

Our Mission: To foster a vibrant egalitarian Jewish community founded in the religious customs & traditions of Conservative Judaism; offering excellent Jewish education and community activities for all ages with commitment to Israel and Jewish communities throughout the world.



A Special 100th Edition for Someone Special

Sunday, Jan, 2 nd	Men's Club
Monday, 3 rd	Board Meeting
	Blood Drive
Tuesday, 4 th	Fiber Art Group
Wednesday, 5 th	USY Board
Friday, 7 th	Shabbat Together
Sunday, 9 th	Kadima Event
Monday, 10 th	Sisterhood Board
Wednesday, 12 th	Lunch & Learn
Friday, 14 th	USY Joins Shabbat
Saturday, 15 th	USY Bedouin Tent Night
Sunday, 16 th	Better Together Tu B'Shevat
Monday, 17 th	Tu B'Shevat
Tuesday, 18 th	Fiber Art Group
Wednesday, 19 th	Lunch & Learn
Thursday, 20 th	Executive Committee
Saturday, 22 nd	Sundaes on Saturday
Sunday, 23 rd	USY Event
Wednesday, 26 th	Lunch & Learn
Sunday, 30 th	Congregational Meeting
Monday, 31 st	Ritual Committee

From Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

Handling Criticism



My sister, a wise woman, recently shared an important insight with me (actually, with my daughter Dahlia, but I got to hear about it): “Don’t take criticism from people you would never go to for advice.”

This is sage counsel for young people who live in a world of “likes” and “unfriending” where intemperate peer judgments can have a crushing impact on a vulnerable teen’s self-esteem.

Equally important, though, is how our Jewish people take this wisdom to heart. Criticism comes at us from all directions, right and left, Muslim and Christian, the media, academia, the U.N., the gutter, black, white, you name it. There are only two things all these critics have in common. One is a hatred for all things Israel/Jewish. The second is a profoundly distorted (read: mendacious) view of reality. Whether we are talking about ancient Near Eastern history, where our enemies simply deny the existence of the Jewish people in ancient Israel; or modern international law, where our enemies intentionally ignore the agreements which confer legitimacy on the Jewish state, while inventing unprecedented new legal interpretations to deny that legitimacy; or everything in between, the mental world of our critics makes *Alice in Wonderland* seem like the epitome of realism.

Trust me, you would never want to go to these people for advice. So why should you take their criticism to heart?

Besides, considering the abandonment of the Jews in the recent past—and more particularly, the actions and inactions of the world during the most fated and fatal episodes in our people’s history—it takes monumental chutzpah to arrogate to oneself the right to criticize “the Jews.”

We will be our own critics, thank you very much. We’re very good at it. And we’re the only ones we can trust.

However—and it’s a big however—there is a price for the ticket of admission to the club of permissible self-criticism of all things Jewish. That price is making the effort to access the moral knowledge that Judaism has nurtured and accumulated throughout the ages. Our people were unique in learning how to love the stranger. Our people were unique in introducing forgiveness to the world. Our people were unique in suggesting an inalienable bond between people and land. But if we don’t know this—and much, much more—why shouldn’t we be forced to accept the judgment and criticism of fonts of moral wisdom like Iran, China, and Venezuela?

One small example: the law students at CUNY recently voted to support the anti-Israel BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanction) movement. They use their misguided moral perceptions to undermine the Jewish state. The irony is that if not for Jewish morality, which is at the core of western civilization, and serves as the basis for Israel’s conduct, those students would have nothing to study.

The examples of misdirected criticism could unfortunately be multiplied endlessly. More important by far is the one thing we need to do to steel ourselves against it: learn Torah, so that when critique is needed (and, of course, critique is needed) it will be constructive rather than destructive. As we begin a secular new year, may it be one of renewed study and renewed responsibility for ourselves and our people.

Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

From the Desk of Cantor Rockman

Thanks Jesse and Mazel Tov!



It's difficult to comprehend that we are entering our third year of Covid protocols! Everything that we do is muddled with the uncertainty of varying opinions, a deep desire to succeed under difficult circumstances, and foremost, the abundance of caring that so many of you demonstrate.

2021 has been challenging and difficult. We've had too few events to celebrate and an overabundance of sadness. Our hearts were broken. It helps to grieve together. Still, when we have something to celebrate, we have shown our reluctance and have been filled with fear.

