

# HAKOL • הקול

בני  
תקוה | B'nai  
Tikvah

THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

THE JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK

**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.**



Saturday, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Junior Congregation
Sunday, 3 <sup>rd</sup>	CBT Walk In The Park
	L'Dor Vador (7pm)
Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Board of Directors
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Shabbat
Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch & Learn
Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch With Rabbi
	USY Board
Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Congregation
	USY Event
Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup>	Brunch With Rabbi
	Religious School Committee
Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sisterhood Board
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup>	Rabbi Hot-Topic Lecture
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch With Rabbi
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup>	Bikur Cholim
Saturday, 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Junior Congregation
Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sisterhood Paid-up Brunch
	Men's Club Breakfast
	Interfaith Service
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup>	Ritual Committee
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch with Rabbi

## From Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

The recent decision by President Trump to abandon our Kurdish allies has sent shock waves throughout the Middle East, and particularly in Israel. Thousands and thousands of Kurds fought and died alongside American troops but, in spite of their sacrifice, the Kurdish people, G-d help them, were left to the tender mercies of the Turkish army.



The “collateral damage” from this policy decision is massive. Oceans of ink have been spilled trying to anticipate how Iran, Saudia Arabia, Lebanon, Russia, and other forces will react. (Short answer: not well.)

And nowhere are these discussions more urgent than in Israel. Those who really believed that President Trump and Prime Minister Netanyahu were BFF’s (that’s “best friends forever” for you who don’t have a 12-year-old daughter) are having sleepless nights, those who have been skeptical of Israel’s reliance on President Trump are currently playing a game of “gotcha.”

The fact is that Israel has reason to worry, but not because of President Trump in particular. The issue is much, much bigger, and will be just as crucial 50 or 100 years from now as it is today. President Trump’s decision only serves to underscore the fact that all nations, even fundamentally good nations such as the U.S., have their own national interests and their own set of priorities. These interests and priorities will, on occasion, diverge from Israel’s. And that is true even though the U.S. and Israel share many fundamental values (a love of freedom and democracy, a goal of living up to a high morality, respect for human rights, etc.).

Simply put, alliances are very practical and useful if you can make them work. Relying on alliances when it comes to existential questions, on the other hand, is stupid to the point of suicidal. And if that is true as a general principle, how much more so for the Jewish people! We are not Blanche Dubois, of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, who naively declares “I have always depended on the kindness of strangers”. We cannot, we must not, do so. We are a people that has been murdered, and a people who many want to murder still. So we must rely upon ourselves.

This does not mean that there is a Nazi behind every bush, or even every other bush. Nor does it mean that Israel should always “go it alone” when it comes to foreign policy decisions. But it does mean that when we hear politicians of any stripe (Republican or Democrat, past, present, or future) talk about “the unbreakable bonds” between the United States and Israel, we need to remember the voices of the Kurds. They are too far away to be heard, on the other side of the world, but it shouldn’t be too hard to figure out what they are saying.

All we need to do is listen—to our nightmares.

Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

## From Cantor Bruce D. Rockman

**The L’dor Vador concert is back and great just as it always is!**



Since the inception of The L’dor Vador Concert in 2007, I’ve described the event as “A Source of Pride and Enlightenment.” The concerts are always joyful, energetic, and simply amazing! This event is one important way that we encourage our children to embrace our incredible Jewish legacy from “Generation to Generation—L’dor Vador.” Our first concert in 2007 with Neshama Carlebach and the Baptist choir illustrated our commitment to our future. It emphasized our love for our Jewish tradition while celebrating the similarities of diverse populations.

This year, our featured performer will be **MOSHAV**, the internationally acclaimed American/Israeli rock group. Live music stirs our souls. The music of the Moshav band is both exuberant and inspiring. I can’t wait to celebrate with you on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm!!

The members of Moshav were influenced by the legendary Shlomo Carlebach, Neshama’s father, who has inspired the Jewish music of our generation. Carlebach melodies are a part of the soundtrack of most Jewish congregations and Jewish youth organization, especially USY. The members of Moshav, including its leader Yehuda Solomon, grew up on the moshav, (settlement) that Carlebach established in Israel and they are among the keepers of the flame,

At B’nai Tikvah, we are at the vanguard of many community activities, the keepers of the flame. We are a congregation of leaders and we share our wealth with the community. Our members are very prominent in the greater community and organizations. This is why our home grown programs have become more important than ever, and your support is critical. With so much happening in the area, the most unique and meaningful events often take place in our building. We need you to be here on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm.

I am so grateful to my friends David and Cindy Teicher who have made all of these great concerts possible. The greatest honor you can bestow upon the Teichers is to attend the concert. B’nai Tikvah is a special place and you, David & Cindy are B’nai Tikvah. Events such as L’dor Vador allow us to feel and show our pride as we celebrate our legacy.

