

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.

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CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK February 2005 Shevat/Adar 5765 Volume 26, Issue 6

HAKOL



Getting ready for "Raise Our Voices For Israel": B'nai Tikvah's Sons of Tikvah Band and Makehla have been practicing hard. Hosted by B'nai Tikvah for the first time, the event raises funds to benefit victims of terror in Israel.



OUR HAZZAN'S VOICE Cantor Bruce Rockman

Strengthen the hands of those who defend our Holy Land. Our Father in Heaven, deliver them and crown their efforts with triumph. Bless the land with peace, and its inhabi-

tants with lasting joy. Amen "A prayer for the state of Israel"

As we are always hopeful for peace in Israel, lately there is a renewed sense of optimism that this can become a reality. Travel to Israel has once again become more accessible. Security in the Holy Land is among our highest priorities and our support makes a difference.

Raise Our Voices for Israel, the concert that will be presented on Saturday night February 19th may be the most important event that has ever taken place at our synagogue. You have filled our sanctuary before, especially during the High Holy Days, but this night will be different. Our congregation will be joined by area synagogues to celebrate and raise our conscientiousness, as well as raise funds for Israel. It will be an evening to express our love and re-affirm our support for our Jewish spiritual homeland. This annual event has been previously hosted by Temple Emanu-El in Edison and Neve Shalom in Metuchen. Filled to their capacity, with standing-room-only crowds, thousands of dollars have been raised to aid the security for our brothers and sisters in the Land of Israel.

B'nai Tikvah will celebrate our twenty-fifth anniversary about one month after the *Raise Our Voices for Israel* concert. Our annual dinner dance will surely be a joyous event celebrating our history and our record of accomplishment. What greater achievement can we attain as we grow, than becoming true leaders of our local Jewish Community? As the hosts of this year's event we are asked to step-up and distinguish our selves. You know what?...I'm sure we will. This is a very generous congregation and therefore I'm confident that we will meet or exceed our financial goals. I'm certain that, led by Cindy Gittleman and her committee, we will be gracious and successful hosts. We will make a fine impression.

My real concern is: will we become leaders after this event, or will we become complacent and self-satisfied? I'm hopeful that an event like this will be a catalyst for growth. That growth could be becoming an active volunteer or increasing your commitment to Jewish observance. Very few individuals can honestly say they have reached their spiritual purpose or feel that they are completely successful in reaching their personal aspirations. Personally, I challenge myself daily to improve, and I feel that I frequently fall short in my effort.

One thing I can assure you of is, that if you attend *Raise Our Voices for Israel* this year at B'nai Tikvah, you will have a wonderful experience and you will enjoy the music, which will celebrate 350 years of the Jewish community in America. Most of all, I'm hopeful that you will be inspired to strengthen your love and commitment to Israel and your Jewish community. Besides our own *Sons of Tikvah Band* and *The Makehla*, we will be entertained by four cantors, five choirs, two singing rabbis and other talented singing groups and soloists. We promise a great night, equal parts entertainment and inspiration.

Please, raise your voice for Israel, be heard! Worship Adonai in Gladness...with joyous song! Cantor Bruce Rockman



LOOKING FOR A SPIRITUAL BLACK LEATHER EXPERIENCE?

JOIN THE MEN'S CLUB AND JEWISH MEN ALL OVER THE WORLD IN THE MITZVAH OF PUTTING ON TEFILLIN

WORLD WIDE WRAP Sunday February 6, 2005 at 9AM

No Experience Necessary. We Have Extra Tefillin. Coffee & Some "Nosh". Please RSVP by Feb. 3 to the Synagogue Office. February 2005

Shevat-Adar 5765

Volume 26, Issue 6

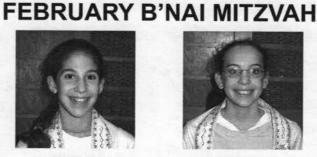
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Adam Brooks Feb. 5

Joseph & Michele Brooks



Julie Rekant Feb. 12

Scott & Debra Rekant



Rebecca Safeer Feb. 19

Barry & Phyllis Safeer



Ithan Sokol Feb. 26

Barry & Lisa Sokol

HAKOL

www.bnaitikvah.org

Volume 26, Issue 6

ADULT EDUCATION

HAKOL



Film Screening:

"Trembling Before G-d"

Wednesday Evening February 9

http://www.tremblingbeforeg-d.com/about/index.html

Please join us in the Kiddush Room Begins immediately following Minyan at 7:30pm

Trembling Before G-d is an unprecedented feature documentary that shatters assumptions about faith, sexuality, and religious fundamentalism. Vividly shot with a courageous few over five years in Brooklyn, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, London, Miami, and San Francisco, Trembling Before G-d is an international project with global implications that strikes at the meaning of religious identity and tradition in a modern world.

We've invited some members of JQYouth (based in New York) to address your questions and provide additional insight.



ORIGINS OF JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY

A 4 session lecture series by our distinguished scholar-in-residence and author,

Professor Azzan Yadin Ph.D.

Beginning Wednesday, February 23rd

HAKOL

The Newsletter of Congregation B'nai Tikvah JCC of North & South Brunswick 1001 Finnegan's Lane North Brunswick, NJ 08902 732-297-0696

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

All Submissions for the March HAKOL must be in by February 15

We recommend sending submissions and correspondence via e-mail to: Hakol@bnaitikvah.org

All e-mail submissions are acknowledged via e-mail. You may also put submissions 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.

SUBMISSION FORMATS:

TEXT: Editorial submissions should be 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. Graphics and photos should be submitted separately, rather than inside other files or documents.

IMAGES & GRAPHICS: <u>Digital images:</u> (Preferred) 300 dpi black & white/ grayscale jpeg, bmp, or tiff files. <u>Scannable Images:</u> For good scan results, submit 300dpi (minimum) black and white graphics printed on glossy photo 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.

ADVERTISING INFO Tammy Zimmerman: 732-398-1420

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Arie Behar



19,430 feet is the height of Mt. Kilimanjaro. I know because I counted every step to the summit last month, when I traveled to Tanzania with my daughter Maya. At that height, the air is thin but the view is magnificent. I came to realize that we are guests of G-d's creation, and as such are obligated to make sure that we behave as we would if we were guests in someone's house. Our temporary stay on this planet should not be its destruction.