Chanukkah was different. We did not have a gathering in the synagogue and our Religious School program was on Zoom, hardly anyone's first choice. Thankfully we were able to bring our students together for some fun activities; we heard music, played a game of dreidel, had a Jewish Treasure Hunt, and our Kahoot was a hoot! And eventually, we sent everyone home with latkes and apple sauce.

Before we started our games, I read an old Jewish folktale to our group. Although it was new to me, you probably know it well. It is "Something from Nothing" by Phoebe Gilman. Many of you may have received a copy of this book, courtesy of PJ Library. Check your children's book shelves. Apparently we

have numerous copies here at CBT and Stacey informed me that we have at least one at home. Still, I bought a used copy from Amazon. I was so pleased with myself! If you would like me to read it to you or if you would like to borrow a copy, please let me know.

I became aware of the book while listening to the senior sermon of soon to be Rabbi, Jesse Nagelberg, who grew up at B'nai Tikvah. I was so proud and inspired as I listened to my former Bar Mitzvah student deliver his speech to his teachers, family, and other future Rabbis. Jesse revealed that his grandmother gave him this book and, that now and then, he still depends on this book to help him through a moment or two.

Well, Jesse helped me through a moment too. I read the book and when I reached its conclusion, I was ready for the best Chanukkah Zoom party that I could image! There was lots of laughing and inspired searching for menorahs and challahs, apples and honey, and everything a Jewish home could hold. Parents competed in the Kahoot, but didn't win! We certainly had fun making something from nothing.

A BIG shout out goes to Cheryl Crick and Sharon Cohen, who headed up our parents' committee for planning a fantastic Chanukkah Party. You inspire me too. Your love and devotion for our children is unparalleled.

Worship the Lord with gladness; I look forward to seeing you in shul!

Cantor Bruce Rockman

HAKOL — The Newsletter of

Congregation B'nai Tikvah, JCC of North & South Brunswick 1001 Finnegan's Lane, No. Brunswick, NJ 08902

Published monthly, except July and August. Submissions are encouraged about events, group activities, and anything relevant to the Jewish Community. All articles emailed to Hakol@bnaitikvah.org are due by the 15th of the preceding month and are subject to available space and editorial constraints. We discourage the use of PDF files. All issues are archived at bnaitikvah.org/hakol and emailed via the CBT Newsletter.

Editors: Gary Bergman, Ann Gold, Arthur Biderman, Janet Weiss, and Sandy Sharon. Advertising: Janet Weiss.

President, Marty Abschutz

Let's Burn the Mortgage!

Dear Fellow Members,



As I write this, we have just under two years remaining on our two mortgages. Our current balance is just over \$376,000 combined. As of August 1, 2022, the combined balance will be just under \$239,000. I am writing to encourage you to participate in our Burn the Mortgage campaign.

Why Pay Off the Mortgage Early?

Unlike a home mortgage, the CBT mortgage has a balloon-like feature where the amount of principal to be paid back increases significantly in each of the last two years. Currently, approximately \$1,000 of full dues (\$2,750, currently) goes to paying off the mortgage. That amount is after we have used \$84,000 (of the \$160,000 collected to date) from the Burn the Mortgage Fund to keep the mortgage component of dues steady. Paying off the mortgage will allow us to use that \$1,000 per member in ways we want to, including reducing dues to retain and attract members. The sooner we can do that the better off we will be.

Everyone who participates in the Campaign will be recognized in a permanent way, regardless of your level of participation. I hope that all of you will participate in some amount. For those of you who would like to use this as an opportunity to honor or pay tribute to loved ones, we will recognize a further place of recognition. Those tiers are:

Silver (\$3,600)
Gold (\$3,601 to \$24,999)
Platinum (\$25,000 to \$49,999)
Diamond (\$50,000+)

Please consider a pledge towards the campaign. Pledges can be paid at one time or over the remaining two years of the mortgage. All contributions are welcome! Please use the pledge form on our website. One-time contributions, quarterly, monthly or annual billing are all possible. Importantly, all money raised in this campaign is used **ONLY** for the mortgage line-item. All such monies are placed into a separate bank account to assure they will be used for that purpose only.

Feel free to reach out to me or any member of the Committee listed below with any questions you may have.

Oh...Happy secular New Year, too!
Marty

Burn the Mortgage Committee: President, Marty Abschutz, and Past Presidents: Adrienne Ross, Ruth Ann Koenick, Jeff Schwartz, and Dave Offenber (Chair)

WAM: Ways & Means, Activities, Membership



Andrew Goldberger



Steve Juro



Renee Juro

What's Going on with WAM?

