



The Loose Canons

# Loose Canons to perform ‘fractured folk songs’

AN “EVENING OF fractured folk songs” will be offered by The Loose Canons on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. at Congregation Agudath Israel in Caldwell.

The Caldwell Hadassah fund-raiser will feature the troupe’s mix of intricate vocal harmonies rooted in folk and doo-wop. The Loose Canons, who have been together for 10 years, adapt their program to each audience and will perform original numbers for the Hadassah event.

The performers, all members of area synagogues, are Ellen Goldstein, Marlene Karu, Rich Mendelsohn, Norman Metz, Diane Share, Murray Spiegel, Randi Spiegel, Charles Wantman, Steve Wetter, Ben Alter, Ben

Asher, and Ben Larkey.

The group’s repertoire is “zany, humorous, eclectic, and very entertaining, providing pure musical fun and a lot of Jewish content to the parodies, skits, and participatory pieces,” said Wantman.

“But the level of musicality is very important to us,” he added; “we’re not just there to yuk it up.”

The program will be in two sets around a dessert reception.

To purchase tickets, at \$36, send checks, payable to Hadassah, to Edna Alberts, 9 McNeile Dr., Parsippany, NJ 07054 by Nov. 28. For information, contact Carole Shapiro at cshap3@hotmail.com or 973-865-5183.

# The Agenda

## Concert to feature cantor and friends

CANTOR & FRIENDS in Concert: From Bima to Broadway will be presented Saturday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m. at Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston.

The evening of Jewish and secular music will feature Beth Shalom’s Cantor Perry Fine, who will be joined by Cantors Sharon Brown-Levy, David Barash, Sharon Knoller, and Erica Lippitz; the TBS youth and adult choirs, the Interfaith Choir, and Voices in Harmony of MetroWest. Pianist Karina Bruk and other instrumentalists will accompany the singers.



Cantor Perry Fine

The program will highlight an eclectic variety of genres, including cantorial, gospel, opera, Ladino, and Broadway, with songs sung in English, French, Yiddish, and Hebrew. Fine said that presenting music from diverse musical, cultural, and spiritual worlds is very important to him; more than 13 years ago he cofounded the interfaith, intercommunity choral ensemble Voices of Harmony.

Fine said his early involvement in musical theater has informed and influenced what he does. Yet it has been the cantorate that has provided “the spiritual calling that has given my life meaning and purpose,” he said.

Tickets cost \$36. Benefactor/priority seating is available upon request; all ticket prices include a dessert reception. For information, call 973-992-3600 or visit tbsnj.org.



**GARDEN ART** – Montclair artist Tom Nussbaum shows youngsters sketches for the artwork he installed in the fence and gate of the Early Childhood Center garden at Congregation Agudath Israel of West Essex in Caldwell. The work of Nussbaum, known for his drawings, children’s book illustrations, functional design objects, and site-specific commissions, has been exhibited in museums and galleries across the country. The garden installation was the result of a donation by an ECC family aiming “to support and strengthen the early childhood education program, as well as to show our appreciation for the love and compassion each child receives when they walk through the door.”



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