



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

Photos from B'nai Tikvah's 25th Anniversary Party!

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Photos courtesy Bobbi Binder. More pictures on page 21.

**FRIDAY NIGHT
PLUGGED IN**

Featuring
**The Sons of Tikvah
Band**

April 8th 6:30PM

**3rd Annual Walk
for Israel**

**Sunday,
April 10**

Details page 9

**Happy
Passover!**

**First Seder
April 23rd**

Passover Schedule
Page 3

RABBI ELIGBERG SPEAKS

History of B'nai Tikvah: Part One

(With Appreciation and Apologies to Mel Brooks)

It is the late 1970's. Disco Duck's goose is cooked. The age of Disco is over. No one mourns the passing of leisure suits. In a small corner of New Jersey, three small Jewish congregations look around at the changing face of the North/South Brunswick area. Progress. New construction. New houses means new people. New people include new Jews. How to help them feel welcome in their new community.

Finding a Partner (or Two)

In exploring the answer to this question, the three congregations and their leaders, people like Aaron Rosloff, Dr. Leon Horlick, Howard Kalish, Fran Shapiro, Joel Weisenberg, and David Kutliroff (of blessed memory), discover the similarities amongst themselves. The first part of the answer is to create one unified community. Discussions go back and forth. What are we going to become? What will we stand for? What will we sit for? Where will we build our new home? Answer begat more questions which begat more answers which begat even more questions which.. There was a lot of begetting, until finally...

The year is 1979...

Menahem Begin and Anwar Sadat sign peace agreement on the White House lawn. The Shah leaves after 37 years on Iran's Peacock Throne. The Ayatollah Khomeini returns to claim power in Iran. Saddam Hussein becomes president of Iraq. The US Embassy in Tehran is seized along with 52 hostages. Skylab comes crashing down after six years in orbit. Three Mile Island nuclear plant emits radiation. Star Trek: The Motion Picture is released. It emits something even more foul.

In sports the Montreal Canadiens claim their fourth straight Stanley cup defeating the New York Rangers four games to one.

In the Top 40: Rod Stewart asked the musical question "Do Ya Think I'm Sexy?" Cheap Trick chimed in with "I Want You to Want Me" while Sister Sledge sang, "We Are Family".

Influenced by the culture and music of the era the three small congregations in Middlesex County New Jersey decide Three's Company, and that they will take it One Day At A Time, and build A Little Shul on the Egg Farm, while hoping to create Happy Days. B'nai Tikvah, Children of Hope, is born.

Rabbi Andrew Warmflash is chosen to lead the new congregation. Ron Paley (1980-1981) becomes the first president. During his tenure, Iran frees the 52 hostages after 444 days of captivity. Ted Turner launches CNN. One of the most popular films of the year is Ordinary People. In the new fledgling congregation, "ordinary people" are doing extraordinary things to help build the community and echoing Pink Floyd, All we need is "Another brick in the wall."

Yours, and Yours, and Mine

Merger. Three join together to become one. Each group brings something to the dedication. One brings an Ark, two Torah scrolls, three breastplates and an assortment of prayer books. Another brings one Torah scroll, two Torah mantles and lots of folding chairs. The third brings their own Torah scroll, two boxes of humashim and a small mountain of tallitot. Like newlyweds in their first apartment, it's eclectic but somehow it all works together.

Marvin Stark (1981-1983) takes on the mantle of leadership. Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first woman nominated to the supreme court. IBM introduces its first PC running MS-Dos. MTV goes on the air and debuts with "Video Killed the Radio Star". Pacman mania sweeps the country. The Equal Rights Amendment fails to be ratified. In B'nai Tikvah, equal rights for women are enshrined as part of the new congregation. As the president's phone rings for the tenth time that night, Marvin becomes the first president to sing along with Men at Work's #1 hit, "Who Can It Be Now?"

Building a Home

A few years pass. The community is happy together. It is time to build a place to call their own. The challenges of building a new home are great but the commitment to do so far exceeds them. The new building is ready. Parading through the streets with the Sifre Torah, everyone arrives at the new address; B'nai Tikvah has a new home.

Dave Offenber (1983-1985) has followed as president. President Reagan signs the bill creating a federal holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Sally Ride is the first American woman astronaut, aboard space shuttle Columbia on its maiden voyage.

El Nino disrupts global weather patterns. Noise-free CD's are introduced causing a sharp decline in vinyl record sales. The FCC authorizes Motorola to begin testing cell phone service in Chicago. Over 125 million viewers watch MASH's final episode. Return of the Jedi grosses \$6.2 million. No building fund contribution is made. A Wells Fargo employee steals \$7 million from the company's Connecticut warehouse. It is the second largest theft in US history. No building fund contribution is made.

Norman Politziner (1985-1986) becomes the next president. In the sports world, the Montreal Canadiens win the Stanley Cup, four games to one, over the Calgary Flames. In science, a British scientist is the first to report a hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica. After 99 years, Coke introduces New Coke, which is quickly replaced by Coke Classic. Distraught over the threat to the environment and the Coke controversy, Norm serves only one year as president, choosing instead to follow a musical path and releasing such classics as "We Built This Synagogue on Rock and Roll", "All I Need Is A Miracle (To Balance This Budget)", and "Everybody Wants to Rule the Shul".

Marc Dillman (1986-1988) picks up the reins of leadership

RABBI ELIGBERG, continued

as Haley's Comet returns and Nintendo Video games are introduced. The Senate Judiciary Committee approves William Rehnquist as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The New York Mets defeat the Boston Red Sox 4 games to 3 to win the World Series. Bill Bukner seeks asylum at B'nai Tikvah. He is asked to leave after dropping a tray of cake at the Oneg. CD's outsell vinyl records for the first time. Inspired by songs of the day Marc warns the Board of Trustees that we are "In Too Deep", "Living On A Prayer", "I Still Haven't Found (The Pledge) That I'm Looking For", and the ultimate question, "What Have I Done to Deserve This?".

Pass the Aspirin and Whose Budget Do They Come Out Of?

The community continues to grow and more space is needed. Expansion. The word simultaneously evokes excitement and fear. Everyone pitches in with donations of money and time. People spread the work and the paint. People came to share their joys and their sorrows; to celebrate their simchas and to be comforted in their losses.

Susan Kleinman (1988-1990) continues to lead the congregation forward. In the world, Chinese students take over Beijing's Tiananmen Square as one million stage pro-democracy demonstrations. The Berlin Wall is opened to the West for first time in 28 years. U.S. troops invade Panama seeking to capture General Manuel Noriega. After P. W. Botha quits as president of South Africa, Nelson Mandella is released after over 27 years in prison. Mikhail Gorbachev is named Soviet president. The first World Wide Web server and browser developed. In U.S. news, The Exxon Valdez spills 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound. In literary criticism, Ayatollah Khomeini calls for death sentence on Salman Rushdie, author of the Satanic Verses. In sports, Michigan defeats Seton Hall 80 - 79 in Overtime to win the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship. The Simpsons debut on FOX and become an instant success.

Grammy winners Bobby McFerrin and George Michael provide the new musical inspiration with "Don't Worry, Be Happy" and "Faith". And while Bette Midler sang about it, Susan was for two years "The Wind Beneath the Wings" of B'nai Tikvah.

During the Gary Tinkel (1990-1992) era: South Africa ends apartheid; a cease fire marks an end to the Gulf War; the Soviet Union breaks up after Gorbachev resigns; the New York Giants win the Super Bowl, defeating the Buffalo Bills 20-19; and the first user friendly internet interface is created at the University of Minnesota and named after the school's mascot, Gopher. Responses to synagogue questions and problems continue to be formulated in songs of the day:

Why are there leaks in the Sanctuary?

Blame It On the Rain (Milli Vanilli)

What is that light over the Ark?

(An) Eternal Flame (The Bangles)

What's that smell?

