

THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

THE JCC OF NORTH AND SOUTH BRUNSWICK

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



What? No Jewish Holidays in January? Just wait!

Men's Club & Sisterhood



Saturday Evening, January 28

**Details inside** 

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#### From Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

#### **An Investment**



We recently held a donor recognition breakfast for the major donors who helped us burn the mortgage, and thereby put our congregation on a firm financial footing for many years to come. At the urging of the Burn the Mortgage campaign committee, I would like to share with you my remarks that day:

We just finished the parsha where we read about our father Abraham buying a burial place for his beloved Sarah. The purchase cost him 400 shekels. Now, we know that when King David bought the land on which the Temple was going to be built, it only cost 50 shekels. So Abraham was prepared to pay 8 times as much to get that burial place for Sarah. That's very odd. Jews have a reputation for being good at bargaining, and probably, when Abraham was told the asking price of 400 shekels, the seller was assuming that Abraham would come with a counteroffer. Instead, Abraham jumps on it, taking it immediately. He wasn't going to take any chances on letting the deal fall through. He has to get it done.

Why the great urgency?

One of the explanations for this is that G-d had told Abraham that his descendants would be in Egypt for 400 years—and then come back to the Land. So the 400 shekels corresponded to the 400 years. The 400 shekels were a promise of return, a promise of great riches, a fulfillment of G-d's promise. An investment.

And that's exactly what we did here. Or more exactly, what you did here. The price was almost \$400,000. You did not wait, you did exactly what needed to be done, when it needed to be done. With a looming 8% interest rate, that would have cost an extra \$24,000 a year, if my math is correct. A crushing burden on the congregation.

So this campaign was very much an investment in our future. Think about what can be done with that money, roughly \$100,000 a year. Think about what can be done for our kids, what can be done for our families, what can be done in the Religious School, what can be done for the elderly. What can be done for the congregation as a whole.

And let me say one last thing. If you look around the room right now, there's something really wonderful about this, This was not done by three guys sitting around a table at the country club. Just look who we have here. It's really a reflection of the congregation. You've got some younger people and some older people. You've got some people that are in shul often and some people who aren't in shul that often (I know who you are). You've got some people who are absolutely ferbrent for our Israel programming at CBT, and some people who are just into having good social events at CBT. You've got people who are really into learning, and people who are just into having fun.

The most important thing is the community you have formed. So paying off the mortgage is not merely some economic thing, as important as that is. It's something that brought the community together in a very, very beautiful way. To you, the major donors, from the bottom of my heart, and speaking for everyone else in the congregation, Kol Hakavod Lachem, all honor to you, who helped us achieve this milestone.

#### **HAKOL** — The Newsletter of

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

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

Editors: Gary Bergman, Arthur Biderman, Janet Weiss, Sandy Sharon, and Scott Kessler. Advertising: Janet Weiss.

#### From the Desk of Cantor Rockman

#### **Social Action**

## ISRAEL 75 & L'dor Vador are Coming!



BIG NEWS-Sunday, April 30 will be a very special day in our history at B'nai Tikvah. We will celebrate Yom Haatzmaut 2023, the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the independence of our modern State of Israel with a magnificent community-wide event. Throughout the world, in Israel in particular, the glorious diamond anniversary of Israel's freedom and accomplishment epitomizes Jewish pride and our contribution to the world.

Our annual Falafel Ball, in commemoration of Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut, will be held on April 26. Our second big event, to be held on April 30, will mark the return of our **L'dor Vador Concert**. This year we will feature Magda and Shorashim, an exciting Israeli band.

Our joyful celebration of Israel will include a day of activities for our entire community. This event is being cosponsored by our members, David & Cindy Teicher, the Federation in the Heart of New Jersey, B'nai Tikvah, and more sponsors to be added. We are planning for this to be the largest gathering in honor of Israel in our area this year.

Throughout the day, events for all ages will take place at CBT, including a Mega-PJ Library fair for our youngest families. With our partners we will highlight Israeli travel and organizations which are the backbone of Israel promise, epitomizing the Jewish People's commitment to repairing the world, Tikun Olam. Of course we will also feature Israeli food, Israeli products, arts and culture.