CBT Presents: Lainie Kazan Up Close & Personal. Spend an hour with Lainie Kazan ("My Big Fat Greek Wedding", "You Don't Mess with the Zohan", "King of Queens") as she talks about her career on Broadway, in the movies, on TV, headlining at nightclubs, and more! Virtual discussion on **Sunday, January 30th at 8:00 pm**. See pricing online or on page 7 of this month's Hakol.

"My Jewish Year" Rescheduled
Now both Live and Remote!

Although we had to postpone the Abigail Pogrebin Book Chat due to an unforeseen issue on the author's part, she worked with us to reschedule our event for our new date of **Thursday, February 17th at 7:30 pm**.

We are pleased to announce that this will now be an IN-PERSON event, with a Zoom option for those who are more comfortable joining virtually. We encourage you to share this new date with family and friends who you feel would be interested in hearing from Abigail regarding her book, "My Jewish Year." Visit bnaitikvah.org or call the office. You can call if you previously paid, but can't attend on the new date.

See pricing online or on page 14 of this month's Hakol.

Save the Date: Annual Gala (Saturday, June 25th, 7:45 pm)
Planning is well underway for our annual Gala with a June date to accommodate for an outdoor event and theme, "Starry Night." Who will be your Star? Save the date now to ensure you can attend this spectacular evening. To join the planning committee, contact Mitch Frumkin, our Gala Chairperson.

It's Back! CBT's Brick Campaign.

Your words, etched in brick on our beautiful new walkway! We're in the home stretch of the campaign. Make sure your brick order gets in by **March 1st** and your brick will be revealed at our annual Gala in June.

Please visit: www.bnaitikvah.org/brick-campaign

Social Action

Mission Ongoing



Laura Waksman

The Social Action Committee's mission is to promote justice and compassion within our shul, the greater Jewish community, and society at large through engaging our members in performing acts of Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World). This would ideally also include collaboration with other CBT groups, programming to discuss current issues, and activities with other religious groups. There is much work to be done. Mission ongoing...

Our CBT Little Pantry, an up-cycled cabinet, has had its coats of sealant applied by Dave Shultz – thanks so much Dave! – and is almost ready to be placed on the grass in the parking lot facing Finnegans Lane. Thanks again to USYer Becca Smoller for painting “Give what you can” and “Take what you need” on the doors, and to graphic artist Lauren Jackenthal for painting our name in Hebrew and English on the top of the pantry.

The Little Pantry movement is a grassroots, crowd sourced solution to immediate and local need. It is an unlocked structure accessible 24/7 for those with a need for food or a need to give. Those in need often cannot access township food pantries for a variety of reasons. Two reasons are the inability to get to pantries during their distribution hours and not meeting financial criteria for receiving food. Yet still they are food insecure. The little pantry eliminates all barriers to access. Neighbors who wish to give may do so, but our plan is to have the funds to keep it stocked year round with not only non perishable food, but hygiene items as well. SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), the federal program formerly known as Food Stamps, allows recipients to only purchase food with the benefit, leaving people struggling to afford soap, diapers, toothpaste, paper products and other necessities.

Thank you to those who donated to the Social Action fund in December, allowing us to help fellow congregants in need, plan for the purchasing of stock pantry items, and provide a store gift card for a North Brunswick couple who lost all their belongings when their home of 48 years caught fire. They escaped safely and are living with friends. At this time, no collections of used household items or clothing for them are taking place. I will stay in touch with the mayor's office for updates.

Stay tuned for announcements of planning meetings for a shul-wide spring-time Mitzvah Day with projects and activities for all ages within and outside of our synagogue, making a vital difference to the world around us.

Are you a team player? Have a cause about which you're passionate? Want to help with an ongoing project? Reach out to me. I'd love to listen.

B' yachad... together..let's make a difference.





3 STEPS

TO SECURING YOUR
LEGACY AT CBT

Introducing the revival of CBT's Brick Campaign

Visit www.bnaitikvah.org/congregation-bnai-tikvahs-brick-campaign

Step 1: Buy a Brick

Choose from 3 options:

\$180 - 4"x8" Brick

\$360 - 8"x8" Brick

\$540 - 12"x12" Brick

1 2 3

Step 3: See the Reveal

In June 2022, at our Annual Gala "Under the Stars," we will reveal our beautiful new walkway with your family's brick on display!

