

# ***Hakol***

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## ***The Voice***

A Publication of Congregation B'nai Tikvah

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### **RABBI'S MESSAGE**

The fact that the annual celebration of Chanukah and Christmas often coincide and sometimes overlap is both a blessing and a curse. It is a blessing in that the observance of Chanukah can provide a meaningful opportunity for joyous and authentic Jewish celebration at a time of year when many Jews, particularly children, feel like outsiders in the midst of a culture given over to the celebration of a holiday which they do not share. It is also a curse in that the pervasive "Christmas spirit" can easily overwhelm Chanukah or even distort its meaning into a kind of Jewish Christmas.

This year nearly a month separates Chanukah from Christmas. This uncommon situation gives us the opportunity to celebrate Chanukah and reflect on its message without being distracted by all of the trappings of the "holiday season."

Chanukah commemorates a very specific historical event: The cleansing and rededication of the temple in Jerusalem in the year 165 B.C.E. This occurred in the wake of the successful revolt of Judah Maccabee and his followers against the Syrian Greeks and their sympathizers.

The Maccabean revolt is often described as having been a battle for religious freedom against an external oppressor. In actuality, it was far more than that. It was also an internal battle for the soul of the Jewish people. One which was successfully waged by Jewish traditionalists against wealthy, assimilated Jews who sought to purge Judaism of its uniqueness and blend it into the prevailing Hellenistic culture.

The essential message of Chanukah is one of rededication to traditional Jewish values and practices in the midst of a society whose culture threatens to overwhelm them. It is a celebration of our commitment to our Jewish religious identity. Most of all, Chanukah symbolizes our resolve not only to remain loyal to the traditions of our people but to continue to grow in our observance of them.

This is the true meaning of the Menorah which grows brighter with each successive Chanukah night. It not only commemorates the miracle of our ancestor's survival more than two thousand years ago, it also reflects our growing commitment to the traditions they fought for, and our hope that God's presence will be felt even more tangibly among us with each passing day.

Rabbi Andrew Warmflash

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## FROM THE ARCHIVES

*Excerpts from a speech by Abe Dobin to the Jewish Community of North and South Brunswick on March 5, 1979.*

### Building Our New Synagogue The Opportunity Of A Lifetime

Rarely does one get the chance to participate in the building of a synagogue. We, the Jews in the North and South Brunswick area, have that opportunity now. For the past several years, the congregations of Shari Shalom, Temple Beth Shalom and the North Brunswick Community Center and their representatives have been holding meetings - discussing, arguing, planning and ironing out seemingly impossible problems - to bring about a merger of the three organizations.

To our knowledge, the merging of three existing synagogues has never been accomplished before this. Not only has this triple merger been accomplished in legal form but it is a fact in actual form.

The new fourth corporation, known as the Jewish Community Center of North and South Brunswick, has recently purchased a beautiful five acre site on Finnigans Lane, just off Route 1. It has engaged the services of an outstanding architectural firm to draw the plans for our new edifice that will provide, among other things, the sanctuary, social hall, youth lounge, Hebrew school classrooms and nursery school. A professional fund raiser, Milton Wood Ward, has been retained to conduct our fund raising campaign. We are now at that point.

The years of talking about the new synagogue - the pros and cons - are over. The decision to go forward has been made. The next step is go get all the Jewish families in the area to become involved in one way or another in this exciting undertaking. (There are a minimum of 800 Jewish families now and more to come as the new housing developments progress).

The benefits any particular Jewish family thinks it may or may not get from the new synagogue/center should not affect the participation of that family in the building of this project. If, for no other reason, the Jewish families residing in the area should join together in the building of a synagogue/center that will serve the total Jewish community. Remember, we build for our children and for the generations to come ...

### Invitation to the Dedication

*You are cordially invited to attend  
memorial services marking the dedication of  
Congregation Bnei Torah's  
New Synagogue Building  
the fourth day of Chanukah, 5744  
Sunday, December 28, 1983*

*Sheds of Torah*

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*• 220 Hill St.*

*Torah Education Center*

*• 100 Ferguson Lane, N. Brunswick*

*• 220 Hill St.*

### Dedication Committee

Aaron Rosloff, Chair	David Offenber
Marc Dillman	Alan Rosenfeld
Leon Horlick	Ann Rosenzweig
Jack Mailman	Millie Rosloff
Robert Mendelowitz	Rabbi A. Warmflash
Judith Molnar	Carolyn Wilfond

Opening remarks at the Dedication ceremony,  
December 4, 1983 - 28 Kislev 5744

Special thanks must be extended to all those people who make things happen, the 1001 things that make an important event- things like: directing traffic; finding materials and making a giant menorah; sending the invitations to special guests and hard to find former members; providing the vans and ferry drivers to ferry guests; providing refreshments for 1000 people; painting and decorating; and involving our Hebrew School children who created banners and added meaning and dimension to our Torah parade. Our repeated thanks to all the invisible workers who take the thankless jobs and repay us by doing even more.