B'nai Tikvah is so well suited to host such a spectacular day thanks to our commitment to Israel and our oversized dedication to the Jewish community which is represented by our leadership in the Federation in the Heart of New Jersey and other leading Jewish organizations such as JNF, Hadassah, USY, Israel Bonds and Friends of the IDF.

Israel 75 and L'dor Vador represent our overwhelming gratitude to G-d and all of our blessings. So many of our brothers and sisters have made the ultimate sacrifice so that we and our children are now experiencing a Jewish homeland in our time. We must be ever vigilant in our love and support of Israel. Let's rejoice and celebrate L'dor Vador, from Generation to Generation.

Lashana habaah birushalayim-Next Year in Jerusalem! Please contact me directly if you would like to be a supporter of this great event.

#### We're Back



Laura Waksman

After a brief hiatus, I am happy to share that Social Action is back and eager to continue its mission of caring for our own members in need and for the greater Jewish and general communities. Thanks to your generous donations to the Social Action Fund, we were able to help our fellow congregants in the last month.

If you are struggling to pay bills or keep food on the table, please contact Lesley, Rabbi Wolkoff, Cantor Rockman, or me. We try our best to help or to find help for you. All calls are confidential. While I am on the topic of Ahavat Yisrael, love for your fellow Jew, I must mention a charity which is a gem in our midst; Jewish Social Service Committee of New Brunswick and Highland Park - jssnb.org. For more than 100 years, they have been the only all volunteer organization providing financial help to Jews in Middlesex County. As they have no expenses, every dollar donated is used to help their clients.

We recently completed our winter clothing drive to benefit Homefront of Lawrenceville, Homefrontnj.org, and Elijah's Promise of New Brunswick, elijahspromise.org. Thank you to those of you who donated. The response was tremendous, and the clothing was in beautiful condition, some new with tags. Todah rabah to Shelly Talmud for organizing the drive, and to Steve Talmud, Marcia and Gary Wesalo, and Mitch Frumkin for sorting the clothing and bringing it to Homefront.

In January, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr day of service, we will be painting canvases with inspiring quotes and uplifting pictures to be hung on the walls of Youth Advocate Programs Inc, yapinc.org, of New Brunswick. They are a social justice non-profit serving youth ages 14-17 that provides community-based alternatives to youth incarceration and congregate placements. We hope to further support their good work, changing the trajectory of the lives of at risk youth.

We welcome new members, new ideas, and new conversations.

B'yachad.....together......let's make a difference, Laura Laurawaksman@gmail.com

#### From President Charles Valan

#### A CAPE CAN BE WORN BY ANYONE WHO CARES

**HAKOL** 



www. bnaitikvah.org

Imagine breaking your finger on your dominate hand and despite your own needs or even restrictions that come with it, your thoughts are still focused on others. Well, once again (as she does too often to measure), our Cantorina Stacey Rockman stepped up to ensure we were able to proceed with shared Shabbat Services right after Thanksgiving, while our Cantor was experiencing personal discomfort and couldn't make it that day. To say our Cantor is Superman (as I previously referenced a few months back) was a statement of love and appreciation, but naturally he's human like all of us and you can never tell when anyone of us won't be able to perform any of our daily commitments.

Stacey had every justified rational on her own front to let the process proceed as best it could, but that's not in her nature. She woke up early, took care of the Cantor's immediate needs, and proceeded to walk to B'nai Tikvah with Rafi to do an incredible job working together (mother and son) with Rabbi Wolkoff to bring us a beautiful morning Shabbat service. But does this surprise any of us that have so often witnessed the generosity and commitment of our Cantor's entire family? I've said it before and I'll say it again, when love of others is put first and foremost in your heart, there are no boundaries or challenges that will stand in your way. Rafi's handling of the service preceding the Torah Service was simply incredible to experience and both Stacey and Rafi deserve such appreciation for the morning of November 26.