We Didn't Start the Fire (So better check with the caterer

(Continued on page 4)

APRIL ADULT EDUCATION SCHEDULE:

"A 15 Step Program for Spicing
Up Your Seder"

Rabbi Eligberg - April 6 & 13
7:30 pm, after Minyan

PASSOVER 5765 SCHEDULE

Fast of the First Born/Siyyum: Thursday April 21 7:00 AM
Mehirat Hamets: Selling the Leaven:
Thursday, April 21 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Burning of Hamets: Friday April 22 By 11:48 AM

Shabbat HaGadol - The Great Shabbat:

Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv: Friday April 22 8:00 PM

Hamets may be eaten until Saturday April 23 10:40 AM

Nullification of Hamets: Saturday April 23 By 11:52 AM

Shahareet Service: Saturday April 23 9:30 AM

Minha Service: Saturday April 23 Following Kiddush

First Seder: Saturday April 23

First Day of Passover:

Ma'ariv Service: Saturday April 23 8:00 PM

Candle Lighting: Saturday April 23 8:15 PM

Shahareet Service: Sunday April 24 10:00 AM

Minha Service: Sunday April 24 Following Kiddush

Second Seder: Saturday April 24

Second Day of Passover:

Ma'ariv Service: Sunday April 24 8:00 PM

Candle Lighting: Sunday April 24 8:15 PM

Shahareet Service: Monday April 25 10:00 AM

Minha/Ma'ariv Service: Monday April 25 7:30 PM

Seventh Day of Passover:

Candle Lighting: Friday April 29 7:32 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv: Friday April 29 8:00 PM

Shahareet Service: Saturday April 30 9:30 AM

Eighth Day of Passover

Candle Lighting: Saturday April 30 8:34 PM

Minha/Ma'ariv: Saturday April 30 7:30 PM

Shahareet Service: Sunday May 1 9:30 AM

Yizkor is recited as part of the morning service.

Minha/Ma'ariv Service: Sunday May 1 7:30 PM

Passover ends Sunday, May 1, 8:36 PM

RABBI ELIGBERG, continued

(Continued from page 3)

(Billy Joel)

What else does the shul need?

More Than Words (We Need Dollars) (Extreme)

Natalie Cole releases a remake of her father's classic, "Unforgettable". Gary remains unforgettable at B'nai Tikvah continuing to serve in various capacities.

Satisfying the increasing needs of a growing community is a challenge during the Jack Mailman (1992-1994) era and leads to the hiring of more professional staff. In the US, the House and Senate approve The North American Free Trade Agreement and Ruth Bader Ginsburg is appointed to the Supreme Court. In sports, The Montreal Canadiens defeat the Los Angeles Kings, four games to one, to claim the Stanley Cup. In music, Eric Clapton releases "Unplugged". B'nai Tikvah goes to the Kendall Park Cinema to see Schindler's List. Jack plants seeds of future growth around B'nai Tikvah. Literally! Jack also shows us he can blow his own shofar and teaches many students how to as well.

Jeff Schwartz (1994-1997) becomes the first president to serve for three years. It is a troubling period in the nation and the Jewish world. In Oklahoma City, a federal building is bombed on the first anniversary of the incident in Waco, Texas, leaving 191 dead. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is slain by a Jewish extremist as he is leaving a Peace Rally in Tel Aviv. US scientists Martin Perl and Frederick Reines win Nobel Prize for discovering "two of nature's most remarkable subatomic particles" - the tau and the neutrino. Drs. Ian Wilmut and Keith Campbell create the world's first cloned sheep from embryo cells.

In Hollywood, Forest Gump wins the Oscar for best picture. Dead Man Walking is found Leaving Las Vegas headed for Philadelphia. B'nai Tikvah relies on The Usual Suspects to get things done.

In music, The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame opens in Cleveland, and Grateful Dead front man Jerry Garcia dies.

In space, Russian cosmonauts welcome American astronauts aboard the MIR Space Station after the space shuttle docks. At the same time, B'nai Tikvah welcomes a new rabbi, David Eligberg and his entourage of moose. While no airlocks are involved occasional language problems occur - some question about "concretizing" things. The New Jersey Devils defeat the Detroit Red Wings four games to none to win their first Stanley Cup making Jeff very happy and raising the question: "Any connection between a Canadian Rabbi and the Stanley Cup arriving in the same year?"

The number of internet users worldwide reaches 150 million with over half in the US. and B'nai Tikvah joins in during the Mark Kasdin (1997-1999) years. E-mails begin to fly around the Executive Committee between meetings.

The nation is shocked by Columbine HS students, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, who kill twelve other students, a teacher and then themselves. It is part of a string of violent events perpetrated by young people. The synagogue hires a new educational director, Ann Kanarek, to help insure that our youth re-

(Continued on page 22)

NISAN DATES IN HISTORY

Nisan 4 - The first Young Men's Hebrew Association was organized in New York on March 22, 1874.

Nisan 8 - The second Mill Street Synagogue of Congregation Shearith Israel was dedicated on April 17, 1818.

Nisan 10 - The first congregation of New Orleans, Shaare Chesed, was incorporated on March 25, 1828.

Nisan 13 - The NY State Convention at Kingston, NY, on April 20, 1777 guaranteed the free exercise of religion.

Nisan 16 - Jacob P. Adler, outstanding Yiddish actor, died on March 31, 1926. The development of the Yiddish theater reached its peak in the United States. The concentration of over a million Yiddish-speaking people in the New York metropolitan area gave the Yiddish stage and press its golden age during the first three decades of the 20th century. Jacob P. Adler was one of the leading actors of that period.

Nisan 17 - Solomon Etting, a prominent businessman of Lancaster, PA, was the first native American Jew to receive a limited authorization to function as a *shohet*. The certificate was dated April 1, 1782.

The early American Jewish community, though mainly traditional, was too small to train its own religious functionaries and too distant to attract European scholars. The first "Kabbalah" (religious certification of qualification to function as a religious slaughterer) was granted in 1782 to Solomon Etting.

Nisan 17 - The Jewish Welfare Board was founded on April 9, 1917, to meet the religious and cultural needs of Jewish personnel in the U.S. armed forces.

Nisan 19 - The directors of the Dutch West India Company, on April 26, 1655, refused to grant permission to Governor Peter Stuyvesant to exclude Jews from New Amsterdam.

Nisan 19 is a red-letter day in the history of the American Jewish community. The refusal of the Dutch West India Company to permit the expulsion of the early Jewish settlers from New Amsterdam put an end to official efforts to bar Jews from North America. The Dutch West India Company also specified that no restriction of trade be imposed upon Jewish settlers. Thus it guaranteed not only the physical inviolability of the Jews but also their orderly economic development and progress. The only condition contained in the directive provided that "the poor among them shall be supported by their own nation." This gave further impetus to the growth of Jewish philanthropy in the New World.

Nisan 21 - Congregation Shearith Israel of NY dedicated the first synagogue built in North America on April 8, 1730.

Nisan 21 - Reverend Ferdinand Sarner became, on April 10, 1863, the first American rabbi to serve as a regimental chaplain with America forces.

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
 May HAKOL
 must be in by April 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: Digital images: (Preferred) 300 dpi black & white/ grayscale jpeg, bmp, or tiff files. Scannable Images: 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

Congregation B'nai Tikvah
 And
 The South Brunswick Area
 Clergy Association
 Invites you to

An Evening of Prayer, Remembrance and Response

Commemorating

Yom HaShoah V'hag'vurah Holocaust Memorial Day

And Remembering

Victims of Genocide in Our Times

27 Nisan 5765

Wednesday, May 4, 2005, 7:30 PM

Congregation B'nai Tikvah

OUR HAZZAN'S VOICE Cantor Bruce Rockman

Pray for Dew!

What is this prayer really about? You can always read the English translation. Not satisfying? As a Cantor there a special seasonal prayers and *piyyutim*, poems that I make special preparations to present annually. The most famous and meaningful to most, *Kol Nidre*, resonates as we ask... "All vows, oaths and promises which we made to God...and were unable to fulfill be annulled." As we are seeking atonement, the words and the melody are so powerful; this poem sets the tone for the rest of Yom Kippor.

Pesach also has its own *piyyut: Tal* (Dew). The melodies for this poem are not as well known, yet it was among highlights of the cantorial repertoire.

Tal was written in the eighth century by Rabbi Eleazar Ha Kallir, in the Land of Israel, where most of our prayers were written and where water is always at a very high premium. Prior to modern irrigation, the dependence on rain in the winter months and dew in the spring was truly a matter of survival. Thus we have the special prayers for rain and dew. So, we pray to God for rain on Sukkot and dew on Pesach,

Pesach also has its own *piyyut: Tal* (Dew). The melodies for this poem are not as well known, yet it was among highlights of the cantorial repertoire.

and that should take care of that! Today, our approach to these ancient prayers and poems has changed. Is the presence or absence of rain or dew a sign of God's favor or displeasure? Most would say that this is part of the order of nature which is not about to change be-

cause of our words or response to our moral conduct.

Abraham Joshua Heschel wrote in *Man is Not Alone* "What sense is there in imploring the mercy of God? Words do not stem the flood, nor does meditation banish the storm. Prayer never entwines directly with the chain of physical cause and effect; the spiritual does not interfere with the natural order of things. The fact that man with undaunted sincerity pours into prayer the best of his soul springs from the conviction that there is a realm in which the acts of faith are puissant and potent, that there is an order in which things of spirit can have momentous consequence.

