICE

Nitsat Hadas Elami, Administrative Director

Shalom,

This month I will take a break from explaining the different areas of our office's activities to bring up some very important information.

As some of you may be aware, we are in the process of working on our next fiscal year's budget. Part of the budget discussion, is our fund raising. The more money we bring in through fund raising, the less money we will have to cover through dues.

I know that when I say "fund raising", many of you will say that you are giving enough already to the congregation through various donations. We highly appreciate these donations and we know that it is not easy to afford all these different charges. The fund-raiser I am about to promote here will cost you nothing! Even the effort is minimal.

Remember the saying "one man's trash is another man's treasure"? For over six months we have been collecting used ink-jet cartridges as a fund-raiser. There is a company that pays us \$2.00 per USED cartridge. Just think about all those empty cartridges that you throw away at home and at work. Think of it as if you were throwing away money that we can use. By using this money we will be able to provide our members — You - with better resources without having to ask for more money to do so.

Please bring your used cartridges to the Synagogue or the Religious School office. We have collection boxes in both. You can bring them in whenever it is convenient for you. If you would like to come in after work hours, please give us a call and I am sure we will be able to find a suitable time for you to drop them off.

Used car donation is an additional fund-raiser that we introduced a while ago. It seems like many people are not aware of it. If you have an old car that you would like to get rid of, call us and we will coordinate a pick-up from your garage or driveway. You will be able to claim it as a donation (please discuss with your accountant), and we will receive money from the company that sells these cars.

We of course have many more ways in which we raise funds. If you would like to help with creating programs, or helping with an event, that would be great. If you will contact Mark Sherman, the VP of Ways and Means, I am sure he will find a place for you to help. The idea is that even if you can not commit to big things, helping with the small ones will help us a lot.

Thank you in advance for helping out any way you can!

Congregational Meeting Monday, June 28th

following Minyan

Notice from the

Nominations Committee

It is the pleasure of this year's Nominating Committee to present the following slate of Officers and Trustees for the coming year.

Officers

VP Ways and Means Mark Sherman (1 year term)

Assistant Treasurer Frank Waltzer
Financial Secretary Mark Kasdin
Secretary Bobbi Binder

Trustees

Ruth Anne Koenig Harvey Finkelstein Gary Warner Jeff Cadoff Naomi Jackenthal

I would like to thank the following who have served on this year's committee, Kim Reimann, John Wolf, Gerald Fishelberg, Madeline Gaynor, Cheryl Goldstein, and Mark Kasdin (for the first part of our deliberations).

Also, the Board and Congregation owe thanks to Cindi Kleinbart who will not be returning to the Board as well as a very, very, very special thanks to Gary Tinkel for his many years of service to the Congregation as the Financial Secretary!!

Mitch Frumkin, Chairman, Nominating Committee



On behalf of

Congregation B'nai Tikvah
it is with great pride and gratitude
that we honor the following families
on their 18 years or more

faithful membership to our congregation

Ruth and Bernie Adler
Phyllis Alray
Cheryl and Myron Asnis
Estelle Bach
Sandra and Ben Baum
Joel Bradus
Patricia and Richard Brams
Sima and Stuart Brokowsky
Linda and Alan Brown
Abby Diamondstein
Myra and Howard Dickert
Toby and Gary Ehrlich
Carol and Marvin Eisenberg
Florence and Herbert Feldman

Joyce and Joel Gerbman
Miriam and Stephen Gordon
Beverly and Isaac Grodzinski
Marlene and Gary Heller
Claire Hirshman
Marcia and Martin Kaminker
Arline and Alan Kane
Lois and Dan Krantz
Beverly and Wade Lebowitz
Joyce and Leonard Mandleblatt
Shiva and Danesh Nili
Fred Oppenheimer
Ellen and Gerald Platz
Mona and Barry Portnoy

Ruth and Philip Reisberg
Eileen and Robert Robison
Deborah and Jerome Rosen
Adrienne and Andrew Ross
Sandra and Yitzhak Sharon
Faye and George Schwartz
Janet and Paul Schwartz
Marcia and Jeff Schwartz
Arlene and Jerry Shulman
Nancy and David Shultz
Lisa and Jeff Tannenbaum
Irving Verosloff
Laurie and Frank Waltzer
Janet and Michael Weiss

Please join us for a special CHAI ANNIVERSARY SHABBAT

> Saturday, June 26, 2004 6 Tammuz 5764 9:30 am

> > e o

Buffet Luncheon to follow

B'NAI MITZVAH



Shelly Cohen May 16

Daughter of Yaron & Carol Cohen

Shelly's picture was omitted from last month's Hakol. Mazel Tov to Shelly and her family on her Bat Mitzvah!