Aaron Rosloff

*Compiled from the archives by Irwin Weintraub*



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## ABOUT SHOMREI TIKVAH

Shomrei Tikvah means the Guardians of Hope. It is a noble name for a group of your fellow congregants who share a common cause. That cause is the preservation and improvement of our synagogue, the building that houses Congregation B'nai Tikvah, the Children of Hope.

The individuals who make up Shomrei Tikvah have made significant financial commitments to this congregation. They are the kind of people who believe in thanking God for their good fortune by contributing large amounts of money to be used for everyone's benefit. Their impact is subtle but obvious once you are aware.

The Shomrei Tikvah Fund is earmarked for special and unexpected expenses that we could not possibly afford to pay from our operating budget which is covered by our basic dues and fee schedule.

During the High Holidays, you are able to hear all the way to the back of the hall because Shomrei Tikvah provided the funds to pay for a new state of the art sound system. When you sit in the pews in the sanctuary and have trouble reading because of the inadequate lighting, you can look forward to the installation of new bright efficient lights this year because of Shomrei Tikvah. Our aging building right now needs a new furnace, but you can be confident that you won't be sitting here freezing this winter.

Shomrei Tikvah is more than just a fund used to finance the physical needs of our building. Shomrei Tikvah also provides for the cultural expectations of our congregation. In our three years of existence, we have sponsored some truly exciting and memorable events that bring a sense of specialness to our temple.

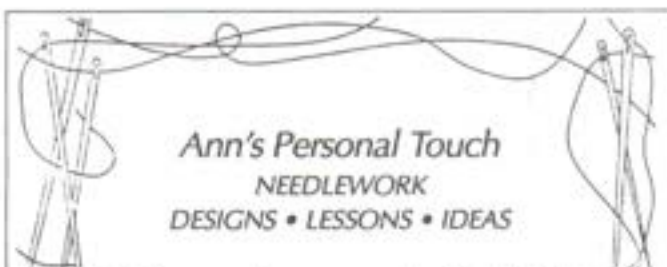
In 1992, Shomrei Tikvah brought you the opportunity to marvel at the art of George Segal. A tour of his studio, dinner and an open lecture in the evening started Shomrei Tikvah on the right path.

The next year, 1993 brought Leon Bibel's exhibition of his larger than scale spice boxes to our building. The whole social hall was transformed into a gallery, and the whole congregation became enamored with his work. That event then inspired last year's Pesach exhibit of Beth Heit's pottery and ceramic sculptures.

Last year, Shomrei Tikvah was proud to host a brunch for our members to meet and talk with United States Senator Frank Lautenberg. It was exciting to be able to talk with a senator about government policy, especially over lox and bagels. After his public address, our congregation enjoyed the opportunity to ask him questions and express their opinions about a variety of topics. This year Shomrei Tikvah will continue the tradition of hosting informative cultural and public interest events. Announcements and invitations will be forthcoming.

Shomrei Tikvah, the Guardians of Hope, invite you to consider its mission, and add your name to its special list. If you have been blessed with the means, we offer you a remarkably satisfying way to help your synagogue.

Alan Kane



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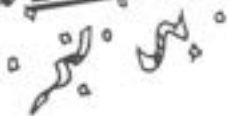
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## FIFTY PLUS GROUP

We have had several very interesting programs in the past summer months. The Nostalgia program was a repeat, but many members brought in antiques and craft items. Blanche Fruhling brought an asparagus cutter used at her parent's farm. While in the field to collect the asparagus, Blanche noticed what she thought was a bicycle wheel. As she approached and kicked it (the wheel), a snake moved and she ran to a friend's farm and they picked it up and the snake was later crushed in the road by a car.

Sigmund Samtur presented sketches of dress designs he had made while studying at The Fashion Institute. He explained each step taken until the item was completed. George Schwartz brought a photo dated 10/29/44 of the First Division of the first Jewish Services held at The Dragons Teeth of The Seigfried Line outside of Aachen, Germany ... first captured German city. We couldn't pinpoint him since his captain had pushed him aside.

In August, Ruth and Bernie Adler presented slides on their many trips to Alaska. Ruth related some interesting incidents while on some of their trips. Many members stayed until past 3:30 pm and Bernie is willing to repeat at another meeting if members are interested and many are.

