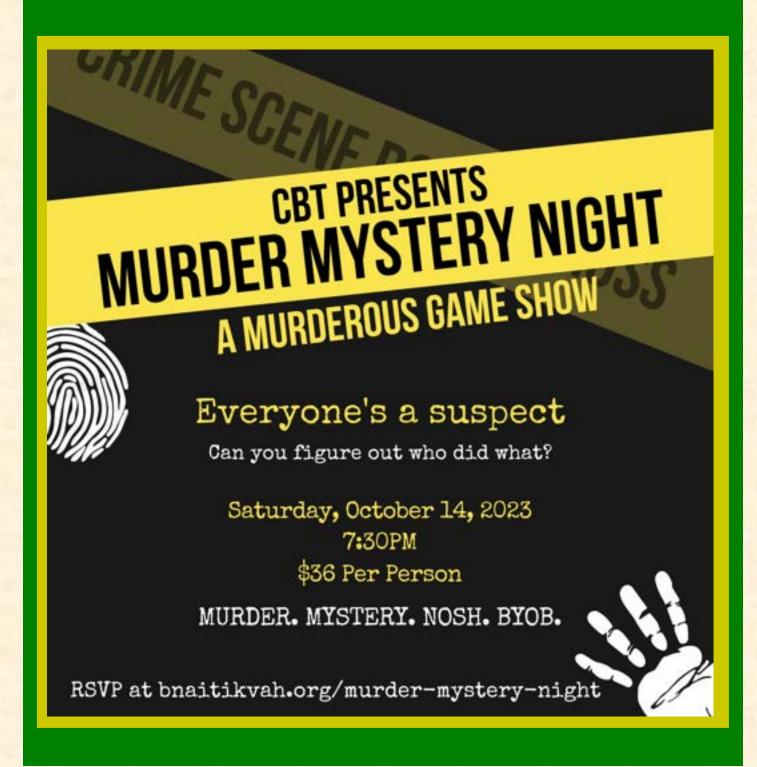


THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION B'NAI TIKVAH

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.



From Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

"I survived the holidays at B'nai Tikvah"



"I survived the holidays at B'nai Tikvah."

That's the t-shirt I want to proudly wear once our fall holy days are over. Because it really is a marathon. Our major holidays all occur within a six month period. More than half (Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah) within a three week period. And after all that frenetic activity, we have a six month hiatus until we come around to Pesach, and 7 weeks later, Shavuot.

Believe me, I need the break. And not just because my fingers are sore from typing.

Our yearly holiday cycle ends with the winter holiday of Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, and then begins a dormant period, quiet like winter itself. At first glance, it may look like we are "doing nothing." But "doing nothing" is doing something very important. A Chinese folk tale tells of a giant and ancient oak tree who imparts this wisdom: "I've been trying a long time to be of no use...This is of great use to me. If I had been of some use, would I ever have grown this large?"

It takes courage and wisdom to be of no use, to just be. And it takes time. That is why we are supposed to devote half the year to it. It takes a long time to slow down to the speed of life. Rabbi Chaim Potok, author of The Chosen, once said, "I've begun to realize that you can listen to silence and learn from it. It has a quality and a dimension all its own."

What can we learn from silence? Our lives are filled with so many roles that we play. All sorts of things to do. And they come at us so fast that we never really have a chance to think about what it is that we are doing so actively. What kind of parent, spouse, employee, citizen, child, congregant, neighbor, boss, customer, am I? What kind of Jew am I? And when I spend every waking hour playing out all those roles, what am I just by myself, with no role to play? In how many ways have I bent myself, my true self, out of shape in order to squeeze into places where I really don't fit? How am I doing compared to the goals I have set for myself? Do I even remember the goals I have set for myself?

Contemplating those questions in silence is a great first start. But there is another dimension worth considering. Remember the story of Elijah in the cave? Where G-d appears as a "still, small, voice?" As long as we are loudly playing out our roles on the stage of our lives, we will never hear that voice. We drown it out with a public recitation of our resumé. In silence, though, there's a chance that G-d will remind us who we really are. As the great Christian mystic Teilhard de Chardin once wrote: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience."

In the quiet of the coming months, we will be graced with the silence where we can remember that.

Enjoy. Learn. Love.

Rabbi Robert L. Wolkoff

HAKOL — The Newsletter of

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

Published monthly. Submissions are encouraged about events, group activities, and anything relevant to the Jewish Community. All articles emailed to Hakol@bnaitikvah.org are due by the 15th of the preceding month and are subject to available space.

All issues are archived at bnaitikvah.org/hakol and emailed via the CBT Newsletter.

Editorial Staff: Arthur Biderman, Janet Weiss, Sandy Sharon, Gary Tinkel, and Scott Kessler. Advertising: CBT Office

From Cantor Bruce Rockman

Let's Pray Together

As we're in the process of completing our holiday season, now it is time to

take on the world with new vigor and understanding with the strength and conviction that we've attained through the intensity of our introspection. Our goal is to return to our best selves, to return to who we allow ourselves to be.

We deal with so many important issues in our lives and our world: Israel, Ukraine, anti-Semitism, food insecurity, our health, global warming and the tragic consequences that we are witnessing, social issues, personal self-determination, the economy, politics and everything else that you can experience. Still more than anything else, I'm concerned about my family and how this global cacophony will impact our lives. I'm actually amazed at how anything in the world actually works. It's simply amazing, and it's a true miracle under heaven.