Step 2: Choose your Engraving

Ensure your family's legacy at CBT with your unique sentiment, etched in stone on our beautiful new walkway! Whether you choose to honor your family or the memory of a loved one, your family's name will forever be a part of our building!

Questions? Email WAM@bnaitikvah.org

Congregation B'nai Tikvah Presents

Lainie Kazan

Up Close & Personal



Meet Lainie

Spend an hour with Lainie Kazan as she talks about her career on Broadway, in the movies, on TV, headlining at nightclubs, and more!

Sunday, January 30, 2022

8pm via Zoom

\$25 / Screen

We will share a movie clip and a video of Lainie singing and she will talk about her life, career, and answer questions LIVE through chat!

To register, please visit:

www.bnaitikvah.org/lainie-kazan

Questions? Please contact WAM@bnaitikvah.org



CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH MEN'S CLUB

SERVING THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1983



Marc Rosen, President

The annual Men's Club Man of the Year/Youth of the Year awards ceremony.



Brian Berness, Man of the Year, Bashe Rockman, Youth of the Year, and B'nai Tikvah supporters

Upcoming Events

January 23, 10am - Jews In India?

Of course! Jews come in ALL colors and shades.
Guest speaker Michael Ashkenashy talks about his life growing up in India, living in Israel and moving to New York City.
Come lounge, listen and learn!

Free Breakfast for CBT Men's Club members will be served.
(A \$5 donation is suggested for all other guests)
All guests must provide proof of full COVID vaccination and wear masks when not eating.

RSVP to Craig Cohen at pbgrebe2001@yahoo.com no later than January 19, 2022. We look forward to seeing you there.



February 13, 9am - World Wide Wrap



Lori Sookerman



Shelly Wistreich

WE ARE BACK!

Sisterhood was happy to have its first in person event in quite a while. Sisterhood Paid Up Membership Brunch was so much fun for all! We enjoyed an easy and fun craft, schmoozing, and a delicious brunch box, prepared by Classical Caterers, that we were able to take home. The message below was sent to Jessica Zink, our Membership VP and organizer of the event:

Dear Jessica,

Thank you for the fun program this morning. Everyone enjoyed the project and we all got to take home our handiwork. And, when I opened the brunch box at home, I couldn't believe all the goodies. It made for a delicious lunch (and tomorrow's lunch as well). Please extend my thanks to Shelly and Lori and everyone else responsible for this event. What a wonderful success!

Shirley Engel

Please visit <http://bnaitikvah.org/sismember> to discover the joy of getting involved in our circle. Sisterhood would love to welcome you.
Contact: Jessica Zink - JessicaZink@optonline.net

Mitzvah Baskets

Let us decorate the bima with nonperishable food baskets. We also deliver baskets for use at other synagogues. Tell your local friends about this service.
Contact: Teresa Samtur at msamtur@comcast.net or 732-821-8163

Mazel Tosses

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood provide these bags of soft candy which will sweeten the day. These bags are also great for an aufruf. Visit the CBT website to order your Mitzvah Baskets and Mazel Tosses at least one month before your mitzvah.
Contact: Marci Abschutz, 732-735-1946.

Torah Fund

The new pins are available with a \$180 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: Teresa Samtur at msamtur@comcast.net or 732-821-8163

Gift Shop

The gift shop will be having a jewelry sale for the month of January. Come in and treat yourself! 25% - 75% off almost all jewelry!

We are open during Religious School hours on Sundays and by appointment. Also online at <https://bnaitikvah.org/shop>
New items are added weekly.

Computers for Dinner

No, computers are not edible, but they can be had for the price of a dinner. If you've ever seen the movie "Brewster's Millions," I'm in a similar position. The more computers I give away, the more people give me their old ones. In some cases, the computers I acquire are even newer or better than the ones I let go. Most often,

it's just a software problem that's easily resolved by reformatting or replacing the hard drive and installing a fresh copy of Windows 10, along with a host of other software that has proven to be better than what you can buy from Microsoft. I have a few computers left, complete with keyboards and monitors, for anyone in need. No laptops. For details, contact Gary Bergman at garyisfinally@gmail.com or 732-246-7285.



Our founding congregant, Blanche Fruhling, celebrates her 100th birthday on January 4th.

Blanche recently moved to California to be with her immediate family. She has been an active member of B'nai Tikvah since its beginning and has served on several committees. Several of our congregants have fond memories of working with her on various committees throughout the years.