**October 25**—A Medicare update will be presented by Lisa Olender of US Healthcare. She has much information and lots of goodies for us all.

**November 22**—Our meeting is a Chanukah Celebration — Lots of potato latkes plus.

**December 27**—Gala New Year's Celebration (catered).

Fifty Plus Group Theatre party at the Forum is "Baby," a musical sometime in **December**.

Call Ann Cherson 297-3575.

### TRIPS WITH SY KRAMER

**October 18 (Tuesday)**—Luncheon and musical show at Perona Farms in Sussex County. The show is "The Andrews Sisters", a musical memoir — cost \$41 per person.

**November 2 (Wednesday)**—Our yearly trip to the

Folksbiene Playhouse in New York City to see the play "Mirele Efros" and have a leisurely lunch at a local Deli (on your own). No price yet. We need at least 35 people.

**November 14 through 17 (Monday through Thursday)**—Four days at the Granit Hotel in the Catskills. Price \$215 per person double occupancy and approximately \$275 per person single occupancy — includes all meals, rooms, entertainment, gratuities, taxes and bus transportation.

**December week of the 12th**—Radio City & Luncheon.

**March 22 (Wednesday)** - "The Will Rogers Follies" and lunch at the Evergreen Dinner Theater Playhouse at Mountain Lakes (no price as yet)

**April 11 (Tuesday)** - The Culinary Institute of America. Full course cuisine lunch. Tour of the School, Roosevelt and Vanderbilt Estates — Approximately \$47 per person.

**May (?)** - Considering and pricing a five day trip to Maine with an overnight cruise to Nova Scotia.

Suggestions welcome for more trips. Call Sy Kramer 297-3562 for additional information.

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# KASHA AND BOWTIES' CHANUKAH

*If you have young readers or listeners, you might want to read one section on each night of Chanukah.*

## Chapter I

The winds were blowing with a fierce majesty uncommon to Mrs. Levin's stables. Bridles and martingales, the gear of the horses that normally hung motionless on a peg by each stall were lifted away from the wall by the lusty air. Brown boots and black helmets occasionally toppled off of the shiny blue monogrammed storage lockers which lined the alleyway of the stall. Loose hay swirled around the stable like a golden storm. A thick frost dusted the glass lanterns, dimming their light, and clouds blocked the light of the moon and stars.

Bowties, the handsome blonde horse, shivered under the red blanket which usually kept him warm on the frostiest nights. His hooves and white fetlocks hammered the hay with rhythmic thumping sounds, as he attempted to keep warm. Bowties' coat was no match for a cold wind that breathed into his stall this December night.

Kasha, the proud, speckled Appaloosa, was having the same problem in the next stall. The blue blanket covering her beautiful grayish brown fur was made of the finest wool, but it glistened with tiny snow crystals just like all the other blankets. For Kasha, this was the longest night ever.

The next night, just as the sun began to smile, Angel, Mrs. Levin's gentle tabby kitten, jumped onto the ledge of Bowties' small window. Bowties' sleep had not been easy, and the faint sound made as Angel landed was enough to wake him.

"Hey Angel, you're a bit of an early bird for a cat, don't you think?" snorted Bowties, slightly annoyed that his last precious moments of sleep were stolen by the energetic kitten. "Did I wake you, Bowties? I'm sorry," said the little ball of fur whose name fit her perfectly. She truly was an angel, and every horse in the stable loved her. She was especially fond of Bowties, for his heart was as big as a barn. "Is Kasha all right?" Bowties asked with a worried look. "I'll go see, be back in a jiffy," said Angel.

Angel hopped over the wooden planks that separated Kasha

from Bowties. "Hey Kasha, are you O.K.?" whispered Angel. "Oh Angel, you're such a sweetie to ask. Yes, I'm a little frosty but I'll be trotting before you can say 'la dee dah!'" "Just like you to be cheerful," said Angel. "You have the most wonderful, happy spirit, and you never let the world make you blue." Kasha's long eyelashes made a slow sweep, as she watched Angel hop back over to Bowties' stall. If Angel had looked back, she would have seen a tear trickling down the elegant white blaze on Kasha's nose.

## Chapter II

The stable was unusually busy. Feathers fluttered excitedly as the birds carried holiday treasures of ribbons, berries, holly branches and string to their nests, which were located in niches around the roof. Each horse boarding at the stable had a different owner, and on this day, many of them came to decorate. Their gay chatter almost masked the cheerful chirping of the birds. The kittens were having fun making more mischief than usual, and getting away with it. Angel's watchful eyes were softened by her generous heart, and she pretended not to notice. Anyway, Angel was in Heaven. She hopped from one stall to the next. Each owner took a turn scratching her irresistible chin, which was thrust upward in an obvious invitation.

