

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

## THINGS TO DO

### USY - Havdalah, Dinner & a Movie

Saturday, Dec. 6 4:30 PM

### Sisterhood Zumba Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 7 10:00 AM

### Federation Super Sunday

Sunday, Dec. 7

### Stamp Club Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 9

### Texas Hold'em

Saturday, Dec. 13 7:30 PM

### Men's Club - Website Design

Sunday, Dec. 14 10:00 AM

### Kadima Hanukah Party

Thursday, Dec. 18 7:00 PM

### Family Shabbat Dinner & Service

Friday, Dec. 19, 6:00 PM

### Bowling Hanukah Party

Sunday, Dec. 21 3:00 - 6:00 PM

### 50Plus Hanukah Party

Tuesday, Dec. 23 12:30 PM

### Stamp Club Meeting

Monday, Dec. 29

### Blood Drive & Health Fair

Sunday, Jan. 11

### Rabbi's Classes & Lectures

See website for listing & schedule

*See Inside for Details On These and Many More Events*

## TEXAS HOLD'EM FEVER SWEEPING CBT!

Saturday, December 13, 2008

Starting at 7:30 p.m.

How great would Hanukkah be with a brand new plasma TV in your living room! It could happen....Limited to just 100 players, odds are you just might WIN a big TV, or one of several other fabulous prizes (Apple iPod, Virginia vacation, Yankees, Jets, and Devils sports memorabilia, behind-the-scenes Day at the Races, Rutgers Basketball tickets, and more) at Congregation B'nai Tikvah's first annual "Texas Hold'em Tournament." It's a sure bet that you'll have fun -- and all profits go towards supporting Congregation B'Nai Tikvah! Light dinner, beer and wine, dessert included

### ADMISSION:

\$100 in advance, \$110 at the door. Must be 21 or older.

Go "all in" and register today at: [www.bnaitikvah.org/holdem.html](http://www.bnaitikvah.org/holdem.html) or by calling (732) 297-0696.

## CBT's Own Man of the Year

On Wednesday, November 5th, the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs of NJ held their annual Man of the Year dinner at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge. The CBT honoree for 2008 was Aaron Rosloff. The CBT Men's Club had wanted to recognize a true CBT legend and friend for all his hard work in organizing the Rejoice Music Festival.



*Aaron receives award from Eric Weis*

Following is an excerpt from Aaron's acceptance speech;

Gentlemen,

No man can reach the level of deserving to be Man Of The Year of anything, all by himself. My

*continued on page 18*

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Powerplay Electric	Rachel's
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Somerset Dental Arts	Studio Pilates
Trio Gifts	University Radiology
Yarmulkas by Amy	Keith Zimmerman -Guardian

## They Stole My Religion

Professor Emeritus, Mathematics, Richard Schwartz, Ph.D. is writing a book on Judaism, the environment and the Jewish imperative to be involved in the repair and improvement of our world.

Following are some of the issues, stated as generalities, that have inspired him to believe in the need for this book;

- the failure of the Jewish community to adequately respond to the many environmental threats facing Israel and the world

*continued on page 24*

## WORDS OF THE RABBI *Rabbi Robert Wolkoff*

# Miracles!

That's what our Chanukah celebration is all about. When we play with our dreidels, the letters inscribed on the sides are an abbreviation for the phrase "A great miracle happened there." When we light our candles, we bless G-d "who performed miracles for our ancestors, in these days, at that time." When we eat our latkes, or our jelly doughnuts, we are eating foods filled with oil—consuming, so to speak, the very substance of the Chanukah miracles.

The greatest miracle of Chanukah, however, is not the burning of the oil in the Temple, or even the victory of our outnumbered and outgunned ancestors over a powerful enemy. The greatest miracle of Chanukah was the choice by G-d to intervene in human affairs and come to the aid of our people at a desperate time.

As we all know, there are skeptics who will ask, "If there is a G-d who gives a hoot about human beings, why does He intervene so rarely? There's a lot of suffering in the world. Why does G-d show up only now and then, letting most of the evil take its course? Is G-d uncaring? Or too weak to do anything about the situation? Or perhaps the whole idea of G-d is just a childish delusion?"

Important questions, to be sure, but not thereby unanswerable. I believe that the reason we celebrate the miracles of divine intervention in our past is in order to instill in us a sense of responsibility to take charge of the world and shape it as G-d would have it. In other words, the correct response to one miracle is not to sit passively and wait for another one. It is, instead, to see what the miracle accomplishes, and then, on our own, to "make miracles happen" by following the path that G-d, through His miracles, blazes for us.

The miracle of Chanukah teaches us with unmistakable clarity that G-d does not abide the suffering of the innocent, the trampling of the poor, and the degradation of the powerless. That G-d is a G-d of compassion, of love, and of joy. We don't need another miracle from G-d to remind us. The light of the menorah should be enough. The burning candles are a reflection of the light of moral and spiritual consciousness, and of intellectual and artistic creativity, within us. We just need to be aware, and to act in accordance with our awareness. Put another way, we don't need the hand of G-d to come down from heaven, whether to free the enslaved or to liberate the mind. We need instead to put our own hands to the task.

And then a real miracle happens. /Our/ hands become the hands of G-d!

Just consider what our hands have been doing here at Bnai Tikvah! The Rejoice Festival. The Answer Cancer service. And most recently, the truly unbelievable L'Dor VaDor concert. When Jews work together, we truly can make miracles happen.

Get used to it! And make yourselves a part of it here at Bnai Tikvah!

*Happy Chanukah,*

*Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff*

PS: And don't forget the Chanukah party on Dec. 21!

## Chanukah Bowling Party at Stelton Lanes.

Sunday December 21, 2008  
3:00 to 6:00 pm

**WIN! • WIN! • WIN!**

## TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT

**REGISTER NOW!**

[WWW.BNAITIKVAH.ORG/HOLDEM.HTML](http://WWW.BNAITIKVAH.ORG/HOLDEM.HTML)

Saturday,  
December 13  
8PM



Win a 50" Panasonic plasma TV,  
vacation, iPod, sports memorabilia  
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Light dinner, open bar, dessert included  
\$100 in advance / \$110 at the door

Questions? Contact David Cukor and Ben Gottesman  
(holdem@bnaitikvah.org or 732-297-0696)

**SIGN UP NOW! SPACE IS RUNNING OUT!**

## OUR HAZZAN'S VOICE *Cantor Bruce Rockman*

# A Quintessential American Activity . . .

### ...Celebrating Our Religious Freedom

Hanukkah is just about here and there is no other holiday that is more anticipated by our children. This joyous family celebration is accessible to all of our community and provides the poignant message of rededication and as the festival of lights we are reminded of our deep commitment to religious tolerance, social justice and outreach to our community. We are guided by very high standards and deeply embrace these values as we grasp the responsibility to be a light among nations.

We have a very diverse congregation, and as a result we are able to be creative and be relevant to our membership. Our Hanukkah bowling party is just such an event. This celebration which incorporates the traditional candle lighting and fried foods with a fun event reminds us of our freedom to choose as we show respect for our traditions. As far as I know, bowling has nothing to do with Hanukkah. We will be celebrating our personal religious freedom while participating in a quintessential American activity, demonstrating a major message of Hanukkah. We are able to teach and send a powerful lesson about religious freedom and how in America, we as Jewish people proudly and without hesitation, can celebrate our heritage publicly. Such an experience can enhance our children's self esteem, their understanding and the joy that they can discover in their Jewish legacy.