From Joyce Gerbman:

I had the pleasure of working side by side with Blanche as we both were in charge of the Sisterhood Gift Shop from 1989 through 1992. At that point in time, there was no turn key gift shop store, so we would set up tables in the lobby and display our merchandise to sell. Always being on call, we would often sell directly out of the coat room where the merchandise was stored in the closets. Twice a year, we would visit the Javits Center in NYC, where wholesale merchants and suppliers of all kinds would display their goods and allow one to purchase for their various stores and gift shops. On the train into NYC, Blanche and I would strategize our route for the day to make sure we visited all the Judaica merchants necessary. It was hard keeping up with you, Blanche, and you were 25 years my

senior. What also amazed me about you is that you were still mowing your lawn right up until you moved to California.

Blanche, your energy, perseverance and dedication has been an inspiration to me and to all of CBT. Happy 100th Birthday to you, a wonderful and amazing person. May your day be filled with wonderful memories. Sending lots of love and hugs your way.

Joyce Gerbman

From Lynn Biderman:

Blanche, along with Joyce Gerbman, had been running the Sisterhood Gift Shop for several years. It wasn't exactly a gift shop back then, but rather, many cartons of merchandise stored in the coatroom closet. Early every Sunday morning, a long table would be set up in the lobby, the glass display cabinets were dusted, and then, like magic, the Sisterhood "gift shop" was open!

My memory of how it came to be that I took over that position isn't clear. What is clear is going to my first Buyers Trade Show

with Blanche and Joyce. OY! It was quite an experience! To walk the NYC Convention Center. It takes 15,000 steps (or so it seems to this beginner)! Blanche and Joyce marched on (I thought my feet would never stop hurting!)

At least a dozen times, I needed to be reminded of the synagogue's phone number. They remained patient. Blanche and Joyce knew which vendors had been successfully used and what type of merchandise was needed. There was much more to simply buying, I learned. Packages needed to be unpacked, priced, stored in the closet till the next Sunday. etc. And they remained patient!

It was a wonderful experience that eventually led to my becoming the buyer & manager of the Gift Shop at the Zimmerli Art Museum. **Thank you Blanche** (and Joyce) for sharing your insights with patience and good humor.

With many wishes for a very Happy Birthday!
Lynn Biderman

From Sam and Ann-Ruth Rosenzweig:

From the late 70s when we joined Shari Shalom, we've had a close and cordial relationship with Blanche. From my helping her in the Shari Gift shop, spending time at Sisterhood functions, and going to Sisterhood Branch activities, we had developed a great friendship. Then there was our chavurah, "The No-Name Chavurah." The Bibels, Bachs, Hordons, Rosloffs, Rotters, Mae Rubinstein, Kutliroffs, Adlers, Rosenzweigs and of course, Blanche, got together monthly and shared our lives, simchahs and interests - from reading interesting books to traveling to Jewish sites to kvelling about our doings. We spent time sharing our lives and just enjoyed being together, an extended family as part of Shari Shalom and later on, the B'nai Tikvah family
Ann-Ruth Rosenzweig

From Phyllis Horlick:

Blanche Fruhling was one of my earliest acquaintances when I became a member of Shari Shalom. She was a dear friend of my sister-in-law, Florence Horlick Eisenberg. Their families lived across the road from each other. Blanche was a very knowledgeable antique collector. She spent her time visiting estate sales and shows. I believe she knew lots about old glass. Best wishes and happy birthday.
Phyllis Horlick

From Larry Cohen:

Best wishes for a Happy 100th Birthday!
Larry Cohen

From Bikur Cholim:

Hi Blanche, The Bikur Cholim Committee would like to wish you a very happy birthday! Your legacy at Congregation B'nai Tikvah is well known and fondly remembered. Best wishes for continued good health and happiness.
Bikur Cholim

From Jill Stone:

Blanche, I have such wonderful memories of the years we shared at B'nai Tikvah. Your enthusiasm and energy were an inspiration. Wishing you the best on this milestone birthday. Jill Stone



Madeline Gaynor z"l, Blanche Fruhling, and Lynn Biderman



Happy Birthday and best wishes:

Gary & Bobby Bergman
Bobbi Binder
Gale & Marc Dillman
Shirley Engel
Ellie and Bill Greenberg
Gordon & Meryl Heit
Lisa Seidman



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Join Sisterhood and see what we're all about... We need your support!