The hike up Mt Kilimanjaro takes 5 or 6 days. On the second day of our climb, we discovered that a couple hiking alongside of us were Israelis. Jacque and Danielle immigrated to Israel from France 20 years ago. Although they did not come from observant families, they had become shomer shabbas in Israel. They decided to travel alone up the mountain, and take one of the lesser-traveled routes, because they were concerned about observing their Jewishness in public. To keep kosher they ate vegetarian food only, and Jacque covered himself with a tallit and prayed Shacharit every morning.

On Friday night we joined them for Kaballat Shabbat. They had brought a bottle of wine from Israel, and although there was

a fire-restriction on the mountain, they lit shabbas candles and said motzi. I can't begin to tell you how much this Kaballat Shabbat, along a remote trail halfway up Mt Kilimanjaro, meant to me and Maya. There we were, in our hiking clothes, singing the familiar songs. Only there and then did I understand that the reason the Jews have survived for so long is that we've maintained our traditions in all kinds of circumstances.

We've persevered and made it happen despite the difficulties in doing so.

Jacque and Danielle would never think of omitting Kaballat Shabbat from their lives, this was a given no matter where they were it the world. For me, it was a revelation, the realization

I can't begin to tell you how much this Kaballat Shabbat, along a remote trail halfway up Mt Kilimanjaro, meant to me and Maya.

that Judaism is a daily commitment that sometimes takes work. It needs to be practiced all the times, and not just on special occasions. No matter where we are, we should remind ourselves that we are Jews.

The next morning Jacque prayed the entire shabbas service, including reading the week's parsha to us. Although I go to shabbas services every week, I was still surprised that Jacque had made the effort to observe Shabbat. For me it is a weekly ritual of community, to see shabbas observed in such a remote location gave me a different perspective. At the end of shabbas, we were their guests for havdallah as well. Jacque and Danielle had refrained from carrying anything up the mountain on Shabbas and had not taken any photos, although the view was incredible. They climbed the mountain and observed Shabbat on their own terms, and we were privileged to share it with them.

It was a shabbas I will never forget. No matter where I am in the world, once a week I will stop and think about who I am, as a Jew and a guest on this earth.

Always Wanted to Learn to Read Hebrew? Just do it.

Six consecutive Thursday evenings. Classes begin on February 3rd.

Register by calling the synagogue office or contact Larry.Cohen@BnaiTikvah.org

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
Wednesda	y		7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Thursday	7:00 AM 3	Shahareet	7:30 PM	Mincha/Maariv
Friday			8:00 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat
Saturday	9:30 AM	Shabbat	*:**PM*	Mincha/Maariv
Rabuci		propriate fo		of year a 10:00—12:00**

BOARD AND VP REPORTS From January, 2005 Board Meeting

VP Activities Gary Bergman

Website/Communications: There now over 330 recipients of our weekly CBTnewsletter. However, there are still many congregants who have not registered their home email addresses with the synagogue office. New order forms have been added to the website for the Raise Our Voices for Israel Concert and our Tree of Life.

Adult Education: We had a fabulous turnout for Dr. Hilary Vernon's presentation on Genetics, which focused on genetic disorders prevalent in people of Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry.

Our next guest speaker, Dr. Jeff Shandler, is a scholar of modern Jewish culture and will speak about Jews in America's Public Sphere and responses to Anti-Semitism.

In February, we will be presenting the film "Trembling Before G-d" which deals with gays in the orthodox community. We will have a few guests, who were portrayed in the film, from JQYouth to address our questions and provide some insights.

Larry Cohen is offering a six session weekly course on "Reading Hebrew". As of this writing there are at least seven adult students enrolled, including yours truly.

Social Action: In last month's reports I mentioned that there was a poor response to the Help a Needy Family Program but, we were still able to help twelve families. What I failed to emphasize was that the program was an ultimate success because the few congregants who did help, helped very generously. We thank you.

VP Membership Cindy Gittleman

Celebrating 25 Years at B'nai Tikvah: In honor of B'nai Tikvah's 25th anniversary, Membership is in the process of having a banner made to hang on the new wing to celebrate this special milestone. Other arms of the synagogue have been asked to chip in together to help cover the cost.

Dues Structure: The membership dues structure is being reexamined by a small membership committee. A proposal will be presented to the board hopefully in Feb 2005 to be considered. Nothing will go into effect before August 2005

Tee Shirts: B'nai Tikvah wear was well received this year and will continue to be sold. New smaller children sizes will be sold during the fall.

Prospect List: Membership keeps and active up-to-date list of prospective members who have shown an interest in B'nai Tikvah. For a copy of this list to invite to a synagogue event, please contact Cindy Gittleman.

Committee Members: The membership committee has welcomed 3 new members this year. Anyone interested in helping on the committee, please do not be shy! Contact VP Membership, Cindy Gittleman

(Continued on page 20)

A MEMBERSHIP MINUTE Cindy Gittleman, V.P. Membership

W Update on What's happening at "home"

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How are you? We want to keep in close touch to make sure you have the latest news of what's happening at "home". Please register your e-mail address with us by e-mailing Office@BnaiTikvah.org and sending a short note.

Thanks, Cindy Gittleman, VP Membership

So, how are we doing? Let the Feedback Committee Know

We are proud of B'nai Tikvah and its programs, but we are always looking for ways to meet our congregants' needs. Help us identify areas in which we can do even better -new programs, activities, etc. Call any Board or Feedback Committee members with your suggestions and ideas (see the B'nai Tikvah Directory found on the inside back cover of Hakol).