Nutmeg, the witty, chestnut horse watched patiently as his owner graced his doorway with a huge festoon of holly, woven with silver bells and pink ribbons. Snowflake, the elegant white mare smiled as her owner draped her stall window with a pine wreath laced with twine tied into delicate bows. And, Munchkin, the magnificent brown pony (a favorite of the children taking lessons at Mrs. Levin's stables) sported a nosegay of red velvet ribbons on his saddle.

Kick, kick, kick. That sound could only be one thing, Showoff, the bold, black stallion. What did he want now? He was always kicking the gate of his stall when he wanted attention. Angel scooted over to Showoff's stall, for she didn't want him to feel ignored. As she approached, she realized what the noise was all about. There, in the corner by his gate, was a magnificent Christmas tree. It was twice as high as Showoff, and he was easily the largest horse in the stable. And, this was no ordinary evergreen; it was a beautiful, Blue Spruce. Showoff's owner decorated it with tiny white lights, silver garlands and



paper angels. At the top, instead of a star, was a golden horseshoe. What a glory!

Kasha and Bowties, the only horses owned by Mrs. Levin, usually enjoyed the buzzing and chirping and happy spirit that the holidays brought to the stable every December. This season, however, they were feeling sad. The little windows in the corners of Kasha and Bowties' stalls were empty. Mrs. Levin was away visiting relatives, and had not yet returned. Tonight would be the first night of Chanukah, and still no Menorah. Kasha knocked on Bowties' wall.

"Bowties, is there a Menorah in your window yet?" "No, my window has a little tabby fuzz ball in it, with a tail. No Menorah, though," said Bowties, with more than a tinge of disappointment. Even Angel's presence wasn't cheering him up. "I feel so left out this holiday season," sighed Kasha. "I just can't seem to catch the holiday spirit this year."

"Cheer up, old girl" said Bowties, trying hard to take his own advice. "After all, we have each other, we have our loving friends in the barn, and the holiday season is filled with joy and good cheer."

Bowties was right. Kasha decided she would really try to be happy. She tried and tried. She hoisted her head every time it hung low, but soon she would notice her nose was way down at her feet. She parted her lips to show her teeth, hoping her lips would get stuck in a smile. Only when it was time to open her mouth to eat did she realize her lips had been clamped shut, with the corners of her mouth sagging downward. Try as she would, she could not lift her spirits. Every time her eyes caught sight of that lonely little window, she felt a tug in her heart. Was there to be no Chanukah for Kasha and Bowties?

### Chapter III

The sun was beginning to set at Mrs. Levin's stables. Outside, the trees looked like silver shadows in the frozen dusk. Snow stretched over the hills like white featherbeds. Stars freckled the heavens, and tails of smoke wandered upward from distant farmhouse chimneys to greet them.

The horses had been blanketed and fed, and the stalls

cleaned. The day certainly had been a busy one. All the effort showed, for the place looked like a wonderland. After the day's noisy fanfare, the quiet that had fallen upon the stable seemed like silence. Most of the horses were already starting to drift off into sleep, being extra tired from extra activity.

Kasha and Bowties were wide awake. Chanukah was about to begin, and there was no Menorah, no candle, no holiday. "Kasha, try to keep your chin up. This isn't the worst thing that could happen to us. I mean, it's only a holiday. We should be thankful for all the wonderful times we do have, and for all the nice friends we have here at Mrs. Levin's stables. Things could be a lot worse."

And so he was right. From time to time the horses had heard of the many sad things happening to horses outside of these cozy living quarters. Many horses were not taken care of, and some didn't even have enough hay to eat.

Kasha agreed she should be thankful for the joy and love they received living here. There was always plenty of hay, plenty of friends, plenty of hugs and kisses from Mrs. Levin. Her thoughts wandered, and Kasha started singing softly. Her sweet, melodic voice drifted like smoke through the silent, darkened stable. Bowties yawned and closed his eyes, as he listened to the soothing, gentle rhythm of Kasha's voice.

"Oh Chanukah, oh Chanukah,  
Come light the Menorah  
Let's have a party, we'll all dance the hora,  
Gather round the table, I'll bring you a treat  
Dreidels to play with, and pancakes to eat."

Kasha was singing as if all her heartache and sadness had flown away. Her voice was strong and clear, and seemed strengthened by a power not altogether her own. "I must be dreaming," Bowties thought to himself, for Kasha did not seem to be singing alone.

