

**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.**



## Binder Tribute Book Challenge CBT Angels will DOUBLE your Tribute Book contribution

This is an amazing opportunity for you and CBT!! For the first time ever, we have a Tribute Book Challenge: a number of CBT families have generously agreed to match contributions made to the Binder Tribute Book for our Meshugganah Masquerade fund-raising event in February. These "CBT Angels" are challenging everyone to honor the Binders and give as much as they can.

So, how can you help? Since any Ad or Well Wisher that you place will bring in double the funds for the shul, give as much as you are able:

Place an ad, even if you weren't considering it – it's worth double to CBT.

Upsize the ad you had in mind to significantly increase your donation without too much additional out-of-pocket for you. Consider donating an amount greater than the cost of the ad – give a little extra and CBT gets a lot more. Marc and Bobbi have given so much to CBT, especially to our children. This Tribute Book Challenge gives you an amazing opportunity to honor the Binders and to have your contribution multiplied!

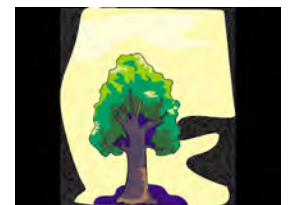
Please consider placing an ad to show your appreciation and thanks. Visit [bnaitikvah.org/event](http://bnaitikvah.org/event) or return the form from the invitation and place your ad by January 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in being part of CBT Angels, contact Tammy Zimmerman at [tzimmerman6@gmail.com](mailto:tzimmerman6@gmail.com).

Note: Total amount of donations to be matched depends on the number of CBT Angel participants.



### Tu B'Shevat Lunch

Saturday, January 11th



## A Message From Rabbi Robert Wolkoff



So the title of this article could be, “Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.” (Alexander Pope). The other day, someone asked me if I could write a letter. About what?

There is a young Jewish woman who divorced her husband in civil court 4 years ago. The husband has refused to give her a *get*, a Jewish bill of divorce. As a result, the woman is now an *agunah*, “anchored,” unable to move on with her life. The husband, our congregant tells me, is studying in a yeshiva.

Could I write to the yeshiva about the situation?

Sure, I said. This is a terrible thing, and the husband shouldn't be allowed to go on with business as usual until he mans up and does the right thing.

So I write the letter.

Little did I know...

The next day, two things happen. The first is that a parent at my kids' school thanks me for the letter. How in the world does she know about the letter? Turns out, the wife put it on her Facebook page (you can find it at [setgitalfree.com](http://setgitalfree.com)). And it now has 620 “likes.”

That's the good news.

The bad news is that the same day I start receiving harassing phone calls from a bunch of yeshiva bochers. Cursing, ugly comments, calls in the middle of the night, etc. Apparently, they think that calling me is more important than studying Torah—which speaks volumes. And apparently, they think they know something about halachah—but are entirely lacking understanding of the meta-halachic values that are supposed to guide our behavior.

Put it this way: They have all the cans in the six-pack, but they're missing the little plastic thingy that keeps them all together.

“The little plastic thingy” is values, values like recognizing that “great is human dignity.” Doing things “for the sake of peace,” and “to prevent enmity.” Avoiding situations “where there would be suffering.” And, above all, “Doing the right and the good.” And the scariest thing is that many of them expressed the view that the husband is doing a public service, because it will teach women not to act like the wife has acted.

Oy.

And somebody is going to make a shidduch for guys like this?!

Pity their wives.

Just to be clear, nothing I am writing here should be seen as an attack on Orthodoxy. I spoke to two of my Orthodox colleagues recently, and their immediate and passionate reaction was that the husband's actions were shameful and he should give his wife the *get*. And, in fact, the most remarkable aspect of this whole affair is the nobility of the wife, who is completely loyal to a halachic system that is betraying her.

This is a *shande*, a true shame.

As it turns out—I didn't know any of this when I wrote my letter—the husband and wife both come from the nobility of American Orthodoxy. The list of rabbis who have been enlisted in this fight looks like an all-star team of yeshiva scholars. Which only increases the sense of revulsion at what is going on. The Psalms teach us that “The Torah of the Lord is perfect, it is a comfort to the soul.” There is nothing in this whole mess that is “a comfort to the soul,” and for every day that this goes on, the Torah is diminished that much more.

Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

PS: Just so you know, within Conservative Judaism there are two ante-nuptial agreements which prevent a bride from being put into this horrible situation. I won't perform a wedding without them. But at the end of the day, the thing that matters is not the sophistication of our legalities. It is the elegance of our ethics.

## From the Desk of Cantor Bruce Rockman



### Why go to Minyan, really Why?

I have taken on the challenge of reinvigorating our daily minyan.

Our daily services provide an opportunity for us to express our essence as a Jewish community. I have observed that the most compelling reason for most of our congregation to attend a "daily minyan" is to honor the memory of a dear one.

There are few of us within the community who pray with a daily minyan. It is likely that there are many of us who are using other sacred portals such as meditation, strengthening their spiritual connections in a variety of methods.

Anyone who does something positive should be lauded. Proudly displaying your mezuzah on your home and teaching your family about our heritage are important and I'm convinced that if you are a member of B'nai Tikvah you are confident in your identity.

Monday-Thursday & Saturday evening minyans have fallen upon hard times. I will be forming a working group with the blessing of the ritual committee, to explore and to focus on the spiritual desires of our community.

It is clear that when there is a reason to attend a service, our community is very supportive. Examples of this include **Sundaes on Saturdays** at my home, and most shivah minyans.

I believe that our lagging service attendance has less to do with inconvenience and more to do with the inaccessibility of prayer and the meaning of prayer in our lives. But this is just my opinion.

I see this project as a refocusing of our attention. Sunday night's minyan has a near perfect record of fulfilling a minyan thanks to the community that was built and maintained by Jeff Schwartz, our Sunday minyan leader. Our morning minyans, Thursday morning's at 7:30 AM and Sundays at 9 are also very well attended, partly due to a group of regulars who value friendship and who are grateful for each new day.

Some suggestions we may explore to help enhance our week-day services is to incorporate personal and communal prayers of healing. We can also share personal revelations about our spiritual encounters, brief prayer insights presented by Rabbi Wolkoff, or occasionally we can add meditative singing to our prayer experience.