If you are one who prays, this argument can be unsettling. It makes prayer seem irrelevant, sort of a salve for the soul of the believer. We can take the prayer at its face value and literally. The prayer is about dew and the wonders it creates, but it is also about redemption, concerning the end of exile and future redemption, the hopeful coming of the Messianic age. Rabbi Reuven Hammer explains in *Or Hadash*, a commentary to *Siddur Sim Shalom* "These prayers, then are a reflection of our desire to express our hopes, our needs, our desires and our deep faith that in some way, that all that we have depends on God. We pray to God to help sustain us in a world God has created for us and all creatures"

We thank God for our world of wonders. Dew is life sustaining and God created it to sustain the world. We are blessed with the intelligence to use God's wonders to sustain our lives and this world. It's how we use our gifts, we devise modern methods such as irrigation and conservation, and they are our response. We continue to learn and try to understand God's plan. We are partners with God in this plan. It is our responsibility to do what can to make our world a better place to live. Not just for ourselves but for everyone.

This Pesach live the words of the Haggadah. "Whoever is hungry, let him come and eat. Whoever is needy, let him come and celebrate Pesach! Now we are here; next year may we be in the Land of Israel. Now we are slaves; next year may we be free men."

And from *Tal*:

*Dew precious dew, that we our harvest reap,
And guard our fatted flocks and herds from leanness
Behold our people follow You like sheep
And look to You to give the earth her greenness.
You are Adonai our God
Who causes the wind to blow and the dew to fall.*

Celebrate and enjoy Pesach with all you heart and soul. I hope you all have loads of fun and lots to eat with your friends and family at your seder tables.

*Worship the Lord in gladness;
come before God with joyous song.
Cantor Bruce Rockman*



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 the time of year

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Arie Behar

Usually we take things for granted, When we come to B'nai Tikvah and see a big, beautiful building, we forget that only 25 years ago the land where our building stands was a muddy baseball field. It took the vision of many committed people and the leadership of a select few to turn this muddy field into a vibrant and engaged congregation.

Recently we celebrated B'nai Tikvah's 25th anniversary and our own "President's Day." I wish all of you could have been present at this simcha, to share our pride when we joyously celebrated our accomplishments and honored our leaders. It was one of those moments when I was proud to call myself a member of Congregation B'nai Tikvah. I had the opportunity during the evening to speak with some of the "older" presidents, and I can tell you that the problems over the years have not changed, but neither have our successes. We all share a tremendous respect for the hundreds of volunteers who make B'nai Tikvah possible. We laughed over leaking roofs, budgets that could not support a mortgage or electric bill, and drowning in Lake Tikvah. I heard stories of congregants cross-signing on their homes in order to allow us to pay bills, and of a Vice President writing a personal check to cover a major expense.

We too face challenges. Now that we are in the final stages of construction on the newest wing, we must find ways to fill the building with ruach, with learning and with life. Based on our track record to date, and the strength of our congregation, I do not anticipate too many problems.

We've come a long way in 25 years, or including our predecessors, 65 years of continued Jewish presence in North and South Brunswick. Although few of us are farmers, we all continue to nourish a Jewish community, and plant the seeds here for the next generation, and our next celebration, our golden anniversary, 25 years from now.

Arie Behar

BOARD AND VP REPORTS

From the March, 2005 Board Meeting

Dan Greenberg VP Administration

House & Grounds : Mazel Tov to our illustrious Chairman of House & Grounds, Jeff Cadoff, and his wife Stacey, on the birth on February 28th of a beautiful baby girl, Hannah Ruth!

We are aware of the poor condition of the parking lot (again), particularly in the middle section. We have secured several quotes for both repair (involving digging out the affected sections) and total repaving. All of these options have proved too costly. We are arranging for simple filling of the holes, which will have to wait until spring weather appears.

Construction of the Cantor's new office (which is being carved out of the old youth lounge/library) is almost complete. We expect that it will be done in the next week or two.

Repairs of the tiled entrance are also dependant on the weather and will hopefully begin by April 1.

Budget: Our veteran budget wizards (Marty Abschutz & Marc Dillman) are gearing up to begin the process. The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 13th. COOPERATION OF ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS, VP's, AND EVERYONE HOLDING LINE ITEM AUTHORITY IS ESSEN-

(Continued on page 24)

Want to Help Drive Our Success?

Come work for us! CBT is looking for a Dynamic, Creative Marketing & Activities Guru.

Explore creative ways of marketing the use of our building for sports, recreation, fitness, educational, religious, cultural and entertainment activities (and anything else you can think of!) and execute on those plans. Reach out to both members and non-members to build a foundation of uses for the multi-purpose room and classrooms/meeting rooms. Part time to start, moving to full time in the future. Please send resume and cover letter by email to administration@bnaitikvah.org by April 7th.

APRIL B'NAI MITZVAH



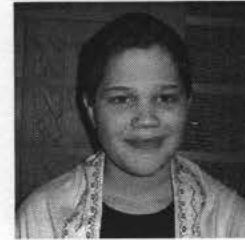
Justin Korn
April 2

Steve & Fern
Korn



**Samantha
Kopelow**
April 9

Mark & Sandra
Kopelow



Evan Jacobs
April 16

Fred & Linda
Jacobs

A MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Cindy Gittleman, VP Membership

Please warmly welcome new members:

Stuart and Maria Davis

Eric and Jenna Lawson

Ethan and Sandra Solomon

**Continuing our
25th Anniversary Celebration
"A Very SWEET Shabbat"
coming this spring
Look for details in the next Hakol**

Membership is so pleased to announce the formation of a new member category:

CHAI MEMBERS

who have 18 years or more consecutive membership to our Synagogue.

This important group of members, who have shown their longtime commitment to our synagogue, will be invited to their first social event this spring. Look for your invitation letter!

MARKETING/RESEARCH HELP NEEDED

We are looking for members who have Marketing/Research experience to help us launch an all out membership campaign to fill our expanded building. We need any help, direction, advice you can give. Please contact any of the membership committee members below:

Marcie Abschutz 732-419-9312
Joel Gerbman 732-937-5114
Cindy Gittleman 732-274-2253
Rees Klemish 609-919-3356
Mark Roller 732-297-7055
or e-mail membership@bnaitikvah.org

25th Anniversary Dinner Dance Recap and Thanks

We celebrated Bnai Tikvah's 25th anniversary March 12th and what a great event we had! The dinner dance was a resounding success on all fronts:

We raised over \$25,000.

We drew a crowd of over 200 people.

We involved a large contingency of people that had not attended a synagogue event in previous years.

We honored and reunited past presidents and provided them an opportunity to reminisce.

Most everyone schmoozed and danced the entire evening! (and ate and drank along the way).

If you did not see the Ad Journal yet, be sure to grab a copy in the synagogue office.

Special thanks goes to:

Amy Behar, Larry Cohen, Arlene Frumkin, Dan & Caryl Greenberg, Bill Greenberg, Arlene Lassin, Andy Ross, Brenda & Mark Sherman, and Tom Peters – all who ensured the dinner dance would be memorable, and the ad journal successful.

Additionally, special thanks goes to Allison Nagelberg, Jodi Marcou, Arie Behar, Mitch Frumkin, Stacey Cadoff, Janice Baer, Cindy Gittleman, and Gary Bergman – all who helped ensure we achieved our goals for the dinner dance!

*Until next year...
Gary Warner*

FEDERATION UPDATE

www.jfgmc.org

PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

For Israel and our Jewish Community at the 3rd Annual Walk for Israel Sunday, April 10

The Walk is Sponsored by the Israel Task Force of the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County, area synagogues, federation family agencies and community organizations. The Family Walk and Jewish Community Celebration check-in will begin at 8:15 a.m., Grove Four in Johnson Park. A Solidarity Rally at 9:00 a.m. will kickoff the celebration as area synagogue rabbis once again lead us on the 4.45 mile WALK. Festivities will include music, food, face painting and lots of community spirit and pride. All participants will receive a Walk t-shirt while supplies least.

Proceeds collected from the Walk will benefit Israel. Registration fees are \$10 for a single walker and \$25 for three or more immediate family members. Pre-registration by March 31 will enter you to win a child's bicycle and equipment. Walkers are also encouraged to recruit walk sponsors. Please bring a Kosher for Passover non-perishable item for our family service agencies' food pantries.

JEWISH FEDERATION SPRING CALENDAR

Sunday, April 10: Community-wide Walk for Israel, Johnson Park, Highland Park, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, May 4: Yom HaShoah Commemoration, Nicholas Music Center, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 19: Regency/Encore Federation Committee wine and cheese party.

Sunday, June 5: Clearbrook Federation brunch

Monday, June 6: Jewish Federation Annual Meeting

Monday, June 20: Jewish Federation Eshet Chayil program, DoubleTree Hotel, Somerset.

Visit www.jewishmiddlesex.org <<http://www.jfgmc.org/>> for the Community Calendar.

