

HaKol

The Voice of Congregation B'nai Tikvah
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.

Volume 23 Issue 2

October 2001/ Tishrei—Cheshvan 5762

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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

by Rabbi David Eligberg

Dear Haverim,

The events of September 11 have left us all deeply shaken. As I sit writing these words American planes, ships and soldiers are massing for a war against terrorism. The uncertainty of the future adds to our sense of foreboding and disquiet. While our experience of these events may heighten our appreciation of the themes that pervade the High Holy Days, those same emotions are a challenge to our fulfillment of the Divine command that

we rejoice on Sukkot; that we celebrate with great joy.

Our emotional turmoil is a distraction from the festival. Rather than preparing to approach God with joy and gladness at a holiday reunion we look Heavenward with unanswerable questions which echo the challenges placed by Job at the doorstep of the Divine. The story of Job is familiar to us, but it is more than the biography of one particular man, it is rather a parable for Man, the sufferer. Job is each and every one of us.

Change the name or the details of the suffering for there is no one who has been spared grief and anguish throughout his or her life.

Job is able after his encounter with God to yield to the inevitable, accept his fate and go on to rebuild a new life. How he does this is remarkable since at the conclusion of his dialogue with the Divine Job says: "Behold I am of small account...Therefore, I regret my words, and repent, see-

(Continued on page 5)

Sukkot Schedule of Services

Erev Sukkot	Monday, October 1 st	6:15 PM
Sukkot	Tuesday, October 2 nd	9:30 AM and 6:15 PM
Sukkot	Wednesday, October 3 rd	9:30 AM and 6:15 PM
Hol Hamoed	Thursday, October 4 th	7:00 AM and 7:30 PM
Hol Hamoed	Friday, October 5 th	6:15 PM
Hol Hamoed	Saturday, October 6 th	9:30 AM and 6:15 PM
Hol Hamoed	Sunday, October 7 th	9:00 AM and 7:30 PM
Hoshanna Rabba	Monday, October 8 th	7:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Shmini Atseret/Hakafot	Tuesday, October 9 th	9:30 AM and 6:00 PM
Welcoming Service for New Members during evening services		
Simhat Torah	Wednesday, October 10 th	9:30 AM and 6:00 PM
Simhat Torah Brunch during services in the morning		

LITURGY AS OUR CATALYST

By Hazzan Bruce Rockman

When I sat down to write my contribution to HaKol I had decided to write about my upcoming adult education class. The class or workshop, will begin Tuesday, October 16th beginning with minyan at 7:30 P.M. We will be creating and learning about alternative Shabbat services. I look forward to teaching and singing new and old versions of our existing liturgy and creating a sense of renewed vigor and kavanah, feeling.

I find it is difficult to think about anything without the shroud of the World Trade Center attack clouding my perspective. Doubtless you are feeling

similarly. As we attempt to return to normalcy, the pain and the changes that we are experiencing will affect our lives and the lives of our families for generations to come.

As a community, we have contributed to fund drives, volunteered our time, comforted each other and we have prayed. We have joined our greater community to express our sorrow and our love for America with an inter-faith service, and we have looked for comfort from our Jewish tradition.

Why do some many of us turn to God and prayer at times like these? What

does prayer do for us when we are so troubled and hurt? Being with each other is very reassuring and knowing that we are not alone in our pain is comforting. Hearing and participating in communal prayer is reaffirming. At the same time it is difficult to hide our rage. The anger that we feel can be directed at the horror of this attack and it is fair to at least be a little irate with God. How could our God allow this to happen?

As the Hazzan, what am I supposed to do? I identify myself with the congregation I stand before the Aron Kodesh as your *Shaliach Tziboor*, the messenger of the congregation.

Q & A: How To Survive Synagogue -- or How Do I Make My Synagogue Experience More Meaningful?

Submitted by Elliot Danto from Aish.com

- 1) Five minutes of prayer said with understanding, feeling, and a personal connection to the words and their significance means far more than five hours of lip service.
- 2) "Unfulfilled expectations lead to self-imposed frustrations." Therefore, don't expect to be "moved" by every prayer or to follow along with the entire service.
- 3) Read through the prayers and slowly think about what you're saying and don't be overly concerned about being behind. Look, the worst that could happen is that you will fall behind, but don't worry, they'll probably announce the pages so you can always catch up.
- 4) If a particular sentence or paragraph touches you -- linger a while. Say the words over and over to yourself -- softly, but audible to your ears. Allow those words to touch you. Feel them.

And, if you're really brave, then close your eyes and say those words over and over for a couple of moments.

- 5) You're not that proficient in Hebrew? Don't worry, G-d understands whatever language you speak. And, like a loving parent, G-d can discern what's in your heart even if you can't quite express it the way you would like.
- 6) As you sit in our synagogue on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, you are joined by millions of Jews in synagogues all over the world. You are a Jew and you are making a powerful statement about your commitment to Judaism and the Jewish people!

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel stated "*He (The Hazzan) does not stand in front of the Ark as an artist in isolation trying to demonstrate his skill or display his vocal feats. He stands before the Ark not as an individual but as a Congregation... His task is to represent as well as to inspire a community. Within the Synagogue music is not an end in itself but a means of religious experience. Its function is to help us to live through a moment of confrontation with the presence of God; to expose ourselves to Him in praise, in self scrutiny and in hope.*"

(Continued on page 12)

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Nursery School News

By Fran Pearlson



Dear Congregants,

The terrorist attacks of this past week have greatly saddened and horrified me. As an early childhood educator, I know the importance of early learning. I wonder, what would have happened if these terrorists had had the opportunity to begin their education at our nursery school? They would have had the opportunity to learn the concepts of caring and sharing with all their fellow classmates, to learn to respect and embrace their classmate's differences, and to learn the importance of kindness and tzedakah. Would this nurturing and loving environment have made a difference and prevented these horrific acts? I would like to believe the answer is yes!