I totally embrace our American model of celebration, not only because I enjoy buying stuff and love giving gifts to Stacey and our children. At times I even buy gifts for them without an occasion. Stacey has even started to move some of our Hanukkah decorations beyond the menorah in our picture window to our front lawn. Yes, we are making a statement, just as our neighbors take great pride in their message, living in such a diverse neighborhood, we want to share the delight and satisfaction that we experience as Jewish neighbors.

This has been a great year at B'nai Tikvah. So much has happened and so much more planned. I have often said that once January arrives, it is time to prepare for next year. Since we celebrate the New Year 3 times, this is true at about any time of the year. Rosh Hashanah, is our Jewish and spiritual new year, a time for deep reflection and contrition. Passover, our spring holiday, we are refreshed and we have an opportunity to reemerge physically. Our American new year is a time to celebrate our accomplishments.

We have so much to be proud of, as we continue to pursue and celebrate our love of God meaningful Jewish experiences, Israel and our Jewish people.

With humility and with the vigorous pursuit of our highest standards, we pray to God for insight, strength and the inspiration to keep our B'nai Tikvah lights shining brightly.

*With Joy and Celebration,*

*Cantor Bruce Rockman*

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## SCHEDULE OF DAILY SERVICES

Sunday 9:00 AM Shahareet 7:30 PM Maariv

Monday 7:30 PM Maariv

Tuesday 7:30 PM Maariv

Wednesday 7:30 PM Maariv

Thursday 7:30 AM Shahareet 7:30 PM Maariv

Friday 8:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat

Mincha/Maariv/Havdallah

Saturday 9:30 AM Shabbat Dec 6 4:15 pm

Dec 13 3:45 pm  
Suedah & Study

Dec 20 4:15 pm

Dec 27 4:15 pm

Babysitting available Shabbat morning 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM

# HAKOL

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

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

All Submissions for **HAKOL** are due by the 12th of the preceding month

**We recommend sending submissions and correspondence via e-mail to: Hakol.CBT@gmail.com**

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 Phil Welsher at 908-874-0959 if you have any questions.

#### SUBMISSION FORMATS:

##### TEXT:

Editorial submissions should be in MS-Word, AppleWorks, Pages, plain text, rich text format or typed directly into the body of an e-mail. No special fonts will be used without prior arrangement. Graphics embedded in a text file will not be used.

Graphics and photos must be submitted separately, rather than inside other files or documents.

##### GRAPHICS & IMAGES:

Advertisements should be submitted in one of the following formats: Quark 6.0 or earlier, Indesign CS1 or 2, PDF, EPS or TIFF. BMP or JPEG files may also be used, but may print as lower quality. All text should be converted to black and white. All images should be converted to grey scale. All images submitted for scanning must be photo or photo quality images.

##### ORDER FORMS & FLYERS:

Submit order forms and inserts to be sent with the **HAKOL** mailing to the editors by the 15th of the preceding month. Inserts must be submitted in hard copy to the office or as print ready files, PDF preferred.

##### FOR ADVERTISING INFO:

www.bnaitikvah.org/hakol.html  
 HaKol.CBT@gmail.com  
 or 732-238-6893

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *Ruth Anne Koenick*

I am sitting in my hotel in Jerusalem after some post Shabbat shopping and for the first time during my trip, I've had a chance to reflect on something other than work. I had the "gift" of traveling to Israel with two faculty from Rutgers School of Social Work (SSW). I work very closely with the school and in particular with their Center on Violence Against Women and Children. I am fortunate to teach in their continuing education program and work on joint research projects. Rutgers University SSW has a strong collaborative relationship with Ben Gurion University SSW and the trip I am on is just one of the faculty and student exchange programs. I had the opportunity to meet with many faculty at BGU and visit with some of the communities they are working with, in particular those faculty who are involved with research and direct service. For example, one BGU Ph.D. student is doing some qualitative research interviewing families that have immigrated from Russia. They are doing a longitudinal study over 7 years to look at immigrant adjustment and the change in family processes and relationships. Yet another is looking at the increase in blogging by victims of sexual violence and trying to determine if the local Rape Crisis Center, Maslan, should start a blog.

What has been so interesting for me is that no matter what country, what culture, what university, so many of the problems, behaviors and issues are the same. The sameness struck me again this morning when I went to the Great Synagogue of Jerusalem for Shabbat morning services. At Allison's Nagelberg's suggestion, I decided to experience something very different from my B'nai Tikvah Shabbat. I sat in the woman's section in the balcony and met two women who were visiting from the states (one of the women was originally from East Brunswick and her grandparents live in Monroe). The balcony was far away from the bima and I could be very anonymous! No pages were called, everyone knew what to do, and the men's choir was quite phenomenal. At the end of services as I was leaving, a man was ushering everyone downstairs for Kiddush and when I got into what looked like a social hall, the person making the blessings was asking everyone to be quiet and not eat until the blessings were said and most people just ignored him. I certainly felt at home. But mostly I was reminded of my parent's teaching that when you are a stranger in town, go to the closest shul and you will no longer be a stranger.

So far, I've been to the Kotel twice, once before Shabbat, standing there in the rain for an hour and then back earlier today until sundown. While sitting on one of the stone benches in the women's section, I spoke with a young woman who was spending a year in Israel. On my other side was a woman feeding her children who told me that I should go to the table and eat. Her Hebrew and my English came together over food and her kindness. I thanked her and walked over to the table area for women and was handed a plate of food. Food is such a connector between people that it immediately made me feel part of the community.

Rabbi Wolkoff has asked me to share some of my experiences at a Friday night service and I hope to do that in the coming months. Clearly what I got to do was far from the regular tour itinerary and gave me a rare opportunity to get a better understanding of issues impacting victims of violence and the cultural issues that can at times support and also place barriers in front of those who need services.

Although it is good to be home, I count the days until I can return.

*B'shalom,*  
*Ruth Anne*

## From The Webmaster

### Calling all Scrapbookers! Photo Maniacs! Family Album Gurus!

We Need Your Creative Touch!

Our new website is now online with lots of new and updated content. But we need your help to enhance the site with B'nai Tikvah "family" photos.

There are thousands of photos taken over the years that are available for us to use. Adding one or two BT family photos to each of each of our new web pages will bring our synagogue to life. Just words alone cannot express what a picture can say.

Share your time and talent with us!

Share your findings and suggestions with us by contacting me today.

Gary Bergman,

webmaster@bnaitikvah.org, 732-246-7285

The first 90% of the task takes 90% of the time,  
and the last 10% takes the other 90%

### JANUARY HAKOL DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline for all submissions for the January 2009 issue of Hakol is **December 12, 2008**. Any articles, advertisements, columns and flyers for insertion must be sent to Hakol. CBT@gmail.com or must be placed in the Hakol mailbox no later than **December 12, 2008**.

### DEADLINE - noun.

1. the time by which something must be finished or submitted; the latest time for finishing something: *a five o'clock deadline*.
2. a line or limit that must not be passed.
3. (formerly) a boundary around a military prison beyond which a prisoner could not venture without risk of being shot by the editor, er, guards.