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Let them know you saw their ad in the Hakol.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

It was a proud day for me to show off our new extension of B'nai Tikvah to my brother who was visiting from California. Hadas, gracious as always, took us through the still uncompleted building and explained all the features and benefits that we will enjoy when it is completed. My brother was duly impressed and extended his complements.

The visit was on a Friday, early in the afternoon. We returned for the evening service, and to be blunt about it, were it not for the visiting family of the Bat Mitzvah, we would barely have had a minyan for the service. Although I have been in favor of the expansion from the beginning, I must admit that on that night I had to wonder about for whom we were expanding our Temple.

Have we lost our way? We will have a beautiful building, an excellent caterer, library, recreational and meeting facility and a grand sanctuary. God does know that I am not a religious fanatic, but to put so much into creating an edifice that is only for show, cannot be pleasing for Him (or Her). If we are to have a future as a viable Jewish congregation, as well as a community center, we will have to make it our business to attend to our religious obligations, and to set examples for our children.

Kids do what we do, not what we say. If there is to be a Jewish future for the coming generations, we will have to show them the way.

See you in Shul.
Aaron Rosloff

FRIDAY NIGHT PLUGGED IN

**Featuring
The Sons of Tikvah
Band**

April 8th 6:30PM

ISRAEL TASKFORCE Alan Kane, Chairperson



The Israelis are coming! The Israelis are coming!

This Passover, our congregation will again be host to a delegation of teens from the town of Ramla in Israel. We are now in the fifth year of the program and are looking forward to making new friendships and renewing old ones. Since its inception, over 75 Israeli teens have had their horizons broadened by their visit to the United States, and over twenty host families

vice, and a group Shabbat dinner and other events with our kids.

This program continues to send Israel a strong message of support. The families of our guests and the Ramla's leaders have told us how much they appreciate our congregation for the wonderful experiences we gave their children and for putting our words into actions. A few months ago, a permanent fund was established by the Board of Trustees to ensure

that this program can continue each year. That fund does not receive any money from the Synagogue budget. It is financed by donations from individual members who recognize the value of this worthwhile program. This year I am again asking for your support. Please send your check to the Synagogue office marked for the Israel Exchange Fund, and thank you again for caring.

"...our teen hosts have just returned from their trip to Ramla and have already stayed in the homes of their guests. We have a truly reciprocal B'nai Tikvah – Ramla Exchange Program."

have had the pleasant and unique experience of having their kids interact with our visitors. What makes this year's exchange program especially meaningful is that our teen hosts have just returned from their trip to Ramla and have already stayed in the homes of their guests. We finally have a truly reciprocal B'nai Tikvah – Ramla Exchange Program.

We have an exciting itinerary already for their arrival. First the Israelis will fly into Vaughan, Ontario, Ramla's sister city in Canada, stay a few days touring the Toronto area, and Niagara Falls. They will arrive in New Jersey on Wednesday, April 20th. Once here, they will participate in the Seders of their host families. Their whirl wind tour of our area will include a visit to Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, Empire State Building, a guided tour in Hebrew of the United Nations, Times Square, Shopping excursions, and Great Adventure. Unfortunately, due to the school calendar, our kids will not be able to accompany them on these day trips. But, we do have a number of after school events scheduled that will allow them to interact and reinforce their new friendships. The Israelis will attend a USY program, Shabbat ser-



From slavery to freedom, from exile to nationhood, this Passover celebrate the unity and sovereignty of the Jewish people by investing in Israel's future.

**Israel Bonds
Not just a bond,
an Israel bond.**

8th Zero Coupon Bond

5.45%

Effective yield to maturity and current purchase price of \$3,529 for bonds purchased through March 28, 2005. Matures at \$6,000 10 years from issue date (first day of the month following the month in which subscription is accepted by Fiscal Agent).

3rd Jubilee (Series A) Issue Bond

4.35%

Fixed annual interest rate for bonds purchased through March 28, 2005. Matures 5 years from issue date. Minimum Subscription \$25,000.

3rd Jubilee (Series B) Issue Bond

5.10%

Fixed annual interest rate for bonds purchased through March 28, 2005. Matures 10 years from issue date. Minimum Subscription \$25,000.

Mazel Tov Bond

Purchase price: \$100 per unit. Matures in 5 years at \$123, representing an interest rate of 4.23%. This interest rate is effective through June 24, 2005. Non-transferrable. Not eligible for early redemption. Must be registered in the name of an individual (custodian for a minor, or jointly in the names of no more than two individuals).

4th LIBOR Floating Rate Issue (LFRI) Bond

3.9375%

Interest rate for bonds purchased through March 2005. Based on 75 basis points (fixed at time of purchase) plus the 6 month LIBOR rate in effect on issue date, and recalculated thereafter on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. Minimum subscription: \$5,000 (\$3,000 or \$3,500 for IRAs only). Matures: 10 years from issue date.

7th Development Issue (DI) Bond

Current Income Bond: Annual interest rate is 4.00%. Payable by check once a year on May 1. Saving Bond: Matures at 180% of issue amount, resulting in an effective yield to maturity of approximately 4.00%. Matures 15 years from issue date. Minimum Subscription: \$500

Matured Bonds: After maturity, bonds no longer earn interest. Issues subject to availability. This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read it carefully before investing.

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NEWS FROM ISRAEL

JNF Launches Ambitious Long-Term Initiative in Israel's Negev Desert

Jewish National Fund will use its historic role as caretaker of the land of Israel and its 103 years' experience developing agricultural, scientific and water resources - as well as new communities - in an ambitious, long-term initiative to increase the population of Israel's Negev Desert.

The initiative, entitled Blueprint Negev, lays out a plan to develop the infrastructure for 25 new commuter communities in the Negev. Seven to 10 of the communities will use Be'er Sheba as the first of three hubs. The second and third hubs will be Eilat and Mitzpeh Ramon, respectively.

The new communities will include housing, reservoirs, parks, and other amenities necessary to meet the quality of life needs of young families as never before. The plan also includes roads as well as economic and social elements, to bring 250,000 new residents to the least populated part of Israel in the next five years.

The Negev Desert comprises 60% of the land of Israel, yet currently, only 8% of the population resides there. Research completed by JNF together with Israeli government agencies supports the creation of new communities in the southern part of Israel.

"The Negev is currently at a critical turning point," said Mr. Ronald Lauder, Jewish National Fund President. "Following 10 years of dramatic population growth in Israel, all of the indicators- economic, demographic, and geographic- point to the necessity of developing the Negev. Our aim is to transform the Negev into a region where people choose to live and work."

With scientific, medical and educational institutions like Ben Gurion University already in place, the Negev is pulling people southward. Also, plans are underway to relocate three army bases and one air force base to the Negev. Each soldier comes with a family, so the bases will require recreation and other enhancements.

Israel is already planning a railway system linking Tel Aviv and Jerusalem to Be'er Sheba, which will mean only a 45-minute trip for commuters. Light rail trains linking Be'er Sheba to Yerucham, Dimona and Ofakim are in the planning stages as well, and will revitalize the economies of those communities and increase the population in each from 10,000 to 30,000. JNF has already developed seven new communities and families have begun moving into the new homes.

The southernmost part of the Negev, the Arava, is also drawing people south. For example, Zuqim, a community located between the farming communities of Moshav Tzofar and Moshav Faran, and sponsored by The Sapphire Society of JNF America, is the first new non-agricultural community in the Negev in the past quarter century. Zuqim joins the more than 1,000 communities established on JNF prepared land.

In addition, Park Timna, a major JNF project five miles north of Eilat, is a popular sightseeing attraction. Timna was once the site of an extensive network of sophisticated copper mines developed by the Egyptian pharaohs of the New Kingdom. Timna has a magnificent lake, geological formations, and hiking trails. It will be the site of over \$2 million in en-

enhancements during the next few years.

David Ben Gurion, the first Prime Minister of Israel, foresaw the need for the Jewish people to live and work in the Negev. He settled at Sde Boker in the

Negev as proof of his vision that the Negev was the future of Israel. JNF's Blueprint Negev expands on Ben Gurion's vision and continues our ongoing commitment to the people and land of Israel.

For more information, please visit www.jnf.org or contact your local JNF office at (888) JNF-0099.

This article written by JNF and submitted by Hadas Elami.



Hold the Date:

Israel Bonds Breakfast

Honoring

Rabbi David & Jodi Eligberg

Sunday, May 22, 2005
10:00AM

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS

Ann Kanarek, Director

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT PESACH

Passover, the Festival of Freedom, marks the dramatic deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. The quest for human freedom has always been fueled by the story of our liberation from slavery in Egypt thousands of years ago. For centuries, the account of the Exodus has had a profound influence upon art, literature, music, and drama.