I hope to share my vision for deepening our engagement as a congregation, and a commitment to bringing meaning, relevance and joy to the practice of Judaism and prayer in particular. Let's be certain that these are the core qualities of our community. I believe that we must work tirelessly toward a world in which Judaism is central to the lives of Jews everywhere, starting with our own congregation and community, and is a profound and positive force for humanity. We must work vigorously in pursuit of that goal, and help B'nai Tikvah evolve and seek new ways to raise the bar. We will need to reach deeper to serve our own congregants, while also looking beyond our walls, and that we need to continually redefine what it means to be Jewish today.

If you are interested in joining our working group, or if you have some thoughts that you would like to share with me on this subject, please call or send me an email, or maybe I'll call you and ask you for your opinion. We need your point of view in order to succeed.

Worship the Lord with Gladness!  
*B'simcha, with Joy!*  
Cantor Bruce Rockman

# World Wide Wrap

Join Men's Clubs and congregations around the world as we teach the mitzvah of wrapping tefillin.



**World Wide Wrap XIV**  
**Sunday, February 2, 2014 at 9am.**  
**"We're in it for the Tie!"**

## MEN'S CLUB



The World Wide Wrap is a signature program of FJMC focusing on a unique ritual imbued with story and metaphor that spans ages and generations. We bind up, we engage, we use our whole bodies, we share ourselves as symbols for others while we involve ourselves in very personal and soul searching moments. We teach and we learn.

We participate in the ritual as an integral part of and vehicle for expressing our personal and community values. We lead by example and we teach through innovative engagement using any and all media, method and spirit.

Please join Rabbi Wolkoff, Cantor Rockman and fellow congregants in this fun family international event. Breakfast will be provided courtesy of the Men's Club.

Steven Katz  
 skatz56@aol.com

**B'nai Tikvah**  
**Rummage/Garage Sale**  
**Sunday, July 27, 2014**

Save your saleable stuff  
 and help B'nai Tikvah

Contact Bill Greenberg  
 with questions  
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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

**Please send submissions and correspondence via e-mail to:**  
**hakol.cbt@gmail.com**

All e-mail submissions are acknowledged via e-mail or put submissions in the HAKOL Box in the synagogue office. All articles are subject to available space and editorial constraints.

**ORDER FORMS & FLYERS:**

Full-page flyers will be reduced to half page or less, at the editor's discretion.

**FOR ADVERTISING INFO:**

hakol.cbt@gmail.com  
 Michael Weiss, editor at 732-246-0306 meweiss@optonline.net  
 CarolAnn Harkavy, advertising at 732-438-0796  
 CaHarkavy@aol.com





**FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER SERVICE**  
**JANUARY 17, 2014** 6PM – Multi-Purpose Room  
 Services begin at 7pm  
 RSVP a must for dinner by January 15, 2014

This program is geared for anyone who has children/grandchildren, etc. between the ages of 2 and 7!

**Everyone is welcome – Bring a friend or two!!!**

**Baked ziti dinner, plain pasta, and mac and cheese, salad, veggies to nibble on before hand  
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Number of children (up to 12 years) \_\_\_\_\_ (free) Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 { } \$18 is enclosed to sponsor the Kiddush. Please announce the following:

Make check payable to "Congregation B'nai Tikvah", mark your envelope "FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER"  
 drop off at the office or mail to the synagogue  
 RSPV by January 15th – Questions - **Contact Bobbi Binder 732-274-2797 or eemaof3@comcast.net**



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## DONATE BLOOD ON JANUARY 12... You May Win 2-Tickets To Super Bowl XLVIII On February 2nd!

Just enter the big Blood Drive Super Bowl Tickets drawing when you donate blood between 11am and 3pm, your name will be automatically entered to win Two Tickets.

Full information and rules can be found by visiting the Blood Center of NJ at [www.bloodnj.org](http://www.bloodnj.org).

Donors 17 and up (16 w/parent/guardian written OK). Be in good general health and weigh at least 120-lbs. No need to make an appointment.

Eat before you donate, be sure you

have an ID with your signature. A donor, or social security, number is required on your registration form.

If you'd like to help us enjoy a very successful day call 732.297.7316 to volunteer. Thanks!

Parent/guardian permission forms & ALYX Double Donations or other donor opportunities info, call 800-BLOODNJ or see the BCNJ website.

**We hope you'll be one of the two lucky ticket winners.**

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## A Message From Our Co-Presidents



Ruth Anne Koenick, Co-President



Allison Nagelberg, Co-President

**\*Eat Better**

**\*Exercise Regularly**

**\*Gossip Less**

**\*Sleep More**

**\*Go to shul**

**\*Be a Better \_\_ Son/Daughter \_\_ Parent \_\_ Sibling \_\_ Friend**

It sounds like that time of the year again...time for New Year's resolutions...that time when gym memberships skyrocket, closets are cleaned, and relationships are renewed. Come to think of it, it sounds an awful lot like it did just a few months ago when we cast our sins into the water during Tashlich, making resolutions for the Hebrew year ahead. As Jews living in the Diaspora, we celebrate not one, but two New Year holidays. This is a blessing because it gives us the opportunity to take stock of our progress over the previous months.

We ask ourselves, in the words of former NYC Mayor Ed Koch (z"l): "How'm I doing?" In terms of our congregation, it is time for our State of the Union address; and we are pleased to report that the state of our B'nai Tikvah union is strong.

At the July Congregation meeting, we reported that we were facing a significant budget deficit for the fiscal year and that we would face continuing deficits in the coming year, if we did not tighten our collective belt. You responded with High Holiday pledges of 50% more than last year with many people giving more than ever and some people giving for the first time.

You authorized the sale of our parsonage, and we followed through by selling it above our asking price. We renegotiated the contract with our caterer, ensuring constant monthly cash flow without sacrificing revenue. We trimmed office expenses without compromising our services.

We restructured our Religious School and Nursery School administration and look forward to hiring a single Education Director to oversee both programs. We asked everyone, from our clergy to our members, to make sacrifices. Working together, we have vastly improved the financial health of our congregation and we are so proud of each and every one of you as we work together to assure that B'nai Tikvah remains the strong vibrant community we all love.

Coming up on February 15, we will hold our annual fundraising gala – a masquerade ball, honoring Marc and Bobbi Binder. The Binders have individually and as a couple done so much over two decades to help our congregation to thrive: from Family Shabbat to serving on our Board of Directors and countless committees, teaching Torah reading, participating in minyanim, and so much more. They have touched hundreds of lives in our community, and it is OUR honor to recognize their tireless contributions. Please make sure to support this wonderful event by attending that evening, sponsoring an ad, bidding on an auction item, and congratulating Marc and Bobbi for all they have done and continue to do. As the Jewish and secular years march on, we hope that we all fulfill the promises that we made to ourselves in September and in January. And we hope to report back with more good news as our congregation moves from strength to strength. To quote T.S. Eliot: "For last year's words belong to last year's language, and next year's words await another voice."