Personally, I always find such a place in my own heart for those who inspire me to be a better and more caring person. Writing every month to all of you always requires a spark of inspiration as I like to think of myself as someone who focuses his energy from his passion. Recently, I have witnessed the emotions of many of our family members in a variety of different ways. At various points in our services, you can see faces and hear their voices and know they're feeling something in what they're hearing and personally taking a hold of it from how it's speaking to them; their thoughts and their lives.

Our Jewish Community is always going through so much, especially during these more challenging times. Recently, I read an article that clearly stated hate crimes against religious houses are alarmingly up. But those numbers are at their highest levels against the Jewish people. I know I talk a lot

about involvement, caring, and devotion to all aspects of a Jewish Community, not as a lecturer, but as someone who's sharing his personal passion on the subject matter. Having recently attended some Shivas of our members, you can see the overall appreciation of the friendliness of being there in support of someone you might not have even previously known. Knowing someone and showing someone you care should never walk hand in hand from my perspective. We should all want to be there for people that are in immediate need, especially in a community like ours.

There is a wild card, though, when it comes to religion in any form. Those who are practicing the same faith can relate and exchange with a greater sense of belonging than those from outside the traditions. B'nai Tikvah is our Jewish Community; home base of everything that we can embrace as a Jewish individual. Significantly different, but somewhat the same, was my experiences on high school and college Track & Cross Country teams. It immediately not only brought me to passionate competition and an environment where I could train, but immediately gave me a support network of many fellow teammates to whom I could look for help, guidance, and support beyond just the athletics.

When my Mom passed away in 2017, I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of love I felt from the many who visited my home. It was at those moments, surrounded by my community, that I felt not so alone, sad, and depressed. Of course I missed my Mom, but the distractions of conversation and hearing the many positive thoughts of those that knew what the visit was all about, was saying to me, "This is such a valued asset of a community that understands what I am feeling." Not all of us are blessed with more friends than we can count and naturally most of us have friends that can't be defined by a single religious affiliation. But at that moment, not one visitor was more or less than the other. What impacted me the most were all those from the B'nai Tikvah Community who said to me, "Right now, your religious family is here for you." Overwhelming pride and love in my heart.

Our services, events, celebrations, and moments of support are all part of who we are and what this community should mean to each of us. No one should ever force people to act in a certain way, but positive actions should be what our community is all about. Think of it as the embrace of wrapping yourself around Judaism. We are as large or small as we all want to be when you think about B'nai Tikvah. Looking overwhelmingly large is such a great feeling. Just a thought to digest.

A cape can be worn by anyone who cares. But a community cape... well, that's one worthy of all of us.

#### **Timeless Wisdom That** Will Enrich Your Life!



Sandy Sharon

#### A review of: "Reflections on Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): Not Just What My Rebbe Taught Me" by Joseph G. Rosenstein

Looking for a book that contains timeless wisdom, teachings of the sages from about 300 BCE to 200 CE, what those teachings meant then, what they mean now, and history galore? Look no more! You will love reading Reflections on Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): Not Just What My Rebbe Taught Me by Joseph G. Rosenstein. Professor Rosenstein gives a teaching (called a mishnah) from a sage, and then not only explains the meaning of the mishnah, but also gives the historical context of the mishnah, followed by an ethical principle that he derives from the mishnah. Sometimes, he even includes an interesting personal story related to the mishnah.

For example, in Mishnah 2:19: "Rabbi Tarfon also said: It is not your obligation to complete the task, but you don't have permission to walk away from it." Professor Rosenstein includes some biographical information about Rabbi Tarfon. We learn that this teaching of Rabbi Tarfon encouraged Professor Rosenstein to continue writing this book and how this teaching influenced an event in 2021. There is even a link to a song based on this mishnah.

Another example is from Mishnah 3:19. This Mishnah includes: "Everything goes according to the preponderance of one's works." Professor Rosenstein quotes Maimonides' example: "...if a person gave 1000 dinarim to one person..., this one great deed will not accustom him to the quality of generosity to the same degree as if he gave 1 dinar to 1000 different people..." Professor Rosenstein then supplies the Ethical Principle: "Make a habit of doing good deeds regularly in order to build positive traits into your character." What a great goal to strive for!