Pesach marks our birth as a free people and its theme of freedom has been woven into the pattern of our lives. The repeated reminder that G-d delivered our ancestors from Egypt is associated with laws, observances, and ethical instruction in the Bible, beginning with the first of the Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20:2--"I am your G-d who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." The ideas that liberty must be won and re-won is an integral part of our prayers; "Every person in every generation must regard himself or herself as having been personally freed from Egypt." This identification with the struggle for freedom has given us the will to live.

The Passover seder has been referred to as "the world's foremost lesson plan." It teaches the meaning of *Pesach* and our freedom with vivid images, incorporating all of our senses. The exact order of the celebration is set down in the *Haggadah* which, as the Hebrew implies, is literally a "recital" of the miracle of the Exodus. The entire family, from youngest to oldest, participates in telling the story. Traditionally the youngest child recites the four questions, *Ma Nishtanah*, asking why there are specific observances, and, in reply, the story of the triumph of freedom over slavery is read by the participants. Since we observe *Pesach* within the family circle, the responsibility for celebration of the festival falls to the head of the household rather than the leader of the Jewish community.

The Seder renews our connection to Jewish history and its deepest spiritual themes, and on this night the different generations come together to connect to each other and to all of the Jewish people, present, past, and future. Parents or grandparents who are entrusted with conducting the Seder often face demands from the heterogeneous "audience" at the table, and from the Jewish tradition embodied in the *Haggadah*. We find age ranges, producing differing attention spans, and different expectations from varying participants as to the length, the depth, even the songs that will be sung. The *Haggadah* is more than a prayerbook; it is meant to be a manual for home education. It provides the ritual order and directions for the leaders.

I would suggest that you choose a *Haggadah* which meets the needs of the participants at your Seder. There are dozens upon dozens to choose from. Then, take some time to go through it, picking and choosing those readings that are appropriate for you. Whatever you do, remember that nothing is "set in stone." Be as creative and innovative as you like. It's okay.

*From my family to everyone in our B'nai Tikvah family –
Chag Sameach!!*

ATTENTION: PARENTS OF K-2 STUDENTS

If you have a child that is between the ages of 4 and 7 years old who is not yet registered in our religious school, 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 2005-2006 school year.

Please call the School Office (295-0295) if you would like an application to enroll your child in our school.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL APRIL REMINDERS:

Sunday March 27 - Sunday April 3: NO SCHOOL, Spring break (School resumes **Monday April 4**)

Sunday April 10: DALET CLASS: Rabbi's 4 "B" program, part 2 (march in the *Walk for Israel* parade in Highland Park --details will be forthcoming)

Friday April 15: BET CLASS SHABBAT DINNER, 6:30PM followed by **SERVICE 8:00PM.**

Sunday April 17: BET CLASS: C.A.F.E. (Cultural Arts For Enrichment) Program, Passover Seder Plates CHAI SCHOOL ORIENTATION, 11:45 AM - HEI STUDENTS AND PARENTS are invited to find out about our curriculum Na'aseh V'nishma/Learn and Do.

Rabbi, Education Director, our High School teachers and a panel of students will describe the program and share their thoughts and experiences.

IMPORTANT PASSOVER SCHEDULE INFO:

There will be **NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: Thursday April 21, Sunday April 24, Monday April 25 and Sunday May 1** due to the *Passover Holiday*.

However, please note that school will be in session **Tuesday April 26, Wednesday April 27 and Thursday April 28** during the Intermediate days of Passover. *Kosher for Pesach* snacks will be available at no charge.

Sunday May 8: GIMEL CLASS MODEL WEDDING CEREMONY, 11:30AM.

Tuesday May 10 (5:45pm - 6:00pm) and Wednesday May 11 (5:45pm - 6:00pm): SECOND GRADE PARENTS ORIENTATION - Next year your children will begin a new phase of our Religious School. Please join us for an orientation to our ALEF curriculum, class schedule, Junior Congregation requirements and discussion about your role as parents.

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

Fran Pearson, Director

Nursery School Family Programming...

The spring holiday of Passover affords our school the opportunity to present another family program. It is with great pleasure that we invite our parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends to gather round our beautifully decorated Seder tables with our children to recount the story of our ancestors and their journey from bondage to freedom. As with each holiday we celebrate, the camaraderie of our nursery school families continues to become stronger. We will recite from the Haggadah, ask the four questions, eat matzah, drink "wine", and taste our symbolic foods from our Seder plates. It will be a beautiful sight to behold as our children and their families participate in continuing our customs and traditions!

Tradition, Tradition...

Our Seders will surely showcase all the knowledge our students have learned about Passover. Through stories, songs pretend play and the use of our Moses and King Pharaoh figurines our children will dig and work hard to build pyramids. They will use our figurines as props to reenact Moses asking King Pharaoh to "let my people go". Clapping and singing along to Dayenu will be enjoyed by all of our children. They will make charoset, craft kiddish cups, make memorable matzah and covers, afikomen covers and symbolic seder plates. With the help of their teachers, our Pre-k children will create very special and meaningful Passover Haggadahs.

Todah Rabah...

A million and one thanks to our dedicated staff of teachers for their wonderful classroom Seders and memorable holiday crafts they have helped the children to make. Many thanks to our terrific group of parents who volunteered their time and energy to help make our Seders so special. We thank Rabbi Eligberg and Cantor Rockman for enhancing our children's knowledge about the holiday with their special programs.

On this high note, we will depart from the land of Egypt for our Spring Break. On behalf of our entire staff, we wish everyone a very Happy Pesach

NURSERY SCHOOL APRIL CALENDAR:

Monday, April 4th: Free Eye Screening
 Wednesday, April 20: Pre-K & Three Year Old Family
 Passover Seders
 Thursday, April 21: Two's Family Passover Seders
 Friday, April 22: School Closed for Passover
 Monday, May 2: School Reopens

Holiday Trivia...

... **On Charoset** - Charoset symbolizes the mortar (mud and straws) the Israelites used to make bricks for Pharaoh in Egypt. Like so many of the symbols of Passover, charoset stands for both slavery and freedom; although its appearance reminds us of slavery (the mortar), its rich, sweet taste reminds us of the luxury and ultimate sweetness of freedom.

... **On a Persian Custom** - At the Seder, during the recitation of Dayenu, Persian Jews have a custom of (gently) striking each other with scallions to remember the whips of the Egyptian taskmasters and to echo the Israelites' complaints in the desert about the lack of leeks and scallions," which they had enjoyed in Egypt.

Raffle Mania Is Coming!

This is our last and biggest fund-raiser for the year. We are now in the process of trying to solicit prizes for our raffle. Proceeds will go towards updating our classrooms and refurbishing our outdoor playground. If you can help the nursery school by donating a prize or gift certificate it would be greatly appreciated. Please let us know by calling or coming to the nursery school office.

Our School Lends A Helping Hand...

Our nursery school children will be donating a portion of their tzedakah money to Jewish Family Services in East Brunswick to assist needy Jewish families purchase foods for the Passover holiday.

FAMILY SHABBAT

April 15

This service is recommended for children ages 2-7, their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. It is normally held the 3rd Friday evening of each month from 7:00 - 7:45 pm in the Synagogue's Kiddush room.



See the sign-up flyer in this Hakol.
 RSVP By April 10.

B'NAI TIKVAH YOUTH

KADIMA

Kadima@bnaitikvah.org

Adam Sackett, Advisor
908-889-6008 * adamds73@aol.com

Upcoming Kadima Calendar:

Saturday April 2: Regional Dance Wayne, NJ 8:30 - 11 pm- Please RSVP by March 31. We will have a bus to and from the event. Bus times will be announced later.

Sunday, April 10: Kadima Fun Day Brick, NJ: 2-6 pm. This is the Fun Day which was canceled in June. If you had already registered, you do not need to register again. If you'd like to sign up, but hadn't previously, please let me know.

Sunday April 17: Chocolate Seder and Swimming Hights-town, NJ 2-4 pm: Our 2nd annual Chocolate Seder with East Windsor. It was fun day last year, so we're doing it again. Please RSVP by April 10.

Save The Dates: Spring Convention- May 20-22.

Adam Sackett
Kadima Advisor

USY

usy@bnaitikvah.org

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

During April we will be having an event on the 7th and possibly the 22nd. We are not ready to announce the possible activity on the 22nd, but the 7th will be an event located at the Synagogue.

We ask that on April 23rd and 30th USYers attend SERVICES!!! We will be hosting the Israelis at the temple and would like to see some Israeli-USYer interaction!! THESE SERVICES WOULD BE A GREAT TIME TO MAKE AN INTERNATIONAL FRIEND!!!!!!!!!!!!

We will also be applying a new idea to our meetings which will involve some Kadimanicks!! Pay close attention and find out soon!!

