

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.

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Inside this issue:

Adult Education	5
Religious School Report	7
Haven't You Heard, Buy a Tree for Israel & USY	9
Nursery School News	10
Upcoming Programs	11
Family Shabbat, Blood Drive, Meet the President	12
USY in January	15
Do you Chanukah, 50 Plus, Empty Nesters	18
Retail Scrip Program	19
Lunch & Learn	21
Chanukah Hit	22
Tu B'Shevat, The Short Story	23
Sisterhood, B'nai Mitzvah	24
Torah Readers	25

Tending to Our Cosmic Oasis

by Rabbi Ismar Schorsch

Submitted by Jodi Eligberg
Rabbi Ismar Schorsch is the Chancellor of The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, the fountainhead of our movement.

We must dare to reexamine our longstanding preference for history over nature. The celebration of "historical monotheism" (Baron) is a legacy of nineteenth-century Christian-Jewish polemics, a fierce attempt by Jewish thinkers to distance Judaism from the world of paganism. But the disclaimer has its downside by casting Judaism into an adversarial relationship with the natural world. Nature is faulted for the primitiveness and decadence of pagan religion, and the modern Jew is saddled with a reading of his tradition that is one-dimensional. Judaism has been made to dull our sensitivity to the awe-inspiring power of nature. Preoccupied with the

ghosts of paganism, it appears indifferent and unresponsive to the supreme challenge of our age: humanity's degradation of the environment. Our planet is under siege and we as Jews are transfixed in silence.

What a monumental disservice to Judaism and human kind! For, properly understood, Judaism pulsates with reverence for God's handiwork. The human species may embody the highest form of consciousness in the universe, but hardly merits the limitless power of an absolute monarch. Humanity's unique ability to unravel the secrets of nature does not make us the equal of its creator. In the tart words of William Blake, the unrepentant critic of Newton and the Enlightenment: "He who sees the infinite in all things sees God. He who sees the Ratio only sees himself only." Judaism is a religious tapestry designed to sharpen our eye for the divine, in nature

as well as in history, and thus is laced with universal motifs relevant to our contemporary crisis.

Let me cite but three suggestive examples. First, the three pilgrimage festivals, despite the historicizing overlay and the long exilic experience, never lost their agricultural roots. No matter how urban Jewish life became, these ancient harvest festivals have echoed liturgically and ritually with an undertone of anxiety. The fertility of nature is the most basic condition of human survival. Graphically, the Mishnah conveys this sense of collective dependence: Four times a year the world is judged: at Passover on the grain, at the Festival of Weeks on the fruit of the trees...and on the Festival of Huts humankind is judged in terms of water. (Rosh HaShanah 1)

What has become so shockingly clear of late is that our own reckless assault on the envi-

(Continued on page 2)

OASIS

(Continued from page 1)

ronment — whether stemming from indescribable poverty or ever more industrialization — is part of the sentence. The rhythm of the natural year undulates through the Jewish calendar, which in turn yields an annual rendition of Judaism's utopian vision of balance and harmony — "In that day, will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground. I will banish bow, sword, and war from the land and let them lie down in safety" (Hosea 2:20).

My second example is less obvious but more potent. The weekly message of Shabbat rings with environmental import, if we but dare to understand it on its own terms. Instead, our wont is to render it in the liberating, anthropocentric spirit of Jesus: "The Sabbath was made for the sake of man and not man for the Sabbath." But to my mind, this profound and uniquely biblical institution is not intended to ennoble the human race but to humble it. With its incessant strictures against work, Shabbat reminds us of our earthly status as tenant and not overlord. To rest is to acknowledge our limitations. One day out of seven, we cease to exercise our power to tinker and transform. Willful inactivity is a statement of subservience to a power greater than our own. On the meaning of Shabbat, Hirsch, the hard-liner, spoke more tellingly than his liberal counterparts:

On each Sabbath day, the world, so to speak, is restored to God, and thus man proclaims, both to himself and to his surroundings, that he enjoys only a borrowed authority... Even the smallest work

done on the Sabbath is a denial of the fact that God is the Creator and Master of the World (Horeb, 56).

The design of Shabbat to rein in our lust for grandeur and gratification, then, addresses the environmental issue head on. For the first time, a species has the power to render this planet uninhabitable, either cataclysmically or incrementally. Precisely at this juncture, the archaic texts of the Hebrew Bible confront us with a vision of responsibility. We are not free to act indifferently or selfishly. Our mission is to tend to this cosmic oasis, to perpetuate an islet of consciousness in a seemingly mindless universe. More immediately, how salutary for the environment if one day a week we turned off the engines to walk rather than drive, to cultivate our inner lives, to relate to family and friends. How much cleaner the air is in Jerusalem on Shabbat!

Underlying Shabbat, and for that matter much of Judaism, is the insistence on divine kingship, my third and final example. The concept is one of the root ideas of Judaism, enunciated in the quotidian *berakhah* as in the exalted liturgy of the High Holy Days. Judaism is a religion of constraints, with an unvarnished view of human nature. It rests squarely on the portrait of mortal human as sketched in chapter two of Genesis rather than on that of the superhuman in chapter one. Whereas Adam I is a paragon without want or weakness, commissioned to conquer the Earth and free of all restraints, Adam II is frail and flawed. Incapable of abiding by the single stricture imposed upon him, he is lonely, weak, and passive. To till and tend his garden,

no more. That is his assignment. For the Bible, the tumultuous course of human events is driven by the errant nature of Adam II, and not by the perfection of Adam I, which lingers on as an ever elusive vision beyond human grasp.

Errant and powerful, like the awesome potential of a gifted natural athlete, human nature needs to be focused, disciplined, and trained. The awareness of God's dominion, a proprietorship anchored in creation, is the ultimate constraint erected by Judaism to stay the hand of self-destruction. The ecological nightmare of our own making cries out for the re-education of this reverential mindset. In the words of Rainer Maria Rilke: "Who speaks of victory? To endure is all."

What is Tu B'Shvat?

Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of Trees, falls on the fifteenth day of the month of Shvat (from sundown on Sunday, January 27, 2002 to sundown on Monday, January 28, 2002). Tu B'Shvat is the beginning of a new cycle for the tithe on fruit trees. Before the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 C. E., ten percent of all produce was set aside for the support of the priestly class and the poor. Tu B'Shvat (which means "the 15th of the month of Shvat") marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for tithing.