I believe that the early years of schooling helps determine how a child will learn for a lifetime. During this period, children develop a sense of self and decide whether school is a burden or a joy. At our school we provide each child with many hands-on activities and fun filled learning experiences. We believe that play is learning and learning is fun!

One activity that children love to do is cooking. This provides young learners with a variety of rewarding learning experiences. They can learn science by experimenting with different tools and equipment, they can learn math by measuring or counting various food items, and develop physical skills by pouring and mixing. Little kids love to cook!

Please step into the kitchen with your child and make a yummy New Year's treat.

CHOCOLATE HONEY CAKE

Ingredients:

½ cup flour
6 oz. Choc. Chips
5 tbsp. Margarine
1 tbsp. Vanilla
2 eggs
½ tsp. baking powder
¼c honey
¼ tsp. salt
1 cp chopped walnuts (optional)

Steps:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Melt chocolate and margarine.

Cool...

3. Have your child help beat the eggs, honey, and vanilla.
4. Stir in dry ingredients.
5. Have your child help pour the batter into an 8" square, oiled pan.
6. Bake in oven at 375 degrees for 25 minutes.
7. Let cake cool.

ENJOY A SLICE WITH YOUR CHILD!

We would like to thank Rabbi Eligberg and Cantor Rockman for presenting an entertaining series of educational holiday programs for our nursery school children. The children learned about Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kipper, and Sukkot and enjoyed singing holiday songs too.

UPCOMING NURSERY SCHOOL EVENTS

Our INNISBROOK WRAPS FUNDRAISER has begun. They offer a nice selection of wrapping paper, (including Chanukah wrap) candy, and other useful items. Please come to or call the nursery school office for a copy of their brochure.

Our KIDSTUFF books fundraiser will be starting shortly. These books offer discount coupons to various kid friendly stores. Similar to the entertainment books that offer restaurant discounts, this book will save you money.

Please come to the nursery school office to purchase one.

Your support in our fundraising efforts is greatly appreciated!

(Continued from page 1)

ing I am but dust and ashes.” Dust and ashes, hardly what one would expect as building blocks for the future, yet Job does find comfort in the rest of his life.

What was there in God’s answer to Job that helped him begin to heal? Our sages, of blessed memory, offer the following. “When Job cried out about his suffering, the Holy One showed him a sukkah with three walls.” This strange response is actually a simple and compelling statement about life. To understand it, however, one must know a little about the laws of the Sukkah. A Sukkah is a booth which by Jewish law is required to have four walls. If, due to circumstances, a hurricane for example, one of the four walls is brought down the remainder of the Sukkah is not to be destroyed. That Sukkah can still be used to live, to eat in, even with one wall missing. In fact, the law goes further and states that the sukkah would remain kosher (usable) even if less than three walls remain to hold it up.

Now, we can understand the answer which the rabbis placed before us and speaks directly to the heart. God’s answer to Job is - learn to live in a sukkah with only three walls. The sukkah that is your life is still viable and continues to stand even with the fourth wall missing, even when a loved one has been

The sukkah that is your life is still viable and continues to stand even with the fourth wall missing, even when a loved one has been torn away. This is not easy but it is real.

torn away. This is not easy but it is real.

It would be wonderful to always live in a sukkah with four walls, to never suffer loss is the desire of every heart but the condition of human existence, the challenge of life, is coping with loss.

There is a natural time for tears, for questioning fate, even for despair, but this cannot go on indefinitely. Life must go on. We are commanded, b’sukkot teysh-voov -- you shall dwell in sukkot, ah-fee-loo shel sha-losh d’fanot -- even one with three walls.

The choice is between allowing the sukkah with only three walls to collapse, to crumble into ruins, or to use the remaining material to build up what remains into an enduring structure. Given time the fourth wall may even be replaced, if not entirely, at least in part.

The fragility of the sukkah is also a symbol of the fragility of what we build in our lives. It stands in sharp contrast to those things which we create that truly endure in the minds and souls of those we touch by our lives. To paraphrase Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, the cathedrals that we build in space are ephemeral while the castles we build in time last forever.

This year, let us not only build sukkot

to celebrate in but let us each build enduring memories in the lives of those most important to us. May we find joy in our festival by finding joy in the opportunity to be with those who make the sukkah of our lives whole.

With blessings,
Rabbi David M. Eligberg

TASHLIIH

Tashlih was a huge success this year. At 5:45 pm on Tuesday, the first day of Rosh Hashanah, approximately 30 people gathered at the stream near Brunswick Acres School to cast off their sins and feed some fish. The service (and jokes about what types of sins were rye versus raisin challah) was concluded with shofar blowing by Rabbi Eligberg and Cantor Rockman.

Tashlih is not only a personal prayer and casting off of sin, but also a nice way to publicly gather a community to celebrate the High Holiday Season. I encourage you all to join us next year.

L'Shanah Tovah
Beth Schurman

FROM THE WEBMASTER

By Gary Bergman

Are You feeling Secure About B'nai Tikvah's Online Files?

You should.

The archives of messages, announcements, board minutes, and trivia concerning B'nai Tikvah are restricted to members of Congregation B'nai Tikvah. Your Yahoo-ID is the key to access these records as well as your ability to set your personal preferences for posting and receiving

congregational e-mail.