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Lions Gate has in part been made possible through the generosity of the Raymond and Gertrude R. Saltzman Foundation



## ANOTHER VIEWPOINT

### Sometime Justice

by Aaron Rosloff

As a boy growing up in the Bronx, New York, I was so used to the background sounds of anti-Semitism that I seldom paid attention to it. It was just something that you get so used to that you don't expend much time worrying about it. That is, until the stories and photos of Nazi atrocities began to appear in the daily newspapers. Not until I was mistaken for a Mexican in Texas did I really feel the whip of discrimination.

Mili and I were married in April of 1943, when I got my first furlough with permission to leave Victoria, Texas, where I was stationed. I returned to my post after a short honeymoon, and Mili followed me to Texas two months later, in June. While Mili was on the train going south, I went looking for a room for her to live in. To my dismay, I found the town overcrowded with G.I. wives and children, and a severe shortage of living spaces for them.

Desperate to find a place for her I tried knocking on doors with no success until I came to a large old colonial house, where the housewife said she had no rooms but that I might try continuing down the street. I followed her directions and soon found myself out of town with only a few small Mexican houses in sight. I felt kind of stupid because I must have misunderstood her instructions, and turned around, walked back into town, passing her house on the way. I was tempted to knock on her door again, but was too embarrassed to do so.

Feeling down and desperate, I returned to the local housing office in hope that something would have come in while I was out. A few minutes later, an elderly gent entered the office. He had apparently made a few stops at the local bars, as he was in a high mood and asked if I was looking for a room. In response to my enthusiastic yes, he put his arm around my shoulder and took me to his home. The very house where the woman had directed me toward the Mexican section of town.

*continued on page 21*



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## A MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Allison Nagelberg, VP Membership

### Our Condolences to:

Cantor Bruce Rockman  
On the passing of his uncle  
Howard Rockman

Helene Haberman  
On the passing of her father,  
Meyer Zeicher

### Mazel Tov to:

Andrew and Lori Kaye, On the  
Bar Mitzvah of their son Harrison

Alan and Terri Woller, On the  
Bar Mitzvah of their son Stephen

Jeffrey and Stacey Cadoff, On the  
Bar Mitzvah of their son Noah

Genarro and Lori Izzo  
On the Bar Mitzvah of their son Jake

Joel and Jamie Rothfus  
On the Bar Mitzvah of their son Drew

Mel and Rima Katz  
On the birth of their granddaughter Sophie

Carol Marks  
On the birth of her granddaughter Sophie Lynn

### Focus on Fitness

One thing I have learned as Membership VP is that **EVERYTHING** we do at our synagogue is a reflection of who we are as a community – every fantastic program and every act of tzedakah, each time we reach out to someone new and each time we help to make a minyan...these are all opportunities to shine and to show what makes this congregation special.

One program that I want to highlight is our **FREE HEALTH FAIR**, January 11, 2009 from 11-3 (more details inside). You will enjoy workshops on yoga, pilates, strength training, kid fitness, senior fitness, healthy cooking, and much more.

This is an excellent way to start the year off right, by enhancing your own well-being, and by introducing someone new to B'nai Tikvah.

For more details, please contact;  
Hilary Friedman 732-715-3569, joelr@comcast.net  
and THANK YOU, Hilary, for making this event possible!

Allison Nagelberg,  
Membership Vice President  
membership@bnaitikvah.org

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## B'NAI MITZVAH



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Mark & Patricia Rosen



**Austin Morse, December 13**  
David & Karen Morse



**Jared Cohen, December 20**  
Jeffrey & Karen Cohen

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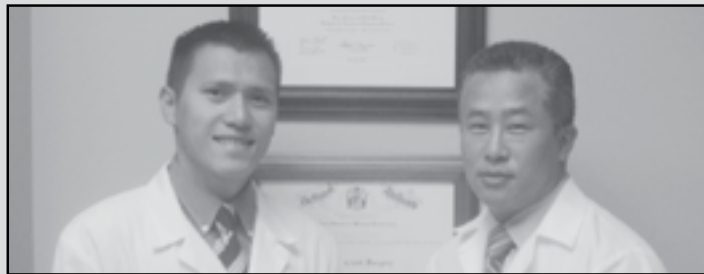


SAVE THE DATE:  
SUNDAY  
JANUARY 11, 2009

BLOOD DRIVE: 10:30a-3:00p  
HEALTH FAIR: 11:00a-3:00p

Programs: yoga - pilates - strength training/circuit training - an introduction to  
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
HILARY FRIEDMAN 732-715-3569 OR JOELFR@COMCAST.NET  
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## CONGREGATION EVENTS & INFORMATION

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One mitzvah leads to another.

*Toda raba, Elliott Danto*

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By Appointment

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We have a 4,000 square foot multi-purpose room/ gymnasium with basketball court, stage and kitchen. If the room is too big for your function, it has a folding wall so it can be made into 2 smaller rooms.

There are also six classrooms available (desks and chairs can be removed, if necessary), large bathroom facilities and on-site caterer.

The classrooms can be used for small parties, to start a class and share a skill that you are terrific at, to hold lectures, etc.

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For more information, please contact our Rooms Rental Manager, Sherry Valan at 732-297-0696 ext.12

Sherry Valan, Room Rentals Mgr.  
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References available upon request.



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## EVENTS & INFORMATION

### WANT TO BE A GUEST AT YOUR OWN WEDDING....?

..... at B'nai Tikvah, you can!

It's been several years since CBT has had a full-fledged FUN-raiser -- a night of dinner, dancing and all-around schmoozing -- and we're more than making up for it this February! We hope you will come join us as we spend the evening enjoying a "mock wedding", kitschy wedding games, and of course, a mass "vow renewal" officiated by Rabbi Wolkoff that's sure to be both interesting and meaningful. Filled with fabulous prizes, wonderful games and remembrances, we know this event is going to be great -- and we're looking forward to celebrating it with you.....

If you'd like to be on the planning committee of this romantic dinner-dance event, which is scheduled for Saturday night, February 14, 2009, please contact Marla Cukor at [CBTweddingparty@aol.com](mailto:CBTweddingparty@aol.com)

Thanks!

Marla

### SUPER SUNDAY, DEC 7th

The Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County will be holding its 2009 Annual Campaign Phone-a-thon, "Super Sunday," on Sunday, December 7th from 9 am to 9 pm at 230 Old Bridge Turnpike in South River.

Funds go to support social services, programs for the elderly, camp scholarships for children, community outreach and cultural education programs.

Answer the call!!

To volunteer for a phone shift, make a donation or for more information, contact Meryl Harris at the Jewish Federation at 732-432-7711 or [info@jf-gmc.org](mailto:info@jf-gmc.org).



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## EVENTS & INFORMATION



Find the NEW B'nai Tikvah At [www.BnaiTikvah.org](http://www.BnaiTikvah.org)

YES, IT'S TRUE! AND IT'S FINALLY HERE! Our B'nai Tikvah website has been converted into a new custom designed format with easy navigation and user-friendly features. Thanks to the hard, hard work of our amazing webmaster, Gary Bergman and his team of "web-tikvahs", Paul Zankel, Stu Allen, Cindy Gittleman and master designer, Dave Spivak.

AND NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP.

From the comfort of your home, in your pj's, at anytime... WE NEED YOU to spend some time on the website and help us "proof" our work. We want to make the site the best it can be, to serve our members and to attract new members to our congregation.

Here's how YOU can help. Spend some time on the new website. Tell us what YOU THINK. Help us find our spelling errors. Make suggestions for better navigation, information you would like to see added, or under a different heading. Point out what quick links are important to you. Show us some new Jewish

links on the web that our members and guests will find useful. Ask your teen to give their feedback too. Share with us what you like. Share with us what you think will make the site better. Let us know what is hard to understand, what you can't find or appears out of place. Your input can make a huge difference.

