

## PASSOVER

## What is Passover?

Passover is a major Jewish Spring festival, which commemorates the Exodus from Egypt over 3,000 years ago. During this period, Jews all over the world abstain from eating foods that contain leavening; instead we eat matzah.

Passover actually has five names, each one explaining another significance of the holiday.

## Chag Ha-Matzot, The Festival of Unleavened Bread

In the book of Exodus, we hear that the Jews did not wait for their bread to rise because they had to leave in haste; therefore, we are commanded to eat matzah to commemorate this event. However, before the events tied to the Exodus from Egypt, Jews and other peoples of the region made and ate matzah to thank God for the spring crops. Therefore, eating matzah is also part of a spring thanksgiving tradition.

## Chag Ha-Pesach, The Festival of the Paschal Offering

Before the tenth plague, the Jews took the blood of a sacrificed lamb and smeared it upon their doorposts to safeguard their homes from the angel of death. The sacrifice of one lamb from a flock was a spring-time tradition in agricultural societies. Thus another agricultural tradition is associated with this festival.

## Zeman Cherutenu, The Season of Our Liberation

During the Seder we are reminded that we were once slaves in Egypt. We eat reclining to emphasize that we are now free. Modern seders refer to victims of the Holocaust, and more recently, Soviet Jews who wanted to immigrate to Israel. Though the Soviet threat is now gone, we all recall and pray for those Jews around the world who are subjected to anti-Semitism and persecution.

## Pesach, Passover

Pesach, the common name for this festival, is derived from Moses' promise to the Israelites that God would "pass over" their homes during the night of the killing of the first born. This name unifies the concepts symbolized in the other four names.

In Israel, Passover is celebrated for seven days, as commanded by the Torah. Reform Jews all over the world also celebrate Passover for seven days. Outside of Israel, Orthodox and Conservative Jews celebrate Passover for eight days. This tradition originated in 700-600 B.C.E., when people were notified of the holiday's beginning by means of a network of bonfires. To ensure that the holiday was observed on the correct days, an extra day was added. By the time a reliable standard calendar was adopted the fourth century C.E., the added day was so ingrained in tradition that it became law.

## A Few Seder Suggestions

As you prepare your home for Pesach, involve the children in the pre-festival house cleaning and general preparations. The memory of the sights, sounds and smells of the food and home around holiday time remains with us Jews throughout our adult lives. Children should have the opportunity to share in the anticipation.

Make your Seder table as elegant as possible. Make the service superb, the setting breathtaking and the floral arrangements a delight.

Be sure to have an adequate number of Haggadot. Each person capable of reading should have a Haggadah. Do not end the evening with the meal. Be sure to complete the Haggadah after the meal. The most entertaining and joyous part of the Seder is near the conclusion.

Remember: The Seder table is a stage on which is reenacted, in symbolic fashion, many of the events that we associate with the deliverance from Egyptian slavery. Understanding the symbolism is important if we are to celebrate Passover properly, namely, by reliving the experience of the Exodus.

Our congregation is a partner with MAZON, a Jewish organization that helps to feed the hungry. The Haggadah says: "Let all who are hungry come and eat." Unfortunately, in this day and age, few of us are prepared to open our door for anyone to walk in. Instead, Mazon suggests that we donate to them the cost of feeding an additional person at your seder. Donations can be sent to the Rabbi's office with checks made out to MAZON.

## Schedule of Services

## Friday, April 2

Tzav, Leviticus 6-8 Kabbalat Shabbat, 6:00 p.m. Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

## Saturday, April 3

Torah Class, 8:15 a.m. Minyan Service, 9:00 a.m. Gross Chapel B'nai Mitzvah of Emily Bank and Michael Katz, 10:15 a.m.

## Tuesday, April 6

Passover Service, 10:30 a.m.

## Friday, April 9

Shemini, Leviticus 9-11 Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

## Saturday, April 10

Torah Class, 8:15 a.m. Tot Shabbat, 9:00 a.m. Minyan Service, 9:00 a.m. Gross Chapel

## Friday, April 16

Tazria, Leviticus 12-13 Kabbalat Shabbat, 6:00 p.m. Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

## Saturday, April 17

Torah Class, 8:15 a.m. Shabbat Storytime, 9:00 a.m. Minyan Service, 9:00 a.m. Gross Chapel B'nai Mitzvah of Jami Gallant and David Keith, 10:15 a m

## Friday, April 23

Metzora, Leviticus 14-15 Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

## Saturday, April 24

Torah Class, 8:15 a.m. Minyan Service, 9:00 a.m. B'not Mitzvah of Pamela Hirschberg, Rachel Eisenhauer, Samantha Kennedy, 10:15 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Berkenkamp, 10:30 a.m.