While the Temple is no longer standing, the principles that lie at the foundation of the practice of tithing are eternally relevant.

According to Jewish tradition, the earth is the Eternal's and

(Continued on page 3)

OASIS

(Continued from page 2)

all that it holds (Psalms 24:1). The Land must not be sold beyond reclaim, for the land is Mine (Leviticus 25:23). The land is not ours do to with as we please. We must be responsible stewards of both the land we inhabit and its produce.

According to the biblical tradition, this requires sharing the bounty of the land with those in need, allowing the land to rest during the Sabbatical year (every seventh year), redistributing land every fifty years (the Jubilee), and maintaining the integrity of the land so it will sustain future generations.

Though Tu B'Shvat no longer serves its original fiscal function, Jewish communities have continued to celebrate the New Year of Trees as a minor festival. In the 1600s, Kabbalists (Jewish mystics) in Tsfat created a Tu B'Shvat seder modeled after the Passover seder. Participants eat four different categories of fruit and drink four different combinations of red and white wine or grape juice, symbolizing the four seasons and the mystical "four worlds."

The early pioneers of the State of Israel celebrated Tu B'Shvat by planting trees. This practice continues today.

In recent years, Jewish communities around the world have begun to celebrate Tu B'Shvat as a "Jewish Earth Day" - organizing seders, tree-plantings, ecological restoration activities, and educational events, all of which provide an opportunity to express a Jewish commitment to protecting the earth.

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COEJL has created a unique opportunity for effective participation in political decision-making by Jews concerned with the environment. The COEJL Environmental Advocacy Network provides an immediate grassroots response when vital legislation comes to a vote in the U.S. Congress. As a Network member, you will receive periodic updates on key environmental bills and will be called or sent an action alert via e-mail only when a vote is imminent. Each action alert will provide you with the information necessary to make an informed decision, and then we will ask you to call or telegraph your Senator or Representative on the bill in question. Action alerts are based on the policy positions of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, which serves as the American Jewish community's coordinating body for public affairs.

"Letters have an effect on members of Congress. Everybody's vote counts in America, but those who sit down and write letters make their votes count more.".....
John F. Kennedy

TO JOIN:

Go to coejl.org and then to COEJL Action Alerts. For further information about COEJL advocacy work, contact at 212-684-6950, x210.

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5 Actions You Can Take in 15 Minutes To Protect Forests

1. Send a virtual postcard to the US Forest Service at <http://www.ourforests.org/> to support an effective policy to protect

our national forests.

2. Reduce junk mail. Send a letter to the Direct Marketing Association, Mail Preference Service, POB 9008, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008 asking to remove your name from mailing lists.
3. Buy one forest-friendly alternative to an everyday product. Some suggestions: avoid paper cups by investing in a reusable travel mug, buy stationary from tree-free paper or recycled paper with at least 50% post-consumer waste, share a newspaper or magazine subscription with a friend.
4. Make a commitment to purchase only wood products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC); ask for them at The Home Depot or shop at <http://www.certifiedproducts.org/>.
5. Pick two actions from the "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" list and commit to doing them this year. Next year, pick two more!

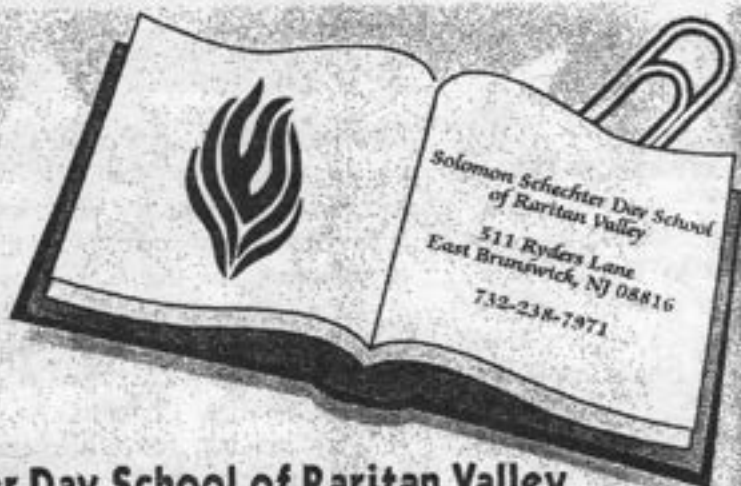
Take Action to Protect Forests

By reducing paper use and recycling in our homes, synagogues, schools, and workplaces, we can limit further depletion of creation.

Reduce

- ❖ Use e-mail instead of paper memos and reduce the number of messages that you print out.
- ❖ Set the default switch on your photocopier to double-sided or attach a friendly reminder on the machine.
- ❖ Avoid making a habit of using disposable plates and utensils.






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**Solomon Schechter Day School of Raritan Valley
East Brunswick, NJ**

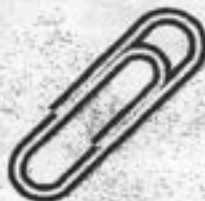
OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday, January 10
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

-  **Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade**
-  **Small classes with individualized instruction**
-  **Dynamic Jewish studies taught in Hebrew**
-  **Sha'ar Program geared to students entering in grades 3 through 6 from public schools.**
-  **After school enrichment activities**

**Call Maury Gabel Wohl at 732-238-7971
to reserve a space or arrange
for an individual tour.**

Visit us on the web at www.ssdsrv.org.



A

B

Education Programs

Lunch & Learn Adult Education

These programs are **FREE**; however registration is required. No prior knowledge necessary. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call the synagogue office, 732-297-0696, to make your reservations.

Lunch & Learn

February 2: Donna Glazer, Solomon Schechter of Raritan Valley
Family Dynamics in the Torah

April 6: Cantor Bruce Rockman, Lunch & Sing

June 1: Rabbi David M. Eligberg, To Be Announced

Lunch & Learn follows the Kiddush on Shabbat mornings. Sponsorships available — Co-sponsor, Under \$100; Sponsor, \$100-499; Patron, \$500.