A comprehensive list of Frequently Asked Questions and answers (FAQ) is available at our own website at "bnaitikvah.org/click.html". If you have any trouble accessing the B'nai Tikvah facilities at Yahoo, the Webmaster@Bnaitikvah.org is there to help you. The first question asked will be "What's your yahoo-ID?" Go to

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BAT MITZVAH PROJECT

Hello! My name is Allison Shultz and I am in eighth grade at Crossroads Middle School. I am also a student at the Chai School here at B'nai Tikvah. On December 29th I will become a Bat Mitzvah.

I want to do a service project before my Bat Mitzvah to help me remember that not all people are as fortunate as I am. A service project is also a good way for me to give something back to my community.

I have decided to collect teddy bears and other stuffed animals that will be donated to the first aid squad. When the squad goes on emergency calls that involve children they will be able to give the child a stuffed animal. Imagine how scary it is for a child when they get injured. The child can find comfort in a stuffed animal. This may also help the child trust the adult that is treating them.

The first aid squad has specifically mentioned the need for baby-safe stuffed animals. Examples of things that make stuffed animals baby-safe are ones with stitched eyes instead of buttons and ones with no small parts the

baby could choke on.

Also, all stuffed animals must be new. I will set up a collection box outside of the school office. I would like to thank you in advance for supporting my service project. If you have any questions you can call me at home at 732-297-1932. Thank you again.
Allison Shultz

MINYAN

By Renee Levin

Prior to the tragic events of Tuesday, September 11, Marc Binder asked me to write something for HaKol regarding daily minyan.

When I thought about my feelings regarding minyan attendance, I thought of a couple of recent experiences. One day, I arrived for minyan, and there were only a handful of people there including someone who would otherwise have said kaddish. Cantor Rockman added an appropri-

ate reading in lieu of mourner's kaddish, given our lack of a minyan, but I felt badly that this person missed an opportunity to recite kaddish in memory of a loved one.

On another occasion, I attended minyan, and there were a few more than the necessary ten people present. Sometimes, I think that people then feel that they weren't really "needed." However, the more people present, the stronger the feeling of community.

People might come to minyan for various reasons: to be closer to God; to be there to help others; to be part of a community; and as a time for reflection. I think that all of these reasons are valid. Due to my procrastination, I am now writing this paragraph in the aftermath of Tuesday's tragic events. To me, the reasons for attending a daily minyan seem all the more compelling now.



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ATTENTION ALL USYERS

The 2001-2002 North/South Brunswick USY chapter would like to invite begin the fun-filled year in front of us.

October 4, 2001: Come build your own sukkah made of candy to celebrate Sukkot. Don't miss out on the fun and of course, then candy! Meeting will be held at the temple from 7:30-9:00.

October 18, 2001: Open your mind and be creative at USY's paint the wall night in the youth lounge at the temple from 7:30-9:00. Be sure to come and decorate the all to your liking.

We Hope To See You There!

If you can, please help out USY with donations of paint brushes, drop clothes, trays, and any other painting devices you think will be helpful. Thank you.

CLASSICAL CATERERS PRESENTS

2nd Annual NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA!

Synagogue Members Have First Priority until October 1st

HURRY LIMITED SEATING

Our evening begins at 9:00 PM sharp on December 31, when Classical Caterers throws open the doors for the sumptuous cocktail hour with non-stop music. Then join us for an elegant dinner until 2:00 AM, January 1, 2002. Get your appetite revved up and your dancing shoes polished and join us for a party to end all parties.

- SPACE IS LIMITED!
- 10 - 12 people to your own table
- **SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR SYNAGOGUE MEMBERS \$100 per person** (\$110 non-synagogue members)
- List the people you want to sit with

Reservations - call 297-6444

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS

By Ann Kanarek

Though I walk through valley of deepest darkness, I will fear no harm, for You are with me. (Psalms 23:4)

At this time of national tragedy, joining together with community, prayer, education and tzedakah are our paths to r e c o v e r y .

In recent years, learning about and giving tzedakah has become an important activity in our school. So that we can aid the victims and families of the terrorism in New York and Washington, our students will select recipients for their tzedakah. This will be part of a year long series of mitzvah projects connected to a theme--either related to a Jewish holiday, a Jewish life cycle or the class curriculum. This month we will devote our tzedakah monies to the following organizations:

1. **Uniformed Firefighter's Association Widow's and Children's Fund** which will help the families of hundreds of courageous firemen who risked their lives to save others.
2. **American Red Cross**, an organization which is dedicated to easing the suffering and restoring hope to those in need
3. **September 11th Fund** which will provide relief to the victims of this terrorist attack.

We are all proud of the commitment and active involvement of our students to our school's tzedakah programs. It's great to see everyone **LENDING A HELPING HAND!!** Yasher Koach!!

Wishing you and your families a **SHANA TOVA**— a year of health, p e a c e a n d f u l f i l l m e n t .

SHALOM UV'RACHA...

Greetings and Blessings to our New Students

Brittany Altman, Evan Angstreich, Jaclyn Angstreich, Melanie Applebaum, Alyssa Benzilio, Amanda Dill-

man, Monica Feldman, Corey Garyn, Lana Gerstein, Mitchell Gorelick, Jason Haberman, Josh Harmon, Alex Herbst, Mathew Herbst, Matthew Juro, Michael Katcher, Harrison Kaye, Brett Keller, Matthew Keller, Shawn Kilcoyne, Aaron Lassin, Erica Lepinsky, Andrew Lewis, Brittany Lewis, Paul Mendes Austin Morse, Sammi Riemann, Drew Rothfus, Brian Schwartz, Sydney Sookerman, Lauren Tabak, Jessica Warner, Joshua Warner, Carly Weinreb, Jessica Zimmerman.