## Friday, April 30

Ahare Mot, Leviticus 16-18 Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. Ruth Bass Sanctuary Building

#### **CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES**

APRIL 2	6:04 P.M.
APRIL 9	7:11 P.M.
APRIL 16	7:18P.M.
APRIL 23	7:26 P.M.
APRIL 30	7:33 P.M.

# Sharey Tefilo-Israel

Rabbi Daniel M. Cohen, D.Min. Rabbi Ellie Lynn Miller Rabbi Harvey S. Goldman, D.Min., D.D., Rabbi Emeritus Rabbi Herbert Weiner, Rabbi Emeritus Cantor Theodore Aronson Joan Finn, Cantorial Soloist Lay Leadership Arnold Budin, President Barbara Stoller, VP Steve Pomerantz, VP Richard Flaum, VP Sandra Dick, VP Nancy Fogel, VP Joel Scharf, Treasurer Marcia Weinstein, Financial Secretary Jesse Bayer, Financial Secretary Judy Epstein, Corr. Secretary Ann Merin, Recording Secretary

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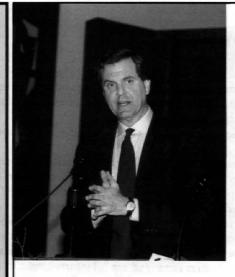
## **High Holy Day Appeal**

We gratefully acknowledge the extraordinary generosity of our member

## **Arthur Steven Lewis**

who again this year contributed at the highest donor level of our campaign.

We thank Jane & Michael Brick for their gift to the campaign.



David A. Harris

## **Conversations**

David Harris, Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee, addressed the throngs who turned out for his "Conversations..." presentation on March 14. Mr. Harris called for the recognition and the addressing of growing numbers of anti-Semitic acts throughout the world. His remarks brought the audience to their feet in support of his comments.





# From the Rabbi's Study

Dear Friends—

The Passover Hagaddah speaks of four children, one wise, one wicked, one simple and one who does not know how to ask. The chacham, the wise child, inquires into the depths of our ancient tradition. The rasha, the wicked child, chooses to separate himself from the rest of the community. The tam, the simple child asks about our ancient story with the simplicity of a young child. The final child, however, knows so little that she doesn't even know where to begin to ask.

I used to think that the rasha the wicked child who steps away from family and communal responsibilities— was the most problematic of the four children. After all, such an individual rejects his or her legacy and refuses to accept the commitments that come from being part of the Jewish community. Yet such an individual can, and often does, return to active Jewish involvement. Time and again I have seen college students who were unsure of their Jewish commitment renew their involvement after a period of personal searching. (I was one of them.) Moreover, I am often privileged to see adults who, for a variety of reasons, have reconnected with active Jewish living at various stages of their lives. Thus, for many, the rasha is a temporary state that results in deeper connection after a period of separation.

I am increasingly convinced that the most problematic of the four children is the fourth and final child the one who does not even know how to ask. That child embodies a level of Jewish ignorance that leaves him or her without the most basic grounding in Judaism. That individual is unable to see the meaning Judaism can bring to our lives as individuals, as a family and as a community. That individual does not comprehend the unique gifts Judaism has brought to the world during the past four thousand years. That individual, through a total lack of knowledge, represents a break in the chain oftradition that has been passed down from one generation to the next. Once broken it is forever lost.

In many ways we, the Liberal American Jewish community, have the potential to be the fourth child. We are the most highly educated community of Jews who have ever lived. At the same time, however, we are among the most poorly educated Jewish communities, as well. The height to which our secular knowledge has grown is inversely proportional to the lack of basic Jewish knowledge many of us have. We are the people of the book, but too many of us don't take the time to actually open it and allow it to nourish our lives. Yes, there are exceptions, but by and large, our core Jewish knowledge is greatly lacking.

This Pesach I invite you to join me on a journey of knowledge and to help educate the fourth child of our community. The Union for Reform Judaism (formerly the Union of American Hebrew Congregations) has recently introduced a daily online study program called "Ten Minutes of Torah". Everyone who registers for the program will receive study material five days a week from Monday through Friday which covers a wide range of Jewish topics. (To sign up for "Ten Minutes of Torah "simply register at http://www.urj.org/torah/ten/) Best of all, the material is designed to be covered in just ten minutes a day!