HIGH HOLIDAY BABYSITTING COMMITTEE



If you are interested in joining the High Holiday Babysitting Committee, please call Hope Peters at (732) 438-3653 or e-mail at hopepeters@comcast.net. We would love to have your help!

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE IS NOW AVAILABLE TO SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THE ELDERLY

The One Community Integration Project of Jewish Family & Vocational Service (JFVS) and Middlesex County Area-Wide Transportation System (AWTS) has Partnered with Open Road to provide transportation for people with developmental disabilities and the elderly that reside in Middlesex County, to Jewish religious services. Open Road, a non-profit organization committed to facilitating participation of people with disabilities in religious observance, is subsidizing the charge for this service. This transportation service is available on Friday and Saturday. For more information or to participate in this service, please contact Rabbi Jaffe by phone at 908-782-6410 or e-mail at fjcc@blast.net.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Even though religious school is not in session, work at the synagogue goes on as we at the religious school are busy planning next year's programs, revising curriculum and staffing, etc. We are also finalizing our class lists!! You have already received your registrations forms. If you have not yet registered, please fill out the forms and return them as soon as possible. A complete Religious School packet containing class assignments, the Religious School Calendar/Handbook and other information will be sent to REGISTERED STUDENTS ONLY later in the summer.

Please note, the schedule of classes for the 2004-2005 academic year will be as follows:

KINDERGARTEN will be held in the EARLY SESSION (9:00AM-10:25AM) ONLY.

FIRST GRADE will be held in the LATE SESSION (10:40AM - 12:05PM) ONLY.

SECOND GRADE will be held either TUESDAY or WEDNESDAY, 4:00PM-6:00PM.

ALEF (3rd grade) and BET (4th grade) will meet either: Sunday, Early session (9:00AM-10:25AM) and Monday/Wednesday, 4:00PM-6:00PM.

Or Sunday, Late Session (10:40AM-12:05PM) and Tuesday/Thursday, 4:00PM-6:00PM.

GIMEL (5th grade), DALET (6th grade) and HEI (7th grade) will meet either:

Sunday, 9:00AM-12:05PM and Tuesday, 4:00PM-6:00PM.

Or Sunday, 9:00AM-12:05PM and Wednesday, 4:00PM-6:00PM.

"CHAI" SCHOOL (grades 8-12) will meet Sundays, 10:40AM-12:05PM.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF K-2 STUDENTS

Why don't you consider joining our religious school program. It offers activities that develops a child's Jewish identity and stimulates their Jewish involvement through music, art, worship and storytelling. We make the most of the hours that your child is with us. The children participate in extensive enrichment programs throughout the year as they get acquainted and become part of our religious school life. Many exciting events are already planned for the upcoming 2004-2005 school year.

Please call the School Office (732-297-0295) if you would like an application to enroll your child in our school.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS

Ann Kanarek, Director

THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR

As the school year comes to a close, it is gratifying to look back at all that our students have learned and accomplished. It is thanks to our devoted group of teachers that all of our students have had such a successful year.

Teaching is crucial to the Jewish future and without our teachers Judaism would quickly evaporate. As we mark the end of the school year I would like to acknowledge the hard work and efforts of our staff. Many thanks to our esteemed faculty:

Jessica Azad Danna Katzourin Fave Bronzo Erez Levin Melissa Director Leebie Mallin Phyllis Edley Jesse Mandell Rabbi David M. Eligberg Sara Nazar Sara Fernandez Ariela Robinson Michael Friedman Cantor Bruce Rockman Gina Giuffre Brad Rosen Sarah Goldberg Josh Seigle Marlo Hirshon Kfir Weinraub Loren Hurwitz Carol Winter Jenny Kagan Miriam Ziegler

On behalf of the faculty and school, I would like to thank the parents for all your support and help throughout the year; and, most especially, for giving us the pleasure of working with your children.

Thank you to Vice President of School and Youth, Harold Schneider and Religious Education Co-Chairpersons, Bobbi Binder, Kim Riemann and Lisa Seidman and their committee for their encouragement, support and efforts all year. Many thanks to all the subcommittees for helping us to make our Shabbat dinners and other holiday celebrations special.

> BEST WISHES FOR AN ENJOYABLE AND RELAXING SUMMER!!