Professor Rosenstein's vast knowledge, wisdom, and great insights are evident throughout the book. Make sure you also read the informative and fascinating footnotes.

What could be even better than studying this book on your own? Taking a 6 week course, discussing the mishnayot (plural of mishnah) and ethical principles with Professor Rosenstein! I thoroughly enjoyed learning

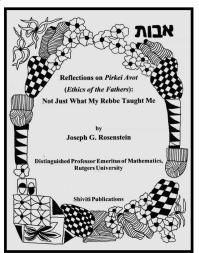
from him and the others in this course. (Mishnah 4:1 Who is wise? Those who learn from every person.) This is an opportunity not to be missed! He challenges his students to think carefully about what the mishnayot mean. Professor Rosenstein taught the course with lovingkindness, which is one of the things that the world stands upon (Mishnah 1:2).

Professor Rosenstein gives 69 ethical principles to aspire to live by. At the end of the book, he puts related ethical principles together into categories. For example, all the ethical principles that discuss relationships with other people are grouped together. All that discuss anger are grouped together.

In Mishnah 1:12, Hillel said: "Be of the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace, loving all people, and bringing them closer to Torah." It is evident from both his book and from his course that Professor Rosenstein is a disciple of Aaron. He is a blessing to the world and so is his book Reflections on Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): Not Just What My Rebbe Taught Me.

Your reflections on Reflections on Pirkei Avot will enrich your life and will inspire you to become a better person. The reflected light you see from Reflections on Pirkei Avot will brighten your life! You may even help put a smile on someone else's face. Mishnah 1:15 says: 'Greet other people cheerfully; a smile goes a long way."

Go buy this wonderful book and sign up for Professor Rosenstein's next insightful and thoughtful Pirkei Avot course at his website: joerosenstein.com Do it now! For, as Hillel said in Mishnah 1:14, "... "if not now, then when?"



B'nai Tikvah is fortunate to host Professor Joseph Rosenstein's presentation soon (TBA) of his book Reflections on Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): Not Just What My Rebbe Taught Me. Come hear his talk, which will inspire you to take his Pirkei Avot course (based on his book), beginning on Wednesday April 19, 2023.

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Brian Berness Craig Cohen Co-Presidents

The Men's Club and Sisterhood invite all our members and friends to a free Game Night.

Free Door Prize ticket. Sisterhood & Men's Club members earn extra tickets by bringing friends.



Saturday, January 28 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm





RSVP to slevine0710@gmail.com with GAME NIGHT in the subject.





The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs celebrated Larry Cohen & Rafi Rockman as "Man & Youth of The Year"





**Cheryl Crick** 

Join Sisterhood!!! Join the fun!! Join the friendship!!! It's the place to be!! Keep your eyes open for upcoming events and activities. For information, contact Cheryl Crick: <a href="mailto:cherylcrick13@gmail.com">cherylcrick13@gmail.com</a>

To join the Board, contact Shelly Wistreich: wis437@optonline.net

We are always looking for new faces to help us. Bring us some great new ideas!! We would love to hear from you!!

#### Gift Shop

We are open on Sundays during Hebrew School hours or by appointment. We carry a wide range of items from holiday, special occasion and everyday items. For appointments, please contact Felice: lorfox@aol.com

The gift shop is also available online at <a href="https://bnaitikvah.org/shop">https://bnaitikvah.org/shop</a>.

#### **Torah Fund**

The new pins are available with a \$180 pledge. We would love to welcome one and all as Torah Fund benefactors or above to help support the ongoing works of Women's League for Conservative Judaism for the Jewish Theological Seminary, its teachers, Cantors, and Rabbis.

Contact Teresa Samtur at msamtur@comcast.net.

#### Mitzvah Baskets

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

# why Join... because without YOU, we are one Sister short.



#### **Mazel Tosses**

Enhance the simcha of your child's special day by having Sisterhood provide bags of soft candy to sweeten the day. They are also great for an Aufruf! Visit *bnaitikvah.org/mazel-tosses* to order your Mazel Tosses online. Please place your order at least one month in advance. Contact Marci Abschutz at marci.abschutz@gmail.com for any questions.