Our Jewish tradition is at the core of my confidence in the future. Our traditions are an oasis in this complex world. I'm not a scholar, prognosticator, or scientist of any sort. But this I know: I, and you, can find joy and happiness in the practice of Judaism. I'm a cantor. I smile, I sing and I try to bring light into our lives in the synagogue. Read a little, sing a lot, eat together with family, friends and new acquaintances and engage, that's my prescription.

There are significant issues that must be dealt with, our voices are important and I am so glad that there are serious people, including us, who do the hard work at JNF, FIDF, the Jewish Federation movement, USCJ, JFS, Mazon and Hadassah, just to name a few of the incredible Jewish organizations who tirelessly make our world better for so many. But just as the entire world's issues and these organizations' outreach are critical to us, our individual families and our shul require our foremost attention.

Simply stated, if I'm not present for my children, how can I be authentic when I teach yours? I am so fortunate that I have been truly blessed to raise my family at B'nai Tikvah, with your support. As we've been taught by our tradition, as written in *Pirke Avot*, "It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you at liberty to neglect it."

We hire people to care for our property, but I believe that although we can be inspired by others, we are the caretakers of our spirits. It is something that you are not at liberty to neglect. You know that it will feel better if you engage-it will help you prioritize. G-d knows, I need to take my own advice.

I know that it is difficult to change the patterns of our own behavior, like exercising regularly or attending services at B'nai Tikvah. In both situations, the benefits are apparent and require dedication to self care; we matter.

Rabbi Josh Warshawsky, my favorite singing rabbi wrote: "Who is the me that I want to be this year? Who is the me that I'm returning to? May the answer to that question serve as an inspiration, as an aspiration, as a source of joy and celebration, to you in the new year to come."

I look forward to praying with you at B'nai Tikvah.

Worship the Lord with Joy!

Cantor Bruce Rockman
Tishre 5784-October 2023

Daily Schedule of Services

Sunday 9am & 7:30pm Monday 7:30pm Tuesday 7:30pm Wednesday 7:30pm Thursday 8am & 7:30pm Friday 6:30pm (unless otherwise noted) Saturday 9:30am

All services are also available via Stream and Zoom.

From President Charlie Valan

INSPIRATION



It is hard to believe that we're already in the month of October of 2023 and the holiest days of the High Holidays are already in the rearview mirror. It is always incredible sharing these days, as a Jewish community, as the presence of our membership during this period is quite frankly, positively overwhelming. Besides sharing the commonalities of honoring these days with so many, the one thing that I've always enjoyed is truly catching up with many people who I don't see often and seeing how the time we haven't been able to be connected has contributed to the growth in our own world.

But something else that I always think about is the inspiration I personally get from these conversations. Learning about how they're doing, how their kids are growing, their families are developing, new jobs, new responsibilities, etc..... From these conversations I have always found personal inspiration. Inspiration for me first and foremost has always come not only from within, but also from all those who have intersected with my world on a daily basis. Each of us has an incredible story to tell. Sometimes, we never realize how the conversations we have with others lead to an enhancement of their world.

Sometimes I read that people get taken aback or feel that other's happiness or experiences makes them feel like they're "not making the grade". That their life is so complicated or challenging and listening to someone else's consistent mention of accomplishments and simchas leaves them to feel "less accomplished". Now I personally again can't understand that because I've never looked at someone else and said, "Why are they dealt a hand of Aces while I feel like I have all 2's". To me when I hear all this I say to myself, "We have no idea the

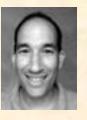
length of the challenge it took someone to do something; all we should want from life is recognizing the greatest element of success is within our own abilities to not quit on ourselves".

Getting to that point is wrapping your arms around those that can inspire you, mentally support you, and physically be there to help you. No one gets any place in this world totally on their own. From the moment we are born, we have been helped in some way and as we get older and more experienced, one day we should all want to be there to "pay it forward" and help others. Our community here at CBT is so diverse, with members of many ages, educations, backgrounds, and experiences and each of us can offer something back to everyone. This is the greatness of a world that is intended to be shared.

During the holidays just passed, we celebrated the start of the New Year on our Jewish calendar, and then paused to atone for our transgressions in the previous year. My friends who are not Jewish always joke with me, "WOW, the difference between the celebration of the New Year and Atonement are so close it almost appears it doesn't take so long for all of you to feel guilty about something". That's always made me laugh because of the whole "Jewish Guilt" we all joke about. But as I explain it, we are also in such an incredible place as Jews to be able to have all these connections concentrated in a 10 day period. The religious aspect of this period is a given, but how we use these 10 days to inspire us; well that's up to each of us.

(continued on page 23)

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Craig Cohen & Brian Berness, Co-Presidents

Men's Club got off to a great start with our September meeting! We discussed various potential events and speakers for 2023-24, while schmoozing over breakfast.

Our next get together will be Wednesday, October 4 at 6:30pm, in the CBT Sukkah. Please join us!

Aren't a member of Men's Club yet? The dues are only \$36 for the year.

You can download the application here:

https://bnaitikvah.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/mens-club-app.pdf

OR fill it out online here:

https://bnaitikvah.org/mens-club-application/

Our meeting following the October 4 Sukkah date will be on October 8, and of course, we'll be serving breakfast. Stay tuned for details of the program.