Oasis

(Continued from page 3)

Reuse

- ❖ Reuse paper that is clean on one side for in-house drafts, notes and photocopies.
- ❖ Conduct research online and at libraries rather than ordering lots of written materials.
- ❖ Share periodicals with associates instead of receiving multiple copies, and make newspapers available in common areas.

Recycle and Buy Recycled

- ❖ Recycle office paper, newspapers, cardboard, magazines, colored paper and

scrap wood.

- ❖ Buy copier paper, paper towels, tissues, and toilet paper with at least 50% "post-consumer recycled content." The higher the post-consumer content, the greater the amount of materials that have been through the entire recycling process - and the greater the savings of precious natural resources and energy.

COMCAST SUBSCRIBERS

Some people change their e-mail addresses more often than Madonna changes her hairstyle. The reasons vary. Usually it's because they're looking for better, faster, cheaper, or more reliable service but, in the case of Comcast, all subscribers will soon be assigned new addresses.

How do you ease the transition and get the word out to all your e-mail friends? One solution is to maintain a "permanent Vanity Address" @BnaiTikvah.org.

For a one-time fee of \$36, you can register Your.Name@BnaiTikvah.org, which will deliver your mail to any location you choose. When you change ISPs (or your ISP changes you), just tell us and your B'nai Tikvah address will get rerouted automatically.

STEP BACK IN TIME:
A BENEFIT FOR CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

A black silhouette of a man in a tuxedo and a woman in a formal dress dancing. The man is in the center, with his arms around the woman. The woman is to his left, with her back to him. The silhouette is positioned behind the text.

Prom Night:

Relive The Magic

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16th, 2001
B'NAI TIKVAH BALLROOM
7:30 PM**

- **DJ Entertainment, Buffet Dinner (Classical Caterers), Open Bar, Silent Auction and other surprises!**
- **Celebrity Guest: Alan David Stein (from 101.5)!**
- **Vote for the Prom King and Queen!**
- **Dress Semi-Formal for the Prom or Semi-Insane from the year of YOUR prom**

**Invitations to be mailed in January
Members & non-congregant friends welcome!**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORTS

By Ann Kanarek

Jewish tradition regards the first day of Tishrei as the New Year of the world for humankind, and Tu B'Shevat, the fifteenth day of Shevat, on January 28, as the New Year for the trees. Tu B'Shevat is a minor festival that has major ecological impact. It is our "Earth Day" or "Eco"liday, where we bond with nature by planting trees, eating a variety of fruits and connect with God's creations.

During this time of the year, we have an opportunity to help our children understand the interrelatedness and interdependence of all living things. And, as parents and teachers we have an obligation to help our children rediscover and explore what our tradition says about the environment. Although Tu B'Shevat is a once a year holiday, we are blessed with the Mitzvah of observing an "Earth Day" every week with Shabbat. Here are just a few suggestions for some of the many ways we can make this observance meaningful.

MAKE SHABBAT A "BUY NOTHING" DAY. Some environmental groups have promoted the ideas of a "buy nothing" day once a year as a way of raising our consciousness about the profound connection between human consumption and our ecological crisis. We can begin training ourselves and our kids to not spend any money on

Shabbat, not just because the Torah says so, but also because every dollar represents a part of our natural resources that has been converted into an economic resource. By not spending that dollar we are doing a little something to save our environment.

MAKE SHABBAT A NATURE APPRECIATION DAY. In the Shabbat evening Kiddush, Shabbat is identified as a "remembrance of the work of Creation." There's nature all around us to learn about. Ponds and creeks are especially attractive to young kids. Why not go to a park or take a nature hike and play and learn together?

LET SHABBAT TEACH US ABOUT THE NATURAL CYCLES OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS. If we observe Shabbat in its proper time, we can't help but learn about what is called "Organic Time." Shabbat begins when the light first begins to wane and ends when three stars are visible in the sky. We might experience these natural cycles in an even more profound way if we limit our use of artificial light during Shabbat. What if we only kept the lights on in the room that we gathered in together. We could let Shabbat and the experience of night teach us how to be closer to each other, closer to the natural world, and closer to our own true selves.

Despite the trappings of modernity that now adorn our lives, we Jews are still, at core, a "down to earth" people, and every Jewish ritual, holiday, or life cycle event has embedded within it teachings about how to live in harmony with the rest of life on earth.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REMINDERS

Saturday, January 5: Hei class Shabbat and Luncheon

Sunday, January 6: Kindergarten Shema Pajama Party, 9:00am-10:30am

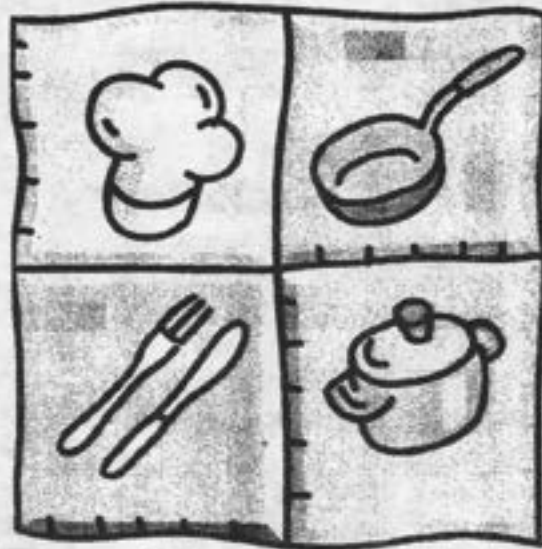
Sunday, January 20: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, Professional Growth Day

Monday, January 21: NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, Martin Luther King Day

Sunday, January 27: School-wide ecology program with guest, Dr. Gabe Goldman

Saturday, February 2: Havdallah Program (grades 3-6) 4:45pm

**Join us for a
TU B'SHEVAT SEDER
&
DAIRY DINNER**



**Sunday, January 27, 2002
5:30pm - 7:30pm**

A Unique Sensory Experience

Cost: Adults (13 and up) \$7.50

Children: (4 and up) \$5.00

RSVP by Sunday, January 20, 2002

Make your check payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah

Buy a tree for Israel and USY



This month, celebrate Tu b'Shevat by purchasing trees in Israel through JNF, and help support USY at B'nai Tikvah! Trees cost \$20 each. Please return this slip filled out with check or money and either mail it to USY, B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ 08902, or place it in the USY box in the Temple office. Call Steve with questions: 732-729-0750

of Trees: _____ x \$20= Total: \$ _____

Haven't you heard?