-Jason Marx
V.P. Communications 2004-2005



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B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

Sisterhood

April 17: Dr. Ellen Littman

10:00AM- join us for breakfast followed by a presentation by Dr. Ellen Littman. Dr. Littman is a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in adult issues, including adult ADHD/ADD.

Passover Flowers-

Passover flowers are available in "Spring" or "White" at a cost of \$25. To order contact Fern Katronetsky at 732-422-4321 by April 14. Pickup will be at the Synagogue on April 21. Use the order form included in this issue of the Hakol.

The Social Action Committee is requesting new magazines this month.

Support Sisterhood:

Shop at the SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP!

Remember to order Leagrams to send birthday and anniversary wishes, condolences, etc. Buy 1 for \$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00.

MEN'S CLUB

Special Field Trip Jewish Sports Hall Of Fame Annual Induction Ceremony & Breakfast

Commack, Long Island
Sunday April 3, 2005

Our Mens Club has been invited by the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame of New York to attend their annual induction ceremony/ breakfast. The ceremony will be held at 10:30 at their headquarters in Commack, New York (Long Island).

Please check their website www.jewishsports.org.

Among the many inductees this year is Jay Fiedler, QB of the Miami Dolphins. In addition, they are also honoring Lou Carnesecca (never thought he was Jewish...ha ha ha).

We have also been invited to their private breakfast before the festivities begin publicly. The breakfast begins around 9:45am. If I can get a handle on who is interested, we can organize car/van pools to make the trip. There is NO NCAA basketball that day (the final 4 play the day before) and the NCAA final is the next day.

Ed Birch

Edbirch51@comcast.net

**Save The Date!
Wednesday, May 18**

May Fashion Show

Join us on Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 for a Dinner and Fashion Show. Fashions are from Rachel's Boutique of Hidden Lake. Our own Classical Caterers will serve a sumptuous dinner. There will be raffles and prizes.

Mark the date on your calendar and be sure to join us for an enjoyable evening.

For further information contact Linda Feinstein at 732-822-4436.

**Please respond to Ellie Greenberg at
732-297-6953 by May 9.**

B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

50plus

Happenings in the 50+ group...

A theater party on Sun. April 3rd: "Tale of the Allergists' Wife" at Playhouse 22, on Dunhams Corner Rd. in East Brunswick. Price \$16. For tickets call Annette (732) 297-3562 or Doris (609) 980-1498.

An open Board Meeting on Tuesday April 12th at 100 pm. All invited.

We are honoring Neysa Bibel on May 19th at 1200 pm. at the East Brunswick Chateau. A luncheon and entertainment cost of \$37.50 per person. The show is "A Kid From Brooklyn", a tribute to Danny Kaye. Call Doris (609) 860-1498 or Annette (732) 209-3562.

SIDDUR DEDICATION UPDATE

Our Campaign to purchase new Siddurim is a huge success. We have enough donations to purchase 300 new Siddurim.

Please continue to contribute to the Siddur campaign throughout the year. Acknowledgement letters will be sent out shortly.



*Thank you for your support.
Religious Activities Committee*

FREE TRIP TO ISRAEL!* KOACH BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL Spring 2005

Registration closes on April 14!

KOACH, in conjunction with *Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Life on Campus*, invites post-high school Jewish students ages 18-26 who have never been to Israel on an organized peer trip to participate in the *Spring 2005 KOACH Birthright Israel* program.

- 10-days of travel, study, and fun
- Walk in the footsteps of our ancestors
- See Israel through the eyes of the Conservative Movement

For more information, or to register online,

go to: www.KOACH.org

Questions? Contact: Leemor Dotan,

dotan@uscj.org or 847-714-9130

The Birthright Israel gift is made possible through a \$210 million partnership from a group of prominent philanthropists, local Jewish Federations, the people of Israel through their government, Keren Hayesod and The Jewish Agency for Israel. The trip will reflect the ideals and observance of the Conservative Movement.

*A required deposit of \$250 is refundable following the return from Israel. Covered expenses do not include travel to and from your home to New York, and selected meals and gratuities.



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B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS (SCRIP): A "WIN-WIN" FOR US ALL!

EVERYONE shops at a local supermarket for their family's food. Why not turn that familiar trip into a profitable one for our congregation, and a money-saver for you! B'nai Tikvah earns a 5% commission every time you purchase gift cards for use in area supermarkets. These cards function just like debit/credit cards at the register. They're easy to use and are available for sale on Sunday mornings in the synagogue lobby, and in the office during the week.

Now, for the best part...

Because more and more congregants are using gift card scrip to do their food shopping, the supermarket scrip program is becoming more profitable. So far this year we've made over \$2,300. But that number pales in comparison to this program's earning potential. With regional average yearly grocery sales of between \$3000 and \$4000 per household, and our 450+ family membership, (with 100% participation) a projected \$67,500 to \$90,000 gross profit is possible!

Fundraising results like this could benefit us in numerous ways: from purchasing furniture for our new wing, helping to offset dues, to the social action committee aiding needy families in our community. And that's just the beginning!

The only way we can achieve such numbers is through increased congregant participation. If you have not partaken in the program, please give it a try, and for families that have already purchased scrip, consider increasing your commitment. Remember, your groceries will cost no more than they already do, you are merely making an "advance purchase".

Our current success is entirely due to the time and dedication of all our volunteers. A big thanks goes out to:

Sunday Morning Scrip Sellers: Bobbi Binder, Dorothy Cohen, Larry Cohen, Bonnie Eisenberg, Marc Eisenberg, Madeline Gaynor, Naomi Jackenthal, Renee Juro, Dan Kurschner, Sylvia Lewis, Barry Safeer, Sandy Sharon, Sheri Valan, and Teri Woller

Supermarket Orderers and Picker-Upers: Joyce Fishelberg, Joyce Gerbman, Ann Rosenzweig, and Ruth Shindler

Advertising and Marketing: Dave Spivak, Dan Kurschner
Well done everyone!!!!

Now...let's not stop here. We need more volunteers to help make flyers, compose articles for Hakol, deliver scrip to congregants that don't regularly stop by the synagogue, and other "hardly any time at all" jobs. Contact us if you think you're interested and let's talk.

Marc D. Binder, Scrip Chair

732-274-2797 home, 732-627-0002 office, mdbcpa@aol.com

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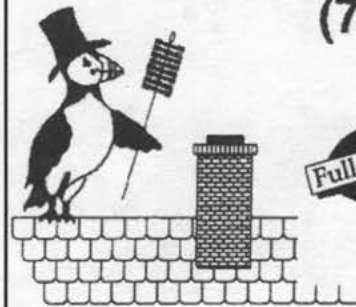
Gather up your cool stuff that we can sell on eBay. Donate it to the Synagogue. We'll sell it on eBay. It's that simple.

We'll accept anything that can be possibly sold on eBay. Computer equipment, cameras, sports tickets (even pre-season games), designer and vintage clothes, collectibles. Go to eBay.com and see what's being sold. Please, for the time being, only items that can be packed and shipped in a reasonable size box. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Kudwitt at: BeeDirect@aol.com. Bonnie will manage the auctioning of donated items.

Please bring the items to the office during office hours so we will be able to keep a list of the donations. Donation letters will be given upon request only. If you don't list the item with the office, we will not be able to provide you with a donation letter

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B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

Nursery School Spring Raffle Seeking Donations

Spring is coming! With it comes the Nursery School's Spring Raffle, its largest fundraiser this year. We are seeking donations of tickets to performing arts and sporting events, jewelry, electronics, travel packages, and prizes that appeal to a large variety of people.

To donate, or suggest businesses which we may solicit, contact Laura Waksman at Laurawaks@comcast.net or 732-698-2494 before April 5th.

The prize drawing will be held in June. Look out for ticket sales info!

☆☆☆☆ MAZEL TOV ☆☆☆☆

**TO OUR TOP RELIGIOUS
SCHOOL CANDY SELLER**

Lana Gerstein

Many thanks to our religious school families who helped promote our Passover Candy Fundraiser. Your dedicated efforts made this a very successful fundraiser and our students will greatly benefit from your generous support.

Proceeds help to fund special programs in the religious school. If you aren't candy eaters, a donation to the

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Unpredictable Weather

The weather indicator on our home page had stopped working for technical reasons beyond our control. In the meantime, the "Weather Channel" made some improvements and we are now back to using their service. Click the box to get a 10 day local forecast.

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES ARE ONLINE

Ever wonder what goes on a Board Meetings and how decisions are made at B'nai Tikvah? Minutes of the B'nai Tikvah Board of Trustees meetings are available online at our website after they are approved by the Board. To read the minutes of Board meetings, go to the Board page on our website:

<http://bnaitikvah.org/board.html>

In the blue menu bar at the left side of the page, about half-way down is a Board Minutes link. Clicking on that will bring you to the yahoo groups logon page. Use your yahoo id to login and you'll be taken right to the archived minutes of Board Meetings. It sounds more complicated than it really is.