THANK YOU TO OUR CHAI SCHOOL TEENS

The Toranim (our High School aides) have been excellent role models for our younger children. You can find them around on a Sunday morning or midweek afternoons either in the school Office or in a classroom. They have been a wonderful asset to our staff, helping in every capacity. I am really proud of the high level of commitment demonstrated by these fine young people. Despite the complexities of their busy schedules, its wonderful to see how seriously our Toranim take their roles in our school. Our Toranim provide our Congregation with a genuine source of pride and joy. This year's Toranim are:

Greg Aaron Ilana Katronetsky Benjamin Ehrlich Leah Behar Noah Levin

Craig Dickert Joshua Baer Matthew Katz Lewis Goldsmith Joshua Berger

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2004 CALENDAR

School will begin on Sunday, September 12 for Grades K, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. For 2nd grade, school will begin during the week, either Tuesday, September 14 or Wednesday, September 15.

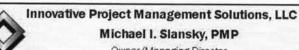
Chai school will begin on Sunday, September 19.

Parents are invited to a parent reception and orientation September 12th. Details will be forthcoming in the parent packet which will be mailed in August.

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NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Fran Pearlson, Director

It just seems to happen one day! The cold harsh days of winter are replaced with warm, sunny days, flowers are blooming and the end of our school year approaches. You can't help but smile...good weather and the completion of a successful school year are a winning combination!

As we look back on the past school year it is gratifying to know that we have contributed to the children's love of learning. The happy smiles on their faces showed us their pride and sense of accomplishment in each and every new skill they have learned. We are proud of their accomplishments and thank our parents for giving us the opportunity to share our knowledge and rich traditions with them.

To Our Graduates

Go out into the world and take your joy of learning with you wherever you go! We will miss you — so please come back and visit.

To Our Returning Students

Many new and exciting activities await you when you return to school. We'll see you all in September.

School will reopen on Monday, September 8, 2004. We wish everyone a safe, productive, and enjoyable summer!

Congratulations to Our 2003-2004 Nursery School Graduates!

Hannah Baum
Drew Becker
Max Becker
Danielle Berman
Stephen Berrios
Sahil Bhagat
Adam Britton
Chelsea Buro
Michael Ellenberg
Rachel Fernandez
Allison Harkavy
Neil Havkin
Rachel Hecht
Daniel Herrera

Matthew Hong
Marissa Katz
Ariel Kaye
Alexander Kerker
Anshika Khare
Elizabeth Lavender
Samantha Love
Alexa Maltese
Sydney MarantzPremit Rao
Stephen Schwimmer
Adam Seidman
Daria Valen
Jake Zimmerman

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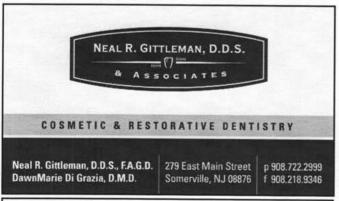
April 16-18, USY held its annual Spring Convention at the Swan Lake Resort in New York. There we elected our new board for the upcoming year. Congratulations to Elyse Ross for becoming the Regional Communications VP.

Our chapter also won several awards at convention:

Freshman vs.
Zonal Karaoke
Membership Increase
Per capita donation over \$50
Donation over \$2000
Involvement in Hagalil Survivor
Chapter of Excellence

As the year comes to an end, I have been very excited to write these articles month after month for you all to read. Next year, there will be a new person to write these articles and to inform you month after month. Our chapter elections will be held early in June. Good luck to all who are running, and I look forward to another great year being apart of the best chapter in the region, North/South Brunswick.

B'ahava Ilana Katronetsky



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KADIMA

Kadima@bnaitikvah.org

It's been an outstanding year for B'nai Tikvah Kadima. We had 51 members join for the year. There was a huge turnout at all regional events, and we were among the top chapters in the Region at each event, and we had a whole lot of fun. We went to Great Adventure, got down at dances, raised money and bowled for Yad B'Yad, had a hugely successful Purim Carnival, played mini golf, ice skated, swam, ate, and had just a great year.

So with that said, don't miss out on our next Kadima year. For any current members and soon to be 6th graders, anyone registered by June 30th will save five dollars off of their registration. Any sixth, seventh, or eighth grader for the 2004-2005 school year is welcome and encouraged to join. Kadima holds 2-3 events a month, so it does not usually conflict with any of our other busy activities at the Synagogue or outside of it. Included in this Hakol is a sign-up form for next year.