Suddenly, the front gates to the stable burst open. There, in the light of Chanukah candles, stood Mrs. Levin and her family. Mr. Levin was holding a splendid golden Menorah. Mrs. Levin was holding a huge platter of potato pancakes, enough for all the animals in the stable. Mrs. Levin's two sons

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*continued from the previous page*

each held a giant metal pail; one was overflowing with applesauce, the other with sour cream. As the family sang together in the doorway of the stable, the aroma of warm potato pancakes wrapped around the noses of every creature in the stable.

"And while we are playing,  
The candles are burning bright,  
One for each night to shed a sweet light  
To remind us of days long ago,  
One for each night to shed a sweet light  
To remind us of days long ago."

Chanukah had arrived after all!

Diane Young Uniman

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## RITUAL COMMITTEE CORNER

The High Holidays including Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah were very exciting and filled with many activities for our Bnai Tikvah family. I want to thank the following volunteers and their assistants for giving their time, energy and resources to make all the services and events fulfilling and enjoyable for everyone.

Bernie Adler  
Myron Asnis  
Arthur Biderman  
Bobbi Binder, Jill Stone & The Sisterhood  
Marc Binder  
The Board of Trustees  
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Elliott Danto  
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Martin Spigner  
David Stern  
Bonnie Stevens  
Steve & Shelly Talmud  
David Yucht & Robin Fishbein

I would also like to thank Rabbi Warmflash, Cantor Goldberg and Wendy Sleppin for their tireless support!

Shalom,

Larry Cohen  
Ritual Committee Chairman

## PRAYER

I think of the wind  
rearranging clouds,  
the sea as it flattens  
and stretches seamless  
in all directions.  
Planets in the heavens cycle  
lustrous, impeccable, mysterious.  
It is the season  
of the Days of Awe.

We assemble.

Seven layers of charcoal haze  
fill the night sky  
while invisible night birds accuse.

I join again in the Avinu Malkeynu  
a prayer, slow, anguished.  
A shimmering of hope  
for a year of life,  
for pardon and goodness.

Tears well up as I hold  
the hands of my daughters  
and wish them peace.

Blanche Rosloff 1993

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## THE AKEDAH

When I look over "The Akedah" or "The Binding of Isaac," I found it quite troubling. That is not so surprising since the theme is that of a parent sacrificing a child. But, I think I was struck more by what is not present than by what is. Let me explain what I mean.

The story goes like this: God put Abraham to the test. He tells Abraham to take his favored son, Isaac, to the land of Moriah and offer him as a burnt offering. So Abraham and Isaac travel for three days until Abraham can see the place God told him about. Abraham then tells his servants to wait while he and Isaac go up to worship. On the way up, Isaac asks Abraham "...Where is the sheep for the burnt offering?" Abraham answers, "God will see to the sheep for His burnt offering, my son." When the two, father and son, arrive at the chosen spot, Abraham builds an altar and binds Isaac. Abraham picks up his knife to slay his son, and an angel calls to him, telling him to stop, that now he knows Abraham fears God. Abraham looks up and sees a ram caught in a thicket and sacrifices it instead. Then the angel reaffirms all God's promises to Abraham — to make his descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven and the sands on the seashore. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by his descendants — all because Abraham obeyed God's command.

The first thing that I missed, that I did not see in the text, was the scream. When God told Abraham to take his favored son, the one basket where all his eggs were, Abraham just obeys. I think most people's reaction would have been different. I would expect a parent to be groveling, prostrate on the ground, begging for any other choice, tearing at his or her clothes or flesh, offering him or herself, anything else instead, just don't take my child. Abraham did not even question God, although at other times he does.

For example, when God is about to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham pleads and bargains for the lives of the people in those cities: If God can find 50 innocents within Sodom, spare all. God agrees. How about 45? God agrees again. Abraham pleads and argues God down to 10 people — he will forgive the entire city if 10 innocent people live within.

Nowhere in today's text, do we see Abraham doing the same about Isaac. He doesn't even remind God that, logically if Isaac is gone, the plan to make Abraham's descendants numerous will be at least set back, if not blown completely.

Maybe Abraham believes that the sacrifice won't really occur. He does tell his servants, "You stay here with the ass. The boy and I will go up there, we will worship and we will return to you." Not I, but we.

But, I don't think so. Abraham trusts God. He believes somehow, God will make everything work out. There is certainly a message in the text here about obedience to and trust in God for us. Abraham's behavior is meant as a model for us at this time, as we re-examine our own lives.

I also missed Isaac's responses. Yes, he asks his father where is the sheep and then seems to accept Abraham's answer. When he walks toward his death, is it unknowingly or is he aware of what lies ahead? Certainly he must have a glimmer when his father binds him. He doesn't complain, doesn't cry out as his father raises the knife. Was there a conversation between father and son not recorded, where Abraham explained everything to Isaac? Does Isaac believe he is fulfilling a sacred destiny? The Torah provides no answers for these questions.