Please watch this space and your emails for more details.





HAKOL

Cheryl Crick President



On October 15^{th,} Sisterhood will join Tikkun HaYam - Repair the Sea® and Jewish communities worldwide in the 6th Annual Reverse Tashlich, a global waterfront cleanup.

On Rosh HaShanah, in a ritual called Tashlich, it is customary to symbolically cast our "sins" into a body of water to begin the New Year with a clean heart. In 2016, while learning about Tashlich, students from Eckerd College Hillel's Scubi Jew® (the college branch of Tikkun HaYam) questioned, with humans dumping billions of tons of trash into the ocean every year, why are we throwing more "sins" into the water. So, the students creatively decided to reverse the process and remove human "sins" (in the form of plastic and other marine debris) from the water during a cleanup of the waterfront on campus. Thus, the Reverse Tashlich began.

In the years since, Reverse Tashlich has become a High Holidays ritual worldwide. In 2022, 245 communities in 12 countries registered to participate in the global tradition, with over 3000 participants worldwide. Synagogues, Hillels, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish Federations, Jewish Day Schools, Community Organizations, Moishe Houses, Young Adult Divisions, Mitzvah Projects, Families, and more joined the initiative in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Georgia, Israel, Moldova, New Zealand, Portugal, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, CEO of Tikkun HaYam, said he is "overwhelmed" by the global response to this program. "There are so many issues facing the Jewish community, but the Environment is barely addressed.

The response to the Reverse Tashlich shows that the Environment should also be a priority. Nature is an intrinsic part of the Jewish tradition and, as Jews, we are charged with the responsibility to protect it."

Sisterhood invites you to join us on October 15th from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Pirate's Cove at Cliffwood Beach (Raritan Boulevard, Old Bridge). We will first meet at CBT for an insightful Tashlich discussion led by Stacey Rockman. Sisterhood will provide all necessary equipment for the cleanup. If you need transportation, please indicate it when registering, and we will gladly arrange a ride. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information or to register, visit https://bnaitikvah.org/event/reverse-tashlich/.



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JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM

Sisterhood will join Tikkun HaYam - Repair the Sea® and Jewish communities worldwide in the 6th Annual Reverse Tashlich, a global waterfront cleanup.

Reverse Tashlich

Sunday, October 15th 8:30 am - 12 pm Pirate's Cove at Cliffwood Beach, Raritan Boulevard, Old Bridge

On Rosh HaShanah, in a ritual called Tashlich, it is customary to symbolically cast our "sins" into a body of water to begin the New Year with a clean heart. Reverse Tashlich calls on Jewish communities to rethink this idea by removing our human "sins" from the water instead of throwing them in. Join us in this special effort to clean up trash from Cliffwood Beach and to practice tikkun hayam – repair of the sea and other bodies of water. Sisterhood will supply all the equipment needed. We can arrange rides for those who need them.

For more information or to register, visit: bnaitikvah.org/event/reverse-tashlich



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JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM



WHY join Sisterhood? Without you, we're one sister short!

This year Sisterhood will be presenting Jewish Women Learning Together in collaboration with Stacey Rockman, teacher extraordinaire. Our first event in this series will be on October 15th. We will find a waterway that needs cleaning up and do "Reverse Tashlich." We'll learn more about Tashlich and help the environment.

Join us on Sunday, November 19th at 10am for our annual **Paid-Up Membership Brunch**, featuring a delicious meal prepared by our own Classical Caterers, and enjoy the music of *Kol Halayla*, the a cappella group from Rutgers Hillel.

On January 14, 2024, we will be doing **Ax Throwing**. Stay tuned for info on the time, place, and cost.

Ongoing Sisterhood programs:

- The Sisterhood gift shop is open during the school year on Sundays and we also have online shopping. Felice Ciccione is always available to meet with you or provide you with more information on what wonderful items are in the gift shop.
- Sisterhood will be sponsoring a Shabbat lunch.
- Sisterhood participates in Social Action.
- Donate \$180.00 to Torah Fund and receive a pin as a gift. Monies donated to the Torah Fund campaign support the five Conservative/Masorti Seminaries.
- You can also purchase and send Torah Fund cards for any occasion at \$5.00 each.
- To beautify your simcha, Sisterhood provides baskets for the bimah at \$136.00, with a portion going to a charity of your choice.
- To further enhance the simcha, you can also purchase 50 Mazel Tosses at \$36.00.
- Every year, Sisterhood provides Purim Baskets to all members.
- Mah Jongg cards can be purchased through Sisterhood.

Come join us as we learn together, enjoy meals together, listen to music together, throw axes together and all our other ongoing programs. Sisterhood is a moving and alive organization. Come join the fun!

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JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM





Name:

SAVE A TREE! Complete this form online-

Addr	ess:				
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Phon	e:				
Emai	l				
СВТІ	Member: Yes	No			
Pleas	e choose the level th	t best fits you:			
	\$40 Leah Level - Open only to our Senior Synagogue members				
	\$45 Rachel Level - Open only to Synagogue members				
	\$54 Rebecca Level - Open to all (including CBT members)				
	\$72 Sarah Level - C	en to all			
		ks payable to Congregation B'naiTikvah Sisterhood n with payment into the Sisterhood mailbox at CBT.			

Or mail to: Teresa Samtur

4 Zev Court

Monmouth Jct., NJ 08852

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CBT BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 10, 7:30pm.