Feedback Committee

Mitch Frumkin, Chair, 732-297-5069, PastPresident@BnaiTikvah.org

Mark Kasdin, 732-274-2897, Mark.Kasdin@BnaiTikvah.org

Bette Koffler, 732-329-6518, Bette.Koffler@BnaiTikvah.org

Mark Roller, 732-297-7055, Mark.Roller@BnaiTikvah.org

Adrienne Ross, 732-422-0637, YouthActivities@BnaiTikvah.org

Gary Tinkel, 732-545-1135, Gary.Tinkel@BnaiTikvah.org

FROM THE HAKOL EDITORS

SYNAGOGUES AND YACHT CLUBS

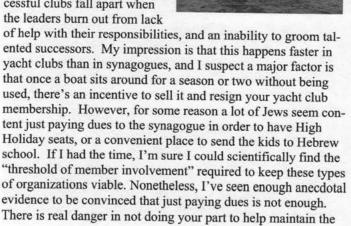
Our involvement in sailboat racing, and junior sailing in particular, has taken us to regattas at a wide range of yacht clubs along the entire east coast. While the kids are out on the water, there is a lot of time to make new friends. We often talk about how each of our clubs work, what aspects are successful, and which parts need improvement. I guess I'm also a bit of an amateur anthropologist, because I've found myself comparing the cultural similarities of yacht clubs and synagogues. These nonprofit, primarily volunteer organizations are surprisingly alike. For example, the board meetings of yacht clubs and a synagogues have similar agendas, with the same discussions about the new roof, the in-house caterer, the "junior program", and many other issues that are common to both.

There's another set of similarities between sailing and Judaism. Both have their own "language", and there are many arcane practices and rules. Some rules seem based in obscure tradition, while others are so complex that you have to be deeply involved to understand them. In both cultures, some members perceive these as "barriers" to getting involved, while others see them as challenges to be met, in order to unlock the rewards of greater understanding and involvement. I could write another entire editorial on this subject alone, but the bottom line is that no one should let any perceived barriers get in the way of par-

ticipating in and building our local Jewish community.

This is especially important because both yacht clubs and synagogues that are able to maintain a higher level of member involvement thrive, while others decline as member involvement drops. In both of these cultures, too many members take the organizations for granted.

I've seen several yacht clubs lose their vitality as a result of member apathy. Successful clubs fall apart when the leaders burn out from lack



parts of the Jewish community that are important to you.

Get involved. Pick something that would be rewarding to learn, or that would be fun to get involved in. When you see an aspect of our synagogue you can help to change for the better, make your voice heard. Don't be afraid that you won't be part of the "select group" that runs things, because that group is constantly changing. It's important for new people to get involved, with fresh ideas. Every job is important, even the so-called minor jobs. Helping out on the "little things"



takes the pressure off of the core group of current leaders and staff. If you're reading this editorial, you already have an investment in the congregation and a desire to see our local Jewish community prosper. Don't take your local Jewish community for granted.

While B'nai Tikvah is a congregation where it's relatively easy to get involved, sometimes it may take a few tries to connect with the right person or group. If you want help, call the Rabbi, the Cantor, or Cindy Gittleman, our Membership VP, myself, or anyone on the Board. They'll be glad to help point you in the right direction, or make an introduction. As our facilities expand, there will be new activities to run, and plenty of opportunities for involvement and leadership.

> Paul Zankel hakol@bnaitikvah.org

Endow a new Siddur Sim Shalom



The majority of the Siddurim in our

synagogue need to be replaced. The new version of the Siddur Sim Shalom is smaller and easier to hold, is gender and user friendly and has more transliteration.

New dedications	\$30
Re-dedications	\$21

For more information contact the Synagogue Office or http://www.bnaitikvah.org/siddur.html My Israeli friends

and family ask us

amid so much vio-

how we can live

lence in the U.S.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's interesting that some people who go into New York to work tranquil. Even the meanest streets of Tel Aviv are safer than or to see a show, tell me that they are afraid to go to Israel. Not safe, they say. It reminds me of the time that Mill and I stopped in at a souvenir shop in Tel Aviv. While the proprietor was wrapping our purchases, his elderly mother came out from the rear of the store and we got into conversation.

She was a typical Brooklyn

Bubba, the kind you see walking half-bent over with a babushka on her head tied with a bow under her chin. We talked in Yiddish as she had no English and my Hebrew is too rudimentary for a conversation. I asked her if she wasn't nervous about seeing all the young soldiers

in the streets with guns hanging from their shoulders. "Foolish boy" she said, "I can come home one o'clock in the morning and no one will bother me, but my daughter in the Bronx, she can't come home at one o'clock".

Of course she was right. Our perception of what goes on in other places in colored by what we read in the newspapers or other media. We see violence on TV and assume that this is what life is like in that locale. My Israeli friends and family ask us how we can live amid so much violence in the U.S., and why we don't come to live in Israel where life is so much safer and

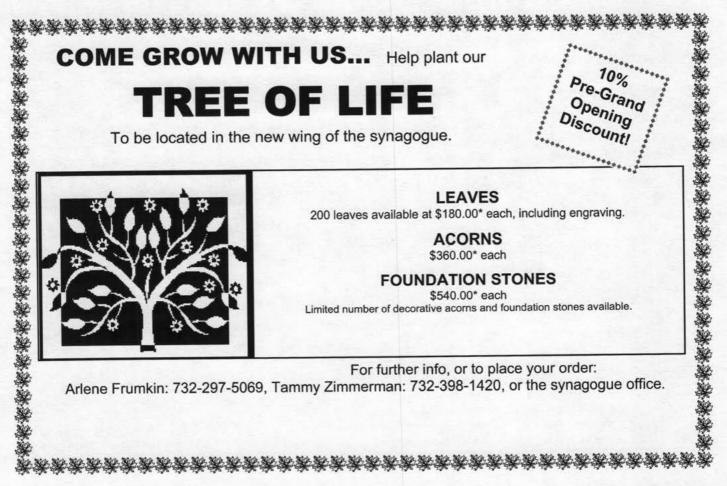
most cities in the U.S. The acts of crazies are unpredictable anywhere. Be it the World Trade Center or Oklahoma City or Jerusalem. Who can prepare for a postal worker who shoots his coworkers, or an unhinged man who kills a dozen children in a Scottish schoolroom?

The odds of any one of us being at the scene of a bombing or shooting anywhere in the world are so infinitesimal as to be uncountable. As we prepared to leave for Israel one Spring, to be with our family there for Passover, we received phone calls from well-meaning friends expressing concern and wishing us a safe trip. We are not heroically inclined, but the fact is that we are more concerned about the normal risks of travel, about which we worry very little, than about our safety in Israel.