Wishing you a year of health, happiness and peace.  
Ruth Anne Koenick, Co-President

## SHIVA ETIQUETTE

By Irwin Millinger

Over the past number of years I have lead many Shiva minyons at the homes of congregants who have lost a beloved member of their family. The family expects the Rabbi and the Cantor will attend to the families needs by meeting with them prior to the funeral and coming to their home during the Shiva period to give comfort and solace to the mourners. The family requests that an appropriate "Jewish" funeral be performed and that an appropriate period of Shiva be observed with the Synagogue providing prayer books and congregants to lead services at the house of mourning.

I have observed that on several occasions the bereaved family have either, without thought or without caring, served one or more of the following items which violates the laws of Kashrut which I believe is inappropriate.

1. Putting out platters with meat and cheese on the same platter.
2. Putting out platters containing pepperoni, ham and other non-kosher items.

I understand that many of these platters are brought to the Shiva house by friends and family, but they should be inspected before being put out for consumption.

I believe that for the days that Shiva is observed consideration should be given not to offend those who come to give comfort.

If you are a family member or friend and see this type of behavior occurring I believe you should let the bereaved family know that the items should be removed.

## Dear Fellow Congregants,

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Shelly Talmud and I've been a member of the B'nai Tikvah family for 22 years. I want to talk to you about the war on terrorism, the security of Israel, and the safety of my own son, Adam, currently serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Altogether, these important issues have motivated me to organize a fundraiser on behalf of Israeli soldiers on Sunday, January 26, 2014 at B'nai Tikvah.

My life took a big turn last year when Adam left our East Brunswick home to join the IDF. Adam has instilled our family with pride for his commitment to Israel and anxiety for his safety. As he became an IDF soldier, our eyes were opened to the fact that many of a typical soldier's basic needs are unmet by the IDF. We realized that in order to keep Adam, and "all of our sons and daughters," well supplied while serving in the army, we needed to help.

This past summer I heard attorney Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, founder of Shurat HaDin (Israel Law Center) speak about her group's successes in combating terrorism by suing Islamic Jihad, Hamas, Hezbollah and other terror groups and governments on behalf of Israel's victims of terror. Shurat HaDin has successfully frozen over \$600 million in assets, putting a massive roadblock in the path of terror funding. Her presentation was powerful, with a clear message of strength and perseverance. I was so inspired by Nitsana I felt it was important for others to hear what she had to say.

What better way to help the men and women defending Israel than to share the work of an activist battling terrorism on a different but no less important front. I promise you, Nitsana is a speaker NOT TO BE MISSED!

Please join us for an inspiring presentation at **11 AM on Sunday, January 26, 2014**. All proceeds raised at this event will go to Yashar LaChayal, an organization that spends 100% of its funds on supplies and programs for soldiers—with absolutely zero taken out for overhead!!

The IDF's job is to protect Israel, our Homeland. Our job is to protect my son Adam and his dedicated fellow IDF soldiers, our children. I invite you to join me Sunday morning, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Please visit [bnaitikvah.org/yashar](http://bnaitikvah.org/yashar) to make a tax deductible donation and order your tickets.** You can also send a check made out to "Yashar LaChayal" to Shelly Talmud, 5 Patriot Court, East Brunswick, NJ 08816.

**If you can not attend, please consider making a donation.**

Thank you so much, and feel free to contact me for more information.

*Shelly*

Shelly Talmud  
[yashar@talmudfamily.com](mailto:yashar@talmudfamily.com) or [732.613.4456](tel:732.613.4456)

**PS: Help me spread the word by sharing this information with your family and friends.**

## It will be a Royal Extravaganza! Save the date – February 15, 2014

Let the official trumpets declare:

The King has decreed that there will soon be a Royal Party! It will be the greatest event of the year with a sumptuous meal, incredible drinks from far and wide, and beautiful dancing ladies (with their handsome men, of course).

As you would expect with a Royal Event, only the finest offerings in the land will be presented, including delicacies from the royal caterers – Sir Evan and Sir Robert, otherwise known as Ye Olde Classical Caterers. Spirits will be drawn from the King's own special collection and shared with all.

Special honors will be bestowed on those who have pleased the court for their outstanding service and general merriment.

You do not want to miss this event (or risk losing your head)! All subjects are expected to attend and raise a chalice with your friends, family, and neighbors. Be assured to note February 15<sup>th</sup> on your personal calendar, iThing, rock, refrigerator, or whatever you use to keep track of your events.

King Achashverosh







Happy New Year, USYers! I can't believe we're already heading into 2014!! We've been having a lot of fun lately with Lazer Tag and Ice Skating, our Target Scavenger hunt (complete with delicious Coldstone Ice Cream!), joining CBT for their Annual Hanukkah Party and of course one of the favorites: Chinese food & movie night (with the added plus of an ugly sweater party!)

## UPCOMING JANUARY 2014 EVENTS

### Sat., Jan 11 – Regional SA/TO Dance – Millburn, NJ

Please check your emails for details regarding the bus departure time and location. Cost for bus and dance will be \$20 per USYer.

### Wed., Jan 15 – Tu'BeshWhat Can You Make? – Youth Lounge – 6:30-8pm

We're hosting a creative competition using recycled goods in honor of Tu 'B'shevat! This will be a very unique event - we are asking our USYers to bring recyclable items (cans, cardboard, paper, bottles, etc - and they must be clean!) to use in order to make the most creative item they can come up with; there will be a prize for the most creative item (\$10 Dunkin Donuts gift card!!) and we'll take pictures of the items and post them on our Facebook page.

### Thurs., Jan 23 – Study Break! – Youth Lounge – 6:30-8pm

Take a break from studying or bring your studying with you! We'll be hanging out, eating snacks, drinking delicious hot cocoa, and taking a tiiiiiiiiiiiny break from finals!

### Fri., Jan 24-25 – Regional Senior Shabbaton – East Windsor, NJ

Please check your emails for details regarding this event.

## SAVE THE DATE – FEBRUARY 2014

### Fri., Feb 7-9

Regional Mid-Winter Kinnus - West Orange, NJ

### Wed., Feb 12

NSBUSY Early Bird Special - 6:30-8pm

### Sat., Feb 15th

Babysitters needed for BT Gala

(Contact [nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com) if you're interested!)