We will be discussing "The Immortalists" by Chloe Benjamin.

This is an in-person meeting only, no Zoom.



Happy reading, Lynn Biderman, CBT Book Club Chair

Lynn Biderman

2023-24 Dates:

December 5: "The Hidden Affair" by Pam Jenoff February 13: t/b/d

> April 15: t/b/d June 18: t/b/d August 20: t/b/d

For information contact Lynn Biderman: 732-439-9999 or r.lynn.biderman@gmail.com.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR...HELP A NEEDY FAMILY PROGRAM 2023

It's difficult to believe that it is already time to plan and organize our 2023 Needy Family Program. This will be our 22nd year helping families in need with clothing, household items and basic necessities.

Last year, we were able to help 20 families!

As we continue to live in a "new normal", we have decided that we will continue to run a hybrid program. For those of you who are comfortable in shopping, you can do so; for those who are not comfortable, financial donations will be greatly appreciated and used to purchase gift cards or needed items.

If you would like to participate, please email me at jbbd11@verizon.net and let me know in which of the following capacities:

- Monetary donation- Go to Bnaitikvah.org and click on "Connect", then click on Needy Family. A donation page has been specifically set up for this program
- Send a check made out to B'nai Tikvah-indicate Needy Family Program in memo
- Sponsoring a family (@ 5 gifts per family member)
- Sponsoring an adult and child
- Sponsoring one person
- Purchasing one or more gifts for a family

Any form of participation will be greatly appreciated.

For additional information, please email me at Jbbd11@verizon.net

Thanks so much!

Janice Baer



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NEW IN HAKOL...MEMBER NEWS!

MEMBER NEWS

The Congregation welcomes new members:

Rachel Cohen Muriel Hertan

The Congregation extends Mazel Tov to:

Allison and David Nagelberg, on the engagement of their son, Rabbi Jesse Nagelberg, to Simone Nachman.

Adriana and Daniel Reininger, on the engagement of their son Michael, to Alicia Delagger.

Dot and Larry Cohen, Harriet Cohen, Elliot Cohen, and Naomi and Andrew Jackenthal, on the birth of Dot and Larry's grandson, Julian Stephen Noyes.

Debbie Stein-Lamoreaux and Jeffrey Lamoreaux, and family, on the occasion of the Bat-Mitzvah of their daughter, Elizabeth (Lizzy).



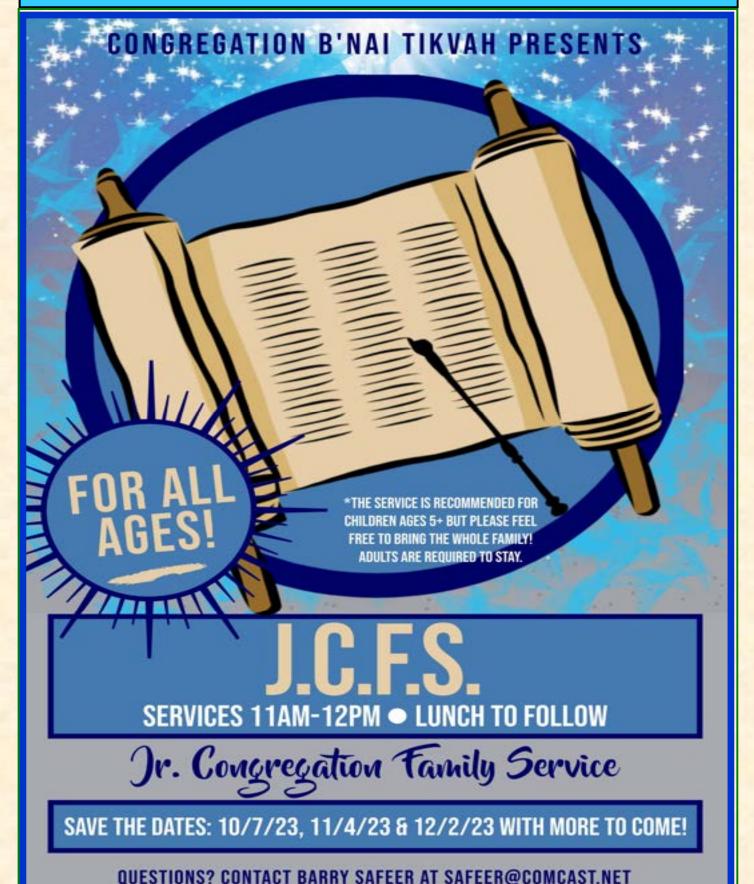
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THE GALA IS BACK...SAVE THE DATE!



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NEW JCFS PROGRAM - FOR ALL AGES!



USY UPDATE - by Jordyn Weintraub



Jordyn Weintraub, NSBUSY President

L'shana Tova!

I'm Jordyn Weintraub and I am the President of the North/South Brunswick chapter of USY here at CBT for the 2023-2024 year. All the way back in 2019, I know it feels like a century ago, I attended my second and unknowingly last encampment. I remember this one night so vividly where the counselors took us eighth graders out into the open sports field late at night. Now I can't make it past 10:00 on a good night but I was a kid so I was able to stay up. The counselors told us to lay down on the ground next to our friends and look up at the stars. I was next to some of my closest friends and completely enamored by the number of stars I could see in the sky. I remember thinking how thankful I was to be there next to kids just like me, sharing a peaceful moment under the stars. I felt like I was home. That night will be something I remember for the rest of my life. It was before life got stressful. Before the Covid 19 pandemic, before high school, and best of all, before college applications. There's no other place or people on Earth I will be able to replicate this memory with and I have it all to thank to USY.