Despite all the scare stories in the newspapers and TV, we know that Israel is still one of the safest places in the world and I would urge anyone with an interest in Israel to put aside your fears and GO.

Next year in Jerusalem. Aaron Rosloff

Letters to the Hakol are welcome from all congregants, on issues relevant to the local Jewish community. Publishing of letters is subject to space availability.



HAKOL

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Shevat-Adar 5765

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ISRAEL TASKFORCE Alan Kane, Chairperson

THE GREAT DEPRESSION, REVISITED



A few weeks ago I participated in a trip to the Israeli Consulate and the American

Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) organized by the Israel Taskforce of the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County. The group received high level briefings at the Consulate on the current state of affairs in Israel. The JDC information sessions gave us significant insight into some of the most pressing issues faced by Jews throughout the world.

Up until now, all of my articles have been about the situation in Israel but I learned something at the JDC about the Argentina Jewish Community that was completely off my radar and eclipsed by all the other crises in the news. Prior to 2001, the Jewish community of Argentina was a South American mirror of our Jewish community. They were mostly middle and upper middle class, living in homes like ours and working in all sectors of their economy, from large banks to small retail shops.

In the span of a few years following the collapse of the Argentine economy in December 2001, most of the 200,000 Jews have seen their homes, savings and jobs disappear before their eyes. Not since the Great Depression has a middle class been completely wiped out. Thousands of upper and middle class families now live below the poverty line and more than 65,000 Jews are in need of immediate assistance. Finding employment is incredibly difficult and those out of work must accept jobs with appallingly low salaries. Meeting monthly rent, mortgages and utility bills and paying regular business expenses have become too burdensome for many families. Businesses are failing. Families are being evicted from their homes and others go without electricity. Providing food for one's family is a serious ongoing problem. To avoid the stigma of receiving food packages or vouchers, the JDC provides them with a COTO supermarket debit card refilled each month with a \$55 stipend for groceries.

The Joint Distribution Committee has responded with a massive influx of aid. Before the crash, the JDC's annual welfare budget for Argentina was \$200,000. In the last two years alone, that budget jumped to \$15 Million. They are making progress at stabilizing the community, but the basic infrastructure of their society remains weak. Most of us were born well after the Great Depression and would find it hard to imagine our lives devastated by a national financial crisis. I am sure the Jews of

> Celebrate simchas and other special occasions with the new State of Israel \$100 Mazel Tov Bond.

An ideal way to commemorate the great moments in life while building Israel's future.

For Further Info: Larry Cohen 732-821-4376

Purchase Price: \$100 per unit. Matures 5 years from issue date at \$120, representing an interest rate of 3.7%. This interest rate is effective through June 30, 2004 Owner receives an attractive certificate suitable for

framing. Must be registered in the name of an individual

(custodian for a minor), or jointly in the names of no more than two individuals

Non-transferrable. Not eligible for early redemption.





Argentina felt the same way a few years

there is no telling what would become of

The JDC receives most of its fund-

ago. Without the JDC's involvement,

the Jewish community of Argentina.

Development Corporation for Israel/State of Israel Bonds 300 Raritan Avenue - Highland Park, NJ 08904 (732) 828-0200 * (800) 752-5652 www.israelbonds.com

HAKOL

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS Ann Kanarek, Director

TEACHING JEWISH VALUES AND ETHICS

In Judaism we believe that our ethical-moral-religious system rests on the notion that if faith is to be meaningful, it must be translated into deed. A good Jewish education would, therefore, be one that not only transmits knowledge, but that also transforms it into practice. We don't necessarily distinguish between the values that are distinctively Jewish---those of reverence for God, study of Torah, love for the Jewish people--and the more universal Jewish values--justice, compassion, and respect for the dignity of people. The more universal values have all come from our Torah from the teachings of our ancestors.

Judaism puts great stress on reverence for parents, respect for the aged, and benevolence toward the infirm and weak. We're taught that honesty and truthfulness are required and that stealing, falsehood, and oppression are forbidden. We blend the teaching of these values with the doing of mitzvot that act upon the values.

Beginning in the earlier grades, teachers and students talk about the commandments we are required to follow and find ways in which to do the mitzvot. Each concept we teach includes examples of how to fulfill that concept. Among the specific goals we use to teach values are:

*Children will learn how to exhibit caring behavior in the sanctuary and classroom and why it is important.

*Students will explore concepts of tzedakah and mitzvot as related to themselves and helping others.

*Through the stories in Torah, students will learn to identify basic Jewish values.

The concept of holiness includes the idea of justice, goodness, wisdom, and truth. The ideal of study and learning is reflected in the blessing which reads "Blessed are you ... who has sanctified us with Your commandments and commanded us to study Torah."

Teaching our children that God has given us the gift of life, the gift of health, and the gift of love isn't enough. We need to pass along these gifts to others so that the whole world will eventually be filled with God's goodness. The Talmud teaches that the world stands on three things: the study of Torah, Avodah--service to God, and Gemilut Hasadim--acts of loving kindness — which we perform in recognition that all goodness comes from God. Every child in religious school has the opportunity to incorporate acts of loving kindness into his or her daily life. This occurs in relation to study and celebration of a specific holiday or life cycle event or sometimes at the culmination of a unit of study or as a project during a family program.

Throughout the year our synagogue and school has a multitude of social action and social justice projects, including many in which our students become involved, either with their families or with their classmates. We know that a very successful way for children to learn about values and ethics is to emulate what they see both at home and in the synagogue.

BARTONS **PASSOVER CANDY SALE**

It's not too early to start thinking Passover. Check our website and your children's book bag for a Bartons Passover Candy Sale form. Our

candy sale will begin on February 13. If you have any questions regarding the candy, please call us at the School Office, 732-297-0295. All student entrepreneurs will be rewarded with an incentive prize. Our top prizes are very exciting. So, join the fun; sell to family and friends but PLEASE do not solicit door-to-door. Our children's safety is important to us.



Your support of the candy sale will go to future extracurricular and school enrichment programs.

> The sale will end on March 6th!! Many thanks for your support!!