Share your findings and suggestions by emailing our webmaster today.

Gary Bergman,  
webmaster@bnaitikvah.org, 732-246-7285 Or

Cindy Gittleman,  
gittleman@comcast.net, 732-274-2253

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## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS *Ann Kanarek, Director*

### CHANUKAH

When I was growing up, Chanukah was a minor, happy holiday. It was simply a time for candle lighting, dreidel games and Chanukah gelt. It was never a gift-giving holiday. In our attempt to counteract the lure of Christmas, we have, over the years, added extensive gift-giving and the sense of this being an important holiday, rivaling the High Holy days and the festivals.

Chanukah is many things but it isn't a holiday where we take off from work or school. Only during the candle lighting do we not work. Chanukah is not generally celebrated in the synagogue. The holiday, however, is historical and commemorates the victory of the Maccabees and Jewish survival. We celebrate the victory of the Hasmoneans to remind us of the achievement of religious liberty and the rededication of the ancient temple in Jerusalem.

Chanukah has no biblical origins and the story of the oil that burned for eight days is not found in the books of the Maccabees. It is written, however, in the Talmud many years later.

Many of the ways in which we observe Chanukah was written in the Shulchan Aruch which is a written manual of halacha (Jewish law), composed by Rabbi Yosef Karo in the 16th century.

This is what is written:

- Eat and be merry. Linger over your meal and join in songs and tales of the miracle.
- Buy a menorah of silver to reflect the shining light. Each light should burn at least half an hour. Set the menorah where all can see it.
- Place the eight candles in a straight row, since no day of Chanukah is superior to another. Only the shamash, the guardian and the kindler of the lights, stands above the others.
- Kindle the lights before any member of the household goes to sleep.
- Light the shamash and recite the blessings. Kindle the first light on the left and move to the right.
- Men, women and children may kindle the menorah. In some households, each person has their own menorah to kindle.
- Add to your usual contributions of tzedakah at Chanukah time, so that all may share in the happiness.

The link between Chanukah and Christmas represents an on-going challenge for North American Jews. Aside from the two holidays occurring at

approximately the same time, they have virtually nothing else in common. If, indeed, the Maccabees had not been able to sustain their commitment to Judaism, the history of our people would have ended then and Christianity would not have emerged as it did.

From my family to all of you, I wish you a Chag Sameach!! Enjoy lighting your menorah and eating latkes!!

### SUPPORT OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Put your name on a flame, put your handle on a candle. Look for the **WALL OF FLAME**, our Religious School Menorah with your name in lights. For only a dollar each, you can buy paper flames for every member of your family. Or, for 18 big ones, you can buy a whole paper candle for your group. Anyway you choose, you are warming up to a great a cause —your **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**. For more information check the flyer in this bulletin or on the web. On behalf of the Religious School staff and children we thank you for your support.

**TODAH RABAH** to our Jewish Book Fair Chairperson: *Gina Giuffre* and her committee of volunteers. Thanks to all their help and hard work, the book fair will surely be very successful. The proceeds of the book fair benefit the Religious School's enrichment program.

**MANY THANKS** to *Deborah Spigner* for coordinating our **BOX TOPS** campaign. We appreciate the efforts of all our families and friends who help support our school by clipping General Mills Box Tops for Education coupons. Just as a reminder: our aim for the end of year is to reach a goal of \$500.00.

#### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REMINDERS:

**Sunday, December 7:**

ALEF NAMING CEREMONY AND BRUNCH, 10:45 am  
Chai School Special Program: JNF: Common Ground

**Sunday, December 14:**

Dalet Special Program: AJC: Island of Hope

**Sunday, December 21:**

K-6 Special program: Theatre Ariel presents:  
Silly tales~Chelm Stories; 11:00 - 12:05

**Wednesday, December 24 thru Sunday, January 4th:**

NO SCHOOL, Winter break (*School resumes Tuesday, January 6*)

**Sunday, January 11:**

K-2 PACT program:  
Shema Pajama Party 10:00 am - 12:05 pm

**Monday, January 12:**

Religious Education Committee Meeting, 7:45 pm

**Sunday, January 18:**

NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King weekend

**NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS**

PHYLLIS DENENBERG, DIRECTOR

**Celebrations and Reading**

We celebrated the wedding of "Yitzchak and Rivkah" (Isaac and Rebekah) the week of Parshat Chaye Sarah. Wedding invitations were sent out to all our families. The wedding took place in the Sanctuary. Rabbi Wolkoff officiated. The bride and groom stood under a Chupah made from three talitim (talises). The Pre-K students dressed up as the "family" (Avraham etc.,-Sarah had already died) and the 3 year olds were the "guests".



The Nursery library program is in full swing. Our students have library cards and take out a book every two weeks. They must bring it back to the library in order to take out another one. It teaches them responsibility! Thank you to Syndi Smoller, Sharon Rubin and the library committee.

The Nursery Classes celebrated Thanksgiving in their own special way. The 3's and pre-k prepared a yummy feast that was shared with their families in the social hall.

The yiladeem made costumes, sang songs and everyone consumed the goodies that were prepared by the children. The 2 ½ year olds celebrated Thanksgiving with their own feast in their classroom.

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be taking place the first week of December, from the first through the fifth of the month.

All classes are starting to make special projects for Chanukah. Many are learning the Brachot for the Menorah.

December 16th and 17th we will hold our annual Kiddie Holiday Boutique where the children pick out and purchase Chanukah gifts for their loved ones.

The first night of Chanukah is Sunday, December 21st.

December 8th will be picture Day for the 3's & pre-K. Ruth Bash from Solomon Schechter Day School will

be speaking to perspective parents on Wednesday, December 10th at 9:15. Refreshments will be served.

On Monday, December 22nd we will be having our annual Chanukah Party. Residents from Stein Assisted Living will be our guests. After being entertained by our talented children, Uncle John's Puppets will entertain us.

On Tuesday, the Pre-K class will be going to the Regency Heritage Nursing Home (formerly know as the NJ Home for the Aged), to sing for the residents. We hope to entertain 60 residents! The children will also draw pictures for the residents to hang up in their rooms. What Mitzvah children we have here! We are so proud of them!!

In conjunction with their unit on Community Helpers, the 3's and pre-k will have many activities. On Monday December 3rd the Township of North Brunswick will again be sending over vehicles that help the community. There will be a fire truck, a garbage truck, a street sweeper, a police car and more! Please come and join us at 9:30 AM!

The pre-K will be going on a field trip to Magyar bank on Route 27 on December 11th. We intend on bringing all our tzedakah to be put into the coin counting machine to see how much tzedakah has been raised. Every Friday, in honor of Shabbat, tzedakah is collected.

Reminder: School will be closed for Winter Break from Wednesday December 24th through Friday, January 2nd. Classes will resume on Monday, January 5th.

*We wish you and your family a Happy Chanukah!*

*See you in 2009!.... Phyllis*

**MARC D. BINDER, CPA**

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dietmom27@aol.com  
732-297-4240

### Many Thanks

USY Food Drive - Many thanks for the generous food donations during the USY Food Drive. The South Brunswick Food Bank gave a cheer when Youth Committee member Gina Gerstein drove up with her car packed (and I mean packed) with food items. Thank you to Marc Katronetsky for organizing the drive.