Mon., Feb 24th - Purim, Planning & Pizza Party!

Fri. Feb 28th - Sat. Mar 1st - NSBUSY Shabbat

### INTERESTED IN JOINING USY?

Please contact Amanda Dillman, N/S Brunswick USY Advisor at [nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com)

**Please check your email each  
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Need-based scholarships are available to help with some of the costs of USY programs. Please contact Steve Juro at 732-960-1215. All conversations are strictly confidential.

Applications are available online at <http://www.bnaitikvah.org/usyform.html>

Amanda Dillman  
[nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com](mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com)  
908-930-2526



### This Month

**January 26<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am** - Sisterhood will be joining with the synagogue to participate in the program, Bankrupting Terrorism – One Lawsuit at a Time presented by Nitsana Darshan Leitner founder and director of Shurat HaDin (Israel Law Center). She will talk about how they have successfully frozen over \$600 million in terror assets and have put a massive roadblock in the path of terror funding.

Our Israeli Awareness Trustee, Shelly Talmud, has worked tirelessly to organize this event and all proceeds will be sent to Yashar La Chayal, which helps the soldiers of the Israeli Defense Forces by providing a vast array of basics that the IDF does not supply (like water backpacks, thermal undergarments, fleece jackets, and gloves and other items like holiday food baskets to needy soldiers). As you may be aware, Shelly's son currently serves with the IDF.

We are asking all attendees for a \$10 minimum donation. You can purchase your tickets and make your donation at [www.bnaitikvah.org/yashar.html](http://www.bnaitikvah.org/yashar.html) <<http://www.bnaitikvah.org/yashar.html>>.

We invite Sisterhood members to join us for breakfast prior to the program at 10:00am. Please RSVP to Phyllis Safeer at [pbjsr@comcast.net](mailto:pbjsr@comcast.net) or 732-421-8294 so we can ensure we have enough food.



### Save the Date

#### **Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014 - The Chicken Soup Project**

The Stein Hospice is the only Jewish Hospice caring for patients throughout our area and beyond. They provide state of the art, end of life care in a manner that respects Jewish traditions, lifestyles and values.

The B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood will be participating in a program designed to provide homemade soup to their many patients, families and caregivers. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in a community

activity, spend some meaningful time with your fellow sisters and learn about hospice care as well.

We will need shoppers (beforehand), choppers, simmerers, stirrers and packers in various shifts throughout the day on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact Phyllis Safeer at [pbjsr@comcast.net](mailto:pbjsr@comcast.net) or 732.421-8294 or Caryl Greenberg at [carylgreenberg@verizon.net](mailto:carylgreenberg@verizon.net) or 908.216.7616 to be a part of this wonderful program.

**Gift Shop** – Store hours are Sunday 9AM-12PM and Wednesday 4PM-6PM. By appointment, call Serena Blackin at 732-390-9515.

#### **\*\*January Specials\*\***

All personal care products 20% off  
-Naked Bee- Body Wash, Hand and Body Lotion, Hand Sanitizer, Lip Balm with and without color, Kosher Kurls Leave in conditioner

All Stuffed animals and stuffed torahs 20% off  
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Calendar diaries still available \$9.00 each

**Mah Jongg cards** - Order your Mah Jongg League cards now for you and your friends and be ready to play with your new cards. Please look for our flyer on this edition of the Hakol for details.

**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.

Pins and WL cards are available. For ordering information, please check the Bulletin Board or contact Ann Rosenzweig. Cards are \$5 if sent to you or \$4 if hand delivered at a Sisterhood's event.

**Mitzvah Baskets** - Having a B'nai Mitzvah or other simcha? Let Sisterhood decorate the bima with two non-perishable food baskets. We also deliver the baskets for use at other synagogues so tell your local friends about this service! For more information or to order your bima baskets please contact Jill Eisner: [jjeisne@aol.com](mailto:jjeisne@aol.com)

**Mazel Tosses** - Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood make up soft candy filled bags to sweeten the day! Also great for an ufruf. Contact Bonnie Kudwitt: [Beedirect@aol.com](mailto:Beedirect@aol.com).

## **ARTHUR'S SELF STORAGE**

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## Another Viewpoint

### Mili Rosloff - A Love Story, a Happy Life, and a Sad Story

#### By Aaron Rosloff

#### CHAPTER ONE - A Love Story Begins

There is a book called "The Notebook", which was subsequently made into a movie that came out in 2005 that parallels our story and that of many couples who have had a strong marriage and who have had to watch and deal with the painful and tragic deterioration of one spouse gradually declining into the hell of mental and physical deterioration, while the "stronger" one has to fight to keep up his or her strength and morale while fighting a losing battle to hold on to the other as long as possible.

I met Mildred - I'll call her Mili here as that is how she preferred to be known, in 1939, when she was only sixteen years old. Mili and her friend Blanche would walk to school together to James Monroe High School in the Bronx, New York. Blanche suggested that Mili stop in to her house some time to meet some of her friends. Life was much less formal in those days. Telephones were not common in working class homes in the Depression years, so dropping in on friends unannounced was the usual way of visiting. Blanche's home was the meeting place for many neighborhood and school friends, so I was not at all surprised to see a new face there.

I sat down next to her and asked the usual things like "how do you know Blanche" and so forth, and it turned out that she already knew my brother Reuben. They had graduated together in the same Junior High School class. We didn't stay long at Blanche's house as it was a school day and Mili had to be home early.

I walked her home and up two flights to her family's apartment. She put her key into the door lock and turned around to bid me goodnight. I was already smitten. There was something different about Mili. A combination of sweetness and grace, intelligence without condescension, and, she was very pretty. I desperately wanted to kiss her, but I was so afraid of doing something stupid that I just turned around and ran down the stairs. I glanced up at her for a moment as she looked down at me with the stare that says "What's the matter with him?"

Soon I began calling on her and made friends with her family. Fortunately they took a liking to me (I worked hard at trying to be likeable). Mili made it plain that although she liked me as a friend, she was not interested in having me as a steady boyfriend. I persisted and her mother and Aunt Helen would counsel me to be patient. After all Mili was still very young, and to give her time.