I remember another time when I was here at CBT with past board members who have so rudely abandoned me to go to college but whatever it's fine. We were outside at 9:00 at night eating apples since it was Fall and we had just finished making care packages for our Friendsgiving event. We were sitting outside on the pavement since it was Covid and couldn't eat inside. We were laughing at some joke our amazing advisor Sydney had made that I can't recall now but I know made it difficult to keep the apple in my mouth. Don't worry I held it in but just sitting outside with everyone and laughing made the memory really stick with me. It made me thankful for the wonderful people here at CBT who are some of the nicest and most inclusive people I know.

Whether it's stargazing at encampment or eating apples on the pavement outside, USY has become a second home for me. I'm able to just be myself and have fun around other Jewish teens who are just as passionate about Judaism as I am. Now that I'm a senior, wow that's scary, I

have assumed the responsibility of President. Even though I'm super excited for this year, it's going to look a little different. USY has changed a lot in the past few years and our numbers here at CBT have greatly decreased. Like I said, everyone rudely left me and went to college. However, even though we're smaller, our chapter is still active and thriving. We have many exciting events lined up for the year such as Friendsgiving with East Brunswick USY, the Hagalil regional convention in November, and we'll be hosting USY prom here at CBT in February! I am so lucky to have met amazing people here at CBT and I know that there are some really great lower classmen and no I am not talking about my brother and sister. I cannot wait to get more teens involved in USY this year. They should expect many texts and reminders about upcoming events from Sydney and I since we both are ecstatic for the events we have planned this year.

North/South Brunswick USY is a family and as President I will make it my mission to keep our chapter alive and thriving. We will be working closely with surrounding chapters such as East Brunswick and Highland Park which will allow our chapter to make friends with other chapters. One of the main reasons I joined USY was to make friends with other Jewish teens and I want our chapter members to have that opportunity. I also hope to keep one of the core values of USY, tikun olam or repairing the world alive at our chapter and show our members how important it is to give back to the community. We have our annual Krispy Kreme Fundraiser during Hanukkah and will work closely with Elijah's Promise this year as a way to have fun and give back to the community.

Sydney and I will continuously work together in order to make this chapter the best it can be. We will be having events at least once a month and will be working to make them fun and engaging. We are very fortunate to have what I believe is one of the coolest youth lounges ever which is always filled with fun games and snacks. I sincerely hope all you high schoolers out there decide to get involved in USY because not only is it a great excuse to get away from your parents but is a very welcoming and supportive space where you are accepted for who you are and are able to connect with other Jewish teens. Thank you!

Jordyn Weintraub, NSBUSY President

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Donations: August 15-September 14, 2023

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Phyllis Saltzman, in memory of Bernard & Martha Saltzman Amy & Cliff Smith, in appreciation for the memorial service for Zully Smith

Morris Shames, in memory of Joan R. Shames Doris & Jack Birkenthal, in memory of Harry Yaros Arleen Panson, in memory of Celia Herlands Phyllis Rich, in memory of her beloved brother, Michael Bernstein

Fern, Allan & Marc Katronetsky & Yonaton & Ilana Yares and family, in memory of Allan's sister, Norma Katronetsky Paul Gordon, in memory of Sheila Gordon

Edward M. Gordon, in memory of Sheila Gordon Fern, Allan & Marc Katronetsky and Ilana & Yonaton Yares & family, in memory of Allan's mother, Roslyn Katronetsky Diane Young Uniman & Howard Uniman, in memory of Dr. Irving Young

Janis & David Hoffman, in loving memory of David's father, Yale Hoffman

Morris Shames, in memory of Stacy Shames Manders The Rekant Family, in memory of Debbi's mother, Elaine Slotoroff

Cantor's Special Fund

Amy & Cliff Smith, in appreciation for the memorial service for Zully Smith

Allison & Ryan Cain, in appreciation for the beautiful baby naming for their son

Fern, Allan & Marc Katronetsky & Ilana & Yonaton Yares and family, in loving memory of Wade Lebowitz' wife,
Beverly Lebowitz

Edward M. Gordon, in memory of Sheila R. Gordon Paul Gordon, in memory of Sheila Gordon Renee & Steve Levin & Family, in memory of Robert Starr

Yahrzeit and Tzedakah Fund

Howard Kalish, in memory of his mother, Rose Kalish Beverly Heller, in loving memory of her mother, Idelle Aronowitz Janice & Barry Kipnis, in memory of Frances Kipnis Bonnie & Robert Rizick, in memory of Abraham Joseph Rizick Cindy & Dave Teicher, in memory of Samuel Dvansky Helene & Gary Tinkel, in memory of Lee Finkel Shelly & Ken Wistreich, in memory of Martin H. Streicher Andrea & Steven Katz in memory of Beverly Lebowitz Myra & Howard Dickert, in memory of Sylvia Dickert Myra & Howard Dickert, in memory of Benjamin Dickert Vicki & Burt Bauman, in memory of Harry Manheim Audrey Kuker & Peter Kuker, in memory of Joseph Kuker Ronnie & Jerry Levine, in memory of Stanley Levine Stephen Breitkopf, in memory of Beatrice Breitkopf Bonnie & Woody Stevens, in memory of Ruthe P. Groudan Carole & Bob Turkheimer, for the return of good health of their daughter, Susan