Thanks for Mike Rogove for engineering the USY Rocky Horror Show trip, to Elliot Cohen for his work in organizing the Rock-a-Thon charity event, and to the hard working USY Board members who have been developing the wonderful chapters events offered this season.

More thanks to the following individuals who assisted with the Cancer Event earlier this fall:

Noah Cadoff	Jody Friedman
Alysa Marcou	Ailla Platz
Amanda Zimmerman	Nicole Leftkowitz

Attention New B'nai Tikvah Families -- The congregation has two active youth groups for tweens and teens. We accept new members throughout the year. Call Jordana Andersen, Kadima Advisor or Dorothy Cohen, Youth Committee Chair with questions. Our website has application forms and up-to-date activity calendars. Kadima (grades 6-8) and USY (grades 9-12).

*Dorothy Cohen*  
Chair, B'nai Tikvah Youth Commission  
Home 732-821-4376  
dcohen1@its.jnj.com  
Visit: <http://www.bnaitikvah.org/youth.html>

**Blood Drive & Health Fair**  
Sunday, January 11, 2008 - 10:30am - 3pm

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# B'NAI TIKVAH YOUTH

## KADIMA

Many families already know that B'nai Tikvah is hosting the 8th Grade Shabbaton February 28-March 1. We are looking for Synagogue families to host Kadima kids. Anyone interested please contact Nadine Weg [nainjersey@aol.com](mailto:nainjersey@aol.com). More info in the next Hakol to follow.

I'm proud to announce in November we had an event called Mitzvah & a Movie w/ EBJC & raised \$44 for Tzedakah!

December 5-6 Regional Kadima Shabbaton in Cranford & 6-7th 8th grade Shabbaton for those who are attending. There is no transportation to & from the Shabbaton. For those not attending the Shabbaton, there is a Dance on Saturday night in Cranford from 7:30-10:30 pm. I'm not sure if there is transportation yet so parents may need to carpool. The cost is \$6. RSVP for the dance by 12/1.

December 18 – Hanukkah Party in the Youth Lounge from 7-8:30 pm. The cost is \$3. Bring an appetite! We will have a grab bag, spend between \$10-15 & make sure the gift is for either a boy or girl.



January 17 – A Lock-In in the Gym w/ East Brunswick & East Windsor. Spend over 24 hours w/ your Kadima Friends. It is open to the 1st 15 that RSVP. Anyone else that wants to attend can stay until midnight for the fun. The cost is \$5 for our Chapter & \$10 for EBJC & East Windsor.

Contact me with questions or concerns throughout the year! If you haven't turned in your application yet, please send into B'nai Tikvah office. Applications are available on <http://bnaitikvah.com/youth.html>. Always accepting new members all year round!

As always, please RSVP to me for all events that require an RSVP date.

Jordana Andersen (732) 422-7457  
[Jorde1174@aol.com](mailto:Jorde1174@aol.com)

## U.S.Y.



USY raised more than \$600 for SA/TO (Social Action/Tikun Olam) during November Rock-a-Thon.

December 6th: Havdalah, Dinner & Movie Night



- Join all of your USY for one of our most popular events. Bring money to bet on the movie of your choice! This is a great event that is a lot of fun! The event will start at 4:30 P.M. On a Saturday night! RSVP to Jordana ([Jorde1174@aol.com](mailto:Jorde1174@aol.com)) as soon as possible!

December 13 Hagalil Membership Dance (Toms River) - An excellent night of dancing, friends, and fun as our chapter joins the rest of the region in Toms River for another exciting dance. Just a few Saturdays away so RSVP to Jordana soon!

December 19-20 International Pre-Convention

December 20-25 International convention!- Have fun in D.C. USYers!!!

January 3: Another Havdalah Movie Night!- Join us again for another great Havdalah Movie Night! New Movies Same Fun! RSVP to Jordana. !



January 10: Sato Dance (Caldwell) - The Year kicks off with another great USY regional dance. This time it's hosted by Caldwell. These dances are always a great time! RSVP to Jordana.

January 10 - Joint USY and Kadima Shabbat



Luncheon. Members and families attend services and luncheon. Sponsors requested. Call Dorothy Cohen 732-821-4376.

Sun, Jan 11 - Health Fair & Blood Drive 10:30-pm  
 Did you know that teens ages 16 or older weighing 110 or more (based on height) can give blood with parental consent. Go to the United Blood Services site to see if you meet the height and weight requirement [http://www.unitedbloodservices.org/forms/BS\\_319\\_chart.PNG](http://www.unitedbloodservices.org/forms/BS_319_chart.PNG). Consider making your first donation among friends at B'nai Tikvah.

Feb 1st: Lox Box Super bowl Sunday Sale



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DAVID MASON, Ed.M.



## B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

# SISTERHOOD

### COMING ATTRACTIONS

- December 7 ZUMBA – Sisterhood general meeting and program
- December 7 Hanukkah Bazaar at the Judaica Shop
- December 14 Hanukkah Bazaar at the Judaica Shop
- January 15 Sisterhood general meeting (Thursday night meeting)
- January 24 Passover Poker

Sisterhood would like to thank Caryl Greenberg and Brenda Sherman for a very successful Paid Up Membership dinner. All those in attendance on November 20th had a fun time at our Games, Gourmet and Goodies evening.

#### Join us for ZUMBA!

Our Next Event Sunday, December 7, 2008.

We will begin the morning with a delicious bagel breakfast at 10:00AM. Following breakfast we will have a chance to burn off some calories while we learn about Zumba. Zumba is a fitness program inspired by Latin dance. It was founded by Miami based dancer and choreographer Alberto “Beto” Perez. Zumba combines Latin rhythms with cardiovascular exercise to create an aerobic routine that is fun and easy to follow. The name Zumba is derived from a Colombian word meaning to “move fast and have fun!”

This class will be an introductory-level, designed for ALL levels of fitness. Please wear comfortable clothing. New members are always welcome. This event is free of charge.

#### We Want You

Don't forget to join! It's not too late – you can still return your membership form and dues to the synagogue office or to Fern Katronetsky. Any questions, contact Caryl Greenberg: 732.297.3780 mailto: or Brenda Sherman: 732.940.1110. Your dues support the woman's pillar of B'nai Tikvah and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. And you can join our active group of women at great meetings and events all year long.

#### Social Action: “A Package from Home”

Sisterhood is collecting travel size toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and mini bags of M & M's. These packages are sent to Israeli soldiers. Contact Andrea Katz for additional information: 732-329-0687.

Creative Hands Project – Knit or crochet a scarf for the Special Olympics. Yarn is available at no charge. If you want to participate in this effort but do not knit or crochet, donations to help fund the project are welcome.

Contact Bonnie Stevens at 732-967-9560 for additional information.

#### Save the Date – Saturday January 24th!

It's not Passover but it's not really Poker either but it is our 3rd annual Passover Poker event! See the flyer in this issue of HaKol and sign up early to reserve your spot. If you have not joined us for this event in the past, find one of the over 50 couples that did and ask them about it.

#### 2009 Mah Jongg Cards

Sisterhood is taking orders for Mah Jongg cards. Standard sized cards are \$7 each, and Large sized cards \$8 each. Orders will be taken until the end of

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# SISTERHOOD

January 2009. Contact Fern Katronetsky at 732 422 4321 for questions and send your check payable to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood, c/o Fern Katronetsky, 10 Donald Avenue, Kendall Park, NJ 08824.