And throughout the text, where is Sarah? My guess is that she hadn't any idea that Abraham was about to sacrifice her only child. Perhaps she believed instead that the two were off on some ancient equivalent of male bonding or doing some quality father-son time. Had she known, I doubt she would have so silently obeyed God's command. Remember that Sarah sent another woman, Hagar, and her son Ishmael out into the wilderness, possibly to die of thirst, in order to protect her own son's inheritance. Sarah was willing to let others die for her own son's sake. It's hard to believe she would allow that same son to be a burnt offering.

And although the Torah doesn't even talk about Sarah's reaction afterwards to the whole episode, her own death soon follows. The rabbis have speculated that the shock of Isaac's near sacrifice may have caused it. I can believe it.

Abraham never speaks to God again. What does that silence mean? Abraham passed God's test, he obeyed unquestioningly. But at what cost?

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## NURSERY

School started, along with tears, with learning about Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. The children ate apples and honey, made decorations and consumed their snack in the Sukkah, when possible. They all shook the lulav and smelled the sweet etrog. All were encouraged to attend Simchat Torah services at B'nai Tikvah.

**Turkey in October.** A trip to a turkey farm in October is planned for most of the children.

**Photographs.** Our photographers will be taking class and individual pictures, as well as the delightful candid shots, that decorate the school wing.

**Mommy & Me.** The Fall Mommy & Me session is scheduled to begin in October, as well as the pre-school lunch program and extended day.

## Out of the Mouths of Babes

The first day of school was very hot. While the children were on the playground, Alexa exclaimed to her teacher, "I feel a hot temperature coming - I have to go sit in the shade!"

A child in class was crying and had difficulty settling down. David's response was, "Boy, she's in a mood!"

Joan Shames

Director

## USY UPDATE

USY started the year out with a trip to Great Adventure, Mini-Golf and Apple Picking. We also helped with the children's services for the high holidays and had a hakafa for Simchat Torah.

Our upcoming events include Candle Making on November 29 and Desserts Around the World in December. Any questions, call Erica Brams at 422-7279.



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## JUNIOR CONGREGATION

**Upcoming Junior Congregation Dates:** November 12, December 3, and December 17.

**Send Your \$3!** If you have not sent in your \$3 to cover junior congregation luncheons, please do so soon.

**Volunteers Needed.** We still need parent volunteers for all dates in January, February & March. Come stay warm with us and watch your children lead Junior Congregation.

**Sponsor a Kiddush.** Four families have sponsored junior congregation kiddushes. You could sponsor your child's birthday, or celebrate an achievement. The cost? Only \$10-\$15.

**Act Now!** Want to volunteer? Sponsor a kiddush? Ask a question? Please call Barry Safeer 908-422-8543 before 9 PM or during the day at 212-645-4545.

### Let Us Send Your Child a Holiday Basket

**Does your child attend an  
out-of-town college?**

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a Holiday package for Chanukah.

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Just send your child's name and  
school address to:

Sheila Hordon  
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Or call 297-9023

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

**Holiday packages.** Every year, the synagogue sends holiday packages to its members who attend out-of-town colleges.

If you have a child who is away at school and would like to receive Chanukah and Purim packages, send his or her name and current college address to Sheila Hordon, 8 Dov Place, Kendall Park 08824 or call 297-9023.

### A Secret Admirer

Dear Makhelah:

Thank you for enhancing the High Holiday services with your splendid singing. While I've always enjoyed hearing you sing during Shabbat services in the past, I can't help but acknowledge your fine achievements *this* year.

Your hard work and dedication were certainly demonstrated this Rosh Hoshanah and Yom Kippur and all were certainly appreciated. The group is larger and you've maintained many of the original members. The introduction of Anna West Ott as co-director with Eve Goldberg has obviously opened many musical opportunities for you. Not only do you provide cultural and spiritual experiences regularly to the synagogue, the group is primarily self-supported by members' fees. *Yasher Koach!*

Your singing during the High Holidays was most enjoyable. I hope that the Makhelah will continue to enhance services — especially for the High Holidays. I hope that other congregants will also help support your future endeavors as well.