Announcements from the synagogue office are distributed in four ways:

- READ at the bima by the Rabbi, President or designated Trustee.
- PRINTED and posted on the synagogue office bulletin board.
- POSTED on our web site at www.bnaitikvah.org
- E-MAILED to all subscribers of the CBT Newsletter.

If you can receive e-mail at home or work, the CBT Newsletter is the most effective means we have for letting you know all the benefits B'nai Tikvah has to offer. You get the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and HOW in a form that is most comprehensive, most usable, and least intrusive. We make every effort to keep the messages short and to-the-point by providing clickable links to articles on our web site (and others) for more in-depth information. Add your name to the growing list of 170 families who are currently getting their up-to-the-minute news from the CBT Newsletter.

Send a "sign-me-up" note to Webmaster@BnaiTikvah.org

Hey! All you Super Bowl Watchers!!!! . . . Yeah, You!

Let's Keep Up Our Super Bowl Tradition.

Come Help Make our Sunday evening minyon at the synagogue on

Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2002.

Minyon starts 10 minutes after the whistle ending the 1st half!!!

Don't worry, you'll be back on your couch at home before the whistle

blows for the 2nd half.

Maybe the few prayers said can help your team? Why not?



Nursery School News

by Fran Pearlson



The weather outside is frightful but inside our school it's delightful. To beat the winter blahs many fun filled activities and programs have been planned for our children.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR SCHOOL:

Nursery School Tot Shabbat

On Friday, January 18th the Nursery School will be sponsoring a Tot Shabbat. We hope you can join us at 7:00pm with your little ones.

Nursery School Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences start the week of January 22nd. Sign up sheets will be posted so parents can sign up for a convenient time. For working parents, special conference times will be scheduled.

And the beat goes on. . .

To beat the winter blahs, Mr. Ray will be coming to our school to entertain our children with songs and activities as we learn more about the holiday of Tu B'Shevat.

Rabbi Eligberg and Cantor Rockman will educate our children about Tu B'Shevat in an entertaining and educational format.

Nursery's Library Program

Our school library program has started. The children's faces show enthusiasm and excitement as we roll our library cart into their classrooms and they get to choose their book selections. From all indications, the program is a big success! We are so fortunate to have several librarians (alias: parents) to assist us with this program.

Our New Graduates

This January, four of our students graduate from our Toddler Fun Club and will join our 2 ½ year old Nursery School program. Congratulations to Ariel Kaye, Aaron Jackenthal, Alexa Maltese and Matthew Hong.

Mommy & Me Programs

We are currently registering students for this program. We have a variety of programs for children between the ages of 12 months to 2 ½ years old. Come join the fun with your little ones!

Nursery School Registration

Nursery School registration for the 2002-2003 school year will begin on Monday, January 28th. Temple members will be given priority registration and a discount. Please stop by the Nursery School office to receive a registration packet.

On behalf of our Nursery School staff, stay warm, have a cup of hot chocolate and relax as you read Hakol.



Shabbat Shira

1/26 --8PM

sing -a- long with

" The Son's of Tikvah Band"

Rick Recht

2/10 - 7 PM

The Best in Jewish

Rock 'N ' Roll

(www.rickrecht.com)



SAFAM

2/17 - 2 PM

State Theatre--New Brunswick

(1st four rows!!)



B'nai Tikvah Offers Monthly Family Shabbat Service

Members and non-members are invited to attend our Family Shabbat service held at Congregation B'nai Tikvah on the third Friday of each month from 7:00pm to 7:45pm. The service caters to young children and their families and includes puppets, singing and dancing. The next service will be held on ****January 18, 2002****

Upcoming Family Shabbat services for 2002 will be held on ****February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, and August 16**** at 7pm.

ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE JANUARY 20TH

Congregation B'nai Tikvah will hold it's Sixteenth Annual Blood Donor Drive on Sunday, January 20th -- from 11am until 3pm. The need for blood after the long holiday season is again super-critical so please join us, and be one of our national lifesavers.

Blood supplies collected after September 11th have passed their 42-day shelf life and must be replaced. It's most important to maintain a five-day supply of blood continually. War time needs are ongoing! Blood donors have become an even more important part of American life than they were before the September 11th massacre. Please become a multiple times a year donor, and encourage your older teenagers and young adults at home to

join the fold.

Congregants 18 through 75 are eligible. 17-Year-olds must have written parental permission (official forms can be gotten by calling the number below). You must be in good general health and weigh at least 110-lbs. It's advisable to have eaten before donating, and an ID with your signature is necessary, FDA Regulations require a Social Security number on your application. Advance reservations aren't needed, and the entire donation process takes less than an hour.

And you can watch the FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS while you donate. For further information, or if you'd like to help us with the drive, contact Marty Engel at 732-297-3198.

MEET AMERICA'S SECOND PRSIDENT, JOHN ADAMS AND HIS FIRST LADY, ABIGAIL ADAMS, SUNDAY APRIL 14, 8 PM

John Adams should have been acknowledged as one of America's great Founding Fathers. He was our first vice president and second president. But, until his best-selling biography in 2001, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson towered over Adams -- literally and figuratively.

Adams was a rough-handed farmer, a brilliant lawyer, and an early revolutionary. He combined integrity and ambition. Was a great orator who left speaking at the Continental Congress to others because he was unpopular. Adams was a virtuous independent who owned no slaves, spoke well of Jews, and adored his wife, Abigail, as his equal.

Come hear John and Abigail talk passionately about their lives -- and the fight for independence that separated them for years.

Join us on Sunday, April 14, 8:00 - 9:30 PM, in Congregation B'nai Tikvah's sanctuary. Congregants and community are welcome free of charge.

This dramatic reading is part of our annual "Presidents and their First Ladies" series. The Adamses will be portrayed by the husband-and-wife acting team of Bill and Sue Wills. We loved them as Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and as Harry and Bess Truman and will, also, as John and Abigail Adams.