### Mitzvah Baskets



(Having a B'nai Mitzvah or other simcha? Let Sisterhood decorate the bima with two non-perishable food baskets that match your color scheme! We also deliver the baskets for use at other synagogues so you

can tell your local friends about this service! For more information or to order your bima baskets, please contact Andrea at (732) 329-0687.

### Torah Fund

Your Torah Fund contribution strengthens and perpetuates Conservative Judaism throughout the World. For information on ways you can support Torah Fund, contact Ann Rosenzweig, 732-249-9141.

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Diane is particularly skilled at working with clients over 40 who want to go at their own pace in gaining skill in movement co-ordination, improving their posture, building a fit and fabulous body, and learning to live pain-free! She has taught at Stony Brook University, Rutgers, various workshops throughout the New York area, and is on the faculty of the American Center for the Alexander Technique.

Diane also has an extensive dance and choreography background, bringing her expertise and creative talents directly to the student.

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e-mail: [dianeyoung@bodymindbalance.net](mailto:dianeyoung@bodymindbalance.net)

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## Man of the Year

*continued from page 1*

nomination doubtless came about from my idea to create a Jewish music and culture festival sponsored by Congregation B'nai Tikvah. Ideas are a dime a dozen, but an idea is only converted into reality by hard work and people who jump in and assume responsibility.

I am certain that every man who received this honor at the recent Man Of The Year dinner had that kind of help, and I wish to acknowledge with abiding thanks the contributions that all the people, men and women, who gave selfless assistance to me, and to all the other honorees at the Man Of The Year dinner on November 5th 2008.

Aaron Rosloff

**G-d says: If you come to My house,  
I will come to yours.**

*- Hillel*



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## B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

### MEN'S CLUB

#### Men's Club meeting - December 14th at 10am - Website design

Come join the Men's Club for another exciting meeting and discussion: Website design.

Gary Bergman will be hosting and discussing the intricacies of designing the B'nai Tikvah website and how it has evolved over the years. No need to be a "techie" to enjoy the presentation. For aspiring web designers young and old, this is a golden opportunity to learn from the "Web-i Master".

As always we will be enjoying our traditional bagels and lox breakfast. A \$4 donation is appreciated.

Please confirm your attendance to:  
Steve Katz, Men's Club President: skatz56@aol.com  
This meeting is open to all (spouses & friends).

### Chavurah News

We call ourselves the Senior Chavurah. Once a month we visit each others' homes for a few hours of talk and eat, explore the world that was and the world that is. As with every Jewish get together our meeting either starts with food or ends with food.

Sometimes we watch a video and discuss its contents. At other times it may be a book report or some current event, but usually it is of Jewish concern or interest.

Last month, we met at the home of Eileen Robison and viewed a documentary about the Israeli soldiers who served in the Jewish Brigade in the British army during World War II and their almost unbelievable exploits in helping Jewish refugees during and after the war. It was a moving experience, well worth the time as some of us had never known about the activities of the Jewish Brigade, or even of its existence. And then we ate.

Every meeting is different and always worth while. We meet monthly on a Sunday at various times, depending on the time of year and the host.

If you would like to join us, call Madeline Gaynor at 732-297-4240 for the time and place, but only if you like to talk, listen and to eat.

*Aaron Rosloff*  
Senior Chavurah

## 50plus

#### Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 23, 12:30 PM

The Fifty Plus Group will meet on Tuesday, December 23, at 12:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of the Synagogue. We will celebrate our annual Chanukah Party complete with traditional Chanukah refreshments and grab bag gifts.

For further information please call:  
*Doris @ 609-860-1498 or*  
*the other Doris @ 732-745-1984.*

#### Award Winning Author, Dara Horn

Monday, Dec. 08, 2008 | 07:30 PM to 09:00 PM

Dara Horn's website is <http://www.darahorn.com>.

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Contact: Sherry Endick, Phone: 732-932-2033

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## B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

### Sometime Justice

*continued from page 6*

She stood in the vestibule staring at me, as her husband led me upstairs and gave me my choice of two furnished rooms. I paid him the first week's rent, made a few minor changes and left. As I reached the stairwell, the woman stood at the bottom and waited for me to descend. When I got to the bottom, she said "I want to apologize; I thought you were a Mexican". I was flummoxed.

For the first time in my life, I really felt the full force of what discrimination was about. There I was, in the uniform of an American soldier, and she felt that she had the right to treat me as a lesser person because my complexion had been darkened by the strong Texas sun. There was nothing I could do. If I said what I had in mind, Mili would arrive with no place to stay. I was stuck, but that moment has been burned into my consciousness and returns to visit me when the question of race or ethnicity is mentioned.

Mili arrived by train on the following day and quickly got a job as a secretary on the post. There she met and became friends with a young Mexican woman who worked as a tailor at the post PX, customizing uniforms. In time, Mary, whose last name I no longer recall invited us to visit at her parents' home at the edge of town. The house was small and neat, surrounded by a half acre of land on which they grew much of their food.

Mary's parents were poor, but not poverty stricken. We were met with grace and warmth and quickly felt at home with them. Yes, they were poor, but they were people with class and elegance and it angered me that they were not treated as being as worthy as anyone.

That was over sixty years ago and most of these people have gone on to their rewards, but when I read and hear about what is being said about Mexicans today, how they are referred to as though they are a plague or vermin instead of struggling people, human beings, who are just trying to find work to feed their families, and find a better life, I feel that we are also diminished.

Are they here illegally? Yes, many of them are, but only because they are employed illegally and knowingly by Americans. Where is the justice in only punishing the poor?

My conservative friends will chide me for being too liberal. I say not so. Our constitution does not discriminate. Everyone has the same rights under the law. Unfortunately, the law is not being applied evenly. Our Pledge of Allegiance says "with liberty and justice for all". Well, not always, it seems.

## CONGREGATION EVENTS

### Ways & Means – Fundraising

Dear Friends,

As you know, we run many wonderful events at B'nai Tikvah during the course of the year. I would like to focus on a new one, the upcoming Texas Hold-'Em Fundraiser. This is a new event that we are sponsoring, co-chaired by David Cukor and Ben Gottesman.

The wonderful details of this event are found elsewhere in the Hakol and on our website homepage. This event offers an opportunity to reach out to those friends, family and colleagues who are card players and looking for a fun event, where they can win some great prizes.

The success of this event is based on our ability to reach out beyond our immediate membership. Here are some ideas to promote the event.

1. Review your email address book and send a brief email to some friends who might be interested.
2. Invite a group of friends to attend with you as a night out.
3. Buy a ticket as a gift and very special thank you to someone who did something exemplary for you.

When: December 13, 2008, Where: B'nai Tikvah

When: Doors open @ 7:30, Play begins @ 8 p.m.

Sign up at <http://bnaitikvah.org/holdem.html>.

Top 10% Win prizes!

Light dinner, beer and wine, dessert is also included!

Don't know how to play -- but want to learn? Join us at a "TEXAS HOLD 'EM practice clinic (CBT members only) from 5-7 p.m. on November 30th....

Must be 21 or older to play.

*B'shalom*

Larry Cohen, VP Ways & Means

Linda J. Fellen, Esq.