ANNUAL AWARDS:

As the year ends I wave a sad goodbye to our eighth graders, as they move onto USY, and welcome with great excitement our soon to be sixth graders.

I would like to mention the following awards which were handed out our recent chinese food/awards night:

Award of Excellence for Most Active Participant Keren Brown

Award of Excellence for our Chapter Presidents for the Year Melissa Feldman, Ben Ehrlich

Other awards given out were: Spirit- Samantha Kopelow, Friendliest-Ben Ehrlich, Star Student-Keren Brown, Leadership-Melissa Feldman, Dancing Star-Jessica Gerstein, Special Achievement- Steve Birch, Most Improved- Michael Rogove, Most Helpful-Dina Sharon, Biggest "Ladies Man"- Myles Rudin, Happiest- Josh Kohn, Best Eater-Marc Katronetsky, Good Sport- Matt Cohen, Most Outgoing-Gary Goldsmith, Most Courteous-Benjy Levin, Most Polite-Hollie Freedman, Best Sense of Humor-Dan Waltzer, Evan Jacobs, Best Singer-Aaron Bierstein Most Athletic-Elliot Cohen, Corey Nagelberg.

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

MEN'S CLUB

Our June 13 meeting will begin with Gary Bergman's "slide show" featuring our congregants who traveled to Israel in late April for a two week visit. We encourage all to attend this fun presentation. Later in the day we'll travel to Waterfront Stadium in Trenton to attend a Trenton Thunder baseball game. The club is a minor league class AA affiliate of the New York Yankees. There's not a bad seat in the ballpark! We're offering a \$20.00 per person "package" which includes a Classical Caterers kosher box lunch, parking pass, soft drink coupons as well as admission to the game. This is a tremendous value. We'd like to see a high level of participation in this event.

We've received donations of approximately \$1800.00 from congregants in response to our "Yellow Candle" mailing. If you haven't returned your envelope yet,please do so at your earliest convenience. We'd appreciate a minimum \$18.00 per family donation. The proceeds are earmarked towards holocaust remembrance projects/charitable foundations etc.

Steve Katz and Ed Birch will be co-presidents of the Men's Club. Their terms will begin on July 1,2004. Steve Katz will be the Men's Club representative to the Board with Ed Birch serving as an alternating representative. Andy Ross has accepted the position of Men's Club Treasurer.

Many thanks to all who made this a successful programming year. We were fortunate enough to hear some very interesting speakers including the curator of the Yogi Berra museum, a Vice President from Merrill Lynch speaking about aspects of long term financial planning, a leading authority on the changes occurring in the Jewish approach to funerals and of course our own webmaster Gary Bergman.

It's been a successful year. Our attendance averaged over 20 per meeting. The bowling league, under the leadership of Bobbi and Gary Bergman had a fun year and of course continues to be a financial success. We continued our active participation in the Purim Carnival food preparation and sales activities. Our president, Ed Birch also initiated a drive to assure Men's Club representatives at shiva homes whenever possible. Let's also not forget to mention our sponsorship of a B'nai Tikvah softball team in the county temple league.

Join us in the Fall for more exciting programs. Ed Birch has given us an early "heads up" that he has commitments from Barry Halper, the foremost sports memorabilia collector in the country to address the Club and it's also likely that one of the WFAN sports talk personalities will join us at one of our meetings. We're also looking for a return speaking engagement from Phil Mushnick,, sports writer with the New York Post!

I've had a lot of fun representing the Men's Club at the Board level this year. I thank the officers for the opportunity!

Mark Kasdin

Sisterhood

The new B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood Board was elected on Monday, May 10. The new board members are:

Executive Board

President Lynn Biderman Administrative VP Cheryl Goldstein Membership VP Joyce Gerbman and Ellie Greenberg Fundraising VP Linda Feinstein **Education VP** Shelly Wistreich Recording Secretary Ellen Birch Corresponding Secretary Sue Levinson Financial Secretary Fern Katronetsky Treasurer Gale Dillman Past President Ruth Anne Koenick

Trustees

Publicity Nila Mason
Gift Shop Laurie Waltzer and
Deborah Spigner

Phone/Communications Phyllis Safeer and Lori Sookerman Good and Welfare Serena Blackin Jewish Living Ruth Anne Koenick Social Action Andrea Katz Bobbi Binder Torah Fund Teresa Samtur Hospitality School and Youth Ellyn Schneider Israeli Affairs Marcy Finkelstein

Historian Joella Sperber Jiorle Creative Handcrafts Ann Rosenzweig Membership Retention Lisa Seidman

Thank you to the members of the nominating committee, Lisa Seidman, Terri Woller, Stacey Cadoff, Ellie Greenberg and Joyce Gerbman who served as chair.