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FEBRUARY REMINDERS

Sunday, February 6: Gimel CLASS PACT Program: Tzedakah and the Giraffe Connection, 10am-12:05pm

Sunday, February 13: DALET CLASS PACT Program:Bridges of Mitzvot County, 10am-12:05pm

Sunday, February 20: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, President's Weekend

Monday, February 21:NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, President's Weekend

Sunday, February 27: CHAI SCHOOL: Special program with Israeli artist, Avi Zuckerman

Friday, March 4: GIMEL CLASS SHABBAT SER-VICE (8pm) and DINNER (6:30pm)

Sunday, March 6: DALET CLASS: C.A.F.E. Program, Yad Workshop (during regular school hours) with guest artist, Inbar Bibring

Sunday, March 13: ALEF CLASS: C.A.F.E. Program, Siddur Covers (during regular school hours) with guest artist, Inbar Bibring

**Please note that this date has been changed **

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Fran Pearlson, Director

Fabulous February Begins

Fitness and Food Program

February's forecast is filled with food, fitness, and fun-filled activities. We will focus on the importance of eating healthy foods, taking care of our bodies and taking care of our teeth. Our students will all enjoy eating a healthy and nutritious breakfast consisting of cereal and a variety of fresh fruits and other healthy snacks. We are bypassing the cookies and serving the fruits and veggies!

Family Shabbat Program

This month we are inviting our nursery school parents to help their child's class in welcoming in Shabbat. Each Friday, parents will have the opportunity to assist with the candle lighting, blessings, and join the children as they sing Shabbat songs. As always, parent involvement is encouraged, and we look forward to having our parents join us as we teach our children about our beautiful customs and traditions.

Nursery School Registration

Nursery School Registration is currently underway for the 2005-2006 school year. We are continuing to give all temple members priority registration and tuition discounts. We are happy that many of our nursery school families will be returning next year and are excited about several new families joining us.

Nursery School Open House Wednesday, February 9th

We are having an open house on Wednesday, February 9th from 9:30-11:00 am. We look forward to showing prospective families the wonderful learning activities our children are involved in. We thank Cindy Gittleman, membership chairperson, for assisting us at our open house to answer any and all questions that interested families might have.



Library on Wheels Program

Our Pre-k and three-year-old students are excited about participating in one of our programs that promotes literacy. Each month, our students have the opportunity to select their own book from our library cart. Parent volunteers help the children with their selections. Parents are encouraged to read these books aloud to their child/children and to also talk about the story to them. According to research, reading aloud to our children helps build reading success. Children who love being read to often have an easier time learning to read. Tip: Read slowly to your child so that your child can absorb what you say and can create images in his or her mind. Talk about the pictures and let your child turn the pages when ready. Look for books you'll both enjoy!

Stellar Space Program

On Tuesday, February 8th, our Pre-K students will discover the wonders of space in this exciting and interactive program. They will learn about stars, planets, and comets. They will talk about the Earth and the Milky Way and have lots of fun with several hands on experiments.

Rhymes and Rainbows Enrichment Program Our Rhymes and Rainbows enrichment program for our two and a half-year-old students has started and the children are very excited about carrying their lunch boxes to and from school and reciting their nursery rhymes. The good news is the program was so well received by our parents that the class is now filled.

NURSERY SCHOOL FEBRUARY CALENDAR

February 1: Two and a half-year-old Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 3: Two and a half-year-old Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 8: STELLAR SPACE PROGRAM

February 9: Nursery School OPEN HOUSE

February 21: SCHOOL CLOSED-PRESIDENT'S DAY

B'NAI TIKVAH YOUTH

KADIMA

Kadima@bnaitikvah.org

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

After the excitement of hosting the Regional Dance this Fall, in February we've settled back in for the second half of the year. We had a great turnout at our recent Mall Scavenger Hunt on January 13 in Menlo Park Mall, our upcoming schedule of events for Kadima is:

January 23: Regional Kadima Fun Day, Brick, NJ: Bus leaves the Synagogue at 12:30 pm.

February 6: Pre-Super Bowl Ice Skating at Princeton Sports Center 12-2 pm. RSVP by January 22. Cost is \$6. Skate rental is \$3. Meet at the arena

February 16: Israeli Dancing B'nai Tikvah. 7-8:30 pm. Joint program with USY. RSVP by February 1.

February 26: Regional Shrek Day Cranford. RSVP by February 16.

Adam Sackett



usy@bnaitikvah.org

Audra Lifson, Advisor AIM: blondy0131 732-545-8314

Hey all and Happy New Year!!! Wow, the beginning of 2005 and the second half of the 2004-2005 calendar year for USY. This January we will have invited some eighth graders to our event on the 20th, and we successfully ran a Battle of the Tribes hosted by Seth Robey!!!! Another decent turnout to the dance on the 15, and our V.P. of Rel/Ed., Alex Welsher, has started to organize another youth service for the 26th of February!!!! We also will be planning a relief fund for the tsunami victims so please keep your ears open for it within the next few weeks!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Happy and a healthy new year to all !!!!!!!!

Jason Marx V.P. Communications 2004-2005







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B'nai Tikyah's 25th Anniversary Celebration Honoring Our Presidents

Saturday, March 12, 2005 7:30 PM Congregation B'nai Tikvah

Congregation B'nai Tikyah, 25 Years of Presidents

Arie Behar 2003-present Mitchell Frumkin 2000-2003 Jeffrey B. Schwartz 1999-2000 Mark Kasdin 1997-1999 Jeffrey B. Schwartz 1994-1997 Dr. Jack A. Mailman 1992-1994 Gary Tinkel 1990-1992 Susan Kleinman 1988-1990 Marc Dillman 1986-1988 Norman Politziner 1985-1986 David Offenberg 1983-1985 Marvin Stark 1981-1983 Ronald Paley 1980-1981

Shari Shalom, Beth Shalom and NBJCC Presidents, Our Building Blocks

Fran Shapiro Dr. Leon Horlick Howard Kalish Aaron Rosloff Joel Weisenberg

Cocktails, Dinner and Dancing

Dressy Attire

HAKOL

Volume 26, Issue 6

B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

Sisterhood

Feb. 13 9:00AM- Bring your spouse or significant other and join us for a joint meeting with Men's Club.