MAY 2, 2002 will be SO EXCITING!
SISTERHOOD'S FASHION SHOW FEATURES:



**FASHIONS provided by FOX'S
of MARLBORO**

**COCKTAILS & DINNER by OUR OWN
CLASSICAL CATERER, FABULOUS PRIZE
RAFFLE AND SILENT AUCTION!**

PROFFESIONAL SERVICES

<p>JOSEPH D. GROOMAN</p>  <p>CAROLIER SHOPPING CENTER 778 ROUTE 1 (NORTH) NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08902 (732) 828-EYES (3937)</p> <p>EYE EXAMS BY APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>Orthopaedic Institute of Sports Medicine</p> <p>Fredric A. Kleinbart, M.D. Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon</p> <p>Specializing in Arthroscopic Surgery Sports Medicine Knee & Shoulder Reconstruction Pediatric Orthopaedics</p> <p>303 George Street New Brunswick, NJ 08901 732 247-3667 One Woodbridge Ctr. Drive Woodbridge, NJ 07095 732-726-3311</p>
<p>Keith A. Zimmerman Investment & Insurance Products</p> <p>Specializing in Strategies for Wealth Creation & Asset Protection</p> <p>Group Medical - Long Term Care Insurance</p> <p>600 Alexander Road Princeton, NJ 08540 Tel: 609-452-8088 Fax: 732-398-1421</p>	 <p><i>Jewish Ritual Art *** Silk Tallit One of a kind, hand painted, printed & custom made</i></p> <p>Adria Sherman 25 Hereford Drive Princeton Jct., NJ 08550 609-799-8807</p>
 <p>By Appointment</p> <p>DR. STEVEN B. DICKERT</p> <p>CHIROPRACTOR</p> <p>58 Wetherhill Way (Corner Georges Road) Dayton, N.J. 08819 (732) 329-2255 176 Hart Boulevard (Corner Forest Avenue) Staten Island, N.Y. 10301 (718) 961-4900</p>	<p>SPECIALIZING IN WATER HEATERS KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING APPLIANCE HOOKUPS</p> <p>PARK ACRES PLUMBING & HEATING INSTALLATIONS AND REPAIR</p> <p>HAROLD SMALL LIC. NO. 5648 15 Paul Avenue Kendall Park, NJ 08824 (732) 297-7538</p>

Shabbat Shira at B'nai Tikvah

January 25 & 26



This year, Shabbat Shira, at our synagogue, will be filled with 3 special joyous musical events. Beginning with, *"Friday Night Chai"*. During our Kabbalat Shabbat service, I will introduce a number of new melodies for our familiar psalms and prayers. To help make these different melodies easier to follow, a number of congregants have been meeting with me weekly to learn and help lead the congregation.

Psalm 96 calls upon all nations to recognize the greatness of God and to praise God. The opening verse, *"Shiru L'Adonai shir hadash...Sing to God a new song"*, may mean to tell us that we should not only recite prayers with prescribed text, but that on special occasions we should compose new prayers of praise. As we sing different melodies you may find a new perspective on familiar themes. The new melodies that we sing during this service are not replacing our regular comfortable melodies, but offer an opportunity for our congregation to hear some of the new and very old melodies that are currently sung in other congregations. We will be seeking your opinions and hope you will find the evening enjoyable and spiritually uplifting.



Sisterhood Shabbat.

And Miriam, the Prophetess, sister of Aaron and Moses, took the timbrel in her hand and all the women went out after her with timbrel and dances. And Miriam sang unto them: Sing praises to God who is exalted.... as Miriam lead the Israelites, we will be lead by our **Sisterhood** throughout the Shabbat morning service.

Saturday night at 8PM, we conclude our Shabbat programs. Assisted by producer and agent **Sam E. Danto**, I will be presenting another special musical program. Our first annual *"Shabbat Shira Sing-A-Long"*, featuring the debut of our congregational band *"The Sons of Tikvah"*. The B'nai Tikvah band of musicians is lead by musical director, **Marty "Soul" Angstreich**. Our group of talented players include **Jerry "Silk" Shulman**, **Joe "Sticks" Plotnick**, **Norman "Slappy" Politziner**, **"Smilin Jack" Jerry Silver** and **Gary "Slick" Tinkel**.

In addition, **Larry "Sweets" Cohen** and our special guest, **Ms. Nancy Danto**, will assist me vocally. **DO NOT MISS THIS FUN NIGHT!!!!**

Worship the Lord in gladness, come before the Lord with joyous song.

PSALM 100

Cantor Bruce *"Speed"* Rockman



Shabbat Shira Song Sheet

This Song sheet was prepared for you to enjoy and to help familiarize the congregation with some of the Psalms, Blessings and Prayers that will be presented with different special melodies during Shabbat Shira.

Siddur Sim Shalom page 6 **1**

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ
לְעֶסֶק בְּדַבְרֵי תוֹרָה:

Baruch atah Adonau Elohaynu melech ha-ohlam, asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu
la-ahsoke b'divray Torah.

Siddur Sim Shalom page 254 **2**

שִׁירוּ לַה' שִׁיר חֲדָשׁ שִׁירוּ לַה' כָּל הָאָרֶץ:
שִׁירוּ לַה' בָּרְכוּ שְׁמוֹ, בְּשָׂרוּ מִיּוֹם לְיוֹם יְשׁוּעָתוֹ.

Shiru la-Adonai shir chadash, shiru la-Adonai shir chadash kol ha-ahretz:
Shiru la-Adonai barchu sh'mo, bosru me meyom l'yom y'shuato.

Siddur Sim Shalom page 256 **3**

יִשְׁמְחוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם וְתִגַּל הָאָרֶץ יִרְעַם הַיָּם וּמְלֵאוֹ:

Yismachu hashamayim v'tagel ha-ahretz yecrom ha-yom um'lo-oh

Siddur Sim Shalom page 258 **4**

רוֹמְמוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לַהֵר קֹדֶשׁוֹ
כִּי קֹדֶשׁ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ:

Romamu Adonai Elohaynu v'hish-tachavu l'har kodsho, kee kadosh Adonai Elohaynu:

Siddur Sim Shalom page 264 **5**

בּוֹאֵי בְּשָׁלוֹם עֲטַרְתְּ בְּעֵלָה. גֹּם בְּשִׂמְחָה וּבְצַהֲלָה.
תוֹדָה אֲמוּנֵי עַם סִגְלָה. בּוֹאֵי כְלָה, בּוֹאֵי כְלָה:
לְכֵה דוֹדֵי לְקִרְאֵת כְּלָה. פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה:

Bo-ee v'shalom ahteh-ret ba-la. Gom b'simcha uv tzo-ha-la.