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## B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

# SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS

## December 2008 - A Happy Month?

The answer to this question is personal. It is between you and your state of mind whether this month is one that elicits happiness or not. The one thing that we can't ignore is that it is December again. It's time to think back about how this past year of 2008 was for you and your families. Many things occurred that could point to a less than fruitful year. The price of oil went up faster than the temperature in the Sahara Desert, banks and other companies were falling upon hard economic times, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan continued, and the presidential campaigns took on a heated and often negative tone. All in all, we wondered if it would all improve. As a result of the elections we, as Americans, will look to 2009 as a new President assumes his position of authority and hope that positive changes will be forthcoming. The last eight years will be part of history and how we each look upon it will be subject to our own political positions.

December is a month where the days grow shorter, but it has potential to be a month with some good days. It's all in the attitude and how we handle this time of year. Personally, I'd rather regard it as a time to have fun with family and friends. I may not celebrate non-Jewish holidays. I do, however allow the crisp air and happy expressions that I witness to influence my attitude. Go into any shopping mall and you will see a mixed bag of smiles and frustrated looks all due to the holidays. I just wish that I could bottle up those positive feelings so whenever I need a "shot" of happy, I would just open the can and let it waft through the air. Oh, but only if that could actually occur...

Meanwhile, let's list three big reasons why and how December 2008 could have a positive and happy impact on our lives.

1) Chanukah/Hanukkah/etc. starts on the 22nd. We have eight great nights of light ahead of us. It's time to take out the electronic and/or traditional candle menorahs, dreidels, veggie graters as well as those latke and sfganiyout recipes. It's also time to listen to all versions of Adam Sandler's "Chanukah Song" and to watch his animated film, "Eight Crazy Nights." The movie has already aired a few times since early November and I'm sure a few more airings will be scheduled throughout December. Oh, happy days!

2) Christmas – the 25th. Hey, I might be a Yiddisha Shiksha, but I still know that it is not a Jewish holiday. Yet, everywhere we turn tv and radio stations have begun blasting Christmas commercials and music. We may not celebrate and embrace this day as our own, but let's review. First, many of us are family members of inter-religious marriages where both Chanukah and Christmas are both celebrated. Also, many of us have friends who celebrate Christmas and extend invitations to us to partake in a day to celebrate that friendship. Next, some Jewish people see this as a great day to go to the movies, have a Chinese meal and/or go hit the casinos in Atlantic City. Finally, for the social service minded



in our community, this is the day to volunteer at facilities, such as nursing homes, hospitals and food kitchens so staff at these places could enjoy their holiday with their loved ones. So, even though we may not celebrate the day, we do take advantage of the day and what limited activities there are.

3) New Year's Eve – the 31st. Whether you party hearty or stay home and go to bed, this night is still one for the list. Living in the NYC area makes us fortunate to watch the crystal ball as it counts down to the New Year. We can either be part of the crowds in Times Square or we could watch from the warmth of our living rooms. In fact, this year a new, colorful crystal ball will be inaugurated for this exciting event.

However you regard any of these three days in December, YOU GOTTA EAT ANYWAY. So, why not let the Supermarket Gift Card (SGC) committee assist you? After writing up your grocery shopping list and BEFORE you go shopping, purchase sufficient SGCs. The SGC committee stocks up enough from your favorite stores such as A&P, Acme, Pathmark, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Whole Foods as well as Lox, Stock & Deli (LS&D). Remember you can purchase your SGCs by:

- stopping in the synagogue office during business hours
- going on-line at bnaitikvah.org
- visiting the SGC committee in the religious school lobby on Sundays
- calling one of the following committee members:
 

Rachel Ruchlin	732-329-2189
Bobby Bergman	732- 246-7285
Ann Rosenzweig	732-249-9141
Jay Scheuer	732-940-8473
Ruth Shindler	732-238-6893 – covering East Brunswick

This month's tip: The economy is in a downward slope right now. It has even affected donations to various agencies and organizations. Our area food pantries have been in desperate need of assistance with less to offer a growing needy population. If you could donate groceries from your purchases (using SGCs, of course) or donate actual SGCs, it would be greatly appreciated. Please try to remember there are those who may have less than you and me. This is a hard time of year when the economy is stable, but now it is especially in need of the help of those who can offer what they can. Why not purchase extra SGCs? You can get them for as little as \$20 or \$10. When you and I do this, we can earmark which food pantry will receive the donation. In our own small way another family may have a better holiday as a result of our donation(s). For further information, contact Rachel Ruchlin at the above listed telephone number. The SGC Committee thanks you for your generosity.

So, to my CBT family, enjoy December; count those happy faces, spin those dreidels and make attainable/realistic resolutions. Let's hope 2009 will be a healthy and more peaceful year for all of us.

Linda Feinstein

## B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY

### They Stole My Religion *continued from page 1*

- the sharp turn to the right in the Orthodox community; while 78 percent of Jews supported Obama, about three quarters of Orthodox Jews supported McCain.
- the fact that supporters of Obama were harassed at some yeshivas and some synagogues
- the fact that graduates of Jewish day schools and yeshivas are increasingly not interested in applying Jewish values toward creating more just, peaceful, environmentally sustainable societies.
- the emphasis on ritual matters, and downplaying among many Jews of Jewish teachings on preserving the environment, conserving resources, pursuing peace and justice.
- the fact that it is easier for a bigot or reactionary person to be accepted in some synagogues than someone who wants to apply Jewish values toward the creation of a better world;
- the general failure of the Jewish community to act as a "light onto the nations," as Hashem's witnesses, as pursuers of peace and justice.
- the failure of many religious Jewish groups and individuals to adequately respond to the many horrors at the Postville, Iowa glatt kosher slaughterhouse.
- the failure of Jewish leaders to consider our arguments for vegetarianism and the many moral issues related to our diets.

*Richard Schwartz:*

I discovered the writings of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, and relished his radical analysis of Judaism and his criticism of 'religious behaviorism'. Reading a book about the writings of Martin Buber reinforced my emerging belief that it was really the distortion of religion that I was so much against. I concluded that, to some extent, my religion had been "stolen", since so many observant Jews seemed to be locked into ritual, without seeing or applying the deeper values that could be related to challenging the status quo. I found that all my social ideals were included within Judaism, and that Judaism provides a structure for leading a meaningful and involved spiritual life. I also read Jewish history and was amazed to learn how the Jewish people maintained their beliefs and practices in spite of severe persecutions in many lands and times. I became convinced that Jews had a mission to work for tikkun olam, a healed and improved world. . .

The book will be VERY positive re Judaism but also

respectfully very critical of those who are failing to apply Jewish values to societal problems at a time when they are needed more than ever.

It will point out the positive things that some Jewish groups are doing and positive charitable efforts on the part of many Jews. A main theme will be:

look at how beautiful Judaism is, how powerful and relevant its teachings are and why it is essential that there be a reevaluation and a shifting of priorities in the Jewish community.

Do you share these concerns? Are our values and priorities in need of a shake up? Is the application of Judaism in our lives relevant to the expectations of true Jewish teaching and values?