Purim - Watch your mail for the Purim basket order form.

March 20 - 10:00AM - Join us for breakfast and a discussion of the movie, "The Harmonists". Set in Nazi Germany, it is the story of a barbershop quartet consisting of Jewish and non-Jewish members and what happens to them as the Nazis gain power. We will be discussing the movie on March 20 but we will be viewing it in the following homes that week:

March 15 8:00- East Brunswickat the home of Phyllis Safeer 732-432-9622

March 16 8:00- North Brunswickat the home of Shelly Wistreich 732-422-4273

March 17 8:00- Monroeat the home of Marcy Finkelstein 609-860-9338

Pick the location nearest you and RSVP to the above numbers. Be sure to join us!

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2004-2005 HAKOL ADVERTISING RATES

SIZE (Random Locatio	Art Dimensions ons)(w x h)	Annual Contract	Single Issue
Full Page:	7.5x9.5	550.00	80.00
Half Page:	7.5x4.75	450.00	60.00
Quarter Page	3.5x4.75	330.00	45.00
Business Card	Std. Card.	275.00	35.00

Advertising Artwork: To be supplied by the advertiser before the issue deadline. Contact hakol@bnaitikvah.org for art req's.

SOCIAL ACTION

Mitzvah Crib

When you do your weekly shopping, pick up an item to drop in our Mitzvah Crib. The Mitzvah Crib is in the hallway near the synagogue office. All donated items are given to indigent families in New Brunswick. Suggested items include: toys, rattles, books, diapers, wipes, powder, lotion, bibs, bottles, spill-proof cups and clothes. ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW.

Cell Phone Program

Do you have an old cell phone you don't know what to do with? 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 on-going.

THANK YOU

"The Linwood Middle School community would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your congregation for the donation of holiday gifts for a needy Linwood family. This time of year is especially difficult for families that have financial difficulties. Your generous donation has directly contributed to the excitement of five children this holiday season.

We are grateful for the generosity of your congregation and thank you for the holiday presents that will transform one family's holiday season."

> Sincerely, J. Pete Clark, Principal

Social Action Committee meets the fourth Monday evening of every month after Minyan.

Food of the Month:

February: Juice Boxes, Snacks for Lunches, Canned Fruit

March: Paper Goods: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Tissues



B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

From The Webmaster

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs Online

There are several companies that offer Bar/Bat Mitzvah websites for your occasion. These generally cost between \$200 and \$500, depending on number of pages, number of photos, amount of customization, and how many weeks or months the website is activated. When Dorothy Cohen asked me if we could provide this service, I offered free use of our webspace, gave her the necessary tools, and provided a free "getting started" lesson. To see the cool website she created for Elliot's recent Bar Mitzvah, follow the "B'nai Mitzvah" link on our website, locate January 29, and click on Elliot's name. Perhaps, in the future we may charge a nominal fee but, if you think this is something you'd like to do for your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, Brit Mitzvah or Baby Naming, contact me to discuss the possibilities.

Where Is It?

If there's a document, guideline, or written policy that you think should be made available to the congregation, chances are very good it's already on our website but, perhaps you can't find it amongst the hundreds of files because it's not properly linked or indexed.

At the top of the Blue Index on the left, there is a "Google Search". Just type one or two words to describe what you need and click the "GO" button.

If you think it should have been easier to find, please let me know what you were looking for and where you first looked.

Gary Bergman webmaster@BnaiTikvah.org "Oh, what a tangled website we weave when first we practice."

Matthew Katz's Holocaust Memorial Garden Update:

Matthew Katz will be working on his Boy Scout Eagle Project starting in early spring of 2005. The Eagle Project is a requirement for the rank of Eagle, the highest attainable rank in scouting. This project will entail the construction of a Holocaust Memorial Garden on Synagogue grounds. For further information, and to offer donations, supplies and/or assistance, please contact Matthew at MSK523@aol.com or 732-329-0687.



For our Feb.22nd. meeting we are having a BINGO PARTY----something new. Prizes will be given the winners. This is a first. Come join us at 1PM. Our Viennese Table will be served. So come one, come all....Potential members welcome. Call Doris (609)860-1498 with any input.

The Fifty+ Group is looking to increase our membership. Our goal for our upcoming meetings is to have interesting and light programs to entertain you for 2 - 3 hours. Our aim is to have delightful programs. Our Program Director has been very ill the past year. Our Board Members have been wearing many hats, but by now they have become heavy. We are reaching out to our talented members to come forth with ideas. Pay is nil...but rewarding when you are part of bringing people together for friendship and sharing. There are several openings on our Board.



B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

Appreciation Should be Shown: Trans County Title Agency

Over the years our Congregation has financed and refinanced the Synagogue, the Parsonages and new addition several times. Trans County Title Agency has supplied the title searches and title insurance policies for all these endeavors. They have either not charged us for the work or given us a deep discount. The principals of Trans County Title Agency are not members of our Congregation but do this out of kindness to our organization. They have never asked for anything in return, not even acknowledgement in the Hakol.

I would appreciate that when you purchase a new home or refinance an existing home to request your attorney to use Trans County Title Agency for your title work (732-246-0600). If you are an attorney send them at least one new transaction to show our gratitude for their past graciousness. When sending them a new order indicate that you are a member of B'Nai Tikvah and are thanking them for their support. *Irwin Millinger*



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December 15, 2004 through January 15, 2005

Yartzeit:

- Fran and Philip Weinstein, in memory of Meyer Weinstein
- Martin and Rochelle Haller, in loving memory of Beloved Mother, Sylvia Richter
- Roslyn Naiburg, in memory of Irving Naiburg and Jennie Hirschfield
- Sylvia and Erwin Lewis, in memory of Fannye Aronsky
- Arleen and Barry Panson, in memory of Harold Herlands
- Michael Silverstein, in memory of Theresa Silverstein
- Betty and Norman Stark, in memory of Louis Golden
- Betty and Norman Stark, in memory of Esther Stark
- Lucille and Jack Sondike, in memory of Rachel Ladimer
- Joyce and Joel Gerbman, in memory of Solomon Gerbman
- Fern, Alan, Ilana and Marc Katronetsky, in memory of Jason Surks