Toch ehmunay ahm s'gula. Bo-ee chalah, bo-ee chalah:

L'cha dodi likrot kallah. P'nay Shabbat n'kabblah:

Siddur Sim Shalom page 266 **6**

מִזְמוֹר שִׁיר לְיוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת:
טוֹב לַהֲדוֹת לַה' וּלְזַמֵּר לְשִׁמְחָה עֲלֵיוֹן:
לְהַגִּיד בְּבֹקֶר חֲסִידָה וְאַמוּנָתָה בְּלֵילוֹת:

Mizmore shir l'yom ha-Shabbat: Tov l'hodote laAdonai ul'zamare l'shimcha elyone:

L'hageed baboker chasdehcha v'emunotcha ba-laylot:

Siddur Sim Shalom page 266 **7**

מֵה גֹדְלוֹ מַעֲשֵׂיךָ ה' מֵאֵד עִמָּךְ מִחֲשַׁבְתֶּיךָ:

Ma godlu ma-ahesehcha ya m'ode ahmku mach-sh'votav

צָדִיק כְּתָמָר יִפְרַח כְּאַרְז בְּלִבָּנוֹן יִשָּׁגה:
 שְׁתוּלִים בְּבֵית ה' בְּחִצְרוֹת אֱלֹקֵינוּ יִפְרִיחוּ:
 עוֹד יִנְבוּן בְּשִׁיבָה דְשָׁנִים וְרַעֲנָנִים יִהְיוּ:
 לְהַגִּיד כִּי יֵשֶׁר ה' צוּרֵי וְלֹא עוֹלָתָהּ בּוֹ.

Tzadeek katahmar yifrach k'erez balvanone yisgeh:

Sh'tulim b'vate Adonai b'chatz-rote Elokaynu yafreechu:

Ode y'nuvoon b'say-vah d'shaynim yeh'yu:

L'hageed key yashar tzuri v'lo av-lah-tah bo.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא בְּרַחֲמָיו יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ
 וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Ohseh shalom bimromav hu ya-ah-seh shalom ahlaynu v'ahl kol Yisrael, v'imru Amen

מִי כְּמֹכָה בְּאֵלִים ה', מִי כְּמֹכָה נֹאדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ,
 נוֹרָא תְהִילֹת, עֲשֵׂה פְּלָא:

Me chamocha ba-aylim Adonai, me chamocha nehdar bakodesh

norah t'helot ohseh feh-leh

וְשִׁמּוֹר צְאִתָּנוּ וּבּוֹאֲנוּ, לְחַיִּים וּלְשְׁלוֹם,
 מִעֲתָה וְעַד עוֹלָם.
 הַשְׁכִּיבֵנוּ יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְשְׁלוֹם,
 וְהַעֲמִידֵנוּ מִלְּפָנֶיךָ לְחַיִּים וּפְרוּשׁ עָלֵינוּ סִפְת שְׁלוֹמֶךָ,
 מִעֲתָה וְעַד עוֹלָם.

U'sh'more tzay tay nu u'vo ay nu l'cha yeem u'l'shalom(2)

May atah v'ahd ohlahm(3)

Hahsh key vay nu Adonai Elo-hay nu l'shalom v'ha ha-me-daynu mahlkaynu l'chayeem

U'frohss ahlaynu sukkot sh'lomehcha

Mayatah v'ahd ohlahm (3 Times)

שְׁלוֹם רָב עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ וְעַל כָּל-יוֹשְׁבֵי תִבְל,
 שְׁלוֹם רָב עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ תְּשִׂים לְעוֹלָם,
 כִּי אַתָּה הוּא מִלְּךָ אָדוֹן לְכָל הַשְׁלוֹם.
 וְטוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ לְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמָּךְ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל,
 בְּכָל עֵת וּבְכָל שָׁעָה בְּשְׁלוֹמֶךָ.

Shalom rav ahl Yisrael ahmchah v'ahl kol yosh-vay tayvay!

Shalom rav ahl Yisrael ahmchah tahseem l'ohlam

Key ahtah hu melech ahdone l'chol ha-shalom.

V'tov b'aynechah l'varech et ahmchah bate Yisrael,

B'chol ate u'v'chol shah-ah beesh-lomehcha.

הללו, הללוקה
 כל הנשמה תהלל קה הללוקה.
 כל הנשמה תהלל קה הללוקה:
 הללו, הללוקה

Halehlu, Haleluya, Kol han'shama t'hallel ya:
 Kol han'shama t'hallel ya: Halehlu, Haleluya

והאר עינינו בתורתך, ודבק לבנו במצותיך,
 ויחד לבבנו לאהבה וליראה את שמך,
 ולא נבוש לעולם ועד:

V'ha-air ay-naynu b'Torahtehcha, v'dabeck leebaynu b'mitzvotehcha,
 V'yachade l'va-vaynu l'ah-ha-vah ul'yeer-ah et sh'mehcha,
 V'lo nay-vosh l'ohlahm vaed:

פתחו לי שערי צדק, אבא בם אוֹדה קה.
 זה השער לה, צדיקים יבאו בו.

Pitchu lee sh-ahray tzehdek, ahvoh vom ohdeh ya.
 Zeh ha-sha-ahr laAdonai tzadikim yavoh uvo

קדשנו במצותיך ותן חלקנו בתורתך,
 שבצענו מטובך ושמחנו בישועתך

Kodshaynu b'mitzvotehcha v'tane chelkaynt b'Torahtehcha
 Sa-b'aynu me-tuvehcha v'somchaynu beshuahtehcha

עץ חיים היא למחזיקים בה,
 ותמכיה מאשר. דרכיה דרכי נעם, וכל נתיבותיה שלום.
 השׁיבנו ה', אליך ונשובה, חדש ימינו כקדם.