I had no choice. I would see Mili whenever I could. I was just two years older than Mili (our birthdays are just two days apart) and after I finished High School, I worked unhappily in the fur trade. There was talk of a war brewing in Europe. We all felt it was only a matter of

time until America would become involved. I was preparing myself to go into the Army Air Force. In the winter of 1941 -1942 I left home to go to Maine to attend a work study course in aircraft engines and followed up with more work-study courses at Middletown Air Depot in Hershey, Pennsylvania near Harrisburg.

Our romance took a turn for the better during the period that I was home between Maine and Pennsylvania. One evening a group of friends and I, boys and girls, went to a neighborhood ice cream parlor for sodas. Money was scarce in those days. A nickel was the dollar of the day. Five cents would get you onto a trolley car or a bus. A dime would buy you an eight inch kosher hot dog that stuck out on each side of the bun, and the charge for an ice cream soda - two scoops of any flavor with a pile of fresh whipped cream and sprinkles in a huge curved glass that sat in a metal cage-like holder was also just ten cents.

We sat around the tables gabbing until a bag lady came in with her hand out. The boys had already spent their money for sodas for themselves and the girls. Kids make jokes to hide their embarrassment and so they made wise cracks about the bag lady because they had no money to give her. I saw that Mili was upset at our friends behavior, added to her pity for the beggar, it took all of the pleasure out of the treat and she stood up to leave. I still had a few cents left. I gave it to the woman and left with Mili. As we walked out of the store she took my hand, and looking back over time I always felt that was the magic moment that our lives were bonded.

In early 1942, during my stay in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, I lived in a rooming house, run by the landlady Ethel, a prudish old maid, where I made some very good friends among the other young men who also worked and took classes at the Middletown Air Depot. One of these fellows, George Laickan, was a bit older than the other boys and we hit it off from the start. George got married that year and brought his bride Esther back to our rooming house in Harrisburg. We had to make a few changes in sleeping accommodations so that they could have a room to themselves, and Esther became our mascot and den mother.

I talked so much to Esther about Mili and eventually as our friendship matured, Esther decided to invite Mili to come to Harrisburg for a weekend as her guest. Poor George! Just married and he had to give up his bed and spend two nights cramped into a bed with me and another fellow while Mili slept with Esther.

Poor Ethel! Our landlady had never had any female roomers and now with two of them in her house at the same time she was certain that the devil was at work here. Our landlady had a way of making us feel deliciously wicked even though we were as innocent as babes. Later, George and Esther and Mili and I reminisced about that story for many years. Fifty years later, and 3000 miles apart we were still in touch until both George and Esther passed away.

A few months later, when I returned from Pennsylvania, I asked Mili to marry me.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

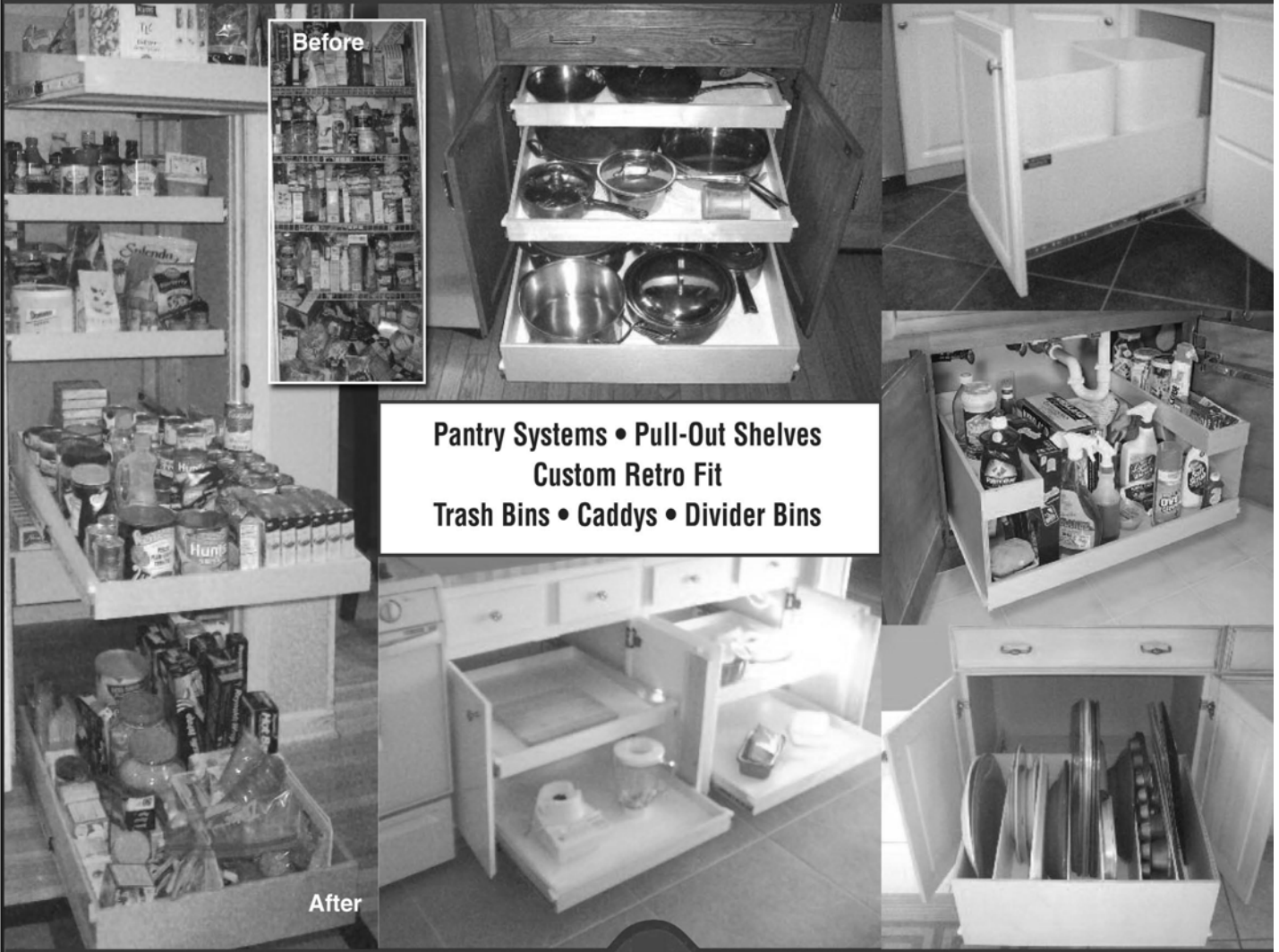
Look for CHAPTER TWO of Mili and Aaron's "Love Story" in next month's Hakol.