Sisterhood: the feeling of kinship with and closeness to a group of women.

We are looking forward to having everyone join us this year and to seeing everyone's faces! We welcome your ideas, participation and enthusiasm! We hope everyone has been safe and healthy during these times!

Upcoming events will be announced and shared!

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:

- \$40 Leah Level - open **only** to our Senior Synagogue 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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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.



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Congregation B'nai Tikvah Presents

LIVE!
*with a virtual option

BOOK CHAT
WITH AUTHOR OF

MY JEWISH YEAR

Abigail Pogrebin



Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7:30pm

New Date!

\$18 Member Family / Screen
\$36 + Signed book
\$54 + Event Co-Sponsor

For more information, please contact WAM@bnaitikvah.org or visit www.bnaitikvah.org

Photos Are the Spice of Life



Charlie Valan

How many times have all of us found old pictures and either reflected on the memories or even sadly wished we knew more about the photo itself? In reality, when someone said a long time ago, "A picture is worth a thousand words," they never told us, "Unless you document information of that photo." The restrictions of a photo to say a thousand words truly revolve in that someone can remember when, where, and the who of the photo itself. But one thing is for certain. Without that picture, no one would truly have a visual of someone and somewhere in time.

I personally come from a family of not only photo takers, but photo savers. My parents left me boxes and boxes of thousands of photos. Some of them I can define, but sadly, many of them I am uncertain of all the people in them. While that makes me empty in some way, my heart is filled when looking at all of them because I see so much life in them. People having fun, in all kinds of places, under all kinds of circumstances, with very little caring, sometimes, whether the moments were, well let's just say, not the greatest of moments.

The point that I'm making is the value of never letting even the simplest of moments go by without recording a memory. For those closest to my inner circle, you know Charlie is going to say, "Let's get a picture." Why do I do this? Well, it's because I appreciate life!!!! PERIOD!!!! Sure there are a thousand conversations and a variety of events, small and large, that is happening. But that picture, the item that will sustain time, is something that has a strong value to me. Allow me to explain.

My father passed away when I was 26 years old. We shared a lot of life together. But let's face it, 26 years of having that special person in your life is not a long time. He never saw me get happily married, have children, or face the true adult challenges where I'd love to have been able to have said, "What does my Dad think?", and actually get an answer. In every photo with my Dad, I'm a baby, or a child, a student, or a young man. He never saw my hair get gray (as I probably made his hair gray), wrinkles on my face, or even give him the opportunity to say, "You think you have aches and pains, just wait till you get to be my age." For movies, I have some old 8mm film (for those old enough to know what that is) that I have put on DVD. But they're silent. Again, my point is all I have are photos; many, many photos thanks to a family that made sure we took pictures.

Back when that was happening, you "believed" you took something of value. You see, I am talking about the days of a camera that took a mysterious shot on 35mm film, or small cassette, or DISC camera. It was the original "box of chocolates," You never knew what you were going to get till

you sent them out to be developed and days later (or weeks), and you were opening the surprise. It wasn't inexpensive either as we can all remember. But the values of those memories have more value today than money. Sometimes I look at them and I can hear the voices.

I am envious of today's world where it's always available, in our possession. The pictures are zero cost, we can immediately see what we have, and redo it if needed. But one thing still remains: the memory.

Long before Facebook, Instagram, Tictok, Snapchat, etc., I was snapping photos, as my parents, and their parents, and their parents always did. It's so pleasurable now to be able to so easily share joy with others. But that should always be part of the value. The true value is the memory. Without these memories, what is remembered? The conversation? Well, those are wonderful, but when you have a visual to hold, share, and describe, that is the complete package.

As a result of the past gifts my parents left me, I have so much to share with my children of a life they never knew. Of people they never met. Of joy, fun, events, and most of all, the people that not only shaped and shared with me, but all the things we did together. My sister passed away when I was 20. Yet, I can share with my daughters, their aunt.

We can't see what tomorrow offers, but one thing is for certain. With a photo, the past is a describable certain and not as unknown as the future. Life has taught me a lot!!! I have learned a lot more than I ever could see from my eyes as a five year old. But one thing is for sure. I have lots of wonderful memories to not only reflect on, but also will be able to share with my children, and we can hopefully share with their children, and as history proceeds, a life that was worth living.