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RABBI ELIGBERG, continued

(Continued from page 4)

ceives the best Jewish education possible and a grounding in Jewish values.

Other notable events from those years include: Rev. Jerry Falwell outs Teletubby Tinky Winky and calls him a gay role model. No one says what Rev. Falwell is a model of.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone is released in the US. Star Wars - Episode I - The Phantom Menace breaks box office records grossing \$102.7 million in its first five days. Neither Rawlings or Lucas make donations to

B'nai Tikvah forcing Mark to enhance other revenue streams. Destiny's Child provides the musical anthem... "Bills, Bills, Bills".

He's Baaaack! Jeff Schwartz (1999-2000). Also making a comeback in 2000 is Carlos Santana, who wins the Grammy for Album of the Year for his release, "Supernatural". Also back are the New Jersey Devils who defeat the Dallas Stars, four games to two, to win their second Stanley Cup.

The beginning of the Mitch Frumkin (2000-2003) era brings a rift between Yankee and Met fans within the congregation. Congregants refuse to carry sifre Torah dressed in the wrong uniform on Simhat Torah. The first challenge for the new president. The headiness of 2000 is lost as the next few years are a difficult period for local sports teams with teams missing the playoffs or losing out at the end. The Giants lose to the Ravens, the Yankees to the Diamondbacks, Marlins and Red Sox, the 76ers to the Lakers and the Devils to the Avalanche.

On a more serious note, the world became a more dangerous place during these years. Terrorists attack the United States as hijackers ram jetliners into the twin towers of NYC's World Trade Center and the Pentagon. A fourth plane crashes 80 miles outside of Pittsburgh. Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda become familiar names. B'nai Tikvah gathers to pray together, to strengthen each other and to express gratitude that our losses were not greater. Too soon afterwards, the Anthrax scare rivets the nation and brings the nation to our backyard.

B'nai Tikvah continued to move forward. Bruce Rockman becomes Cantor and Sons of Tikvah's founder. Keeping pace with popular culture, Mitch creates his own version of the West Wing with EC meetings in his family room. Born there is The Fellowship of the Wing, whose task is to create a new wing for the congregation and its growing needs. Gathering around him individuals who would serve the fellowship of B'nai Tikvah, Mitch is not only the tallest hobbit in middle earth but of great stature in his role as president.

The presidency of Arie Behar (2003 - Present) will be remembered for its Israel connection. While the unfolding situation in Israel represented a challenge to the Jewish world, B'nai Tikvah was able to make a real difference in the lives of our bretheren in Israel, and our own, through the connection that Arie helped us forge with his hometown of Ramla. The youth from that community touched us during their visits. Those of us who travelled to Israel felt the warm embrace of

"family" in Ramla. Even as you read this Arie is in Israel with a group of teens from our kahal, helping them build their own connection to Israel and its people.

B'nai Tikvah continues to move closer to its goal of becoming the hub of Jewish life in our area. The about to be completed expansion is the final part of the legacy of our first twenty-five years and the challenge of our next twenty-five. There is a wonderful Israeli song, popularized by Ofra Haza, part of whose refrain is, "Chai! Chai! Chai!"

It is up to us fill our new space with "Chai! Chai! Chai!". A place filled with Jewish life and Jewish living. Chai - a living community! Chai - a living tradition! Chai - a living Torah!

Me-dor L'dor:

Coming of Age In celebrating twenty-five years as a community it is time to focus on taking our place in the greater community - Jewish and secular. It is time for us to make an indelible mark on our community; one that reflects the values and defines us. The generation of the merger gave us the commitment to create a home for the Jewish community of North & South Brunswick

They passed on to us the teachings of our heritage so that they would find expression to our lives regularly. They showed us that Torah was something to be lived and not just studied. They taught us that what we do in the present creates the future we will inherit.

Throughout the twenty-five years that we have been together and in the period leading up to the merger the community has been blessed with those who have taken the mantle and challenge of leadership. Each of them has demonstrated selfless devotion and abiding commitment to the congregations and its needs. We cannot thank them enough for what they have meant to B'nai Tikvah.

There is a story told in the Talmud about a great sage who was weeping on his deathbed. His students tried to console him by reminding of his great knowledge of Torah, the students he had taught, and the (Torah) teaching he brought to the community. The great sage remained distraught. His most senior student finally got up the courage to ask why his teacher was so upset. The great sage responded that he feared that when he stood before the Divine Presence, he would be asked why he did not serve as a leader of the community since he had ability to do so.

Our honorees need have no such concern. They have served the Jewish people with dignity and with honor. Each of them gave their time and talent generously to the service our congregation. Each of them can answer the Holy One proudly displaying their record of service. May the Holy One reward them and their families who shared them with us. May they all be blessed just as they have been a blessing to B'nai Tikvah.

*With appreciation,
Rabbi David M. Eligberg*

CONTRIBUTIONS February 16 through March 15, 2005

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JEFF SCHWARTZ!

More special donations were made this month in honor of the 50th birthday of Jeff Schwartz. The following families chose to honor him by making donations to our congregation:

Judy and David Fox
 Kerri and James Maguire
 Jean Marie and Ian Zimmerman
 Toby and Gary Ehrlich
 Miriam and Stephen Gordon
 Randy and Paul Auerbach
 Phyllis and Jerry Edley
 Judy and Mark Roller
 Tanya Auerbach
 Daniel Piccinini
 Ivan Danziger
 Henriette Bard
 Helen and Robert Noto
 Joan and Marc Mintz
 Francisca and Gerardo Nunez
 Naomi and Wayne Haberman
 Myra Haberman

Yartzeit:

The Abschutz family, in commemoration of the Yartzeit of their beloved mother and Grandmother, Sylvia Koshner
 Vicky and Burt Bauman, in memory of Mina Manheim
 Sherry Valan, in loving memory of her husband, Harold Valan
 Sherry Valan, in loving memory of her mother, Toni E. Lager
 Madeline Gaynor, in memory of her parents, Daniel and Ethel Reich
 Terri, Alan, Ben, Stephen and Jordan Woller, in loving memory of Chester Gitlen
 Michelle and Dave Greenfield, in memory of Mary Arougheti
 Meyer Ketofsky, in memory of Rosalyn Ketofsky
 Joyce and Gerald Fishelberg, in memory of Charles Fishelberg
 Stanley Levine, in memory of Jack Levine
 Debra and Scott Rekant, in memory of Sam Sletoroff
 Beth Miller and Douglas Chin, in memory of Leonard Miller
 Wendy and Ira Heisler, in memory of Louis Breitkopf
 Susan and Harry Rosenzweig, in memory of Toby Rosenzweig
 Roslyn Naiburg, in memory of Harry Hirshfield
 Norlyn and Dennis Kessler, in memory of Minnie Israel
 Marilyn and Stephen Breitkopf, in memory of Louis Breitkopf
 Debra and Scott Rekant, in memory of Sayde Levene
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:
 Marilyn and Saul Schadoff, in loving memory of Teddy Bessen
Cantor's Discretionary Fund:
 Allison Baer, in honor of Cantor Rockman

Terri and Alan Woller, in honor of Cantor Rockman for his help preparing Ben for his Bar Mitzvah

Expansion Fund:

Fern Greenwald and Mark Frydman, in memory of Jason Surks

Youth Fund:

Sylvia and Erwin Lewis, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Safeer
 Maxine and Mark Kasdin, in memory of Saul J. Kasdin

Israeli Youth Exchange Fund:

Amy and Arie Behar, in honor of the engagement of Brenna Tinkel

Suse Rosenstock Memorial Fund:

Fran and Philip Weinstein, in memory of Leo Gorcey

Leon Bible Fund:

Passport to Israel Fund:

Prayer Book Fund:

Family Shabbat Fund:

Makhela Fund:

Son's of Tikvah Fund:

Barbara and Joe Plotnick, in memory of Belle Grossman

School Fund:

Nursery School Fund:

Ritual Fund:

Library Fund:

Sue Stein, in memory of her father, Joseph Grosser

Torah Restoration Fund:

Phyllis and Marvin Dantowitz, in honor of Arlene and Arthur Cederbaum becoming grandparents

Tzedakah Fund:

Social Action Fund:

Building/Capital Improvement Fund:

General Fund:

Men's Club:

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BOARD AND VP REPORTS

From the March, 2005 Board of Trustees Meeting

(Continued from page 7)

TIAL. Please start thinking about your budgets NOW, and start getting ready to submit a clear, defensible request.

Décor: The caterer has completed draping the ceiling of the social hall.