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SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE: YEAR IN REVIEW

What has Social Action accomplished this year?

*Collected and distributed children's winter coats to an inner-city elementary school

*Completed furnishing a trailer for a South Brunswick family dislocated by a fire (year-long project)

*Instituted the Mitzvah Crib-all new baby items donated to needy families in the area

*Developed a relationship with the Buckingham Place, an assisted living residence

*Delivered flowers to the Residence in honor of the High Holidays

*Arranged for 10 Buckingham Place residents attend Yizkor services on Yom Kippur

*Sponsored 10 residents of Buckingham Place to enable them to attend the Sisterhood Fashion Show

*Arranged for 10 Buckingham Place residents to attend the holocaust play, The Last Butterfly

*Phone Home in Tishrei—sent phone cards to Jewish soldiers overseas so they

would be able to call home for the High Holidays. Also, had the religious school students write New Year messages to the soldiers

*Instituted food of the month programfood was donated to the local food pantries throughout the year

*Sponsored 15 Needy families during the holiday season, providing gifts to meet essential clothing and household needs

*Sponsored Passover food drive

*Donated funds to Wheels for Trinia

*Collected men's winter clothing for a men's shelter in Middlesex County

*Donated funds to a Men's shelter to purchase undergarments

*Collected birthday party supplies and gifts for homeless children

*Provided Scrip to Jewish Family Services for their food pantry

*Funds given to purchase diapers for the children at Amandla Crossing, a transitional housing program for single-parent families on public assistance

*Funds given to Keren Or a Jerusalem

*Funds given to Keren Or, a Jerusalem center for multi-handicapped blind chil-

dren

*Assisted 3 Middlesex county Jewish families who were in need

*Funds given to Jewish Women International's emergency fund for a residential treatment center treating young victims of violence

*Funds given to a South Brunswick family who was burned out of their home

*Supplied book bags and school supplies to all the children of Amandla Crossing and to 20 children in New Brunswick

*Furnished a trailer for a disabled individual, provided a refrigerator to a New Brunswick family of five who did not own one, and distributed two microwaves to needy families from congregants who no longer needed these items.

Thank you,

I want to thank the members of the Social Action Committee for all the work they have done over the past year. I also want to thank the religious school community for developing and distributing fliers for all the drives and for stressing Tzedakah to our students. Their involvement has been key to the success of our drives. I also want to thank the nursery school community and all our congregants who helped us achieve our goals. As you can see, the funds donated to Social Action are used for important causes.

Lastly, I want to thank you for the opportunity of chairing this committee for the past three years. Being on this committee and seeing it grow has been quite gratifying. As I step down from this position, I hope that the Social Action efforts in our synagogue remain strong. This can only happen with the continued support of all of us. We have made a significant difference in many people's lives and I hope this continues.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, relaxing, and safe summer.

B'nai Tikvah's Blood-Thirsty Blood Donor Drive

Sunday, July 18th, From 11am-to-3pm!

Bram Stoker brought him to life(?) a century ago, and he continues to tingle our spines and drain the veins of our shuddering imaginations through his malice. But he's nothing compared to the devastation wreaked on area blood supplies during the long, hot summer! Come. Help VonHelsing drive a stake through the heart of the problem! Donate before the "Big D" finds you. If you have any questions, or would like to help us – please call Marty Engel @732 297-3198.



Singing In The Shul

As the school year ends and the Summer begins, it's time to start gathering the old gang and head back to the shul for some good-old, down home singing. Well, not exactly, but it is time to begin rehearsing for

exactly, but it is time to begin rehearsing for the High Holy Days services.

www.bnaitikvah.org

Last year's participation by our Makelah was something just short of breath taking, and we're hoping this year to be even bigger and better. So if you are a singer – soprano, alto, tenor or bass – Uncle Marty wants you! I'd like to invite all those who sang with Makelah last year to come back and bring your friends as we prepare to fill our beautiful synagogue with the sounds of music and prayer.