NEW TEACHERS: This fall, we are delighted to welcome eight new teachers to our staff: Ruth Ann Crockett, Jacob Friedman, Michael Friedman, Lisa Greenwald, Stephanie Guberman, Sherry Lander, Ben Schwab and Josh Seigle.

We are also happy to welcome back all of our other fine staff members: Sara Chvala, Phyllis Edley, Gina Giuffre,, Marlos Hirshon, Loren Hurwitz, Rebecca Leventhal, Melanie Rodgers, Kfir Weinraub, Carol Winter, and Miriam Ziegler.

HACHNASAT TALMIDIM

A WELCOMING CEREMONY FOR OUR NEW STUDENTS

On Tuesday, October 9 at 6:00pm, our Congregation will be celebrating Simchat Torah. Simchat Torah is the occasion on which we celebrate the Torah and begin the yearly cycle of reading it anew. We will include Hachnasat Talmidim, a ceremony to welcome new students of all ages who are beginning their religious education at B'nai Tikvah. The Torah is renewed with each new generation of learners.

We will include all our new students in a *Hachnasat Talmidim* ceremony. We will honor our new students by calling

them up to the bimah to receive a special blessing of welcome. We hope that the congregation will make every effort to attend the service.

The sight of our children on the bimah makes the holiday more enjoyable for everyone. We look forward to seeing you.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL REMINDERS

SUNDAY: OCTOBER 7

Chai School Interfaith Breakfast in the Sukkah and Sukkah Visits

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

NO SCHOOL, Hoshanah Rabah

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

NO SCHOOL, Shemini Atzeret

Welcome New Students Program & Reception

Join us at Simchat Torah services as we honor new students.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

NO SCHOOL, Simchat Torah

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

HEI CLASS: Program with the Rabbi (Part 2)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

Jewish Book Month author: Marion Blumenthal Lazan visits

JEWISH BOOK FAIR BEGINS

MON. OCT 29-THURS. NOV. 7:

Book Fair continues

WED. OCTOBER 31

NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, Staff Development Day

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Chai School Gleaning trip HEI CLASS: Program with Rabbi (Part 3)

THURS., NOVEMBER 8

NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, NJEA Conference

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, NJEA Conference

TUES. NOVEMBER 13 &

WED. NOVEMBER 14

Jewish Book Month Storyteller, Rebecca Kelly visits

Bikur Cholim – What is Jewish Healing?

Healing remains one of the genuine mysteries of our daily lives. Real healing from physical and emotional illness is a multi-faceted process. New medical fields indicate a growing awareness of the intricate interrelationship between mind and body in illness and in health. Traditionally, the Jewish approach to healing recognizes this mystery in all its complexity.

On the one hand, healing is a divine preserve, one of the areas of life in which we can really feel the hand of God at work. On the other hand, healing is a mitzvah, and the effort of health care professionals to help us deal with illness is considered to be a realm of high human endeavor. This is a not a contradiction, although it may at first appear to be so. It does, however, reflect a genuine and in-

spiring partnership between God and us. Although some would believe that anything less than complete reliance on God for healing through prayer alone is a grudging compromise, by far the overwhelming consensus of Jewish thought endorses a more proactive position that sees divine and human action as fully integrated.

Projecting our care and concern onto God, and allowing ourselves to be cared for by God, is the very essence of Jewish healing. Through this process, we open our hearts, minds, and souls to really receive the blessings that facilitate healing and are already there for us in abundance. We learn to appreciate and accept the ways in which our physical and social environments provide support that

nourishes, nurtures, and sustains us. We also prepare ourselves to find the often uncanny routes of healing that God provides for us -- so that just the right resource comes our way when we most need it.

To become a resource to our community by visiting congregants in local hospitals, please call Gale Dillman (821-7392) for information.

This article, based on the work of Meir Sendor and published in Sh'ma: a journal of Jewish Responsibility, is one in a series of articles from the Bikur Cholim group. Rabbi David M. Eligberg provided material and guidance in the preparation of this series.

Fifty Plus Group

Our next meeting on Tuesday, October 23, 2001 in the social hall of the synagogue will begin at 12:30 pm. We will feature a delightful dairy luncheon and entertainment. The cost is \$2.00 for paid up members and \$5.00 for guests but reservations are necessary in advance. Please call Annette at 732-297-3562 before October 15 to make your reservation.

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Contributions To Our Funds (August 11— September 15)

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 Richard Margolis, in memory of Louis Margolis
 Leon and Phyllis Horlick, in memory of Nelle Evenchick
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 Claire Hirshman, in memory of Sam Hirshman
 Barbara and Harvey Abramson, in memory of Sidney V. Abramson
 Retina Vitreous Center, in memory of Florence Angrist
 Steven Mark, in memory of Arthur Mark
 Marie and Herbert Kurzman, in memory of Sarah Kurzman
 Stanley Levine, in memory of Mollie Levine
 Phyllis and Jerry Edley, in memory of Bella Sloshter
 Bernard Bitterman, in memory of Samuel Bitterman
 Ronnie, Jerry and Audrey Levine, in memory of Stanley Levine
 Carole and Howard Kalish, in memory of Rose Kalish
 Arline and Alan Kane, in memory of Sarah Greenberg
 Sylvia Rimmer, in memory of Alex Rimmer
 Fran and Philip Weinstein, in memory of Rose Weinstein

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

Andrea and Steven Katz, in honor of the Rabbi's kindness and guidance on the occasion of Matthew's Bar Mitzvah
 Esther Reed and Mordecai Schwartz
 Jack and Betty Waintraub, in memory of Harry Waintraub
 Michael Greenfield, in honor of Rabbi David and Jodi Eligberg's baby boy Yonatan Efraim
 Scott and Debbi Rekant, with thanks to