Tickets for the Moshav concert are very affordable, as inexpensive as \$9 with a family 4-pack. Tickets are available at the door. Please be here, bring your friends, we will have a great time and your children will have a blast! And when you are here, together we will “*Sing a new song to God, renew ourselves, all people of the earth!*”

## From the President of United Synagogue Youth (USY)

### USY On Wheels



Corey Sookerman

It was October 2, 1977, the last day of the Major League Baseball (MLB) regular season. Dodger Stadium was packed, with 46,000 fans who had no idea they were about to witness one of the biggest moments in sports. The Dodgers' left fielder, Dusty Baker, was up to bat and hit his 30<sup>th</sup> home run of the season, making the Dodgers the only team in baseball to ever have four sluggers with more than 30 home runs. It was a wild, triumphant moment and a good omen as the Dodgers headed to the playoffs. Glenn Burke was on deck and was ready to congratulate his teammate as he stepped on home plate. Burke reached his hand over his head enthusiastically as he went over to greet his teammate and Baker, not sure of what to do, slapped the palm of his hand. As Baker said, and I quote, "His hand was up in the air, and he was arching way back. So I reached up and hit his hand. It seemed like the thing to do." As if it was out of a movie, Burke goes up to the plate, right after, and hits his first major league home run. And as he returned to the dugout, Baker slapped his hand again in a similar fashion. From this moment on, this was called the high-five and spread like wild-fire throughout the world. Today we would say it went "viral."

There are several other theories of how the high-five was invented . . . but . . . well . . . I liked this one the best. Fast forward 41 years, Corey Sookerman woke up on July 15th at 4:00 am. I was going to be attending the annual AIDS Walk in San Francisco as a volunteer while I was on USY on Wheels Classic. My job as a volunteer was to be a cheerleader for when the participants crossed the finish line. To be honest, I was not too thrilled about being labeled a cheerleader; mind you, it was 6 o'clock in the morning. Later, as the walk was coming to an end and I waited at the finish line, not sure how exactly to be a cheerleader, I leaned over the divider as people crossed the finish line and stuck out my arm hoping someone would give me a high-five, in turn. I received an abundance of high-fives from those in the walk. It felt as if every person there was giving me a high-five, but it was just that so many people were supporting the cause. I started to enjoy giving high-fives. Every time I would spot someone who was about to finish the race, they seemed to have a look of distress and fatigue. Then I would stick my hand out and there was an immediate change in

the expression on their face. This was when I really learned the value of a high-five.

Such a simple interaction can have more of an impact than you may think. This is one of the most valuable lessons I learned from my experience with a USY Summer program. For those of you who don't know, USY on Wheels Classic is one of the many Summer programs that USY has to offer on a regional level. Wheels has been one of the most popular programs for USY and there's a reason why. You spend six and a half weeks with 40 teenagers, traveling across America, visiting more than 30 states, including North Dakota if you're lucky. My busmates and I spent a lot of time volunteering on the trip in different communities where we could make an impact, such as the AIDS Walk.

After spending my summer with USY, I became much more comfortable with myself and especially when meeting new people. The following year, I was on the board again for our USY chapter. At our events, I made connections with new kids coming to events and proved to myself that giving a high-five can mean more than you think. For many teenagers, going to their first event may be daunting, but a simple gesture to make them more comfortable when they first walk in could be the difference of whether or not they come to another event. It shows that someone acknowledged you and knows you matter.

Because of USY, I've learned that when you feel uncomfortable during social events, as I did at the walk, there's a good chance that everyone else feels the same way so you have no need to worry. USY has helped me to learn so much about myself and has given me so many connections that I would've never made.

When I was researching the origin history of the high-five, I learned that Glenn Burke, the creator, was the first MLB player to come out as gay to teammates and team owners during his professional career and the first to publicly acknowledge it. He died from AIDS-related causes in 1995. Connecting Glen Burke and the high-five from its inception to my delivering it at the AIDS walk in San Francisco on my Wheels trip made this whole experience that much more powerful for me.

If you are given the opportunity to go on any USY summer programs, encampment, or conventions, take a step back, reflect, and see how meaningful it truly was for you. Think about participating sometime the future. Can you imagine what connections you would make ?

## HAKOL

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

Published monthly, except July and August. Submissions are encouraged about events, group activities, and anything relevant to the Jewish community. Submissions, subject to available space and editorial constraints, are due by the 15th of the preceding month. Please address all articles and correspondence to [Hakol@bnaitikvah.org](mailto:Hakol@bnaitikvah.org) and try to avoid use of PDF files. Current issues are emailed via the CBT Newsletter. Archives can be found at [bnaitikvah.org/hakol](http://bnaitikvah.org/hakol). Editors: Gary Bergman, Ann Gold, Art Biderman. Advertising: Meryl Harris and Janet Weiss.