Makelah is open all year round to any and all congregants – ages 13 and up - who share our love for singing. All we ask is that you:

- have the desire and talent to sing four-part a capella harmony in a group setting,
- will be worshipping with us this coming Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur
- can make the commitment to evening rehearsals during the summer months

If this is you, then please contact either myself via email at Makelah@BnaiTikvah.org or Cheryl Asnis @ 732-297-5379. If emailing me, please include your name, phone number, and the vocal part you sing (if you know this,) and we will place you on our list of people to email when the rehearsal schedule is ready. Also, please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns. It would be my pleasure to take the time to speak with you about Makelah and the truly rewarding experience it is to be a part the High Holy Days services.

B'Shalom, Marty Angstreich, Music Director

JORDAN SMITH COLLECTING TOYS FOR MITZVAH PROJECT

Dear Congregants,

I will be making my Bar Mitzvah on September 4, 2004. For my mitzvah project, I will be collecting toys for needy children in New Brunswick, NJ. I will be also be using part of my Bar Mitzvah gifts towards this mitzvah project. I would be honored if the people at my Bar Mitzvah and members of B'nai Tikvah contribute to this mitzvah project.

If you are interested in helping with this cause, please bring new unwrapped toys to the temple office throughout the summer. Thank you in advance for contributing to this mitzvah project. The children will be very pleased.

Jordan Smith, 732-297-8556

Women: Give Yourself an Evening to Remember with Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis:

"Principles of Good Living"

On Monday evening, June 7, 2004, at 7:00 pm, Jewish women from all walks of life will join together for an inspirational evening "Principles of Good Living" led by the world renowned lecturer, Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis, author of "The Jewish Soul on Fire", The Committed Life" and most recently "The Committed Marriage". The event, including an exquisite dessert buffet and a mini boutique will be held at the National Conference Center Ramada Inn, in East Windsor, NJ. Discussions and book signing with the Rebbetzin will be ongoing throughout the evening. Couvert - \$25.00.

Advance registration is required. For more information, contact Torah Links/Project Gesher 888-374-2870, e-mail conference@torahlinks.org or on the web at www.conferenceforthejewishwoman.com

Sisterhood Social Action:

Did you realize Sisterhood has a Social Action Committee? We have been a very busy group committing "random" acts of kindness.

Our first "random" act was kicked off by collecting and donating food to the JFVS, whose pantry supplies had become depleted. We collected an abundance of boxed and canned kosher food that helped brighten the Jewish holidays of some needy families.

In December, both Sisterhood and the Men's club held their annual joint meeting. All attendees were asked to donate warm hats, scarves and gloves that were then given to Elijah's promise. We are sure with the cold and snowy winter we had, the donations were put to good use.

In January, a collection of children's books were donated to Redshaw School of New Brunswick. In February we cleaned our homes of old eyeglasses and sample sized toiletries for the Lions Club and Women Aware.

Passover candy was collected at our March meeting and distributed to the needy. Jewish Family Services was very thankful for our help in loading the Passover items into the bags. After Pesach ended, we collected cake mix and icing for the local food banks.

We appreciate all good ideas and look forward to your continued support of future events. For those Sisterhood mitzvah doers who would like to join our committee, please contact Andrea Katz at the following email address: macysmommm@aol.com.

50 plus

The Fifty Plus group will meet on Tuesday, June 22, at 1pm in the Social Hall. Leslie Fishbein, Associate Professor of American and Jewish studies at Rutgers, will present a program "From Shtetl to Ghetto". This program is sponsored by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities. The program is free and open to the public. All members, guests, and potential members are invited. Refreshments will be served.

We will be meeting throughout the summer. Our July 20 meeting will be a luncheon by Classical Caterers at 12:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Details will be presented at the June meeting. If you are unable to attend the June meeting, paid reservations may be made by calling Doris at 609-860-1498 or Gloria at 732-254-3549 before July 9.

The August meeting will be on Tuesday, August 24 at 1 p.m. at the Synagogue. Program plans are incomplete at this time, but members, guests and prospective members are always welcome for an interesting program, sociability and refreshments.

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Sisterhood Gift Shop Has Presents and Rosh Hashanah Cards

The gift shop is available for all your shopping needs. Remember us for Birthdays. B'nai Mitzvah, New Baby (we have some great nightlights) and wedding presents. Just give us a call and we'll make arrangements to meet you. Don't hesitate to ask someone in the office to help you if you see something in the showcase that you "just have to have" or contact Deborah Spigner (212-935-2529/732-545-8457)or Laurie Waltzer (732-329-9580).

It's not too early to start thinking about cards for Rosh Hashanah. Free return address imprinted for orders received before July 31. Contact Joyce Gerbman at the Synagogue website.