Rabbi Eligberg for his help with Daniel's Bar Mitzvah

Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

Andrea and Steven Katz, in honor of the Cantor's patience, kindness and guidance on the occasion of Matthew's Bar Mitzvah
 Libbie, Paul, Erin, Gary & Jason Marx, in honor of Bruce Rockman becoming a Hazzan
 Nancy and Elliott Danto, in memory of Harry Kaufman (Eileen Zweig's father)
 Nancy and Elliott Danto, in memory of Richard Burstein (Les Friedman's brother in law)
 Scott and Debbi Rekant, with thanks to Cantor Bruce Rockman for his help with Daniel's Bar Mitzvah

Expansion Fund:

Gale Dillman, in honor of her Aliyot
 Gale Dillman, in honor of Amanda Dillman's being given the honor of Gelilah
 Gale Dillman, in memory of her sister, Susan
 Tammy and Keith Zimmerman, in honor of Gary and Barbara Bergman's new born grandson Ryan Michael

Youth Fund:

Adrienne, Andy and Elyse Ross, wishing Adam Zweig speedy recovery

Prayer Book Fund:

Gale, Marc and Amanda Dillman, in memory of Paul Zara
 Adrienne, Andy and Elyse Ross, in memory of Nurit Brown's mother
 Gary and Helene Tinkel, in memory of Estelle Tinkel
 The 50+ Club, in memory of Jacob Green
 Shirley and Martin Engel, in memory of Ina Kraver
 Retina Vitreous Center, in memory of Florence Angrist
 Ilene and Joel Simon, in honor of Nicole Van Hessen's Bat Mitzvah

Renee, Joe, Ilisa and Marnie Grodman, in memory of Morris Haller

School Fund:

Loren Hurwitz, in honor of Rabbi Haim David Ben Miriam
 Scott and Debbi Rekant, in honor of their son Daniel becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Torah Restoration Fund

Bernard and Ruth Adler, in memory of Jack Green

Tzedakah Fund:

Dan and Shiva Nili, in honor of Tom and Yonathan Nili and Soloman Bak-hajian
 Eileen Berk, in memory of Martin Berk Susan and Harry Rosenzweig, in memory of Lee Zieselman
 Janet Szpiro, to thank God for Andrew and Gaby and to bless them both in their new dwelling and future together. And to thank God for Sheryl and Marc and to bless Them both in their future home God willing. May they be blessed all with good health, prosperity, happiness and fulfillment. Thank you God!

Continued on page 11

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Contributions:

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

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LETTER TO CONGREGANTS

Dear Congregant,

In 1897, Theodor Herzl convened about 200 Jewish leaders from around the world in Basel, Switzerland to discuss the condition of the Jewish People. The delegates at the meeting, or Congress, decided to create a movement whose goal it was to establish a Jewish Homeland. Fifty years later, the United Nations passed the Partition Plan and since that day, Jews suffering persecution in the former Soviet Union, North Africa and the Middle East and Ethiopia have been able to find refuge there.

One hundred and four years later, the United Nations convened world leaders from around the world in Durban, South Africa, to discuss the condition of racism and persecution. But this time around, instead of focusing on the true problems facing the world's population, Ararat and his allies took control of the conference to condemn Zionism as racism and Israel as an apartheid state.

Our Jewish response: We must cast a vote of support with Israel and say

that we are one, all Jews everywhere, with the Jewish State.

As Diaspora Jews, we may not be able to vote in Israel's elections, but we can make our voices of support heard loudly, by getting involved in the elections for the 2002 World Zionist Congress. Since 1897, the World Zionist Congress has met 32 times to resolve critical issues facing the Jewish people and to set the spending priorities for the Jewish Agency. The worldwide Conservative Movement, our synagogues and institutions in Israel and our youth programs such as USY Pilgrimage and Ramah Seminar, has been the direct beneficiary of more than \$15 million in direct funding since 1987 because of our involvement, under the MERCAZ banner, in the Zionist Congress.

Next year, the 34th World Zionist Congress will convene in Jerusalem. Jews from throughout the world will be taking part to elect the delegates to the Congress who will set an agenda that is certain to affect Israeli society and Israel-Diaspora relations for years to come. With your help, the Conservative Movement will be well represented

in Jerusalem, to lobby on behalf of the issues and programs with which we are concerned. But this will occur only if we all get involved in the Zionist elections.

You can cast your vote of support with Israel and make the Conservative Movement's voice heard by registering now to vote in the 2002 World Zionist Congress Elections. Register by visiting the MERCAZ website (www.mercazusa.org) to download a form or register on-line.

At a time when others question the resolve of American Jewry to stand up for Israel, show the world that we are one with the Jewish State. Num

bers count, so take a moment now to register to vote in the Zionist elections - for your children and grandchildren, for the Jewish Community, for Israel!

Sincerely,
 Rabbi David Eligberg &
 Mitchell Frumkin, President

PURIM 2002

February 26

Sisterhood has traditionally prepared Shalach Manot for the members of B'nai Tikvah to send to their family, friends and neighbors.

Sisterhood is hoping to reduce the cost of providing this service by asking for snack food/drink donations or reduced pricing.

If you or anyone you know is in the business of producing or distributing snack type food or drinks (e.g., small bags of chips, pretzels, raisings, chocolate, juice boxes), we are asking that you contact them to request a donation/deal.

[All food/drink must be Kosher]

For additional information about this program for Purim, please contact Jodi Eiligberg on 940-1973 or via baeema@optonline.net

The 2001 CROP Walk is Coming Soon!

