

April 21, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am thrilled to congratulate you upon the Tikkun Olam Gala! Tonight we pay tribute to the exceptional community that is Temple B'nai Or as well as the crucial contributions all of you make day in and day out to the Jewish community and well beyond.

A pillar in the Jewish life in Northern New Jersey, TBO has long been a welcoming place for Jews of many different backgrounds and perspectives to come together in faith, community, and enlightenment. In good times and bad, the TBO community takes care of one another – celebrating success, mourning the loss of loved ones, and learning and relearning, together, what it means to be Jewish in our rapidly-changing world. Yet equally as significant as what the community does for its own members is what it does for others. By living and breathing the principle of Tikkun Olam, you demonstrate the vital importance of laboring to repair our broken world.

Because none of this happens on its own, I am proud to acknowledge tonight's honorees for their incredible commitment to TBO and the value of Tikkun Olam. Marcie & Glenn Yarnis have not only been dedicated leaders at TBO – whether on the TBO Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, or the Sanctuary Renovation project – but have also been prominent champions of heath research and medical care in Morris County and well beyond. Jackie & Larry Horn, TBO members since 1975, have supported virtually every Temple initiative in recent memory! Their contributions range from editing the TBO Bullentin to leading various appeals and events. Beyond TBO, their service to higher education and the performing arts knows no bounds. Last but not least, Richard & Poppy Segal also deeply epitomize Rabbi Hillel's dual notion of being for one's own community at the same as being for others. In addition to serving on the TBO Board, leading appeals for Israel Bonds and being active in multiple NJ hospitals, they donated a playground for underprivileged children and a library in Jerusalem serving at-risk youth.

As New Jersey's Senior United States Senator, I once again congratulate all of tonight's honorees for their dual commitment to TBO and to those in need beyond this wonderful synagogue. May this be a night to celebrate and take stock of all that you have done and all that you will continue to do.

Sincerely,

Robert Menendez

United States Senator