## USY / KADIMA

### Our Fall Flashback!



**Sydney Sookerman**  
Advisor

Our youth groups started off the New Year on a high note! So much involvement occurred during the High Holidays, as well as ongoing events which helped in building our chapter up while fulfilling the award for the most improved in the Hagalil region.

This year, throughout the High Holidays, so many of our young people were involved in the main services and I could not be prouder, not only as their advisor but as a USY alumna myself. Seeing the USYers constantly up on the bimah, whether leading a Hebrew prayer or giving a speech, makes me eager to see what these teens will do in the future with the passion they have for their Judaism and leadership in the midst of all the challenging events our world is experiencing. I hope these teens hold on to their love for USY throughout college and beyond into their young adult lives, influencing future generations, so we can keep seeing a Jewish conservative youth movement thrive.

Corey Sookerman, our USY President, gave an inspiring speech about the connection to the origin of the high-five and opening up to other Jewish teens. A high-five makes people smile and it gives encouragement to go for something new, which Corey hopes to inspire this year at every USY event. Shea Krane, Maya Blackin, Ethan & Joseph Wolkoff spoke of their experiences on USY Pilgrimage where they traveled to Israel and the concentration camps in Poland. All four teens spoke about the emotional connections they made to the Holocaust while visiting Eastern Europe. Hearing from them about their experiences made it so compelling, each of them realizing that a Jewish life is a life lived fully while remembering what many of our ancestors had to endure.

Our USYers also read English texts that connected to the Holocaust, Israel, and the names of those who were lost this year at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue. To all the USYers who sounded the shofar up on the bimah, mazel tov; that takes skill and lots of oxygen! USYers who sang a Hebrew prayer, read Torah, chanted Haftorah, or were involved in the service in any way, you were all so wonderful.

Do you remember seeing that awesome USY & Kadima poster in the lobby during High Holidays? That was made by our VP of Communications, Becca Smoller. She is taking our fliers to a whole new level with her creativity and graphic design skills. Make sure to check them out throughout the year!

Thanks to you, the congregation, we had another successful High Holiday Food Drive; those items will be donated to Elijah's Promise and the South Brunswick Food Bank. Thank you for donating and giving back during the New Year.

I hope everyone had a *שנה טובה ומתוקה*.  
(*Sweet New Year*)

### Things to Look Forward To:

- Nov 10: USY Chapter Israel Event
- Nov 13: USY Chapter Board Meeting
- Nov 15-17: Kadima Hagalil Fall Kinnus
- Nov 20: USY Chapter Social Action/Tikun Olam
- Nov 22-24: USY Hagalil Fall Kinnus

**Experience the online features of this issue!**



Use a QR app in your smartphone to scan the codes, such as those on the next page.

The QR code on the front cover provides you with the index of the Hakol archives.

# L'dor Vador - The Claire & Irving Teicher Concert

# The Moshav Band



**Performing Live Here at B'nai Tikvah**

## Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7pm



Listen Now

Reserved Seating - \$25  
 General Admission - \$18  
 CBT Family 4-Pack - \$36



Scan for Tickets



Lori Sookerman



Shelly Wistreich

Come join the Sisterhood for the 2019-2020 year as we focus on our Mind, Body and Spirit. At each event you attend, you will receive a raffle ticket; a drawing will take place at our last meeting in May. The more events you attend, the more chances you have to win! Prizes will be devoted to your Mind, Body, and Spirit!

### THIS MONTH

**Sunday, Nov. 24th - Paid-Up Membership Brunch.** Be a part of our Sisterhood community! A membership form is included in this edition of Hakol. Our Paid-Up Membership event is featuring a Fashion Show and brunch catered by Classical Caterers.

Look for our weekly emails and on the website for the most up-to-date information.

### SAVE THE DATE

January 24th, 2020 - Latkes and Vodka.

### Mazel Tosses

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood provide these bags of soft candy in order to sweeten the day. Also great for an aufruf. Order your Mitzvah Baskets and Mazel Tosses at [bnaitikvah.org](http://bnaitikvah.org) at least one month before your mitzvah.

Contact: Marci Abschutz, 732-735-1946.

### Torah Fund

The new pins are available with a \$180-or-above pledge. We would love to welcome you as a Torah Fund benefactor, helping the Women's League for Conservative Judaism to support the Jewish Theological Seminary, its teachers, Cantors, and Rabbis. Contact: Ann Rosenzweig 732-249-9141 [Andyapt@optimum.net](mailto:Andyapt@optimum.net)

### Gift Shop

Store Hours: Sunday 9AM-12PM  
By appointment, call Serena Blackin 848-702-3445  
Everything "Shabbat" 20% off\*\*  
\*\*Some exclusions apply  
All clearance items 75% off  
Cash or checks accepted only at this time.