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## NURSERY SCHOOL



Phyllis Denenberg  
Nursery School Director

I hope everyone enjoyed the winter break.

I would like to thank the PAC chairs, Dana Chalson, Ginger Haber and Elisa Burness and all the parents who donated funds, helped shop, set up and cleaned up our Thanksgiving and Chanukah parties last month. They were a resounding success!

While learning about Community Helpers, the Pre-K went to Magyar bank. They were able to look into the vault and speak to customers who waited in their cars for service. The Pre-kers poured their tzedakah coins into the coin machine. All classes will soon decide who will receive the tzedakah.

We will celebrate Tu B'Shevat this year on Friday January 17<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with our school wide Shabbat Party. In addition, we will have guests from Jewish Family Services. They will be creating a banner with our classes in the morning and then join our Shabbat-Tu B'Shevat celebration with Cantor Rockman in the social hall at 11:15.



Plan to spend Friday mornings with us!

The JCC of North & South Brunswick Nursery School and Congregation Bnai Tikvah invite the entire community to a **FREE** monthly program, "**Shabbat Together**" on Fridays for adults with children aged 12 months to 3 years old. Grandparents are invited with their grandchildren too!

The next class is Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
from 10:45 AM until 11:45 AM.

**All are welcome!**

Space is limited. You can reserve a spot by going to our website: [www.bnaitikvah.org/nursery](http://www.bnaitikvah.org/nursery) and clicking on Shabbat Together on your left, by emailing our Early Childhood Director, Phyllis Denenberg, at [nursery@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:nursery@bnaitikvah.org) or calling 732-297-0295

**New Toddler Fun and My Kid & Me classes  
Starting, Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Space is limited**

Parents, grandparents and caregivers are welcome. Do you or anyone you know watch a grandchild during the day while your son and or daughter is at work? Want socialization for both you and your grandchild? Come to Bnai Tikvah/JCC of North & South Brunswick Nursery School for **My Kid & Me** (parents/grandparents/caregivers and children aged 12-24 months) or **Toddler Fun Club** (child/parent/grandparent/caregiver separation class for children 24 months to 30 months).

**Toddler Fun Club** runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:30 AM. **My Kid & Me** runs every Thursday from 10:45 AM-11:45 AM. Mrs. "P" (Jennifer Pollack) has room available in her classes. There is a discount for Bnai Tikvah members who enroll in these (and all) classes. The applications can be found on the Bnai Tikvah website under Nursery School. Come for a tour, or if you have any questions email me at [nursery@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:nursery@bnaitikvah.org), or call me at 732-297-0295 extension 22.

Please note that school will be closed, **Monday January 20<sup>th</sup>**, Martin Luther King's Birthday.

**Registration for school (2014-2015) begins this month.**

**No Tuition Increase!**

The schedule is as follows:

Monday January 6<sup>th</sup> –registration for current students

Monday January 27<sup>th</sup> –registration for the community at large

**Register by Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and get our Super Early Bird Special!**

**For those families whose children attend school 5 full days, 9:00 AM-3:15 PM, there will be monthly discount on tuition.**

Registration for our **summer day camp** will be next month, February 10<sup>th</sup>. We are trying to make it easier for parents by staggering the registrations. **Register for camp by February 28<sup>th</sup> and save \$50.00 off the registration fee.**

Until next month..

Phyllis



The children at Magyar Bank. They are pouring Tzedakah into the coin machine. Over \$82.00 was collected!

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### **Bankrupting Terrorism—One Lawsuit at a Time**

**Nitsana Darshan-Leitner**  
**Founder and Director, Shurat HaDin**  
**Sunday, January 26th @ 11 AM**  
**B'nai Tikvah Ballroom**  
*Minimum donation: \$10*



Your entire donation will go to support Yashar LaChayal, which helps the soldiers of the Israeli Defense Forces by providing a vast array of basics that the IDF does not supply (like water backpacks, thermal undergarments, fleece jackets, and gloves and 'luxuries' like holiday food baskets to needy soldiers).

*RSVP to Shelly Talmud at 732.613.4456 or  
yashar@talmudfamily.com or buy your tickets and make a  
donation TODAY at [bnaitikvah.org/yashar.html](http://bnaitikvah.org/yashar.html)*



## **From the Webmaster**



### **Old Phone Scam Resurfaces**

Ever get a phone call supposedly from a Microsoft technician who asks you for access to your computer? If you were suspicious of a scam and refused, good for you. Unfortunately for those who were caught off-guard, the outcome was disastrous.

The early version of this scam, simply allowed them to gain access to any personal information you may have on your computer, such as bank and credit card accounts.

The latest round of these scams encrypts your Windows account, preventing all access to your machine until you purchase a decryption key for hundreds of dollars. In a recent episode, I was unable to help one of our congregants as the system even prevented me from running the Recovery Console off an original CD. We had no choice but to re-install Windows from scratch, resulting in the complete loss of data. Fortunately for the congregant, their data was not worth the ransom fee demanded by the scammers.

There is also a new strain of viruses that can cripple your computer in a similar manner.


I can't emphasize enough, how important it is to back up your sensitive data on one or more external flash drives that are not continually plugged into your machine.

*Gary Bergman*





Ann Ruth Nimberg  
Religious School Principal



The Hanukkah party was a huge success and I would like to thank the volunteers who served the food and helped to set everything up, Aimee Weber and Suzanne Oliver for organizing the party, Alan Miller for cooking all the zitis by himself, the Sons of Tikvah for entertaining us and Tori Cohen for helping to light the new Menorah outside the synagogue. What a beautiful sight!! If you were unable to attend this year, mark your calendar as soon as the date is announced for next year.

I hope you had a wonderful winter break. The last part of the school year is filled with many wonderful events starting with the CBT Chai breakfast with the Rabbi at 10:00 a.m. in the gym on Sunday, January 5th. On January 12<sup>th</sup> the Aleph Naming Ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by a brunch in the Social Hall. Please R.S.V.P. by January 8<sup>th</sup> with the number of people who will be attending from your family. Also, please contact me if you are available to help set up.

This year Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. We have also added the Kindergarten through grade two conferences to the schedule that day. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside your child's classroom. The students will be dismissed into the gym at 11:30 a.m. We will have activities while they wait. If January 26<sup>th</sup> does not work for you, please contact your child's teacher to plan an alternative. Report cards will be given out at conferences.