#### **Daily Schedule of Services**

Sunday	9:00 am & 7:30 pm - Live
Monday	7:30 pm - Live
Tuesday	7:30 pm - Zoom
Wednesday	7:30 pm - Zoom
Thursday	8:00 am - Live
	7:30 pm - Zoom
Friday	6:30 pm - Both
Saturday	9:30 am - Both

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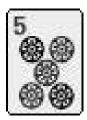
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Lisa Seidman 397 Halsey Road North Brunswick, NJ 08902

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#### Donations: November 15 — December 14, 2022

Please Note: It is never the intention of the office to leave out someone's donation from the Hakol listings. If your donation was inadvertently left out, please contact the office and we will submit for the next Hakol. Thank you.

#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler Sandy, Yitzhak & Dina Sharon, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler

Dina Sharon, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler Joyce & Joel Gerbman, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler Audrey & Louis Flumen, in loving memory of Helen & Irving Flumenbaum

Sarah & Gary Horowitz, in loving memory of Murray Horowitz Amy Handaly, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler Abbey Lorber, in loving memory of Sam Kahn

Abbey Lorber, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler

Ruth Allen Schechter, in loving memory of Jack Wohl

Janet Weiss, in loving memory of Ruth Candeub, mother and mother-in-law of Janis & Dave Hoffman

Amy & Mitchell Schreck, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler Mindy & Marty Angstreich, in loving memory of Diane Coopersmith Marcia & Barry Nathanson, Mazel Tov to Nancy Asher-Schultz & Dave Schultz on the birth of their grandson Graham Lawrence Kobb

Marcia & Barry Nathanson, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler

Marcia & Barry Nathanson, Mazel Tov to Susan & Darryl Gurney on the birth of their granddaughter, Ava Brook Firestone Ann & Sam Rosenzweig, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler The Ostroff Family, in loving memory of Ina Segal

#### Ritual Activities Fund

Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman, in honor of Gavriella Leah Uniman Marci & Marty Abschutz, in honor of Larry Cohen being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Debra & Stu Allen, Mazel Tov to Nancy Asher-Shultz and David Shultz on the birth of their grandson, Graham Lawrence Kobb Debra & Stu Allen, Mazel Tov to David Shultz on the simcha of his

Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in loving memory of Deborah Kronzek Lisa & Jeff Tannenbaum, in loving memory of Myron Tannenbaum Gaye & Alan Feinberg, for the recovery of Mona Passner Andrea & Steven Katz, in honor of Larry Cohen's being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

#### **Cantor's Special Fund**

Audrey & Louis Flumen, in loving memory of Helen & Irving Flumenbaum

Ellie & Bill Greenberg, in loving memory of Janet K. Volat, sister of Ruth Anne Koenick

The Wistreich & Streicher Families, Thank you, Cantor, for a beautiful unveiling service for our mother

Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Rafi Rockman's being named CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

Mindy & Marty Angstreich, in loving memory of Diane Coopersmith Elaine Brackup, in loving memory of Albert Rubin

#### **Bikur Cholim**

Sandy, Yitzhak & Dina Sharon, in great appreciation of Gary Bergman's expertise and care in setting up our new computer Audrey & Louis Flumen, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Miranda Flumen

Arlene & Arthur Cederbaum, Mazel Tov to Toby & Gary Ehrlich on the birth of their grandson, David Lior Friedman

Shirley & Marty Engel, in loving memory of Ruth Candeub, mother and mother-in-law of Janis & Dave Hoffman

Ann Gold, in loving memory of Ruth Candeub, mother and mother-in-law of Janis & Dave Hoffman

Andrea & Steven Katz, Matthew & Melissa, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler

#### Yahrzeit and Tzedakah Fund

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Edward Flateman, in loving memory of Maxine Flateman Amy & Mitchell Schreck, in loving memory of Marlene Rautenberg Doris Birkenthal, in loving memory of Ethel Yaros