### Mitzvah Baskets

Help us decorate the bima with nonperishable food baskets. We also deliver baskets to other synagogues. Tell your friends about this service. Contact: Teresa Samtur 732-821-8163 or [msamtur@comcast.net](mailto:msamtur@comcast.net)

### Membership

Please visit [bnaitikvah.org/sismember](http://bnaitikvah.org/sismember) and discover the joy of getting involved in our circle. Sisterhood would love to welcome you. See our membership form in this edition of Hakol. Contact: [JessicaZink@optonline.net](mailto:JessicaZink@optonline.net)



The synagogue earns up to 15% when you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) (not [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)). Click under the search bar where it says: "Supporting:" Enter to search for: "Congregation B'nai Tikvah" and select the one that indicates: "**N Brunswick NJ**"



## DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE

Wheelchairs, walkers, and canes are available to congregants in need of short-term assistance, compliments of the Bikur Cholim Committee. Ask any of the ushers during services.



# CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH MEN'S CLUB

SERVING THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1983



Craig Cohen



Josh Oliver

## Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm

### Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs North NJ Region Congratulates and Celebrates



**Charlie Valan**  
CBT Men's Club  
Man of the Year

Classical Caterers  
Buffet Dinner,  
Minyan, & Award  
Ceremony



**Corey Sookerman**  
CBT Youth of the Year

\$60 pp; (\$40 MC Members) - Payable: CBT Men's Club (indicate MOY)  
RSVP – Steve Katz 732-329-0687 skatz56@aol.com

Please place an ad in the Journal - [nnjr.org/journal](http://nnjr.org/journal) - scan →



## SAVE THE DATE



Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - 8pm

## Volunteering in Jerusalem



Neal Gittleman

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Cindy and I arrived in Israel to spend a week volunteering at the Trudi Birger Dental Clinic in Jerusalem, through a special program called Dental Volunteers for Israel (DVI). DVI provides free dental care and oral health education to thousands of needy children in Jerusalem every year, regardless of race or religion, thanks to the benevolent support of our friends and visiting volunteer dentists from around the world. We also came for the beaches of Tel Aviv.

DVI Founder and Holocaust survivor, Trudi Birger, suffered greatly as a child during the war. At that time, she vowed to help prevent the suffering of other children if she should survive. As a successful microbiologist in Israel, she began to fulfill that vow to assist needy children. Trudi soon identified dental problems as a common cause of terrible suffering of impoverished children, and, in 1980, when the government cut funds from public dental care programs, she found her cause. Trudi established Dental Volunteers for Israel that year and oversaw the organization for the remainder of her life. Inspired by her passionate devotion to Jerusalem's children and by the profound rewards of being in the clinic and the good work, itself, the dedicated volunteer dentists from around the world picked up where Trudi left off to ensure that DVI would continue to provide these critical services to the most underprivileged families of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem has more than 200,000 youth living under the poverty line. DVI's Trudi Birger clinic treats disadvantaged children and at-risk youth (aged 4-26). Volunteer dentists from around the world, together with their Israeli colleagues, perform about a thousand treatments each month. In 2018, 133 volunteer dentists from around the world performed 10,836 treatments, helping 2,709 at-risk youth in Jerusalem. During the past 39 years, more than 4,500 dentists have volunteered at DVI, treating thousands of patients for free every year, despite the fact that DVI receives no government funding.

The dedication of volunteer dentists to Jerusalem goes beyond routine Zionism. A significant percentage of patients are immigrants. Through this assistance, they are being given a boost toward self-confidence and successful assimilation and integration into Israeli society.

It is the most bang-for-the-buck charitable organization in the State of Israel, thanks to the 'in-kind' donations of volunteer dentists and dental companies, including Henry Schein and the Jewish-French-owned company: Septodont, who supply all of the clinic's materials and supplies (and much of the equipment) absolutely free.

In addition to providing services to children, the clinic provides services to the elderly. According to the Jerusalem Municipality, there are 23,000 Holocaust survivors in Jerusalem – out of this number, 7,000 are needy in some way and receive welfare services. There are more than 30,000 needy elderly in Jerusalem. Many of them arrive at the DVI free clinic with only a few teeth, having suffered this way for decades. Free dentures improve their quality of life and provide them with restored dignity. From September 2018 to September 2019, 152 needy elderly and survivors received free dentures at DVI.

In keeping with Trudi Birger's philosophy that true "tsedaka" (charity) means giving to others not what you would otherwise discard, but what you would want for your own children, DVI strives to provide the poorest kids with the highest level care in the State of Israel.

Dentists from some countries are able to formally count their volunteer time as continuing education hours, and almost everyone agrees that the experience serves as some of the best continuing education they've ever received.

As greater numbers of needy youth, elderly, and Holocaust Survivors arrive at the clinic every year, DVI volunteer dentists and supporters are committed to investing their time and money in an effort to ensure that DVI's patients have better, healthier lives.