One day, I hope and pray that someone opens a box as I did and sees a life from long ago. Or now, open up a disk drive and find many documented, visual memories. I hope they appreciate that there was so much life in that life. They see me (and all of us) with family, friends, and those that touched our world. What they see is as simple as a dinner and as exhilarating as a vacation or event. They see us with our best of friends so they can reflect on the closeness and recognize the experiences by the bundles. I want them to say, "WOW, what a life!!!!" Why? Because I appreciate life and I am only hoping and praying they enjoy the same.

All of us should snap away and be inspired by the every day gifts of the world around us. It's not always wine and roses. But it can be motivating, exhilarating, and smile worthy, especially when looking back. We never appreciate what today brought all the time. But in time, with something to look back upon, we can love the fact that we 'did do.' And that will ultimately show all of us the legacy that's been left and enjoyed.

Donations: November 16 - December 14, 2021

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Rich & Lisa Seidman, in appreciation of leading the funeral service for Michael Seidman
 Ed Rosen, in honor of Rabbi Wolkoff's performing the unveiling of Phyllis Rosen
 Lauren and Andrew Cohen
 Eleanor & Joel Weisenberg, in loving memory of Edith Nudell
 Dorothy & Norman Politziner, in loving memory of Joe Saloman

Cantor's Special Fund

Rich & Lisa Seidman, in appreciation of leading the funeral service for Michael Seidman
 Elaine Brackup, in loving memory of Albert Rubin
 Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in honor of Sophia Demarest's Bat Mitzvah
 Elaine Brackup, in loving memory of Bessie Wattenberg
 Carol Eisenberg, in loving memory of Marvin Eisenberg
 William Reinholtz & Gail Levine, in loving memory of Bennett Reinholtz
 Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Bashe Rockman being honored as Youth of the Year by CBT Men's Club
 Audrey & Lou Flumen, in loving memory of Helen & Irving Flumenbaum

Religious School Fund

Helene & Gary Tinkel, in honor of Blanche Fruhling's 100th birthday

Safety and Security Fund

Janet Weiss, in loving memory of Michael Edward Weiss

Yahrzeit and Tzedakah Fund

Vicki & Burt Bauman, in loving memory of Yetta Bauman
 Diane & Jordan Rosuck, in loving memory of Cheryl Gelfand
 Amy & Mitchell Schreck, in loving memory of Marlene Rautenberg
 Betty & Marvin Stark, in loving memory of Esther Stark
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 Rees Klemish, in loving memory of Audrey Jane May
 Phyllis AlRoy, in loving memory of Dorothy Delson
 Ellen, Jerry & Alissa Platz, in loving memory of Bob Lepowsky
 Maxine & Irwin Nudelman, in loving memory of David August

Shabbat Together Fund

Amanda & Harry Uniman & Family, in loving memory of Joe Uniman

Social Action Fund

Debra & Stuart Allen, in loving memory of Jodi Marcou
 Barbi & Brian Kilcoyne, in loving memory of Jodi Marcou
 LouAnne & John Wolf, in loving memory of Jodi Marcou
 Fern & Allan Katronetsky, in loving memory of Jodi Marcou
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 Fran & Phil Weinstein, in appreciation of Andrea Katz
 Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Jodi Marcou
 Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Yvette Schild
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 Adrienne & Bruce Rogove, in loving memory of Jodi Marcou

Passport to Israel Fund

The Blackin Family, in loving memory of Diane Blackin
 Renee & Joe Grodman, in loving memory of Sheryl and Kerry Olitsky's father and father-in-law

Ritual Activities Fund

Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in loving memory of Charles Newman
 LouAnne & John Wolf, in loving memory of Michael Seidman
 Natasha Rosenbaum, in honor of CBT leading virtual services