**Dates To Remember:**

January 5	CBT Chai Breakfast with the Rabbi
January 12	Aleph Naming Ceremony
January 19	Martin Luther King Weekend (No School)
January 26	Parent Teacher Conferences for Kindergarten to Hei



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Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
**6:30 pm**

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## Final Hakol Article

Dear Friends,

Where to start with my short but sweet article? I have been a Kadima advisor here at B'nai Tikvah for 7 1/2 years. December is my last month as advisor, as my husband was offered a great opportunity for a job transfer to Ohio. We are very excited about the move in the middle of January and our future. I am saddened to leave such a close Jewish family here at B'nai Tikvah. For so many families at the synagogue I have made such wonderful friends through the years as advisor. There are just too many people to mention as I would be afraid to leave any names off.

I loved watching the Kadimaniks grow up, go on to USY and then college. Some have even come to my house to watch my son Seth. Will your children travel to the Cincinnati area to baby sit? Frontier Airlines has cheap tickets!

Seth attended the JCC Nursery School for 2 years and loved his time in school. I appreciate all the care from everyone. He loved coming with me to see everyone at the synagogue, especially visiting the main office to get candy!

My husband, Scott, always felt welcome when he walked through the doors and I thank everyone for this!

I am only a phone call or email away. You can even find me on Facebook. I would love to say hello or even hear how you and your family are. I will be back to New Jersey often, since I have family still in the area. I may not be here as the Kadima advisor at B'nai Tikvah anymore but I hope my name isn't forgotten. I do hope I made a difference in your child's Jewish youth activities in some way.

Thank you to everyone at B'nai Tikvah for the last 7 1/2 years!

Jordana Andersen

Kadima Advisor at B'nai Tikvah from 2007-2013

[Jorde1174@aol.com](mailto:Jorde1174@aol.com)

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## MENSCH of the MONTH


K - Alyssa Buckwald  
Grade one and Grade Two - Savannah Newman  
and Andrew Melcer

Aleph - Reese Krane  
Bet - Lauren Melcer  
Gimmel - Maya Blackin  
Dalet - Mason Smoller  
Hei - Bradley Allen


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## NJ Devils: Jewish Heritage Night



Thursday, February 27th is Jewish Heritage Night at the Prudential Center as the NJ Devils take on the Columbus Blue Jackets. We will need at least 20 people to get a group rate. *(Note: there is a certified kosher concession at the game.)*

Your ticket to this game includes:

- Jewish Trivia incorporated into game presentation
- Graphics in-game recognizing Jewish Heritage Night
- T-shirts in Hebrew for groups who purchase
- Meet and greet with the NJ Devil, Dancers and Devils Alumni
- Post-Game Photo on the ice for group
- Post-game concert with the Maccabeets

If you are interested in joining us, please **RSVP BEFORE JANUARY 15th** to Danny Greenberg (greenbergdan@gmail.com). We can get seats in the 100's (\$46-\$49 per seat - usually \$65) or high up behind the goal in sections 1 - 5 or 11-16 (\$53 per ticket - usually \$73). Transportation will be on your own (the train from New Brunswick is extremely convenient).

*If we don't have 20 people lined up by January 15th, this excursion will be cancelled.*



## New Program Coming: Share-a-Shabbat

Welcoming in Shabbat by lighting candles, reciting kiddush, singing Shabbat songs and blessing the challah is a wonderful experience. Unfortunately, too many people in our community are unable to enjoy this warm tradition.

**Share-a-Shabbat** will be a program that matches those families who already perform this mitzvah with those families who would like to.

Stay tuned for more details in next month's HaKol.

## Adult Education

Watch for a wonderful pre-Passover series of lectures taught by Jewish Theological Seminary faculty and Rabbi Wolkoff. Tuesday nights, March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st.

Jewish Parenting classes on Sunday mornings continue on January 12th.

The third class in Rabbi Wolkoff's series on Anti Semitism will be Wednesday January 8th; the fourth is January 29th. Please join us!

Info? Danny Greenberg at [greenbergdan@gmail.com](mailto:greenbergdan@gmail.com) or 732.640.5086

## Take an Adult Self- Defense Class While Raising Money for the CBT Religious School

Taught by Mr. Brandon Alterman with 19 years Martial Arts Experience. He holds ranks in Tae Kwon Do, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, & Muay Thai

**What:** Six 1-hour classes on Self-Defense for Adults  
**When:** **January 5, 12, 26 February 2, 9, 23 2014 10:45-11:45 AM**  
**Where:** CBT Gym  
**Cost:** \$76 (10% gets donated back to the Religious School as a fundraiser)

RSVP: by December 29, 2013

Please complete the information below and send it with your check payable to CBT Religious School to:

Aimee Weber  
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 North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Please contact Aimee with any questions: [aimjweb@gmail.com](mailto:aimjweb@gmail.com) or 732-406-9969

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\*You will be given a liability waiver to sign in the beginning of the first class.

# Activities

We kicked off two adult education series this past month: one on Jewish Parenting (Sunday mornings) and the other on Anti-Semitism (Wednesday evenings). Our opening classes drew about 25 people each, but there is always room for more to join. There are a total of six classes in the Jewish Parenting series and 10 classes about Anti-Semitism, but each class stands on its own, so if you can't make it to one, please come to one you can. Specific topics are emailed a few days before each class using the B'nai Tikvah Constant Contact list.

We have been developing a pre-Passover program with the Jewish Theological Seminary and are happy to announce that we will have a 5-session series (specific class topics to be announced) on the Tuesday evenings leading up to Passover. There will be a nominal tuition charged for this series in order cover the costs of bringing JTS faculty to us. This is a wonderful series that garners rave reviews at all the synagogues that have it; we are looking forward to hosting it at CBT.

Please see the ad elsewhere in this issue for Jewish Heritage Night at the NJ Devils on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Because Hakol is a monthly publication, it is somewhat difficult to keep folks informed so far in advance. That's why we use emailed announcements (through Constant Contact) so often – it is by far the best way to keep you informed as to last minute changes, imminent programs, etc. If you already receive regular "This Week at CBT" emails then you don't have to worry – you're already on the list. But if you don't, please take a minute a sign up on website (bnaitikvah.org/cbtnews.html). That way, you'll always have the most up to date information available.

Thanks!  
 Danny Greenberg  
[greenbergdan@gmail.com](mailto:greenbergdan@gmail.com)



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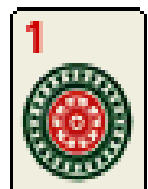
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## Wheels

Just that word sparks an array of emotions in everyone's mind. Whether it is the feeling of Kehilah (family), the desire of adventure, or an eye rolling "I have heard this a thousand times" motion, USY has changed the entire meaning of the word "Wheels" to me. My summer trip changed my life. But what does Wheels mean when broken up into an acronym?