This was my first such trip to Israel volunteering at DVI. I felt like I was helping do my little part of tikkun olam, one person at a time. I hope to go again to Israel to work in this wonderful organization. DVI allows me to give back to the underserved population, be it Jewish, Arab Israeli, or Palestinian. Personally, for me it is a unique opportunity to give back in a small way to the people of Israel, utilizing my talents as a dentist.





Adrienne Ross

# Tikvah for Israel

## “Wine of the Month” Club

Bring a little Israel to your Thanksgiving table

If your first taste of Israeli wine was “Carmel Concord Grape,” you are not alone! For many of us, we were first introduced to Israeli wine that was used as part of ritual. Much has changed over the past few decades, with Israel producing a wide variety of wines from different regions of the country.

Today, wine can be thought of as representing modern Israel, as its varieties and complex tastes are akin to the country. Israel is being widely recognized as capable of producing world-class wines, and growth is happening fast—one of the biggest problems is that supply cannot meet demand! And, of course, more than 80% of the wines produced in Israel are consumed in Israel.

Consider bringing a little Israel to your home or ordering wine as a Chanukah or Holiday gift. Show, in some small way, your support of Israel.

As we often say: at B’nai Tikvah, YOU CAN! Consider the opportunity to try Israeli wines in time for Thanksgiving by placing an order as part of our Tikvah for Israel “Wine Club.” Choose 2 wines (red and/or white) selected by Rabbi Wolkoff.

Cost: \$72 (checks made to Tikvah for Israel)

Orders Due: November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Through the website or email to: [adrienne.d.ross@gmail.com](mailto:adrienne.d.ross@gmail.com)



Learn more about the Israeli wine industry: Scan: [bit.ly/israel-wines](http://bit.ly/israel-wines)

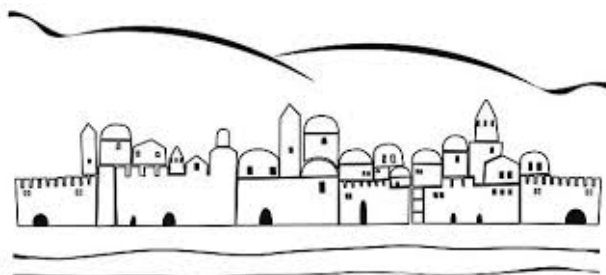
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## From the School & Youth Vice Presidents



**Melissa Kessler**



**Andrew Goldberger**

### **PJ Library & PJ Our Way Come to B'nai Tikvah**

We have exciting news to share regarding our youth programs! It is with great pride that we announce our newest endeavor at B'nai Tikvah—we have been selected by the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey to partner with them and serve as a hub to offer new and innovative programs through PJ Library and PJ Our Way. We believe that the best way to engage our synagogue youth, and the larger Jewish community in our area, is to provide an opportunity that will allow Jewish children and their families to interact with each other and to build a strong foundation for involvement in Jewish life. We are extremely grateful to the Federation for offering us this opportunity to help cultivate a strong Jewish community for our young and growing families. Throughout the year, we will hold many fun and educational events centered around holidays, Jewish life, and forming meaningful and lasting friendships.

### **What are PJ Library and PJ Our Way?**

PJ Library (for ages 6 months to 8 years old) and PJ Our Way (for ages 9 to 11 years old) are international programs through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with the Jewish Federation, wherein families raising Jewish children are eligible to receive monthly age-appropriate books (at no cost) that address various Jewish values and holidays. In addition, PJ Library and PJ Our Way offer programs for young Jewish children throughout the community.

### **Why Us and Why Now?**

With the support of our clergy and Board of Directors, we have made it our mission to focus, not just within our synagogue, but within the greater local Jewish community. With the changing demographics in central New Jersey, it is now more important than ever to ensure our Jewish youth and their families continue to have a Jewish community like the one we all enjoy at B'nai Tikvah. When we closed the Early Childhood Center last year, we wanted to make sure that our youngest members were not forgotten, as we recognize that they are the future of B'nai Tikvah and the Jewish community, in general.

### **High Holiday Round Robin**

On Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, our Social Hall was filled with singing, dancing, crafts, and laughter, as 33 children and their families from around our area participated in our first PJ Library event: High Holiday Round Robin. What a breath of fresh air it was to see so many young families brought together at B'nai Tikvah. After only one event, new friendships are already forming, inquiries have been made about becoming members of B'nai Tikvah, and we have been asked about future events. This truly puts a smile on our faces. In addition to the participants, B'nai Tikvah was at its best, as several of our members and Board members volunteered to help run the event to make sure the warmth of our synagogue was felt by all. Our High Holiday Round Robin event was an all-around success!

Melissa Kessler and Cheryl Crick created stations for the children, each addressing a different aspect of the High Holidays. As everyone arrived, the PJ Library Radio app was playing music in the background. We then formed a circle on the dance floor and enjoyed singing and dancing with Stacey Rockman. The circle of children and their families took up the entire dance floor – it was quite a sight to behold! We then broke up into small groups for the Round Robin activities, which consisted of 1) holiday card making with Dahlia Wolkoff, 2) story time with Sharon and Scott Cohen, 3) Tashlich Toss with Bobbi Binder, 4) edible Torah making with Stacey Rockman, and 5) Shofar blowing with Ethan Wolkoff.