The 2001 CROP Walk will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 21. The CROP Walk is intended to raise money and awareness to lessen the effects of hunger in the world. Our congregation has done a phenomenal job participating in this worthwhile, ecumenical event over many years. Last year, we raised an incredible \$8,287. This accomplishment was possible only through the collective efforts of many people in our congregation and the special, extraordinary devotion of one member in particular. Church World Service has recognized this member for his efforts.

Please plan to join us this year. I am sure that you will feel rewarded for the 2-3 hours of time that you give up. Renee or Steve Levin would be happy to provide you with any additional information (422-8590).

Liturgy

(Continued from page 2)

It is this hope and faith that I believe we are attempting to tap into at times like these. Our desire is to find a way, a method to find clarity during this confusing period of our lives.

With our holiday season about to end, we have vowed to improve our lives. Now is the time to start taking action. The premise of my article and my class is to make you feel something, and to help motivate you to find the strength to carry on our mission. Please join your friends and me as we search for answers and inspiration with the beauty of our liturgy as our catalyst.

B'Shalom,
Cantor Bruce Rockman



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Ohavey Zion (Lovers of Zion) Campaign for MERCAZ USA

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tear here

MAIL TO: MERCAZ USA 155 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010

Tel: 212-533-7800 X-2016 **Fax:** 212-533-2601

email: MERCAZ@Compuserve.com

website: www.MERCAZUSA.org

Ohavey Zion Campaign for MERCAZ USA sponsored by the New Jersey Region, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Yes! I want to support MERCAZ USA and become a member:

Please return this form with your check or credit card information: circle Visa MC AX

Acct: _____ Exp. ___/___/___ Signature _____

\$36 Family \$25 Individual \$10 Student \$50 Sponsor \$100 Sponsor \$250 Benefactor \$500 Patron

Last Name (Print) First Name Spouse's Name (_____) telephone number

Permanent Address City State Zip email

Congregation City

Leave the cooking to someone else...

Preorder your Shabbat dinner so that when you come home from work you can start Shabbat off on the right foot. Dinners are provided by The Kosher Experience in Shop-Rite of East Windsor. Pick your Shabbat dinner up at the synagogue from 7pm - 8pm. **(Come to minyan and then get your dinner)** Your dinner will be in the refrigerator with your name on it. Basic dinner includes (serves 4):

- 1 Chicken
- 1 lb. salad
- 1 lb. kugel
- 1 challah



For an addition \$5.00 we will deliver your dinner to your door (or to a friend's house as a **special Shabbat gift**). North/South Brunswick only (exceptions can be made, please call).

Orders must be received by October 14, 2001. Pick up is October 18, 2001

Basic Dinners _____ X \$25.00 = _____

Choices: (choose one from each category for each dinner ordered)

- Salad: _____ Potato _____ Cucumber
 _____ Coleslaw _____ Health
 Kugel: _____ Potato _____ Noodle _____ Apple
 Challah: _____ Traditional _____ Raisin _____ Whole Wheat

Additional Items (available after at least one basic dinner has been ordered)

- Salad: _____ Potato _____ Cucumber _____ X \$2.75 = _____
 _____ Coleslaw _____ Health
 Kugel: _____ Potato _____ Noodle _____ Apple _____ X \$ 3.75 = _____
 Challah: _____ Traditional _____ Raisin _____ Whole Wheat _____ X \$2.75 = _____
 Extra Chicken _____ X \$7.00 = _____
 Gelfilte Fish (4 Slices) _____ X \$3.00 = _____
 Home Delivery _____ \$5.00 = _____

Total Enclosed _____

Your Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

Make check payable to:
 Sisterhood, B'nai Tikvah
 Mail to: Bobbi Binder
 94 Hazel Court
 Dayton, NJ 08810

Use separate sheet for gift instructions

Any questions call Bobbi at: 274-2797

COLLEGE YOUTH CONNECTION

For many years, we have been sending Holiday packages to our children at college. They have always been well received and are a vital link between our Synagogue and the college youth.

We send three packages a year, for Chanukah, Purim, and Pesach. If you have a child in college, and would like him/her to receive these packages, please fill out the form below (PRINT), and send it to:

College Youth Connection
 Congregation B'nai Tikvah
 1001 Finnegan's Lane
 North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Student's Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Parent's Name and Address: _____

REMINDER TO PARENTS: This form MUST be filled out with the start of the new school year, as we do not keep lists from previous years. PLEASE NOTIFY COLLEGE CONNECTION IF THE SCHOOL ADDRESS CHANGES DURING THE YEAR.

Why I Come To Schul

By Elliot Danto

One of the reasons I come to schul on Shabbat is to pray. Another reason I come is to be with my Jewish community. I have my "back row" and the rest of my synagogue friends. People I see only once a week at schul. It's nice to have Shabbos friends. You can extend your Shabbat experience into the work-week, by simply coming to a weekday minyan. It's nice on a Tuesday night. Arie Behar is leading the service. The Cantor is usually there, along with some of my other "Shabbat friends". It's a good feeling. You get to say an extra "Hi" to God, which maybe you wouldn't have done at home and you got to say hi to some of your friends.

Aaron's Back (Are you leaving?)



Phyllis Rosen

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BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION UPDATE

Congratulations!! Our **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION** contest over the summer was a huge success. Many thanks!! We already surpassed last year's total of \$77.00 in just what was submitted since the summer. Todah Rabah to our families. We appreciate all your efforts in cutting, collecting and sending in your BOX TOPS. We had five contest winners. Top prizes went to Benjy Levin (1st place), Jessica Shultz (2nd place), Amy and Becca Binder (3rd place), Matt Yelo (4th place) and Alex Ciccione (5th place).