Shomrei Tikvah Fund

Carol Eisenberg, in loving memory of Bernard Ratzman
 Arlene & Arthur Cederbaum, in loving memory of Max Eisenberg
 Renee & Joe Grodman, in loving memory of Bette Koffler
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the birth of Phyllis & Barry Safeer's grandson, Lev Cohen
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the birth of Adrienne & Bruce Rogove's grandson, Ethan Jack Stone
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of Susan Miller's grandson, Shane Berness, becoming a Bar-Mitzvah
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of Elisa & Brian Berness's son, Shane, becoming a Bar-Mitzvah
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the birth of Cindy & Neal Gittleman's granddaughter, Jona Rose
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the engagement of Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman's son, Evan, to Gabrielle Kleyner
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the marriage of Dot & Larry Cohen's daughter, Margo, to Gary Noyes
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the engagement of Marcia & Gary Wesalo's daughter, Beth, to Michael Golner
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the marriage of Janice & Art Baer's son, Josh, to Felicia Goldfine
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the birth of Maxine Kasdin's grandson, Marlowe Asher Scofield
 Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in honor of the marriage of Susan & Darryl Gurney's daughter, Rachel, to Josh Firestone
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 Bobbi & Marc Binder, in loving memory of Barney Cohn
 Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in loving memory of Josef Saloman
 Brenda & Mark Sherman, in loving memory of Josef Saloman
 Brenda & Mark Sherman, in honor of the birth of Kerry & Gary Halpern's grandson, Archer Hayes Halpern
 Adrienne & Andy Ross, in loving memory of Josef Saloman
 Adrienne & Andy Ross, in honor of the birth of Ruth Anne Koenick and Paul Herman's grandson, Samuel Judah

General Fund

Renee & Joe Grodman, in honor of Blanche Fruhling's 100th birthday
 Candace, Craig, Emilee, & Sydney Botnick, in loving memory of Elliott Botnick
 Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman, in loving memory of Michael Seidman

Donations: Continued

Bikur Cholim

Susan & Josef Saloman

Arnie Miller Youth Activity Fund

Suzy & Kevin Krane, in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of Josh and Joey Lamoreaux

Phyllis Horlick, in loving memory of Harry Horlick

Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Brian Berness being Man of the Year by CBT Men's Club

Susan Miller, in honor of Brian Berness being Man of the Year by CBT Men's Club

Allen Karp Memorial Fund

Ilene Karp & Family, in loving memory of Ilene's "exceptional" grandmother

Ilene Karp & Family, in loving memory of Ilene's father, Jack Sondike

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 Janet Cooper Weiss
 Lynne WeissMarshall
 Marcia & Gary Wesalo
 LouAnne & John Wolf
 Ruth-Ann Breitler & Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff
 Tammy & Keith Zimmerman

Plus other friends who wish to remain anonymous

From The Bikur Cholim Committee

While the committee is unable to fulfill its primary mission to visit those who are hospitalized or otherwise ill or recovering at home, we are helping others by doing various errands, such as picking up prescriptions, doing light shopping, and providing transportation to doctor visits. We are also providing Shabbos meals for congregants who are having some difficulty providing for themselves or their families.

Drivers Needed

For people in your neighborhood who need a ride to attend services, please send email to Bikur@bnaitikvah.org or call Lesley at the synagogue office: 732-297-0696

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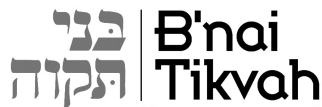
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January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						1 28 Tevet New Year's Day Sh'vat Parashat Vaera 5:30p Havdalah
2 29 Tevet Men's Club No Religious School	3 1 Sh'vat Board Meeting Blood Drive Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat	4 2 Sh'vat Fiber Art Group	5 3 Sh'vat USY Board	6 4 Sh'vat	7 5 Sh'vat Shabbat Together 4:29p Candle lighting	8 6 Sh'vat Parashat Bo 5:37p Havdalah
9 7 Sh'vat Kadima	10 8 Sh'vat Sisterhood Board	11 9 Sh'vat	12 10 Sh'vat Rabbi Lunch & Learn	13 11 Sh'vat	14 12 Sh'vat USY Joins Shabbat 4:36p Candle lighting	15 13 Sh'vat BUSY Bedouin Tent Night Shabbat Shirah Lunch Parashat Beshalach 5:44p Havdalah
16 14 Sh'vat Better Together Tu B'Shevat	17 15 Sh'vat MLK Day Tu B'Shevat	18 16 Sh'vat Fiber Art Group	19 17 Sh'vat Rabbi Lunch & Learn	20 18 Sh'vat EC Meeting	21 19 Sh'vat 4:44p Candle lighting	22 20 Sh'vat Sundaes on Saturday Parashat Yitro 5:52p Havdalah
23 21 Sh'vat USY Event Religious School Tzedakah-Con	24 22 Sh'vat	25 23 Sh'vat	26 24 Sh'vat Rabbi Lunch & Learn	27 25 Sh'vat	28 26 Sh'vat 4:53p Candle lighting	29 27 Sh'vat Mevarchim Chodesh Adar I Parashat Mishpatim 6:01p Havdalah
30 28 Sh'vat Congregational Meeting Chai Program	31 29 Sh'vat Ritual Committee					FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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