To make the day run seamlessly truly took a group effort, and we would be remiss if we didn't thank everyone who helped make it possible in one way or another – Cheryl Crick, Rabbi Wolkoff, Cantor Rockman, Scott Cohen, Stacey Rockman, Sharon Cohen, Bobbi, Binder, Amanda Uniman, Gale Dillman, Scott Kessler, Mindy Austein, Ruth Anne Koenick, Bashe Rockman, Dahlia Wolkoff, Ethan Wolkoff, Kim Riemann, Lynne WeissMarshall, Meryl Harris, and Julio and the rest of our amazing custodial staff.

### **Where Do We Go From Here?**

With one successful program now under our belt, we are encouraged to keep going! Currently, we are in the process of planning additional engaging and educational programs for children of both PJ Library and PJ Our Way age throughout the year. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!



On Sunday, October 6th, local Jewish families welcomed the new year at B'nai Tikvah with a High Holiday Round Robin sponsored by PJ Library, PJ Our Way, and the Jewish Federation. Fun was had by kids of all ages, even the grown-ups, too! Songs were sung, Edible Torahs were made (and eaten), shofars were blown, cards were decorated, Tashlich was tossed, and apples and honey were enjoyed. What a sweet way to start off 5780!

**Erica Riback**

My family and I went to the High Holiday Round Robin event! It was a wonderful and very well-run day. The B'nai Tikvah volunteers organized children by nametag color into groups to rotate so each child was able to participate in every activity. My kids loved the shofar blowing and making an edible Torah out of tortillas, frosting, and fruit roll ups. We sang songs about the holidays and ate a delicious apple and honey snack at the end of the event. During our Rosh Hashanah dinner, my kids gave their grandparents cards that they had made that day. Thank you to the volunteers at B'nai Tikvah for making it such a special day for our family!

**Erin, Brian, Spencer, Cooper, and Remy Satran**



I brought my son to the PJ Library High Holiday Round Robin at B'nai Tikvah last weekend. We had such a wonderful time. Even though my son is only 13 months old, it was great to start exposing him to Judaism and all that it has to offer. My son had a great time and so did I. The event was so well organized and was geared towards children of all ages. The people there were so friendly and welcoming. I really felt like I was a part of the community and I look forward to going to the next event.

**Kim Stolow**

# Biggest Glow Dance Party Ever

# LET'S GLOW CRAZY

To raise funds for "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer"

## Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 - 5pm

### For kids, teens, families, adults of all ages!

### Wear clothing that will "glow in the dark"

\$10 per person or Family 4 pack for \$35

At the Door Tickets \$12 per person



Scan for Tickets

For Advance Tickets: <https://letsgocrazydance.eventbrite.com> →

Music and Production by AJH Entertainment

## 2020 Mah Jongg Cards From Sisterhood

Order your 2020 Mah Jongg League cards for you and your friends to be ready to play by April. No orders accepted after Jan. 8. Make checks payable to B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood and send to:



Lisa Seidman  
397 Halsey Road  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902



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# SOCIAL ACTION

## IT'S ALREADY THAT TIME.... HELP A NEEDY FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**Why we run this program?** The following is an excerpt of one of the thank you notes we received on behalf of a family we sponsored: "This family has never experienced such generosity. They felt overjoyed and emotional upon receiving the gifts. The mother told me she was happy to see that her children finally have toys to play with so they are no longer bored at home. The teachers were commenting that they noticed the children's self esteem improve when they came to school proudly dressed in their new clothes. The children are now appropriately dressed for the weather and are even wearing socks which were noticeably missing prior to receiving the gifts. They sleep much more comfortably at night with their new blankets and their heater...." **This is why we run this program...to make a difference in peoples lives.**

**Who are these families?** These families are all in need. They are referred by various sources including Jewish Family Services and school social workers.

**How does this program work?** Each family will fill out a wish list of their needs. The wish lists typically include items like towels, sheets, blankets, clothing, shoes, coats and children's toys.

### How can you help?

1. Become a family coordinator for one family's wish list. This might involve getting your family, friends, co-workers, and merchants to donate the needed items to fulfill the family's wish list.
2. Volunteer to obtain one or more of the items on a family's wish list.
3. Donate money that will be specifically used to purchase items on a family's wish list. Checks should be made payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah Holiday Program.

**To participate** in this worthwhile program, send in the below form to the synagogue office or e-mail Janice Baer at Jbbd11@verizon.net. Please denote in what capacity you want to participate.

PLEASE RESPOND BY NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>

## HELP A NEEDY FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

I want to be a family coordinator

I want to volunteer to obtain one or more items on a family's wish list

I want to donate money that will be specifically used to purchase items on a family's wish list.