A Secret Admirer

# EVENTS & DONATIONS

## Mazel Tov & Yashar Koach

Mazel Tov to Jack Mailman & Barbara Kania on their marriage

## Condolences

Condolences to Phyllis Edley on the loss of her mother, Bella Slosower

Condolences to Evelyn Samtur on the loss of her husband, Sigmund

Condolences to Arthur Cederbaum on the loss of his mother, Lila Cederbaum

## Prayer Book Fund

Stanley & Suzanne Levine in honor of Aryeh Warmflash's Bar Mitzvah

Sandy Mailman in memory of Samuel Rutman

The Fishelberg family in memory of Murray Diamond

Fifty plus group in memory of Sigmund Samtur

Joseph & Helen Feldman in memory of William Cherson

## General Fund

Arlene & Jerry Shulman in honor of the marriage of Gayle Shulman to Mark Szuchman

Shirlee Berger on the occasion of grandson, Mark Berger's speedy recovery

Caren & Tom Romano in memory of Bella Slosower, mother of Phyllis Edley

Betty & Marvin Stark in honor of the marriage of Jack & Barbara Mailman

Sheppard & Joyce Woda in memory of Bella Slosower, mother of Phyllis Edley

Hyman & Mary Arougheti

Daniel & Maryann Sweet in memory of Sigmund Samtur

## Yarzeit Fund

Phyllis Alroy in memory of Aileen Alroy

Jonathan & Sydell Spinner in memory of Harry Horowitz

Richard & Melanie Margolis in memory of Louis Margolis

Daniel & Sharon Kragh in memory of Israel Kukafka

Anna Sadowich in memory of Benjamin and Jerome Sadowich

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Isidore & Claire Hirshman in memory of Max Silverman and Sam Hirshman

Arnold Lidsky

Brian & Beth Statman in memory of Beatrice Slavsky

Solomon & Irina Dinkevich in memory of Yosef Shubin

Sylvia Rimmer in memory of Alex Rimmer

Dagobert David & Ruth Reich in memory of Hilda Reich

Peter & Audrey Kuker in memory of Joseph Kuker

Bernard & Abbey Lorber in memory of Rose Lorber

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Irving & Harriet Cohen in honor of their children, Larry & Dorothy, and grandchildren, Margot & Elliot

Louis & Audrey Flumen

Jerry, Ronnie & Audrey Levine in honor of Aryeh Warmflash's Bar Mitzvah

Marvin & Irene Siegel

Joseph Rimmer in memory of Alex Rimmer

Risa Lubins in honor of Rabbi Warmflash visiting my school

Gerald & Phyllis Edley in memory of Bella Slosower

## Jerry Yaros Memorial Video Library Fund

Dorothy Weiner

## Youth Fund

Alan & Eileen Lubins in honor of Aryeh Warmflash's Bar Mitzvah



## Library Fund

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## ABOUT US

**Travel** - One of the more fascinating experiences when traveling is attending services in a different synagogue. The "shul" could be in Arkansas, London, Mexico, or the Middle or Far East. While sermons, announcements, etc. may be in a new or strange tongue, one can join in most of the Hebrew prayers or songs. The words are the same. So, in honor of our just-concluded holidays, here is a little information on some far-flung congregations.

**Costa Rica** - Its democracy includes a number of Jews who hold high office. The country's vice-president is Rebecca Grynspan, very active in the Jewish community. Dr. German Weinstock is the Minister of Health, and their congress boasts two Jewish members, Sandra Pizsk and Saul Weisleder.

**Martinique** - 400 Jews now reside on this island, which was settled in 1493 by Jews who were part of the expulsion from Portugal in 1493. Later, the French expelled them from Martinique in 1685. But after World War II, a new Jewish community was formed on this island, with a synagogue, rabbi, community center, and Sunday school.

**Melilla** - 800 Jews live here, in one of the last Spanish enclaves on the coast of Morocco.

**Bangkok, Thailand** - Boasts two synagogues and a kosher restaurant, as well as a permanent shochet (ritual slaughterer), but there is not yet a rabbi for its 300 Jews.

**Volos, Greece** - With only 135 Jews, Friday night services are conducted by laymen, but Jews have lived in this region since early first century.

**Zimbabwe** - The Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation is celebrating its 100th birthday.

**Rangoon, Myanmar** - Formerly named Burma, this country was at one time home to about 3,000 Jews, with a Hebrew day school, two synagogues, and a Zionist organization. Now, there are only about 20 Jews left, who are of Sephardic origin, from Iran, India, and Bagdad.

**Rome** - The Jewish Ghetto of Rome, a tourist draw in this ancient city, is being renovated and restored to original medieval style. The area dates back to the 12th century.

**Spain** - Spain is extensively restoring and renovating the ancient Jewish quarters and synagogues of its cities. Statues of Maimonides abound, and streets are being renamed to the original, while guides take pains to point out places of Jewish

interest.