#### **Social Action Fund**

Toby & Gary Ehrlich, in loving memory of Janet K. Volat, sister of Ruth Anne Koenick

Janice & Art Baer, in loving memory of Janet K. Volat, sister of Ruth Anne Koenick

Janice & Art Baer, in loving memory of Linda Lakin, sister of Arlene Frumkin

Ruth Anne Koenick & Paul Herman, in loving memory of Jeff Lamoreaux' mother Diane Syversten

Ruth Anne Koenick & Paul Herman, in loving memory of Linda Lakin, sister of Arlene Frumkin

Rose & Jeff Berger, memory of Ruth Candeub, mother and mother-in-law of Janis & Dave Hoffman

Rose & Jeff Berger, in honor of the birth of Toby & Gary Ehrlich's grandson David Lior

Rose & Jeff Berger, in honor of Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter, Gavriella Leah

Beverly Heller, Mazel Tov to Ellen & Andre on their marriage Amy & Cliff Smith, in loving memory of Murray Horowitz

Arlene & Mitch Frumkin, in loving memory of Janet K. Volat, sister of Ruth Anne Koenick

Sandy, Yitzhak, and Dina Sharon, in loving memory of Helen Brook Marcia & Barry Nathanson, Mazel Tov to Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter Gavriella Leah

Dina Sharon, in honor of my wonderful Ema and Abba, Sandy and Yitzhak Sharon.

#### **Shabbat Luncheon Fund**

Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in loving memory of Ruth Ginsberg Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in loving memory of Charles Newman Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in loving memory of Mollie Newman Barbra & Bruce London, in honor of Gale & Marc Dillman on the birth

of their granddaughter, Gavriella Leah

Barbra & Bruce London, in honor of Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter, Gavriella Leah

Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Larry Cohen being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Herb Mars & Family, in loving memory of Mollie Sobel Herb Mars & Family, in loving memory of Anna Silverberg

of their grandson David Lior

Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Gale & Marc Dillman on the birth of their granddaughter, Gavriella Leah

Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Nancy Asher-Shultz and David Shultz on the birth of their grandson, Graham Lawrence Kobb Phyllis & Allen Pinsky, in honor of Toby & Gary Ehrlich on the birth

#### **Donations Continued**

#### Mark Kasdin Memorial Fund

Maxine Kasdin, in loving memory of Ann Kernis

#### **General Fund**

Joyce & Joel Gerbman, in loving memory of Lesley Lewkowicz' mother-in-law, Sofia Lewkowicz

Joyce & Joel Gerbman, in loving memory of Arlene Frumkin's sister, Linda Larkin

Joyce & Joel Gerbman, in loving memory of Ruth Anne Koenick's sister, Janet Volat

Betty & Marvin Stark, in honor of Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter, Gavriella Leah

Betty & Marvin Stark, in honor of Gale & Marc Dillman on the birth of their granddaughter, Gavriella Leah

Lois & Daniel Krantz, in loving memory of Sharon Kalet Arlene & Arthur Cederbaum, in loving memory of Frank Jablonski Susan Kutliroff, in loving memory of Millicent Kutliroff Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman, in loving memory of Sherry Stein Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman, in loving memory of Janet Volat Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman, in loving memory of Linda Lakin

#### Shiva Fund

Nila & David Mason, in loving memory of Milton Mason Herb, Iris & Randel Mars, in loving memory of Adrienne Mars Herb Mars & Family, in loving memory of Ruth Candeub, mother and mother-in-law of Janis & Dave Hoffman Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Lesley Lewkowicz' mother-in-law Sofia Lewkowicz

#### **Arnie Miller Youth Activity Fund**

Audrey & Louis Flumen, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Miranda Flumen

Brenda & Mark Sherman, in honor of Rafi Rockman,

Men's Club Youth of the Year

Brenda & Mark Sherman, in honor of Larry Cohen, Men's Club Man of the Year

Susan Miller, in honor of the birth of Toby & Gary Ehrlich's grandson David Lior

Susan Miller, in honor of the birth of Gale & Marc Dillman's granddaughter, Gavriella Leah