Make checks payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah Holiday Program

Send completed form to Janice Baer, Congregation B'nai Tikvah or Jbbd11@verizon.net by November 18<sup>th</sup>  
Any questions, call Janice Baer 732-735-0846 or Jbbd11@verizon.net Forms are also on the synagogue website.

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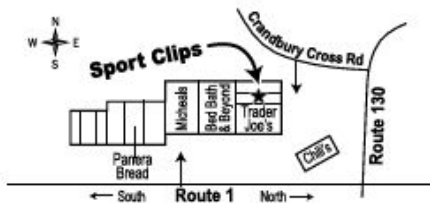
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We welcome your ideas, participation and enthusiasm!

We're planning many programs, from fitness & relaxation, to art programs, community outreach, and Jewish education! Most events are free to Sisterhood members! We'd love to see you there!

**Save the date for these upcoming events (Times will be announced):**

Paid-Up Membership Event on Sunday morning November 24<sup>th</sup>- Brunch & Fashion Show!  
The always fun and friendly Latkes & Vodkas, January 4, 2020!

Simply fill out the form below and mail it to Elisa Berness, our Financial Secretary, at the address provided below.

We are offering different membership levels; please choose below:

- \$40 Leah Level - open **only** to our Synagogue's Senior members : \_\_\_\_
- \$45 Rachel Level - Open **only** to Synagogue members: \_\_\_\_
- \$54 Rebecca Level - Open to all(including non-synagogue members) : \_\_\_\_
- \$72 Sarah Level - Open to all: \_\_\_\_

Questions? Call Jessica Zink 732-715-4765 or email [jessiczink@optonline.net](mailto:jessiczink@optonline.net)

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Please detach and return with payment (please write clearly):

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CBT Member: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Include a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_, payable to: Congregation B'nai Tikvah Sisterhood

Volunteer Opportunities (check all in which you are interested):

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on the Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing a Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping for Snacks      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Packing Purim Baskets  | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling Members      | <input type="checkbox"/> Setting up for a Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean-up after program | <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping for Purim   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):  |

Please mail to: Elisa Berness, 12 Donald Avenue, Kendall Park, NJ 08824  
or drop in Sisterhood mailbox at the Synagogue.

## Camp B'nai Tikvah A day at the Park



Laurie Valan

When I heard B'nai Tikvah was having color war, it took me all of five seconds to sign up. My mind immediately brought me back to my childhood as a proud color war captain of the red team at B'nai B'rith Perlman Camp in picturesque Starlight, PA, in 1985. I had visions of the Apache relay, songwriting, and kickball on my mind.

On this "game day," Charlie and I arrived, proudly wearing our team blue colors (I will admit that I thought about wearing some face paint but realized it may have been a tad too much) and we were ready to take home the victory.

Despite the humid, 92-degree temperature, there were smiles all around. It was so nice to see old friends and make some new ones as the games kicked off. It was refreshing to see that there were activities for everyone from checkers to chess, cornhole to basketball, ring toss to relays. We each signed up for activities as we sized up the competition.

As the activities began, the focus of winning vs. losing began to fade. It was replaced with laughter, encouragement, and lots of sweat. I quickly realized what the day was about; it was about being in the moment,

disconnecting from the day-to-day and being connected to our community.

The last activity was an all-hands-on-deck kickball game. Age or skill set didn't matter. No one judged if you could kick a ball, catch or run; everyone was encouraged to play. And it was so much fun. There were cheers for both teams, a few scrapes and scratches and, yes, there was a final score. But, did it really matter? I mean it kind of did. I will admit that when it came to the bottom of the last inning and the blue team was winning, the competitive side of me was back in full swing. There was no way I was letting this victory slip through the cracks.

I have said for the past few years that my life feels different, more complete. Yes, I have had some major events these past few months as I became a bat mitzvah and got married, but it's much more. I feel more connected to my Jewish roots; more grounded in who I am and what's important to me. All of this has been possible by participating in social events such as color war, where CBT encourages us all to participate. Being a part of the CBT family is like being a part of any other family: it can be competitive, it can take a lot of patience, and there may even be an occasion when you find yourself raising your voice. But in the end, we are a family. A family to help, support, and remind you that you are important. We are all important. We are all winners.