Religious Activities: The campaign to purchase the new Sim Shalom siddurim is ongoing. The cost is \$30 to dedicate a new siddur and \$21 to move a dedication from an old siddur to a new one. We will continue to use the existing siddurim in the religious school as well as in junior congregation and also for our daily minyan.

Personnel: We are still completing the job description for the part-time bookkeeper position. We now expect to have the position filled by April 1.

Cindy Gittleman VP Membership

Dues Structure: A revised membership dues structure was accepted by the Board in Feb. In the new structure, a new category of Chai Member was established. This category is for members who have shown their commitment to our synagogue with 18 years or more consecutive membership. The distinction of this membership is still in the process of being defined.

Tee Shirts: B'nai Tikvah wear was well received this year and will continue to be sold. Come the Spring we will begin to sell again on Sundays, but tee shirts can always be requested for purchase on the website.

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.

Thank you to our many Volunteers: Membership is thinking about how to say "Thank You" to many of our members who help in all different ways to keep B'nai Tikvah full with activity and community spirit. Please put in your two cents if you have an idea (with a small budget).

Mitch Frumkin Past President

Construction: The following is a list of the primary contracts and their percentage complete:

1.	Masonry	99%
2.	HVAC	95%
3.	Electrical	90%
4.	Plumbing	85%
5.	Windows and Ext. Doors	100%
6.	Fire Protection System	95%
7.	EIFS (stucco exterior)	90%
8.	Steel studs and drywall	95%
9.	Miscellaneous iron work	95%
10.	Ceilings	75%
	All ceilings in except MPR	
11.	Bathroom partitions ready to install	0%
12.	Flooring (except MP rm.) Starting week of 3/1	0%
13.	MP room flooring ready to install	0%
14.	Painting	90
15.	MP Room door installed and ready for electrical	95%
16.	Classroom accordion door	100%
17.	Barrier free lift ready to install	0%
18.	Gas line	100%

19. Basketball hoops 100%

The heat is on for approximately 75% of the building. The MP Room dividing door has been installed along with the accordion door which separates two of the classrooms. The vinyl flooring will begin going in March 1. The wood base for the stage floor has been installed with the stage floor being installed in the next week or so. The only open contracts are for the vanities in the bathrooms as well as the ceramic tile in the bathrooms. In the case of the ceramic tiles, although they are included in the original budget, the pricing we have been receiving is in excess of the amount budgeted. In regards to the vanities, they are not included in the original budget prepared by the contractor and are minor in nature.

We have also received a response from the original primary contractor in response to our Attorney's letter. The contractor has contacted us about setting up a meeting to talk about our claim.

Feedback Committee: A motion will be made for the Board to recommend at the next Congregational Meeting that the Bylaws be revised to reflect the following change to the Feedback Committee charter: "Feedback Committee - This committee shall facilitate communications between members of the Congregation and the Synagogue Staff including the Clergy Rabbi and between members of the Congregation and the Cantor and shall report semi-annually to the Executive Committee. The committee shall consist of four to six members appointed annually by the President."

(Continued on page 26)

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

(Continued from page 24)

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee has met three times. Our first objective was to develop procedures for moving forward which we have done. The second was to interview presidential candidates which we have also done. The third was to begin evaluating the Executive Committee positions which we are in the process of doing. Our next meeting will take place on Monday March 7. Anyone with suggestions of people to be considered for Board positions, should e mail this to me.

Harold Schneider VP School and Youth

Religious School: On Friday, March 4, the Gimel class will have their Shabbat service. On Sunday, March 13th, the Dalet Class will have their C.A.F.E. program, *Yad Workshop*, with guest artist Inbar Bibring. The Alef Class C.A.F.E. program, *Siddur Covers*, will be held on Sunday, March 13, also with guest artist Inbar Bibring. The same guest artist will conduct the Gimel Class C.A.F.E. program, *Hamsa Workshop*, on Sunday, March 20.

The Passover Bartons Candy Sale will end March 6. The proceeds go to extra-curricular and enrichment programs for the children.

Kadima: Our current membership is 57 members. Last year we finished at 50.

The 8th Grade Shabbaton will be held March 4-6. Our chapter will have Chinese Food and Game Show Night on March 10th. Kadima will hold a Purim event with USY on March 17th. The Regional Kadima Dance will be held in

Wayne on April 2nd. The rescheduled Kadima Fun Day will be in Brick on April 10th.

USY: We have 55 members in USY, up 6 from last year.

Spring convention applications are available at the synagogue, on the web and have been mailed. They must be returned to our USY advisor by March 10th. They may NOT be mailed to the regional office.

Our USY chapter is updating their constitution. The Youth Commission will have final say on the document.

Mark Sherman VP Ways and Means

Supermarket Scrip & Retail Scrip: Marc Binder is leading the charge on selling scrip. It is too big a job to be done by one person. We either need support from other congregants or we need to re-evaluate the program. Marc has been receiving some help, but not enough. We have sold over \$111,000 in supermarket scrip and made \$2300. Please volunteer!!!!!!

25th Anniversary Celebration: We have sold over \$23,000 worth of ads so far and have 187 people attending.

The "Community Unity" part of this event, which will be targeted to whole congregation, does not have a date yet. We are waiting for the completion of the new building. Those interested in helping with this event, please come and talk to either Gary Warner or myself on helping out.

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: Do to the change in the tax laws car donation are no longer as advantages to the donor. We will still take the donation if requested but I am sure this will no longer be as profitable for the synagogue.

E-Bay: We are exploring ways for us to collect goods and distribute them on e-bay. We would love a volunteer but currently we are looking at people who will be taking a percentage of the sales. We are hoping this will replace some of the income from the car donations. Thank you Hadas for a great idea.

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Keep our directory up to date. Updates and changes: e-mail Hakol@bnaitikvah.org, or call the editors at 732-254-6465

21 Adar II

APRIL 2005

21 Nisan

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>MARCH</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30 31</p>		<p>Candle Lighting</p> <p>1st 6:04</p> <p>8th 7:11</p> <p>15th 7:18</p> <p>22nd 7:25</p> <p>29th 7:33</p>		<p>MAY</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	<p>1 21 Adar II</p>	<p>2 22 Adar II</p> <p>Bar Mitzvah: Justin Korn</p>
<p>3 23 Adar II</p> <p>No Religious School</p> <p>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME</p>	<p>4 24 Adar II</p> <p>School Resumes</p> <p>Board of Directors</p>	<p>5 25 Adar II</p>	<p>6 26 Adar II</p> <p>Torah Lishma / Adult Ed</p>	<p>7 27 Adar II</p> <p>USY Meeting</p>	<p>8 28 Adar II</p> <p>Friday Night Plugged-in</p> <p>Birthday Shabbat</p>	<p>9 29 Adar II</p> <p>Bat Mitzvah: Samantha Kopelow</p> <p>Bowling League</p>
<p>10 1 Nisan</p> <p>Sisterhood Meeting</p> <p>ROSH CHODESH</p>	<p>11 2 Nisan</p> <p>Sisterhood Board</p>	<p>12 3 Nisan</p> <p>Book Club</p> <p>50+ Board Meeting</p> <p>New Beginnings</p>	<p>13 4 Nisan</p> <p>Torah Lishma / Adult Ed</p>	<p>14 5 Nisan</p>	<p>15 6 Nisan</p> <p>Bet Class Shabbat</p> <p>Family Shabbat Service</p>	<p>16 7 Nisan</p> <p>Bar Mitzvah: Evan Jacobs</p> <p>USY Spring Convention</p>
<p>17 8 Nisan</p> <p>Bet Class CAFÉ</p> <p>Men's Club</p>	<p>18 9 Nisan</p> <p>School Committee</p>	<p>19 10 Nisan</p>	<p>20 11 Nisan</p> <p>Torah Lishma / Adult Ed</p>	<p>21 12 Nisan</p> <p>No Religious School</p> <p>Selling of Hametz</p> <p>Fast Of The First Born</p> <p>SIYYUM</p>	<p>22 13 Nisan</p> <p>No Nursery School</p> <p>SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ</p>	<p>23 14 Nisan</p> <p>FIRST SEDER</p>
<p>24 15 Nisan</p> <p>2nd SEDER</p>	<p>25 16 Nisan</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>26 17 Nisan</p> <p>50+ General Meeting</p>	<p>27 18 Nisan</p> <p>Executive Committee</p>	<p>28 19 Nisan</p>	<p>29 20 Nisan</p>	<p>30 21 Nisan</p>
<p>Religious School In Session</p> <p>No Nursery School This Week</p>						
PESACH	2 nd DAY PESACH	INTERMEDIATE DAYS OF PASSOVER (CHOL HAMOED)			PESACH DAY 7	



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