Susan Miller, in loving memory of Arlene Frumkin's sister, Linda Lakin

Susan Miller, in loving memory of her parents,

Harry & Dora Schildkraut

Susan Miller, in loving memory of her father-in-law, Morris Miller Susann, Kevin, Shea & Reese Krane, in loving memory of Abraham Klein

Elisa & Brian Berness, in honor of Larry Cohen's being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Elisa & Brian Berness, in honor of Rafi Rockman's being named CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in honor of Larry Cohen's being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in honor of Rafi Rockman's being named CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

Marci & Marty Abschutz, in honor of Rafi Rockman's being named CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

Amanda & Harry Uniman, in loving memory of Joe Uniman Susan Miller, in honor of Rafi Rockman's being named

CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

Susan Miller, in honor of Larry Cohen's being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Susan Miller, in loving memory of Ruth Candeub, mother and mother-in-law of Janis & Dave Hoffman

Shelly & Ken Wistreich, in loving memory of Lesley Lewkowicz' mother-in-law, Sofia Lewkowicz

Andrea & Steven Katz, Matthew & Melissa, in loving memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler

Andrea & Steven Katz, in honor of Rafi Rockman, named CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

#### Shomrei Tikvah Fund

Brenda & Mark Sherman, in loving memory of Arlene Frumkin's sister, Linda Lakin

Adrienne & Andy Ross, in honor of Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter, Gavriella Leah

Lauren & Andrew Cohen

Adrienne & Andy Ross, in honor of Toby and Gary Ehrlich on the birth of their grandson, David Lior Friedman

Bobbi & Marc Binder, in loving memory of Elaine Cohn

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, congratulations to Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter, Gavriella Leah

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, congratulations to Gale & Marc Dillman on the birth of their granddaughter, Gavriella Leah

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, congratulations to Diane & Howard Uniman on the birth of their granddaughter Gavriella Leah

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, congratulations to Larry Cohen on being named CBT Men's Club Man of the Year

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, congratulations to Rafi Rockman on being named CBT Men's Club Youth of the Year

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in loving memory of Arlene Frumkin's sister, Linda Lakin

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, condolences to Rabbi Wolkoff, Alex, Joseph & Dahlia, in memory of their wife and mother, Ruth-Ann Breitler Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, in loving memory of Ruth Anne Koenick's

sister, Janet K. Volat Adrienne & Andy Ross, Mazel Tov to Nancy Asher-Shultz and David Shultz on the birth of their grandson, Graham Lawrence Kobb

Helene & Gary Tinkel, congratulations to Amanda & Harry Uniman on the birth of their daughter, Gavriella Leah

#### Passport to Israel Fund

Jennifer & Howard Manson, in loving memory of Margalit Levy

#### **Torah Restoration Fund**

Arlene & Arthur Cederbaum, in honor of Gale & Marc Dillman on the birth of their granddaughter, Gavriella Leah

Arlene & Arthur Cederbaum, in loving memory of Max Eisenberg Andrea & Steven Katz, in loving memory of Janis Hoffman's mother, Ruth Candeub

#### Bat Mitzvah Haley Rykus



Daughter of Shari & Lee Rykus January 14

#### **Youth Updates**



**Sydney Sookerman** 

December was filled with Chanukah fun for USY (9th to 12<sup>th</sup> graders) and USY Gesher (6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders). We joined the CBT December Shabbat dinner series and services and enjoyed latkes and all things fried and delicious. Additionally, we had a book club event with Rabbi Wolkoff, USYers read the book Jews Don't Count, a book written by David Baddiel, published in 2021, which attacks the ignorance of anti-semitism by modernday progressives compared to other forms of discrimination. The book is centered on various examples of anti-semitism in popular and social media, as well as justifications of modern-day anti-semitism. Baddiel argues that Jews are not seen as a proper minority group, and he also argues that there exists a hierarchy of racisms, which excludes anti-semitism. A must read and if you think YOU don't need to read it, that's just the clue to know you do.' (Sarah Silverman) USYers enjoyed a conversation with Rabbi Wolkoff about Jews as a minority, anti-Semitism, allies of anti-semitism, college campuses and more. We then concluded December with our annual Krispy Kreme fundraiser and joined the religious school Chanukah party where we had USYers volunteer at tables, including edible dreidels. Thank you to Jordyn Weintraub, our Social Action/Tikkun Olam VP, our President Rafi Rockman, and USYers, Ethan Goldberger, Dahlia Wolkoff, and Reese Krane, for volunteering their time. Lastly, we joined the CBT Chanukah party. Fun was had all around.