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I recently discovered a website that offers suggestions for great Israeli products. [www.bdslst.org/full-list/](http://www.bdslst.org/full-list/) provides a long list of reputable and high-quality products from Israel to benefit US consumers. Although it wasn't their intention to endorse these products, I found them to be a valuable resource for products that offer high quality imported items from Israel. I urge you to check it out. Also see [bit.ly/buybds](http://bit.ly/buybds)



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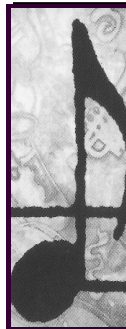
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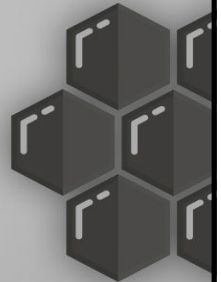
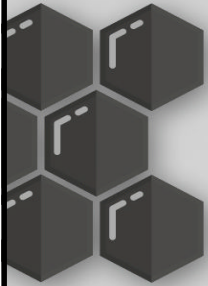
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Helene & Gary Tinkel, in loving memory of Joe Finkel

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Ann and Sam Rosenzweig, in loving memory of Thelma Kalmeyer  
Lynn Biderman, thank you to the many people who gave her special  
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Nancy & Elliott Danto, in honor of Howie Kalish's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Myron & Cheryl Asnis, in loving memory of Joel Kaplan  
Jeff & Rose Berger, in loving memory of Leon Berger  
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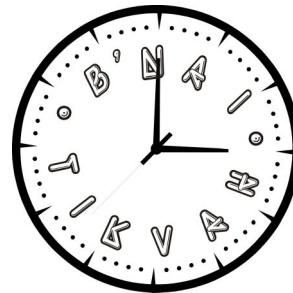
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It is appropriate for you to contact the rabbi whenever tragedy or trauma occurs, regardless of the hour. On Shabbat and Yom Tov, you can reach him at the Synagogue during scheduled services, or by coming or sending someone to his residence (8 Hidden Lake Drive), or calling (732-570-7634) after Shabbat or Yom Tov.



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A hearty "Thank You" to Margery Atwater, Joyce Fishelberg, Gilda Gildenberg, Jay Scheuer, and Risa Stolly for making birthday calls. Also thanks to Phyllis Pinsky for doing beautiful calligraphy on the B'nai Mitzvah and Baby Naming certificates.

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Hakol Rates Size	Artwork (W x H)	Annually 10 Issues	Single Issue
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¼ page	3¾" x 5"	\$400	\$65
Business card	2" x 3½"	\$300	\$50

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Candle Lighting 1 <sup>st</sup> 5:36 8 <sup>th</sup> 4:28 15 <sup>th</sup> 4:22 22 <sup>nd</sup> 4:17 29 <sup>th</sup> 4:14	Shabbat Ends 2 <sup>nd</sup> 6:43 9 <sup>th</sup> 5:35 16 <sup>th</sup> 5:29 23 <sup>rd</sup> 5:25 30 <sup>th</sup> 5:22				<b>1</b> 3 Cheshvan	<b>2</b> 4 Cheshvan  Jr. Congregation
<b>3</b> 5 Cheshvan Religious School  CBT Walk in the Park L'dor Vador Rutgers Promenaders	<b>4</b> 6 Cheshvan  Open Men's Basketball  Board of Directors	<b>5</b> 7 Cheshvan Wine Club Orders Due Open Men's Basketball  ELECTION DAY	<b>6</b> 8 Cheshvan  No Religious School	<b>7</b> 9 Cheshvan	<b>8</b> 10 Cheshvan  Birthday Shabbat	<b>9</b> 11 Cheshvan  Lunch & Learn
<b>10</b> 12 Cheshvan  No Religious School USY Event	<b>11</b> 13 Cheshvan  Open Men's Basketball	<b>12</b> 14 Cheshvan  Open Men's Basketball	<b>13</b> 15 Cheshvan  Lunch with Rabbi Religious School USY Board	<b>14</b> 16 Cheshvan	<b>15</b> 17 Cheshvan	<b>16</b> 18 Cheshvan  Jr. Congregation Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Kaelin
<b>17</b> 19 Cheshvan Aleph class JET Brunch with Rabbi Wine Club Pick-up RSC Meeting Rutgers Promenaders Rutgers Film Festival	<b>18</b> 20 Cheshvan  Sisterhood Board Open Men's Basketball	<b>19</b> 21 Cheshvan  Hot-Topic Lecture with Rabbi Open Men's Basketball	<b>20</b> 22 Cheshvan  Religious School Lunch with Rabbi USY Event	<b>21</b> 23 Cheshvan  Bikur Cholim Executive Committee	<b>22</b> 24 Cheshvan	<b>23</b> 25 Cheshvan  Jr. Congregation
<b>24</b> 26 Cheshvan Religious School Men's Club Breakfast Sisterhood Paid-up Membership Interfaith Service	<b>25</b> 27 Cheshvan  Ritual Committee Open Men's Basketball	<b>26</b> 28 Cheshvan  Open Men's Basketball	<b>27</b> 29 Cheshvan  Lunch with Rabbi No Religious School	<b>28</b> 30 Cheshvan  <b>Office Closed</b> <b>THANKSGIVING</b> ROSH CHODESH	<b>29</b> 1 Kislev	<b>30</b> 2 Kislev



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