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From The Webmaster

www.bnaitikvah.ora

Some of the things posted on our Website: www.bnaitikvah.org

- · Application forms USY, Kadima, Membership update
- Bar / Bat Mitzvah (schedules & photos)
- · Book Club scheduled readings
- · Cemetery info
- · Constitution & By-Laws
- · Calendar of Events
- Contacts & Committees
- Israeli News (continually updated)
- · Job Postings positions wanted/available
- · Junior Congregation schedules & attendance
- Kosher Food (approved establishments)
- · League Standings Bowling & Softball
- · Order forms scrip, t-shirts, flowers, seasonal items
- Service Times (Parsha / candlelighting / Havdalah)
- Shivah Minyan locations (when applicable)
- · Sons of Tikvah / Makelah / Kol Tikvah
- · Torah readings schedules & assignments

E-mail lists

CBT Newsletter: Weekend announcements sent every Thursday and notices of mazel tov, shiva minyans, etc. sent from the synagogue office.

B'nai Tikvah eGroup: For discussions on anything pertaining to B'nai Tikvah or Jewish life in general. Any member can post a message.

Email: Webmaster@BnaiTikvah.org for info, updates, and corrections.



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We've had a couple of spectators so far. We expect that to improve as the weather gets better and Hebrew school comes to an end. Please come out and support us. You can find our schedule and directions at

http://www.bnaitikvah.org/softball.html

Mark Kirsch

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http://bnaitikvah.org/shopping.html#retailscrip

Call Ruth Anne Koenick, 732.828.8141 or email her at sisterhood@bnaitikvah.org

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March 16 through May 15, 2004

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Caryl and Danny Greenberg, in memory of Julius Strauss (father of Debra Goldsmith)

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Helene and Gary Tinkel, in memory of Elizabeth Einhorn (mother of Judy Roller)

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Sylvia and Erwin Lewis, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Levin

Susan and Harry Rosenzweig, in honor of the birth of the grandson of Ilene and Sid Birenbaum

Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in memory of Ruth Kasdin

Elizabeth Einhorn (mother of Judy Roller)

Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in memory of Sylvia Koshner (mother of Marci Abschutz)

Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in honor of the 25th Wedding Anniversary of Marcia and Jeff Schwartz

Harold and Ellyn Schneider, in memory of Elizabeth Einhorn (mother of Judy

Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in memory of Ruth Gurtov (mother of Joyce Fishelberg) Arleen Uroff, in honor of Elyse Ross, in honor of her election to be a vice president of Regional USY

Arleen Uroff, in honor of Adrienne Ross, in honor of her promotion to a vice president at Bristol Meyers Squibb

Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in honor of the birth of Dylan and Hope Schneider (son and daughter of Rebecca and Scott Schneider)

Adrienne and Andy Ross, in memory of Ruth Gurtov (mother of Joyce Fishelberg) Adrienne and Andy Ross, in honor of the marriage of Brian Roller to Kara

The Katronetsky Family, in honor of Elyse Ross, , in honor of her election to be a vice president of Regional USY

Fern and Allan Katronetsky, in honor of Bobbi Binder in appreciation of her convincing their son Marc to enroll in the Torah Readers' Club

Fern, Allan and Marc Katronetsky, in honor of Ilana Katronetsky's 16th birthday and in honor of her reading from the Torah

Israeli Youth Exchange Fund:

Marc, Bonnie, Jodi, Becca and Erica Eisenberg, in memory of Julius Strauss (father of Debra Goldsmith)

Marc, Bonnie, Jodi, Becca and Erica Eisenberg, in honor of the birth of Bashe Sarah

Nitsat Hadas Elami and Colleen Snow, in memory of Sylvia Koshner (mother of Marci Abschutz)

Phyllis and Marvin Dantowitz, in honor of the engagement of their son Eliot Dantowitz to Audrey Hugo

Amy and Arie Behar, in memory of Leah Dunayer (mother of Arlene Cederbaum)

Amy and Arie Behar, in memory of Ruth Gurtov (mother of Joyce Fishelberg)

Amy and Arie Behar, in honor of Phyllis and Marvin Dantowitz, on the occasion of the birth of their great-grandsons: Benjamin Knepper and Renen Frank, and the engagement of their son, Eliot Dantowitz to Audrey Hugo

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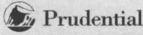
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Barbara and Joe Plotnick, in memory of Elizabeth Einhorn (mother of Judy Roller)

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Larry Cohen, in appreciation of his
teaching Torah Trope to their son Marc

Barbara and Joe Plotnick, in memory of Leon Karp (father of Allen Karp)

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BOARD AND VP REPORTS

From the May, 2004 Board of Trustees Meeting

(Continued from page 7)

resigned from the synagogue to find out the reason.