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We would like to introduce ourselves. We are the new
B'NAI MITZVAH MENTORS

Our hope is to help guide families who are preparing for their child's bar/bat mitzvah with personal attention. We are a group of proud parents who want to share what we have learned through the bar/bat mitzvah planning process with others, and maybe help relieve some stress! Mazel Tov to all our b'nai mitzvah families, you will be hearing from us soon!

Any questions or interest in joining, please call:
 Cindy Gittleman 732-274-2253

B'NAI TIKVAH'S RETAIL SCRIP PROGRAM

Attention shoppers-frequent your favorite vendors & earn money for our synagogue!

Over 50 well-known nationwide retailers participate in this program.

On the reverse side of this flier, you will find an order form which lists participating vendors and the percentage discount (profit) that B'nai Tikvah receives from each. These gift certificates or cards look like the same ones issued by the stores! Use yourself or give as gifts!

Some excellent uses for scrip:

- You've been invited to a bar/bat mitzvah. Buy some retail scrip at old navy or gap (teenagers love it!) .
- A friend or relative just had a baby. Buy some retail scrip at toys r us or at kb toys.
- A friend or relative is getting married. Buy some retail scrip at pottery barn.
- You want to reward or motivate your excellent employees? Buy some retail scrip at Barnes and Noble or Borders.

TWO NEW RETAILERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE:

- 1. BED, BATH & BEYOND**
- 2. STAPLES**

As you can see, everyone needs to buy a gift for someone, regardless of the time of the year. Why not show some originality in your gift giving, and help the synagogue at the same time! The discount rate is the profit that the synagogue makes on every purchase.

This is the easiest, most painless way to help our synagogue thrive. By participating you play an important role in maintaining the facilities, programs, activities and schools - not to mention keeping dues down!

We have the following retail scrip currently in stock:

- 1. Gap/gapkids/babygap-\$25 denominations**
- 2. Old navy-\$25**
- 3. Barnes and noble-\$10**
- 4. Bath and body works-\$10**
- 5. Home depot-\$25**
- 6. Macy's-\$25**
- 7. JC Penney/Eckerd drugs-\$10/\$25**

Don't delay - place your order today!

Complete form on the reverse side (darkened spaces indicate unavailable denominations. White spaces indicate available denominations).

FILL OUT SUMMARY AS FOLLOWS:

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ORDERED _____

WRITE A CHECK FOR THE FULL AMOUNT DUE PAYABLE TO "B'NAI TIKVAH"

MAIL FORM & CHECK TO:
 RETAIL SCRIP, CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH, 1001 FINNEGAN'S LANE, NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08902
 (ATTN: ANDY ROSS)

If you have any questions or are looking to volunteer to help, please call Andy at 732/422-0637 or e-mail him at: adr-cpa@aol.com

RETAIL SCRIP ORDER FORM
 UPDATED 9/23/01

RETAILER	Discount	AVAILABLE			OTHER AMTS
AMERICAN AIRLINES	18%				\$50
AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS	8%				
AT&T 60 MIN. PREPAID CARD	20%				
AUGUST MAX WOMAN	19%				
B. DALTON BOOKSTORES	9%				
BANANA REPUBLIC	9%				
BARNES & NOBLE	9%				
BATH & BODY WORKS	13%				
BED BATH & BEYOND	6%				
BEST BUY	2%				\$50
BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO	7%				
BORDERS/WALDENBOOKS	8%				
CASUAL CORNER	19%				
CIRCUIT CITY	3%				\$50
CVS PHARMACY	2%				
DICK'S SPORTING GOODS	8%				
EDDIE BAUER	9%				
EXPRESS	13%				
FOOTLOCKER	9%				
GAP/GAPKIDS/BABYGAP	9%				
HOLD EVERYTHING	13%				\$20
HOLLYWOOD VIDEO	15%				\$1
HOME DEPOT	3%				
HYATT HOTELS	9%				
JC PENNEY/ECKERD	5%				
JO-ANN FABRICS	6%				
K MART	3%				\$50
KB TOYS	9%				
LILLIAN VERNON	17%				\$20
LIMITED	9%				
LOEWS CINEPLEX	13%				\$5
LOWE'S	3%				
MACY'S	9%				
MARRIOTT HOTELS	12%				
MARSHALL'S/TJ MAXX	8%				
OFFICE MAX	4%				
OLD NAVY	9%				
PAYLESS SHOES	13%				\$20
PETITE SOPHISTICATE	19%				
PIER ONE IMPORTS	9%				
POTTERY BARN/WILLIAMS-SONOMA	13%				\$20
SAM GOODY	9%				
SEARS	2%				\$250
SHARPER IMAGE	12%				\$50
SPIEGEL	9%				
STAPLES	4%				
STRUCTURE	13%				
SUNCOAST VIDEO	9%				
TOYS-R-US	3%				\$20
VALUE CITY	9%				
BP GAS	3.5%				
CITGO GAS	3%				
EXXON	3%				
SHELL OIL	2%				

High Holiday Israel Bond Appeal

By Larry Cohen

On behalf of Israel Bonds, thank you for your support during our recent campaign. Over (110) families chose to invest during Rosh Hashanah! Remember, you contact the Bond Office (732-828-0200) or myself year-round. Shalom, Larry Cohen, Chairman, Israel-Bonds

TODAH RABAH

Tremendous thanks to all those who helped to make the High Holiday services run so smoothly! In particular, I am grateful to Marc Binder and Elliot Danto for the endless hours they spent with me!

Our other wonderful volunteers: Jeff Schwartz, Joe Grodman, Arthur

Cederbaum, Bonnie Stevens, Matt & Beth Schurman, Bruce Goldstein, Sam & Ann Rosenzweig, Ellen Schneider, Ian Schwartz & USY Volunteers, and all our Torah Readers.

Are you . . .