Shabbat Luncheon Fund

Barbra & Bruce London, wishing Stacey Rockman a speedy recovery

Barbra & Bruce London, Mazel Tov to Laurie & Charlie Valan on Daria's engagement

Rose & Jeff Berger, Congratulations to Adrienne & Bruce Rogove, on the birth of their grandson, Isaiah Zev Stone Rose & Jeff Berger, Congratulations to Janice & Art Baer on the birth of their grandson, Jordan Miles Baer Gaye & Alan Feinberg, in memory of Lila Feinberg

Arlene & Arthur Cederbaum, in memory of Philip Dunayer Andrea & Steven Katz, Mazel Tov to Laurie & Charlie Valan, in honor of the engagement of Daria & Jordan

Barbra & Bruce London, in memory of Dr. Boris London The Greenberg's, in honor of their wonderful cousins, Barbra & Bruce London

Herb Mars & Family, in honor of Dot & Larry Cohen on the birth of their grandson, Julian Noyes

Rose & Jeff Berger, for the yahrzeit of Leon Berger Cheryl & Myron Asnis, in memory of Cheryl's father, Joel Kaplan

Jodi Wexler Marcou Social Action Fund

Tammy & Keith Zimmerman, in memory of Arlene Levitt
Amy & Cliff Smith, Congratulations to David Marcou on the birth
of his grandson

Amy & Cliff Smith, Congratulations to Janice & Art Baer on the birth of their grandson

Amy & Cliff Smith, Congratulations to LouAnne & John Wolf on the birth of their grandson

LouAnne & John Wolf, in memory of Cliff Smith's father, Zully Smith

Janice & Art Baer, in memory of Cliff Smith's father, Zully Smith Rena & Barry Lepinsky, in memory of Marc Piaskowsky Rena & Barry Lepinsky, in memory of Jerome Lepinsky Lisa & Jeff Tannenbaum, in memory of Cliff Smith's father, Zully Smith

Rose & Jeff Berger, in honor of Brian Wistreich's Aufruf Rose & Jeff Berger, in memory of Julius Kestenman Helene & Gary Tinkel, Mazel Tov to Janice & Art Baer on the

birth of their grandson, Jordan
Helene & Gary Tinkel, Mazel Tov to David Marcou on the birth

of his grandson, Theodore

Andrea & Steven Katz, Mazel Tov to Janice & Art Baer in honor of the birth of their grandson, Jordan Miles

Andrea & Steven Katz, Mazel Tov to David Marcou in honor of the birth of his grandson, Theo Jay

Herb Mars & Family, Mazel Tov to Allison & David Nagelberg on the engagement of their son, Rabbi Jesse Nagelberg to Simone Nachman

Rose & Jeff Berger, in honor of Dot & Larry Cohen on the birth of their grandson, Julian Stephen Noyes

Donations Continued

Shomrei Tikvah Fund

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Joyce & Gerald Fishelberg, in memory of Sidney Gurtov Adrienne & Andy Ross, in honor of Dot & Larry Cohen on the birth of their grandson, Julian Stephen Noyes

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, condolences to Jay Scheuer on the death of his beloved sister, Frances

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, condolences to Cliff Smith on the death of his beloved father, Zully

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, condolences to Wade Lebowitz on the death of his beloved wife, Beverly

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Nadine and Allen Weg on Arielle's engagement to Mark Zager

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Laurie and Charlie Valan on Daria's engagement to Jordan Schildkraut

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Adriana and Daniel Reininger on Michael's engagement to Alicia

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Debbi and Scott Rekant on the birth of their granddaughter, Lyla Sophia Rekant

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Janice and Art Baer on the birth of their grandson, Jordan Miles Baer

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Adrienne and Bruce Rogove on the birth of their grandson, Isaiah Zev Stone

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to LouAnne and John Wolf on the birth of their grandson, Elliot Wolf Schwartz

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to David Marcou on the birth of his grandson, Theodore Jay Marcou

Marcia & Jeff Schwartz, Mazel Tov to Dot and Larry Cohen on the birth of their grandson Julian Stephen Noyes

Ritual Fund

Helene & Gary Tinkel, in memory of Sidney Tinkel
Helene & Gary Tinkel, in memory of Joseph Finkel
Helene & Gary Tinkel, in honor of Dot & Larry Cohen on the
birth of their grandson, Julian Noyes

Torah Restoration Fund

Svetlana & Ilya Veksler, in memory of Simyon Goldshmidt Svetlana & Ilya Veksler, in memory of Yelena Voron

Allen Karp Fund for Music

Ilene Karp, in honor of Charlie Valan's article, Ghost of CBT Ilene Karp, Mazel Tov to Laurie & Charlie Valan in honor of the engagement of Daria & Jordan

Ilene Karp, Thank you to Laura Waksman for her hard work and dedication to the Chaverim

Arnie Miller Youth Activity Fund

Andrea & Steven Katz, Mazel Tov to LouAnne & John Wolf in honor of the birth of their grandson, Elliot Wolf Schwartz

Ruth-Ann Breitler Bikur Cholim Fund

LouAnne & John Wolf, in memory of Arie Behar's father-in-law, Donald Feiman

Laura & Howard Waksman, in loving memory of Rebbetzin Ruth-Ann Breitler

Mark Rosen, in memory of Ruth-Ann Breitler

General Fund

Ellen & Paul Shuman, in memory of their dear friend, Beverly Lebowitz

Linda Fellen & Ben Gottesman, in honor of Daria Valan's engagement to Jordan Schildkraut

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SCRIP/GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD BE BUYING THEM!