- Vicki and Burt Bauman, in memory of Yetta Bauman
- Phyllis AlRoy, in memory of Dorothy Delson
- Harry Epstein
- Phyllis and Leon Horlick, in memory of Harry Horlick
- Gloria and Fred Landsman, in memory of Isadore Landsman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

- Helene and Gary Tinkel, in honor of Rabbi and Jodi Eligberg's latest family addition, Miriam Chana
- Marilyn and Saul Schadoff, in honor of the birth of Miriam Chana Eligberg
- Andrea, Steven, Matthew and Melissa Katz, in honor of the birth of Miriam Chana Eligberg
- Mary Patricia and William Axelrod Bette and Stephen Koffler, in memory of Jeanette Koffler
- Amy and Cliff Smith, in appreciation of the Rabbi's help and support

- Lynn and Arthur Biderman, in honor of their wedding ceremony
- Janet Horowitz, in memory of her beloved husband, Murray Horowitz
- Rose and Milton Kabakoff, in memory of Ronnie and Jerry Levine, in honor of the birth of Miriam Chana Eligberg
 - Mike Greenfield, in honor of the birth of Miriam Chana Eligberg

Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

- Helene and Gary Tinkel, thanking Cantor Rockman for performing the unveiling for Gary's father, Sidney
- Lynn and Arthur Biderman, in honor of their wedding ceremony

Expansion Fund:

- Deborah and Martin Spigner, in honor of Nancy and Elliott Danto becoming grandparents
- Deborah and Martin Spigner, in honor of Judy and Mark Roller becoming grand parents
- Deborah and Martin Spigner, in memory of Harry Gust

(Continued on page 19)



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Florence Lieberman and Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman, in memory of Herbert Surks (father of Mark Surks)

Youth Fund:

Fern, Alan, Ilana and Marc Katronetsky, in honor of Barry Safeer and all the hard work he does to benefit the children in Junior Congregation

Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in loving memory of Maxine's father, Jack Steck

Ellyn and Harold Schneider, in honor of the birth of Miriam Chana Eligberg

Israeli Youth Exchange Fund:

Toby and Gary Ehrlich, in memory of Louis Kaminsky (father of Jerry Kaminsky)

Suse Rosenstock Memorial Fund: Leon Bible Fund:

Passport to Israel Fund:

- Nancy and Elliott Danto, in honor of Arlene and Arthur Cederbaum becoming grandparents
- Nancy and Elliott Danto, in memory of Louis Kaminsky (father of Jerry Kaminsky)
- Nancy and Elliott Danto, in memory of Hilda Snyder (mother of Barbara Plotnick)

Prayer Book Fund:

- Arline and Alan Kane, in honor of the birth and the baby naming of the grand daughter of Judy and Mark Roller
- Fern, Alan, Ilana and Marc Katronetsky, in memory of David Lebowitz
- Fern, Alan, Ilana and Marc Katronetsky, in memory of Herbert Surks (father of Mark Surks)
- Adrienne, Andy and Elyse Ross, in honor of Arthur and Arline Cederbaum

becoming grandparents **Family Shabbat Fund:** Makhela Fund: Ilene and Allen Karp, in memory of

- Ilene's beloved grandmother, Rachel Ladimer
- Ilene and Alan Karp, in memory of Jeanette Herman (mother of Deborah Rosen)

Son's of Tikvah Fund:

Blanche Fruhling, in memory of her beloved father, Benjamin Seidenstein Arlene and Mitch Frumkin

School Fund:

Nursery School Fund:

The Haller Family, in memory of Rose Lifshitz



3228 Route 27 Kendall Park, NJ 08824 Phone: 732-297-0032 Fax: 732-297-0558 Email: info@jersevpt.com Tammy and Keith Zimmerman, in

memory of Murray Horowitz (father of Amy Smith)

Tammy and Keith Zimmerman, in memory of Louis Kaminsky (father of Jerry Kaminsky)

Rochelle and Martin Haller, in memory of Iris Staple

Ritual Fund:

Library Fund:

Torah Restoration Fund:

Eileen and Norman Berens, in memory of their relatives

Eileen and Norman Berens, in memory of Clark Berens

Tzedakah Fund:

Rees Klemish, in memory of her beloved mother, Audrey May

Social Action Fund: Sue, Seth, Abigaili, David and Rachel Levinson, in memory of Murray Horowitz (father of Amy Smith and Gary Horowitz and husband of Janet

Horowitz

Building/Capital Improvement Fund: General Fund:

- Adele and Morton Leader, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of the grandson of Sylvia and Erwin Lewis
- Elaine and Alvin Brackup, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of the grandson of Sylvia and Erwin Lewis
- Dorothy and Norman Politziner, in honor of their daughter Deborah Politziner's engagement to Adam Afin and their daughter Mandy Politziner's first CD release with her singing group, "Pieces

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BOARD AND VP REPORTS From the January, 2005 Board of Trustees Meeting

(Continued from page 6)

Past President Mitch Frumkin

Construction: I have prepared the following list of the primary contracts and the percentage complete, along with comments regarding the project schedule.

	Current Status of budgeted ite	ms:
1.	Masonry	99%
2.	HVAC	75%
3.	Electrical	80%
4.	Plumbing	75%
	Windows and Exterior Doors	100%
6.	Fire Protection System	90%
	EIFS (stucco exterior)	90%
	Steel studs and drywall	95%
	Miscellaneous iron work	95%
10	. Ceilings	40%
	.Bathroom partitions	0%
-	on order, 4 week lead tir	ne
12	. Flooring (except MP room)	0%
	no contract, 3 bids	
13	. MP room flooring	0%
	Painting	75%
	MP Room door	25%
	6. Classroom accordion door	25%
	7. Barrier free lift	0%
1000	3. Gas line	0%
	Contract awarded	
19	9. Basketball hoops	100%

The interior steel stud work and drywall is almost complete and has been taped, spackled and is in the process of being painted. The interior doors have been installed in most places and are stained. The plumbing rough in is completed. The remaining EIFS (stucco) work is complete except for the area at the back of the multi purpose room. The rear steel beam has been installed and will be scheduled for the application of the last portion of

the EIFS. The ceiling grid in the MP room is scheduled for the second week of January. The track for the accordion door in the multi purpose room has been installed. The installation of the gas line from the meter at the rear of the existing building to the addition is scheduled to start the first week of January. In order to move forward with the flooring and the final painting, we will need to have heat in the building. This will be available as soon as the gas line is installed and connected.