### Wonder:

The wonder to explore the world. Every day was a brand new journey. Wonder is related in my head to childish innocence. I know myself getting caught up in the midst of college, school, work, clubs, and all my other daily activities; I forget what the excitement of the future can hold. The wonder of why a car drives on a parkway, but parks in a driveway. The wonder never really goes away. I thank my Wheels trip for that every day.

### Hope:

The hope that the trip won't ever end. Every day felt like a week, and every week felt like a day. The thought of losing the people who were so close to me was too much to handle. These people aren't ones I will never speak to again. My lifelong best friends will be all be greeting each other at somebody's wedding. It will never end.

### Emotion:

Oh boy is there a ton of emotion! Spending every second with a new family creates many feelings. From the group bonding to gender bonding, to sitting in a hotel room eating food bonding; there is a never ending fountain of stories and emotions. I know I could call anyone at 3 in the morning, and they would pick up their phone. Why you might ask? Because Ohana means family; and family means no one gets left behind.

### Experience:

This trip will create experiences and memories you will never forget. From morning prayer at the Grand Canyon, to the Coca Cola Factory, to walking the beaches in California, to Disneyland, they never stop.

### Learning:

Ugh I know, learning right? Observing the change in people from Day 1 to the last day was incredible. The personal reflection and discovery was what many people went on the trip for. Not only self learning, but learning the prayers provided me with the ability to feel more spiritually connected during services. Studying the idea of Hillel presented, "If I am not for myself, then who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now, when?" proved to be a motto to live by.

### Shabbat

The best day of the week. Going on to the trip, I thought to myself "Farrah, doesn't it just stink that we won't be doing anything Friday night to Saturday night?" Shabbas holds some of the best memories from the entire Wheels experience for me. To be able to sit down, relax, and just appreciate all that has happened that week was a gift. Picking shabbas rooms proved to be the most challenging part of the week. To watch my peers read Torah portions was inspiring and powerful. And the food on Shabbat is absolutely delicious.

Continued in the next column

So Wheels.

It will never stop being the summer of a lifetime, because I will take everything from that trip and use it towards the future in every way I can.

By Farrah Cukor

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December 12, 2013

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The Blackin Family, in memory of Evan Juro  
The Blackin Family, in appreciation of Cantor Rockman for  
helping Leah with her Torah portion  
Kevin, Suzy, Shea & Reese Krane, in memory of their beloved  
father and grandfather  
The Ostroff Family, in memory of their beloved Mother &  
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Vicki & Burt Bauman, in honor of the naming of  
Jane Sydelle Fishelberg  
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Andy & Adrienne Ross, in memory of Molly Kaufman  
Janet Goodstein, in appreciation of Larry Cohen leading the  
shiva minyan

Continued next page

Janet Goodstein, in appreciation of Jerry Levine leading the shiva minyan  
 Janet Goodstein, in appreciation of Ben Gottesman leading the shiva minyan  
 Natasha Rosenbaum and Erwin Lewis, in honor of Bobbi & Marc Binder's 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
 Natasha Rosenbaum and Erwin Lewis, in honor of Ben Gottesman's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday

**L'Dor V'Dor**

Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in honor of the naming of their granddaughter, Jane Sydelle  
 Brenda & Mark Sherman, in memory of Evan Juro

**FROM THE OFFICE**

We want to thank, Joyce Fishelberg, Bill Greenberg, Jeryl Roller, Sandy Scharf & Beverly Leipzig-Silien for making December birthday calls.

A special thank you to Jay Scheuer for his amazing prayer book repairs and to Phyllis Pinsky for doing beautiful calligraphy for B'nai Mitzvah and Baby Naming certificates.

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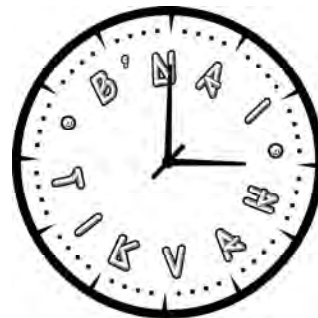
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They cooked in the kitchen in a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They mostly ate vegetables and didn't get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been in there for a month. Hence the rhyme: "peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."



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Monday	7:30 pm
Tuesday	7:30 pm
Wednesday	7:30 pm
Thursday	7:30 am & 7:30 pm
Friday	8:00 pm
Saturday	9:30 am

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Candle Lighting 3 4:26 pm 10 4:33 pm 17 4:40 pm 24 4:48 pm 31 4:57 pm	Shabbat Ends 4 5:29 pm 11 5:36 pm 18 5:43 pm 25 5:50 pm		1 29 Tevet  Office & School Closed NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 1 Sh'vat  Nursery Resumes	3 2 Sh'vat	4 3 Sh'vat  ROSH CHODESH
5 4 Sh'vat  Chai Breakfast	6 5 Sh'vat  KADIMA Jeopardy Board of Directors	7 6 Sh'vat  Men's Basketball	8 7 Sh'vat	9 8 Sh'vat	10 9 Sh'vat  Birthday Shabbat	11 10 Sh'vat  Lunch & Sing SHABBAT SHIRAH
12 11 Sh'vat  Blood Drive KADIMA Roller- Rama Aleph Naming Ceremony	13 12 Sh'vat  School Board	14 13 Sh'vat  Israel Study Group Men's Basketball	15 14 Sh'vat  Tu B'Shevat Seder	16 15 Sh'vat  B'nai Mitzvah 2015 Bikur Cholim TU B'SHEVAT	17 16 Sh'vat  School Wide Shabbat Family Shabbat	18 17 Sh'vat  KADIMA Lock In
19 18 Sh'vat  Parlor Meeting No Religious School	20 19 Sh'vat  Office & School Closed School Board MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	21 20 Sh'vat  Men's Basketball	22 21 Sh'vat	23 22 Sh'vat	24 23 Sh'vat	25 24 Sh'vat
26 25 Sh'vat  Rabbi & Dalet Parents School Conference Sisterhood IDF Program	27 26 Sh'vat  Palestine Study Group Ritual Commitee	28 27 Sh'vat  Men's Basketball	29 28 Sh'vat	30 29 Sh'vat	31 30 Sh'vat  ROSH CHODESH	



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