Scrip/Gift Cards are available for purchase at the CBT office every day, at Board meetings, and during religious school hours on Sunday mornings. Cash and check are preferred methods of payment, but we do also take credit cards. We have ShopRite, Stop & Shop and Home Depot cards in stock.

Why don't you buy gift cards? Here are some possible reasons:

- The cards are too heavy
- I forgot to bring cash/check with me to meetings/religious school
- I would rather pay higher dues than get a credit on my dues
- Lam on a diet

Here are some facts about our Gift Card program:

- Over the last fiscal year:, Gift Card profits to CBT were over \$3700
- Over \$1230 was given back to members in dues' credits
- \$79K in gift cards were purchased by **ONLY 39** member families—less than 13% of our membership

Can you imagine if more of you purchased gift cards?

PLEASE consider purchasing gift cards/scrip. We do our best to make them as accessible as possible. Call the CBT office to make arrangements to pick them up, or have them delivered to you. THANK YOU!

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VENDOR FAIR



Winter Holiday Vendor Fair

Sunday, December 10, 2023 11am-3pm

Browse a variety of vendor booths, pick up unique gifts & enjoy delicious food for purchase from local businesses!

Congregation B'nai Tikvah 1001 Finnegans Lane North Brunswick, NJ 08902 732-297-0696



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VENDOR FAIR



Do you know any vendors who would be interested in participating in our Winter Holiday Vendor Fair?

Please send them our way!

Contact WAM@bnaitikvah.org



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BIKUR CHOLIM COMMITTEE

Bikur Cholim - We're Here for You

Bikur Cholim comes from the heart. We all work on this committee because we care so much about our Congregation. Whether we provide a ride to a doctor's appointment, do light grocery shopping, deliver a Shabbat dinner, call Super Seniors once a month or send a Bikur Cholim get well card and call you, it is our pleasure.

The Mission of the Bikur Cholim committee is to provide comfort and support to the members of the CBT community who are ill, homebound, isolated and/or otherwise in distress. We take this very seriously.

Please feel free to call me if we can support you: Jill Stone, 732.306.5731.

We hope you don't need these, but they are available to borrow. DME includes canes, crutches, knee scooter, walker and wheelchairs. Please call Lesley, in the office, and she will check out whatever you need.

Thank you,

Jill Stone, Chairperson

On behalf of the Bikur Cholim Committee

President's Article (continued from page 4)

When I spoke to everyone on Yom Kippur, I said that no one is going to build and maintain the meanings, customs, and impact of the Jewish Community except for us. On the surface, it's a huge responsibility that has been handed down from generation to generation. People have celebrated it and as we all know, suffered because of it. You talk about inspiration? The inspiration of what so many Jews have done throughout history should be such a catalyst to say, "Not on my watch". No one suffered in vain and we should always recognize that the future will be affected by the performance of the present.

This is the reason why we have been encouraging involvement as opposed to spectating, presence as opposed to Zooming, and options for all as opposed to options for few. The vastness of our Jewish Community is not just in the pure numbers, but the many interests. All of that should always be cemented in the foundation of our customs and our history. In the ideal world, everyone would follow that to the very last letter. But in reality, presence of under-

standing and contributing allows us to be able to be inspired to react. This is why we want everyone here in our community to participate in every aspect of what we have to offer; services, minyans, events, committees, our own Board, and meeting new people to develop friendships that will allow you to be surrounded by more people "just like you, but still a little different".

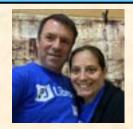
This is our Jewish Community and we will be the ones to maintain it and grow it. So let's all enter this coming year with the strength and desire to do that as a whole unit enjoying all of the offerings the incredible Jewish Community we have right here at 1001 Finnegans Lane.

UPDATE FROM OUR SCHOOL AND YOUTH CO-VPs

A message from Melissa and Scott Kessler, Co-VPs of School and Youth

About Us: We are Melissa and Scott Kessler and we are currently serving as co-Vice Presidents of School and Youth. Scott grew up attending CBT with his family, and we joined CBT as a couple in 2010. We have a six-year-old daughter, Jocelyn, who is now a third-generation member of CBT. As her parents, we look forward to watching her and her friends form strong relationships with each other and with our lewish community.

Religious School: The 2023-24 school year is off to a great start! On Sunday, September 10th, we welcomed our Religious School students and their families during the High Holiday Experience led by Stacey Rockman. We would also like to thank our Religious School Parent Committee co-chairs, Cheryl Crick and Michael Atzbi for their help in preparing for the High Holiday Experience, as well as our congregants who volunteered to help run the event. Our students participated in hands-on activities centered around Rosh Hashana traditions, including making delicious challah and honey cookies, decorating holiday cards, and enjoying apples and honey for a sweet new year. This year, we are pleased to announce that our Religious School is expanding with nearly 35 students enrolled between the ages of 3 years-old up to 12th grade. Among this year's students are several new students and their families to whom we extend a warm, CBT welcome. In addition to our new students, we also have some fabulous new Religious School teachers who are joining our team. We would like to introduce Ronit Bivas who will be teaching the Gimmel class, and who is also our new PJ Library/ Family Engagement Coordinator for CBT. Ronit brings with her extensive teaching experience and new ideas and creativity. Also, Joanna Javeline will be teaching our Aleph class on Sundays and she too, comes to us with wonderful experience. Sharon Cohen, a longtime CBT member and early childhood educator will also be joining us as a teacher this year for our kindergarten and first-graders. We would be remiss if we didn't also mention our fantastic returning teachers, Shari Rykus, Stacey Rockman, Cantor Rockman, and we welcome back Bashe Rockman.