Respond to; hakol.cbt@gmail.com

**TEXAS HOLD'EM  
POKER  
TOURNAMENT**

**REGISTER NOW!**  
[WWW.BNAITIKVAH.ORG/HOLDDEM.HTML](http://WWW.BNAITIKVAH.ORG/HOLDDEM.HTML)

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December 13  
8PM

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#### 2007-2008 HAKOL ADVERTISING RATES

Size	Art Dimensions (w x h)	Annual Contract: 10 Issues	Single Issue
Full Page:	8" x 10.5"	\$675	\$100
Half Page:	3.75" x 10.5" 8" x 5"	\$525	\$80
Quarter Page:	3.75" x 5"	\$400	\$60
Business Card	2" x 3.5"	\$300	\$45

Contact Ruth Shindler at [ruthshindler@comcast.net](mailto:ruthshindler@comcast.net)

# DONATIONS *October 15 through November 15*

The following are Contributions to our B'nai Tikvah Funds:

**Yartzeit:**

Vicki & Bert Bauman,  
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Aaron Rosloff,  
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Fern & Allan Katronetsky

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in memory of Rose Lorber

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in memory of Avram Aronsky

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in memory of Dorothy Schneier

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in loving memory of Annette Kessler

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in memory of Samuel Kivor

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her beloved daughter, Aileen

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in memory of Hyman Kublin

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in memory of Irving Levine

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in memory of Muriel Feldman

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:**

Berenice & Barry Levine,  
in honor of their son Cory's Bar Mitzvah

Weichman family

**Cantor's Discretionary Fund:**

Susan & Arnie Miller,  
in memory of Howard Rockman

Helene & Gary Tinkel,  
in memory of Howard Rockman

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Lois Krantz & Family, in honor of  
Dan Krantz becoming President of the  
New Jersey Dental Association

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Scott & Debbi Rekant,  
in memory of Rabbi Olitzky's father, Abe

Scott & Debbi Rekant, in honor of the  
engagement of Amy Schwartz

Scott & Debbie Rekant, in memory of  
Adrienne Ross' grandmother, Augusta  
Spiegelman

Marina Finkelberg

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in memory of his beloved wife, Sylvia

**L'Dor VaDor Concert Fund:**

Ann & Jack Kanarek,  
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Deborah & Martin Spigner,  
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**Torah Restoration Fund:**

Blanche Fruhling, in honor of being able to  
hold the Torah on Rosh Hashanah

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Sherry Valan, in honor of Lynne  
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International Vice President of The  
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**Allen Karp Memorial Fund:**

Ilene, Joshua & Stacie Karp,  
in memory of Pauline Karp

**Makhela Fund:**

**Religious School Fund:**

Ann & Jack Kanarek,  
in memory of Roberta Weiss

**Nursery School Fund:**

Carol & Mark Winter, in honor of the  
engagement of Amy Schwartz

Carol & Mark Winter, in honor of Noah  
Cadoff becoming a Bar Mitzvah

---

## Contributions:

If you are interested in making a contribution to B'nai Tikvah, please fill out the form below and mail it to us at:  
Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegans Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

On the occasion of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**This donation is being made by:**

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

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send acknowledgement to:**

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

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

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

Amount of your donation:

\$18     \$36     \$54     \$72     \$118     Other \$

**Please Allocate Donation to:**

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- Passport to Israel Fund
- Religious School Fund
- Torah Restoration Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund\*
- Social Action Fund
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- Other:
- Yartzeit
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- Family Shabbat Fund

*\*Please send separate checks for each Fund*

## B'NAI TIKVAH COMMUNITY



### Bonnie Kudwitt continues to list and sell items on eBay.

*Any donations are welcome.  
All proceeds go to B'Nai Tikvah.  
If it can fit in a box she can sell it.*

Drop items off in the office.  
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## TODAH RABBAH

We would like to thank

Jeri Roller,

Mae Rubenstein,

Janet Szpiro,

Bill Greenberg,

Mike Ketofsky,

Madeline Gaynor

for making calls to celebrate November birthdays.

We would also like to thank

Stacey Cadoff and Sherry Valan,

for helping with the mailing of Hakol and  
Sherry Valan

for helping in the synagogue office.

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Youth Committee	Dorothy Cohen	732-821-4376	dcohen1@its.nj.com

Keep our directory up to date. Updates & changes: e-mail Hakol.CBT@gmail.com, or call the editor at 908-874-0959



4 KISLEV - 4 TEVET

**DECEMBER 2008**

4 KISLEV - 4 TEVET

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>November 2008</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p> <p>31</p>	<p>1 4 Kislev</p> <p>Board of Directors</p>	<p>2 5 Kislev</p> <p>Open Basketball</p>	<p>3 6 Kislev</p> <p>Israeli Dancing Adult Ed: Mysticism</p>	<p>4 7 Kislev</p> <p>Adult Ed Meeting</p>	<p>5 8 Kislev</p>	<p>6 9 Kislev</p> <p>Parsha: VAYETZEI</p> <p>USY Havdalah, Dinner and a Movie</p>
<p>7 10 Kislev</p> <p>Alef Naming Ceremony and Brunch Jewish Book Fair Sisterhood Hanukah Bazaar and Meeting Federation Super Sunday</p>	<p>8 11 Kislev</p> <p>School Board Sisterhood Board</p>	<p>9 12 Kislev</p> <p>Open Basketball</p> <p>Israeli Stamp Club</p>	<p>10 13 Kislev</p> <p>Israeli Dancing Adult Ed - History</p>	<p>11 14 Kislev</p> <p>Youth Committee</p>	<p>12 15 Kislev</p> <p>Havurah Shabbat Luau Dinner Spirituality Service</p>	<p>13 16 Kislev</p> <p>Parsha: VAYISHLACH Seudah Shlishit &amp; Study</p> <p>Texas Hold'em</p>
<p>14 17 Kislev</p> <p>Rabbi's Brunch Intro to Judaism Men's Club Sisterh'd Hanukah Bazaar Jewish Book Fair Chai School Program</p>	<p>15 18 Kislev</p> <p>Ritual Committee Meeting</p>	<p>16 19 Kislev</p> <p>Open Basketball</p> <p>Nursery Conferences</p>	<p>17 20 Kislev</p> <p>Nursery Conferences Intro to Judaism Israeli Dancing Adult Education</p>	<p>18 21 Kislev</p> <p>Kadima Hanukah Party</p>	<p>19 22 Kislev</p> <p>Family Shabbat Dinner and Service</p>	<p>20 23 Kislev</p> <p>Parsha: VAYESHEV Mevarekim ha'Hodesh</p>
<p>21 24 Kislev</p> <p>Bowling / Hanukah Party</p> <p>Erev Hanukah 1st Candle</p>	<p>22 25 Kislev</p> <p>Congregational Meeting Hanukah 2nd Candle</p>	<p>23 26 Kislev</p> <p>Open Basketball</p> <p>50+ General Meeting Hanukah 3rd Candle</p>	<p>24 27 Kislev</p> <p>School Winter Break Hanukah 4th Candle</p>	<p>25 28 Kislev</p> <p>Office &amp; Schools Closed Administrative Holiday Hanukah 5th Candle</p>	<p>26 29 Kislev</p> <p>Hanukah 6th Candle</p>	<p>27 30 Kislev</p> <p>Parsha: MIKETZ</p> <p>Hanukah 7th Candle ROSH HODESH</p>
<p>28 1 Tevet</p> <p>No Religious School</p> <p>Hanukah 8th Candle ROSH HODESH</p>	<p>29 2 Tevet</p> <p>Schools Closed Israeli Stamp Club</p>	<p>30 3 Tevet</p> <p>Open Basketball</p> <p>Schools Closed</p>	<p>31 4 Tevet</p> <p>Schools Closed</p>	<p>January 2009</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>Candle Lighting</p> <p>5th 4:14 PM</p> <p>12th 4:14 PM</p> <p>19th 4:16 PM</p> <p>26th 4:20 PM</p>	

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