We are continuing the legal process against the original contractor.

Feedback Committee: The committee is developing a "Mission Statement" to be presented to the Board for approval. Any BOT members who have suggestions should forward them to Mark Roller. A meeting is scheduled for January 10.

VP School & Youth Harold Schneider

Nursery School: The Nursery School is celebrating its 30th anniversary this month. In December, seven students graduated from the Toddler Fun Club. All are now entering our new 2¹/₂-year-old class.

Registration is now taking place for Mommy & Me and for Toddler Fun Club. Registration for Nursery School for 2005-6 will begin on January 31. On Wednesday morning, February 9th, the Nursery School will hold an open house. Synagogue members receive priority registration and a discount in tuition.

Religious School: We now have an advanced Hebrew program. Students are pulled from regular classes, singly or in pairs, and work with our supplemental instructor for 15-20 minutes per week.

On Sunday, January 9th, the Kindergartners will have a PACT program, *Shema Pajama Party*. On the same day, the Dalet class will have part 1 of the Rabbi's "4B" program. The Bet class PACT program, *Family God Talk*, will be on Sunday, January 23. On January 30, Theater Ariel, an improvisational theater group, will present a special program on 350 Years of American Jewish History for grades 5-7 and Chai School.

Report cards will be sent out at the end of January.

College Program: The College Committee sent over 40 Chanukah packages to our college students. Those with college students who are not on the list, send Marcia Schwartz the name and address for future mailings.

Kadima: Upcoming Kadima events include a Mall Scavenger Hunt at Menlo Park on a January 13th, a Regional Kadima Fun Day in Brick, NJ on January 23, and pre-Super Bowl Ice Skating at the Princeton Sports Center on February 6.

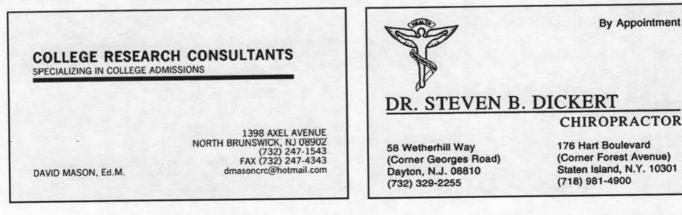
Also, we are selling Kadima t-shirts for \$7 a shirt. If interested, please email or call Adam Sackett.

USY: On Thursday, January 6^{th,} our USYers will have a Battle of the Tribes. On January 15th, they will be attending a dance in Toms River. Another event, to be announced, will be held on Thursday, January 20th.

VP Ways and Means Mark Sherman

Supermarket Scrip & Retail Scrip: Marc Binder is doing a great job leading

(Continued on page 22)



BOARD AND VP REPORTS From the January, 2005 Board of Trustees Meeting

(Continued from page 20)

the charge on selling scrip. There will be a flyer ever month in the Hakol to let people sign off on not taking the credit for dues.

25th Anniversary Event: The committees for the event are off and running. We will be honoring all past presidents. The cost for the dinner dance will be \$118.00 a couple. There will also be an ad journal. The sale of \$750.00 of ads will get you 2 free tickets. Please help raise money by buying, and selling ads. We need everyone to help.

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 cartridges.

Car Donation: We have a program to take car donations. An ad has been placed in the upcoming Hakol. We have had some interest so far. We have placed an ad in the Jewish paper and will run for a year. Please let me know what you think of the ad. There has been a change in the tax ruling on car donation that should not impact our revenues.

Entertainment books: We have sold about 80 books. This is less than last year, because the book is not as good, and the Kidstuff Book took a piece of the market share. We made \$6.00 a book.



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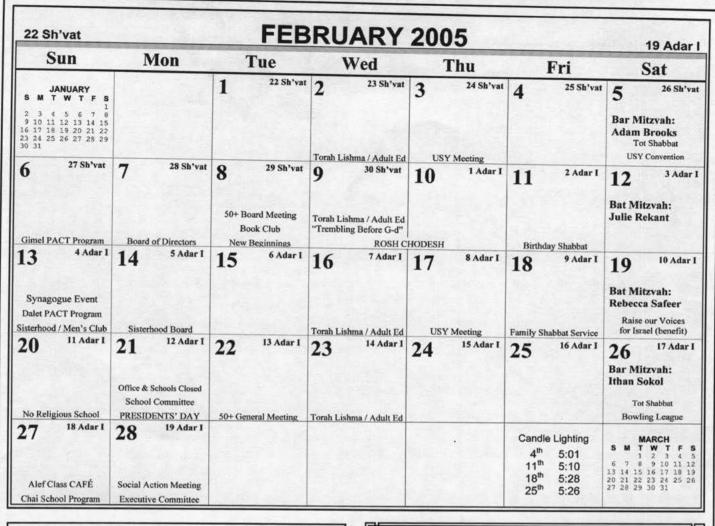
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		Keith Zimmerman	732-398-1420	Keith.Zimmerman@bnaitikvah.org
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	Men's Club	Al Garten	732-297-4595	Al.Garten@bnaitikvah.org
	Sisterhood	Cheryl Goldstein	732-821-7845	Sisterhood@bnaitikvah.org
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Assistant to the		Miriam Libove-Goldfarb	732-297-0696	Miriam@bnaitikvah.org
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		Circle Circle	722 074 0052	Mantars@hnaitilgah arg
B'nai Mitzvah N	Aentors	Cindy Gittleman	732-274-2253	Mentors@bnaitikvah.org
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College Commit	ttee	Marcy Finkelstein	609-860-9338	College@bnaitikvah.org
Couples Club		Nadine Weg	732-329-1359	
Feedback Comm	nittee	Mitchell Frumkin	732-297-5069	Feedback@bnaitikvah.org
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Junior Congrega		Barry Safeer	732-432-9622	JC@bnaitikvah.org
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