PJ Library: On Sunday, September 10th, the High Holiday festivities continued later in the day with our PJ Library High Holiday Round Robin event (in partnership with the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey). Approximately 45 children and their families from CBT and our greater Jewish community gathered for an afternoon of High Holiday fun. This event introduced the children to a wide array of High Holiday customs and traditions. The children participated in and learned about Tashlich, shofar blowing (led by Bashe Rockman), creating High Holiday cards for Jewish senior citizens, singing festive songs, and completing a scavenger hunt, where the children looked for holiday-related pictures that were hidden throughout the room.

USY: Our USY Chapter is once again lead by advisor Sydney Sookerman, and Jordyn Weintraub is serving as President this year. On Sunday, September 10th our USY'ers participated in the Hagalil & METNY USY Kickoff Event at Warinanco Park in Roselle. Coming up on Monday, October 9th, is the Chaverim & Gesher's (3rd to 8th grade) Day Off Event, a day trip event to the NYC Museum of Ice Cream! We look forward to continuing to work hard to expand and cultivate our Religious School and invite any feedback and concerns you may have. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions. We can be reached at melissa@bnaitikvah.org and scottmkessler@yahoo.com or via phone at (617) 869-1422 (Melissa) and (732) 789-8202 (Scott).

From our family to yours, wishing everyone a happy, healthy and sweet new year. L'shana Tova!

Melissa and Scott Kessler

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HIGH HOLIDAY THANK YOU!

I would like to thank the following volunteers, who helped set up the chairs for the High Holidays:

Joseph Uniman Harry Uniman Charlie Valan Jackie Master Steve Juro **Brian Berness Brian Melcer Andy Ross** Terry Katz Steve Katz Alan Brown Gordon Heit Steve Chernela Marc Rosen Craig Cohen **Barry Safeer** Joella Sperber



Your help was greatly appreciated!

Thank you,
Kevin Krane, VP of Administration

Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help set up the chairs, tables, prayer books, and everything else!







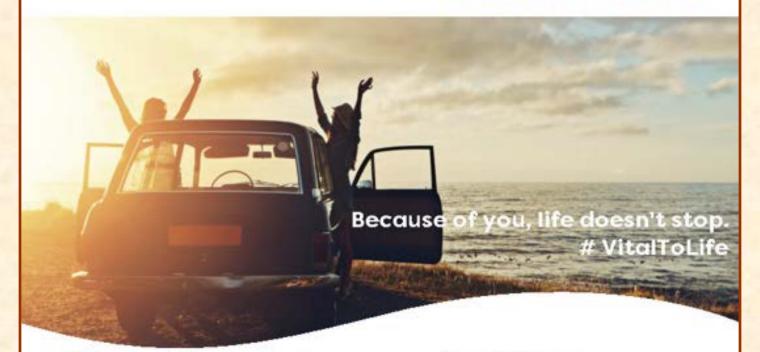








Blood Drive



Sponsored By: Congregation B'nai Tikvah

Monday, October 9, 2023 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Gymnasium 1001 Finnegans Lane North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Appointments strongly recommended

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- Eat a meal before donation
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Richard Altman

www.bnaitikvah.org

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A Hero in Heaven The story of lone soldier Michael Levin

Discussion with Michael's mother Harriet Levin

following the movie

Monday, October 16, 7:15pm

Young Israel of East Brunswick



RSVP by October 12

Scan code or visit: tinyurl.com/HarrietLevin



www.MichaelLevinLoneSoldier.org

LONE SOLDIER FOUNDATION

OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1- Religious School Sukkot Celebration
- 4 Rabbi Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 4 Religious School
- 7 CBT Adult Simchat Torah Celebration
- 8 Religious School Simchat Torah Celeb.
- 9 Blood Drive, 5-9pm
- 9 CBT Board Meeting, 8pm
- 11 Rabbi Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 11 Religious School
- 12 Rabbi Lunch Lecture in Monroe, 12pm
- 14 Elizabeth Lamoreaux B'Mitzvah
- 15 Religious School
- 15 Sisterhood Program (offsite)
- 15 Men's Club Program
- 15 JWLT

- 16 Sisterhood Board Meeting, 8pm
- 18 Rabbi Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 18 Religious School
- 22 Religious School
- 22 Better Together Lower East Side Trip
- 24 Chaverim, 12-2pm
- 25 Rabbi Lunch & Learn, 12pm
- 25 Religious School
- 26 NBUSY
- 26 EC Meeting, 8pm
- 28 Shabbat Lunch & Learn
- 29 Religious School
- 29 Rabbi Brunch Lecture, 10am
- 29 Teen Mitzvah Corp
- 30 Ritual Committee Meeting, 8pm

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