Open Houses: Summer coffee house event held in August to meet leaders of the synagogue in a relaxed party like atmosphere. This was very well received. Also, Nursery School Open House in March, which had a small attendance but worth having. (very low cost)

Friday Night Plugged In programs used as open houses for prospective new members. 4 Friday nights advertised throughout the year. Coming up is May 14th and June 25th.

Yom Ha'atmaut: Celebration for Israel Independence Day which comes at a good time of year to use as an event to invite prospective new members. (New this year)

Past President's Report Mitch Frumkin

Construction: It is currently anticipated that construction will start heading towards completion in mid July. As presented at the Board meeting last month we are expecting a budgetary overrun over and above our contingency amount for the reasons explained. At present a firm amount of this over run cannot be determined although it is expected that this will be able

to be quantified for the next meeting.

Current Status:

- Schedule. The anticipated completion date is July 2004.
- Change Orders: Additional Change Orders are in the process of being quantified to reflect the presentation at last months meeting.

Payments to date

Total Contract Value \$1,513,500

Change Orders \$71,448

Total Completed to Date \$754,823

Retainage (\$ 47,470) Amount Paid to date

707,353

This is based upon nine payment requisitions.

Feedback Committee: The Feedback Committee's meeting with the Rabbi was cancelled due to his trip to Israel.

Adult Education Committee: Classes have started and take place every Wednesday night from 7:45 to 9:30.

(Continued on page 25)

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BOARD AND VP REPORTS

(Continued from page 24)

Ways and Means VP Report Mark Sherman

Supermarket Scrip & Retail Scrip: We have Lisa Siedman and Morton Wurmbrand helping Bobbi Bergman on the financial side. Bobbi will still run personnel and distribution. Please come and help Bobbi and her committee to sell script. They are continuing to work hard. The Sisterhood is still working hard selling retail scrip. Please continue to support them by buying scrip and buy helping to sell.

The Event: We are looking for some good ideas for next year. Anyone who has interest in helping please call Mark Sherman at 732-940-1110 or Gary Warner 732-422-9292.

Printer Cartridges: We are collecting ink jet cartridges. There is a box in the office please just drop them off. We have sent in a box and are sitting on several new boxes to be sent out.. CBT will receive \$2.00 per cartridge. We have received several hundred dollars so please keep on bringing in the cartiidges.

Car Donation: We have set up a program to take donated cars. An ad has been placed in the upcoming Hakol. Detail to follow. We have had some interest so far. We have taken in 7 or 8 cars worth over \$2000.

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Half Page: Random Loc.	3.75x10.5 or 8x4.75	450.00	180.00	60.00
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12 Sivan		JUNE 2004				11 Tammuz	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
MAY S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1 12 Siyan Cantor's Adult Ed Class	2 13 Sivan	3 14 Sivan	4 15 Sivan	5 16 Sivan	
6 17 Sivan Walk for Israel	7 18 Sivan	Book Club 50+ Board Meeting New Beginnings	9 20 Sivan Torah Lishma / Adult Ed	10 21 Sivan Theatre Night USY Meeting	11 22 Sivan Last Day of Nursery School Sisterhood Board Installation Birthday Shabbat	12 23 Sivan Bat Mitzvah: Jessica Gerstein	
13 24 Sivan Men's Club	14 25 Sivan Nursery School Graduation	15 26 Sivan Cantor's Adult Ed Class	16 27 Sivan Torah Lishma / Adult Ed	17 28 Sivan	18 29 Sivan	19 30 Sivan Bar Mitzvah: Joshua Cohen ROSH CHODESH	
20 Tammuz FATHER'S DAY ROSH CHODESH	21 2 Tammuz	22 3 Tammuz 50+ General Meeting Sisterhood Board	23 ^{4 Tammuz}	24 S Tammuz	25 6 Tammuz Board Installation Dinner & Service	Chai Anniversary Shabbat	
27 8 Tammuz	28 9 Tammuz Congregational Meeting Executive Committee	29 10 Tammuz	30 11 Tammuz		Candle Lighting 4 th 8:06 11 th 8:10 18 th 8:13 25 th 8:14	JULY S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	