**Cochin, India** - Fifty years ago Cochin boasted of a population of 2,500 Jews and five synagogues. It is estimated that Jews first settled this city 1,000 years ago. There are claims, however, that the first Jewish settlers had been those who fled Israel after the destruction of the first or second Temples.

**Oriole Park, Baltimore** - Yes, "Congregation Bais Ball" may now, sadly, be homeless. Some years ago, out of popular need by fans, a private room was provided at the stadium, to be used for a minyan to take place after the fifth inning. With 25 prayer books, and a supply of yarmulkes, it was used whenever games were taking place. Alas, even the prayers of staunch fans have not so far resolved the strike.

**Cartoons, USA** - With Simchat Torah in our recent past, we thought it might be fun to share a favorite cartoon. Picture, if you will, two ancient bearded sages, long gowned, sitting cross-legged in front of long scrolls in their tents. They are inspecting and adding to the texts. One is commenting, thusly: "It reads fine — but couldn't you think of a punchier title than *Deuteronomy*?"

I'hitroat, Mili Rosloff

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## MINAH EL (PRINCIPAL'S) MINUTE

It is often said that Judaism is more concerned with action than with belief and knowledge.

This does not mean that our tradition is unconcerned with faith or study. Yet, since mitzvot (actions commanded by God) are the most fundamental element of Judaism the concrete things we do are given more weight than those things which we merely hold in our minds.

This does not mean that our tradition is unconcerned with faith or study. Yet, since mitzvot (actions commanded by God) are the most fundamental element of Judaism the concrete things we do are given more weight than those things which we merely hold in our minds.

Study of Torah for the sole purpose of studying God's word is a primary mitzvah in its own right. Nevertheless, when the rabbis of antiquity debated the relative importance of religious practice versus study they concluded that a major part of the importance of study is that it is a necessary prerequisite for practice.

Too often religious schools spend their time merely imparting enumerable facts to their students. Aside from the typical student's inability to absorb every fact with which they are barraged after a full day of public school, they are not actually taught Judaism, only about Judaism.

As Educational Director at B'nai Tikvah I am committed to our teaching and showing our children how to live as Jews.

We need to teach not just the "what's" of Judaism (though they're certainly important) but especially the "how to's."

Which Jewish practices our children will choose to adopt in their own lives is something only they will determine. But, a Judaism totally devoid of Jewish practice and observance is inauthentic.

Unless we create a foundation which enables our children to be capable of comfortably participating in Jewish life we can be reasonably assured that they won't participate.

Judaism can't and won't survive without Jewish practice. A wholly internal Judaism of belief and knowledge is hard to attain and even harder to perpetuate. This is aside from the issue of its lack of authenticity.

But the religious school can only do so much. We need the help, certainly of parents, but also of our entire community to show our children that observing mitzvot and living as a Jew is wonderful and precious and that it can give more value to our lives and help us create a meaningful relationship with God.

Actions do speak louder than words, and our tradition has always understood this. Our children understand this too. We have to show (not just tell) them that Judaism is important. Join us in the school and make Jewish observance a visible reality.

Dov Goldberg

**Thank You**  
**Mark and Gigi Cohen**  
**For your hard work and devotion**  
**in making *HaKol* the voice of**  
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Rabbi Andrew Warmflash  
Chazzan Dov Goldberg

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## To Submit Articles

*HaKol* aspires to be the voice of our congregation, and we welcome your contributions. We reserve the right to ask the Rabbi or president of the congregation to judge questionable material.

*HaKol* comes out on the first of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Please have your submission in 30 days in advance.

We're open to your suggestions to improve *HaKol*. If you see errors, please let us know.

## Synagogue Business on Shabbat

Just a reminder that no synagogue business of any kind is to be conducted on Shabbat. Please do not call synagogue officers or representatives with questions about programs, finances, etc. on Shabbat.

## Daily Minyon Schedule

Friday (Shabbat)	8:00 PM
Saturday (Shabbat)	9:30 AM
Sunday Mornings (learners welcome)	9:00 AM
Sunday — Thursday	7:30 PM
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  - Oil pipelines
  - Construction of roads, highways, harbors and port facilities
  - Communication and transportation networks
  - Building of power plants and railroads
  - Research and development for high-technology industries
- PURCHASERS:** Approximately one-third of all bonds are purchased by non-Jewish persons/enterprises, which include thousands of financial institutions, insurance companies, state funds and labor unions. The remainder of Israel bonds investments come from Jewish communities around the world.
- SECURITIES:** Securities offered by the Israel Bonds organization have been designed to meet a wide variety of investment needs and circumstances, and to provide an attractive income-producing vehicle for many personal investment portfolios, as well as IRAs, Keoghs and pension funds.

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