### A Thank you from our Social Action/Tikkun Olam VP, Jordyn Weintraub

NSBUSY would like to thank the congregation for supporting our Krispy Kreme Fundraiser! We were also able to give back to the community. We donated several boxes of donuts to nutrition and housekeeping workers at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center. This fundraiser wouldn't be possible without the support of our amazing synagogue. We hope everyone enjoyed their donuts and had a wonderful Chanukah!

It's Back! Calling all USYers and USY Gesher. Saturday Night, January 14. 6:30 - 9:00 pm in the CBT Youth Lounge, Chinese Food & Movie Night, hosted by North/South Brunswick USY! \$15 per person. Bring cash for movie auction. All proceeds go to our chosen charity. RSVP using the link in our Instagram bio or in the constant contact emails for <a href="mailto:nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com">nsbrunswickusy@gmail.com</a> We hope to see you there! Happy New Year!

## **Alan Woller**Financial Advisor



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#### **Bikur Cholim**

The committee wants everyone to know that, while we are still unable to fulfill our mission of visiting the sick, we'll pick up prescriptions, do light shopping, and provide transportation to those congregants in need. We are



Jill Stone continuing to deliver "Bikur Cholim" embossed first-aid kits to those families that have not picked them up at out last event. If you know of a family in need of our service, please notify the synagogue office or email bikur@bnaitikvah.org

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The synagogue can earn up to 15% on anything you buy from Amazon. First, go to smile.amazon.com (not amazon.com) and click under the search bar where is says: "Supporting:" Select Congregation B'nai Tikvah and make sure the location indicates: N Brunswick, NJ.

#### **CBT Book Club**

The December 13th book club discussion was a HYBRID meeting, only a handful came to the inperson discussion and a screen-full were on zoom.



The Matzah Ball by Jean Meltzer Lynn Biderman

was not anyone's favorite, but we did have an excellent, engaging discussion touching on aspects of health, religion, friendship, and love.

Our next book: The Sentence by Louise Erdrich

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Place: In-person at the home of Lisa Seidman

Details TBD.

Healthy, Happy New Year wishes to all of you.

#### Contributions

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\* Multiple donations can be combined into one check, EXCEPT for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and Cantor's Special Fund, both of which require a separate check.

The new JLifeNJ Digital Newsletter has launched in our community. B'nai Tikvah is going to participate in articles and advertising.

Please scan the image here and subscribe today



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#### **DIRECTORY OF STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS**

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#### B'NAI TIKVAH'S JANUARY CALENDAR

- 2 USY Board Meeting
- 4 Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 5 Rabbi Thursday Evening Q&A, 8pm
- 7 JCFS (Junior Congregation Family Services)
- 8 Rabbi Wolkoff's "2nd Sunday" Hot Topics from a Jewish Perspective
- 8 USY Hagalil Regional "Convention" 3:30-7pm in Cranford
- 9 CBT Board Meeting, 8pm
- 11 Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 14 USY & USY Gesher Chinese Food / Movie Night, 6:30-9:00pm
- 14 Haley Rykus Bat-Mitzvah
- 15 NO Religious School

- 16 Sisterhood Board Meeting, 8pm
- 16 CBT office closed in observance of MLK Day
- 18 Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 18 Sisterhood Book Club
- 18 Religious School In-Person
- 21 USY Joins Shabbat Services
- 21 JCFS (Junior Congregation Family Services)
- 22 JWLT (Jewish Women Learning Together)
- 25 Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 28 Men's Club/Sisterhood Game Night
- 30 USY Board Meeting

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½ page	3¾" x 5"	\$400	\$65
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