- contemplating conversion to Judaism?
- not Jewish and involved in a serious relationship with a Jewish person?
- Jewish and want to know more about who you are?
- an interfaith couple planning to raise Jewish children?
- not Jewish and just curious about Judaism?

Then consider a 3,500-year journey around the world (in only 24 weeks - no passport required).

IF YOU'VE EVER WONDERED . . .

An Introductory Course in Judaism

Three convenient locations in Bergen, Morris, & Middlesex Counties. Classes begin in mid-October.

For more information and to register, please contact:

THE INSTITUTE FOR CONVERSION & OUTREACH EDUCATION
(908) 925-8725, EXT. 104

A program of the New Jersey Rabbinical Assembly in partnership with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, New Jersey Region

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN ISRAEL

**This will be the
most important vote
you cast this year.**

{...and, it WILL COUNT!}

**MERCAZ USA, the Voice of American Conservative
Jews for Israel, needs your vote for delegates to
the 2002 World Zionist Congress.**

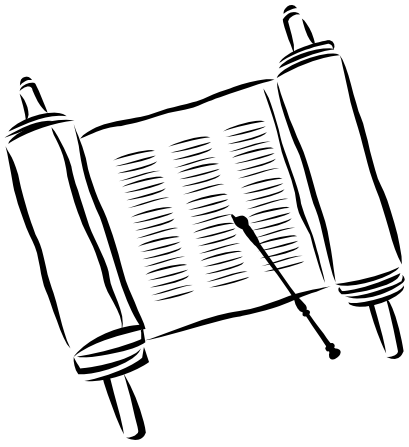
Why is this so important? Beyond the symbolic importance in having as large a Conservative delegation as possible, this election determines 50% of the control of the Jewish Agency which disperses over \$300 million in funds to many organizations including USY, Ramah and Masorti.

What is the process? Starting in September, all American Jews over 18 will be eligible to register through synagogues and Jewish organizations. There is a \$4 fee which goes towards offsetting the cost of the election. Registration ends on December 15, 2001 followed by balloting.

MERCAZ USA

155 Fifth Avenue · New York · NY · 10010

For more information, please visit www.mercazusa.com or call toll free 866-236-3722



TORAH READERS' CLUB

for grades 5 & 6

Started September 15, 2001

Join the Torah Readers' Club and learn to chant Hebrew from the Torah scroll!

The Club meets Saturday mornings 10:00 -10:30 am (before Jr. Congregation Family Service) in the school wing of B'nai Tikvah.



The Club's goal is to learn Torah "trope" – the melodies used for chanting the Torah. We welcomed nine (9) new Gimel/Dalet students to our Shabbat Morning class that began on September 15th. Look ahead as our students become proficient Torah Readers and chant Torah one Shabbat (Mincha) evening this fall.

Members are required to know the *Aleph-bet* and have basic Hebrew reading ability. **Questions? Call Larry Cohen 732-821-4376.**

Torah Readers' Club Member Application

I wish to join B'nai Tikvah's **Torah Readers' Club**:

Member Name: _____ Grade _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address (optional): _____

Send application with \$5 (check made out to B'nai Tikvah) to cover materials to: Torah Readers Club @ B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

SISTERHOOD SHENANIGANS

GOING TO THE CLEANERS?

You already go to the cleaners. Why not go to one that pays off for the Sisterhood? Use Gallery Cleaners (in Hempstead Plaza, 2015 Route 27. Across from Hidden Lake) Gallery cleaners donates over 10% of the total receipts! Send Gallery Cleaners receipts to Shelly Talmud (5 Patriot Court, East Brunswick 08816). Get your clothes cleaned and help your Sisterhood stay solvent!

NEED TO SEND A CARD?

Why go out to Hallmark when you can call Sandra and she can send a torah fund card. Please give her a call at 940-8744 and for \$3.50, a

card can be sent for any occasion or just to let someone know that you are thinking of him or her.

GIFT SHOP

Lots of wonderful new items available -- come in and browse. Open most Sundays from 9 – Noon, or contact Deborah Spigner (545-8457) and Teresa Samtur (821-8163) for all your Judaica needs

LEAGRAM DISCOUNTS

Leagrams are cards sent in honor of, in memory of, in celebration of etc. Leagrams are 15\$ for 6 if paid for in advance, or \$3 if paid for separately. Just contact Terri Woller at 732-422-1770 with all the information, its easy.

FAMILY SHABBAT

The monthly children's service is held the third Friday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat following this service can call Lisa Seidman at 297-6950. Interested in helping lead the service? It's fun and sets a great example for your kids. Contact Jackie Master at 545-8021.

PLANNING A WEDDING OR B'NAI MITZVAH?

Order the B'nai Mitzvah computer program to help you keep everything organized and at your fingertips. See the order form in this issue of HaKol or visit the Sisterhood Gift Shop.

Dates to Remember

OCTOBER 21

Topic - "Financial Strategies & Risk Management" - Money knows no gender, yet too many times we let our husbands be responsible for handling family finances. On Oct. 21 our guest speaker will give us the tools we need to be financially powerful and wise.

NOVEMBER 15 - PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP DINNER!!!!!!

MAZEL TOV!

October B'nai Mitzvah

Meryl Surks—October 13

Ian Diatlo—October 20



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	Lisa Seidman	297-6950
Passport to Israel	TBA	
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Scrip Committee	Rachel Shaneson	329-2189
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Programs	Ann Gold	609-409-0668
	Linda Kohn	297-7025
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HAKOL DEADLINE

The next HaKol deadline is **October 15**. I look forward to hearing from you. It will be distributed by **November 1**. You can leave articles in the HaKol mailbox in the synagogue office or e-mail them to Hakol@aol.com.