Etz chayim he la-machazeckeem bah, v'tome-cheh-ha dar-chay noam,
 v'chol n'tivotay ha shalom, ha-she-vaynu Adonai, aylehcha v'nashuva,
 chadesh yamaynu k'kehdem

למען אחי ורעי אדברה נא שלום בך:
 למען ביתה, אלקינו אבקשה טוב לך:

L'ma-on ahchai v'ray-eye ahdobrah nah shalom bach
 L'ma-on bate Adonai Elohaynu ahvakesh tov lach

המלאך הגאל אתי מכל־דע יברך את הנערים ויקרא בהם שמי
 ושם אבתי אברהם ויצחק וידגו לרב בקרב הארץ:

Ha-malach ha-goel oh-tee me-kol rah y'varech et han'ahreem v'yikrah va-hem sh'me
 V'shame avoty Avraham v'Yitzchak v'yidgu la-rov b'kerev ha-ahretz

USY in January- here, there, everywhere. First Project for 2002: Planting Trees in Israel

Welcome to a new year!

Seems like just yesterday when we expected all of our lights to turn off and stay off as the clocks struck 12am, Jan 1st, 2000. That went by, and here we are a few years later to celebrate again. Many of us have had a hard past year, but we look ahead at this coming year and find wonderful things to do.

In honor of Tu b'Shevat, USY is helping Israel bloom by selling JNF trees to the congregation (you should find the purchase slips on page 9 of this issue of HaKol). With the purchase of each tree, you will get a certificate in the mail, and a portion of the proceeds will go to help support USY. Each tree is \$20, so please help us raise money to continue to run great events!

December was a great month, as we expanded to over 40 members. Many went to our rock climbing event on December 2nd, and pictures will be on our upcoming website. This January, our calendar is even more amazing! We have Israel Night early in the month, a regional dance on the 19th, and a snow tubing trip with other local chapters later in the month, so bring on the snow!

Finally, thank you to those parents who have helped drive to events. Your assistance helps the kids enjoy themselves. For those not yet involved, please do not hesitate do so. Email me at steve@twintowersweb.com, or call 732-729-0750 if you or your children have any questions and would like more information about USY and anything we do.

Sincerely, Steve Springer

January's Shabbat Mincha Service Times

Saturday January 5 th	4:15pm	
Saturday January 12 th	4:15pm	Torah Discussion and Dessert
Saturday January 19 th	4:30pm	
Saturday January 26 th	4:30pm	Torah Discussion and Dessert

These times are correct, even though they may seem to be irregular. We normally begin our Shabbat Mincha service an hour before sundown. That way, we pray together at the evening service (ma'ariv) and then also for the Havdalah service when we recite prayers over wine, light, and spices to conclude Shabbat.

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 January 13, 2002. Pick up is January 17, 2002

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 = _____
- Gefilte 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

Prom Night:

Relive The Magic



**KEEP B'NAI TIKVAH STRONG:
A CALL FOR YOUR HELP!!**

We need lots of help to make this fundraising event a big success!

We are looking for goods and services donors for our silent auction. These items could include sports memorabilia, theatre and/or sporting event tickets, gift certificates, electronic appliances, time at a vacation home, etc.

As a result of the big success of our Casino Night Fundraiser last year, we were able to keep dues and religious schools fees reasonable. We were even able to start a "rainy day" fund! At a time when we have become so aware of the importance of community, we are hoping that you can pitch in to make ours the best it can be.

Please contact the following congregants to volunteer!

Silent Auction Donations

Gary Warner (732.422.9292) or Jodi Marcou (732.422.6628)
gwarner28@home.com jodimarcou@home.com

Event Planning

Cindy Gittleman (732.274.2253)
gittleman@home.com

Help us have a local night of fun which benefits B'nai Tikvah at the same time! Let's all make this a night to remember!

Do You Chavurah?

Okay - maybe that's not the best use of the word grammatically but it's a headline, what do you expect? A Chavurah is simply a group of friends who get together for social and/or religious purposes. It's a great way to meet new people in our community with similar interests or strengthen ties with old friends. Each Chavurah is unique as is defined by its members.

With that in mind, a group of families is forming new Chavurah and would like you to join. They are looking for young couples (ages 25 - 45)

with children. The goal for the new Chavurah is to meet once a month with content of meetings determined by the members. If you're interested, contact Lori Pettit (732) 274-9606. You can also receive additional information from Hadas at the synagogue office (732) 297-0696.

New Chavurahs can be formed by anyone with similar interests (e.g., single parents, seniors, empty-nesters, etc.). If you'd like more information on how to form your own Chavurah, contact Hadas at the synagogue.

Fifty Plus Group

The Fifty Plus Group is pleased to have Rabbi Eligberg lead us in a Tu B'Shevat program at our next meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2002 at 1:00 PM. At the social hall of the Synagogue.

Come and hear our future plans for programs and things of interest to seniors. All members and friends of the Jewish faith, fifty years of age and older are invited. Refreshments will be served.

Aaron's Back (Are you leaving?)

Phyllis Rosen
PRUDENTIAL
FOX & ROACH REALTORS

Aaron Rosloff
NRS
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We've now teamed up to provide you with over 50 years of our combined experience in residential home sales.

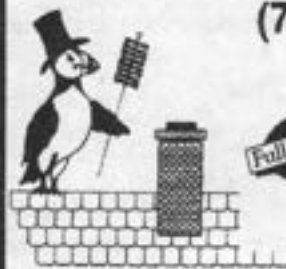
1500 Finnigans Lane
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Bus 732-297-5000 Res 732-297-5555
PhyllisRosen1@aol.com

EMPTY NESTERS CHAVURAH TOO

We are looking to form a New "Empty Nesters" Havurah. The purpose is to meet new friends with similar interests and get together once a month for social and/or religious purposes. If you are interested in joining our group, please call Robin Kessler 732-355-0155 and/or Ellyn Schneider 732-940-8880.

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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.

START OFF 2002 ON THE RIGHT FOOT!

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 for this time (or any time) of the year:

- 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 for a job well done this year? Buy some retail scrip at Barnes and Noble or Borders.

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. HOME DEPOT-\$25
5. MACY'S-\$25
6. TOYS-R-US/KIDS-R-US/BABIES-R-US-\$20 (NEW IN STOCK!)

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 (PROFIT)	AVAILABLE \$10	\$25	\$100	OTHER	OTHER AMTS AVAIL.
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%					

Lunch & Learn

February 2nd

Mrs. Donna Glazer

Principal Solomon Schechter of Raritan Valley

*Love, hate, sibling rivalry,
parental favoritism,
marital discord.*

These are just a few of the descriptions of the relationships that we see in the Torah.

Come & learn how our biblical patriarchs & matriarchs interacted with each other..... *were they really so different than us?*

What can we learn from them?

Please call the office by Jan 20th to make your reservations

CHANUKAH HIT

Parents, congratulate yourselves, you survived. Yep, we all made it through another "holiday season" I hope relatively in tact. We know how difficult it can be to maneuver through the maze of holiday displays, mall Santas, multi-colored lights (and let's face it, they are pretty), and inundation of Christmas specials all the while explaining to our children why, "We don't celebrate Christmas."

I know there are those who say, if we make Judaism an important part of our lives throughout the year, the December competition won't be so daunting. Let's face it though, if your children attend a secular school, or watch any of the "popular" children's shows, it's near impossible not to feel the

impact. This year, like those in the past, we had a bit of help. B'nai Tikvah threw an awesome Chanukah party.

Over two hundred and fifty children of all ages attended the Chanukah party on Monday December 10th. They played games, did arts and crafts, enjoyed a delicious dairy dinner (with donuts for dessert), and sang Chanukah songs. Each child left with a grab bag of gifts including gelt and a head full of wonderful memories.

Hats off to Tammy Zimmerman, her committee, Barbi Kilcoyne, Carol Ann Harkavy and Caryl Greenberg, and all the numerous volunteers who helped make this a wonderful event.

JEWISH PARTY PLANNING LIST

- Rabbi
- Invitations
- Food
- Flowers
- Music
- 3% for MAZON



A Jewish Response to Hunger

When all the details are complete, consider one final embellishment to your joy: Contribute 3% of the cost of your celebration — wedding, bar or bat mitzvah, anniversary, birthday, every joyous occasion — to MAZON

MAZON (the Hebrew word for "food"), is a national Jewish organization that grants funds to feed hungry people in our local communities, across the country and around the world. Please share your simcha by making a contribution to:





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Children enjoy games and crafts at B'nai Tikvah's annual Chanukah Party






Tu B'Shevat: The Short Story

Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the month of Shevat, is the New Year for Trees.  For our ancestors centuries ago, it marked a new agricultural season. As the Diaspora grew over time, Jews throughout the world connected themselves to Israel.  on Tu B'Shevat by eating foods associated with the land of Israel, such as dates and figs.

Jewish mystics added new layers of meaning to the celebration. They saw in the products of nature consumed at their seder, symbols or metaphors that helped them understand the nature of humanity and provided a glimpse into the realm of the Divine.

For many of us, Tu B'Shevat recalls the trees we bought, one leaf  at a time and the blue and white JNF boxes that we filled as children. Planting these trees in Israel connected us to our homeland and allowed us to be participants in its upbuilding.

Today, Tu B'Shevat allows us to express our commitment to Israel. The holiday has also become a time when we focus on what our tradition teaches us about our responsibility to the environment.

The Tu B'Shevat Seder incorporates these ideas, along with things to see,  hear,  smell,  touch  and most of all, taste.  Indulge all your senses and join us on Sunday January 27, 2002 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.



Name: _____ Phone # _____

Number of adults: _____ @\$7.50/adult Total for adults: _____

Number of children under 13: _____ @\$5.00/child Total of children: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Please make check payable to Congregation B'nai Tikvah and return to the synagogue office no later than Sunday, January 20, 2002.

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

Sunday January 27, 2002 at 10:00 AM

Attention: All crafty people, all crafty-wannabes and everyone else too, this program is especially for you! Don Theiberger from Platypus Pottery in Livingston is coming to lead the Sisterhood program for January 27, 2002. He will guide us as we make our own family heirloom, then take everything back to his studio to fire in the kiln and return our finished masterpieces. Perhaps you would like a new Seder plate or matzo dish. 10 AM breakfast and meeting, program at 10:30AM. There is a \$10.00 fee for materials.

Sunday February 21, 2002 at 8:00 PM

Shake off winter with a morning introduction to Tai Chi led by certified instructor Patricia Whelan. This class is as much spiritual as it is physical so everyone can participate! Get your circulation and relieve your stress. Come join us. Bring a friend.

MAZEL TOV!

January B'nai Mitzvah

Eric Tannenbaum - January 12
Rebecca Spigner - January 19





TORAH READERS' CLUB

for grades 5 & 6

Starts January 12, 2002

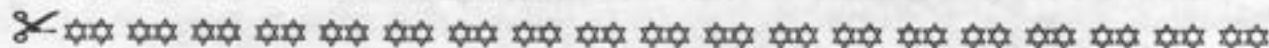
Join the Torah Readers' Club and learn to chant Hebrew from the Torah scroll!

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. Students who have learned trope will continue to work independently under the instructor's direction. Several times during the year, interested club members can read from the Torah at a Shabbat afternoon Mincha service or during our Jr. Congregation Family Service.

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.



The American Jewish Committee Central New Jersey Chapter

presents

American Jews, Israel, and the New Terrorism: Responses and Options

A Town Hall Meeting

featuring

David A. Harris

National Executive Director ~ American Jewish Committee

David Harris, one of the nation's foremost Middle East policy analysts, will synthesize the positions and strategies of the American, Israeli, and European governments, the UN, global terrorist networks and what this means for supporters of Israel and for us as Jews in America.

hosted by

The Jewish Center ~ 435 Nassau Street ~ Princeton

Tuesday, January 8, 2002

7:30 ~ Coffee 7:45 ~ Program

Free and open to the community

Founded in 1906, the American Jewish Committee is the oldest human relations organization in the United States. AJC works to combat anti-Semitism and bigotry toward all groups; promotes intergroup relations; supports human and civil rights around the world; works for a secure and democratic Israel; and encourages Jewish continuity and a strong sense of Jewish identity.



Central New Jersey Chapter
973-379-7844 Fax: 973-379-2036
newjersey@ajc.org

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				Linda Kohn	732-297-7025
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HAKOL DEADLINE

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

Favor-It Shop, LLC

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- BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS
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North Brunswick, NJ 08902