Sign up. Read the material.
Discuss it with your family or fellow congregants. And know that each week you will be spending fifty minutes increasing your Jewish knowledge. In a year, that is more than 40 hours of learning. Moreover, if someone in every household in our congregation participates there will be 40,000 hours of learning taking place in our synagogue community during the next year alone. And if every member participates that number will top 100,000 hours!!! Now THAT is a fitting response to the fourth child.

I wishing you and your family a joyous and meaningful Passover—

Rabbi Daniel M. Cohen





The Iris Family Sharey Tefilo-Israel Presshoot

s I may I have mentioned once before, I am a huge fan of bad science fiction movies such as 'Killer Clowns from Outer Space' and 'Creature from the Black Lagoon' (in 3-D). So it came as no surprise to me that my 19-year-old son, Alex, had invited me to join him in viewing a movie he had rented entitled 'Bug'. What was surprising was that he invited me at all. Not that we don't spend time together, but this occurred late on a Saturday night after he had been out with friends. Having fallen asleep on the couch waiting for him to arrive home with my car (moms, you know what I mean) I was groggily struggling to get off the couch and go to bed at the moment. Not wanting to miss the rare opportunity to spend quality time with Alex, I agreed to join him. I could always make up sleep time on Sunday morning. Truth be told, the illustration of a giant cockroach on the cover of the video was most likely the real reason that I decided to remain on my couch. I settled in, ready to be 'terrified'.

The opening scene is of a young child stepping on a cockroach. Immediately I think to myself," Ooh that's going to get the giant cockroaches really mad...they should be invading any minute." I was way off base. As the movie unfolded I slowly began to realize that this was not of

the science fiction genre. I'm still not quite sure which genre it is. 'Bug' isn't a laugh aloud comedy, not a shoot'em up cop movie, not a documentary, really, and certainly not a box office smash hit. It is a very interesting view of life, though.

The general premise of 'Bug' is that on a daily basis every action we take affects the very next person with whom we come in contact. The choices we make at any given moment affect the next moment. Everything that happens to you moments before you encounter another living being affects that interaction. This movie isn't about the 'big' moments in the lives of those in the story, but rather about the tiny, inconsequential, mundane moments. It's about making choices.

Many years ago when my children were young and self-centered, I had tried to explain the concept of empathy to them. When they had the option of sharing a toy or maybe the last cookie with their sibling, I allowed them to make the final choice but generally started the 'teachable moment' with a phrase something like, "For very situation you have two choices. You can choose to be nice to your sister/brother, or you can choose to make them sad." Variations on this phrase were "You can choose to make his/her life easier or you can choose to make their life harder. You can choose to be helpful or you can choose to ignore his/her needs." That is the movie 'Bug'in a nutshell. The characters'

choices; hurtful or helpful, selfish or selfless, stubborn or forgiving were portrayed in little snippets. The ripple effect of their decisions is shown in the next scenes.

As teachers in the Preschool we see the ripple effect of what has occurred immediately prior to a child coming to school. We see children who enter school crying, with half of their breakfast in hand. We also see children with big smiles and homemade cookies to share. Generally speaking, the child who is rushed, upset or angry coming in, is not going to feel much like being nice to others, while the happy, relaxed child will be more tolerant.

As the movie ended, I remarked to my son that I was very glad he *chose* to share the movie with me, and that I chose to spend the time with him.... giant mutant cockroaches or not.

> Carol Paster Preschool Director

## MAPPAT **JTORYTIME**

A story and crafts project will be presented on Saturday, April 17 at 9:00 a.m. in the Bet Tefillah.



## MILY

Sharey Tefilo-Israel Senior Youth Teens in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grades Sunday, May 2,2004 Trip to NYC Sunday, June 6, 2004 Final Event

## TOT /HAPPAT



their friends in the Jewish community, is held on the second Saturday of each month. Join us at 9:00 A.M. on April 10 for a wonderful Shabbat experience!

## Double Chai

a chance to win a year's free Temple membership! Chance tickets have been mailed. Send yours back soon!



## After Hour Emergencies

Please note that during any given weekend, one of your clergy is "on call" for **after-hours emergencies**. The individual "on call" and his/her home number is noted on the Temple answering machine at 973-763-4116.





## Linda and Rudy Slucker Religious School

I love family education. There is absolutely nothing more wonderful than watching parents and children learning together. This unique human interaction gives you faith that everything is possible in the world. I love seeing parents and their children challenging each other, teaching each other and ultimately drawing closer to each other.

Over the years I am happy to say that as our family education program has grown, the participation in our program has grown as well. Not only do we have the three giant crafts workshops, A Taste of Tishrei, Chanukahmania and the Purim Extravaganza, but also every grade level has at least one if not two special programs for our families to involve themselves in Jewish study. We have an extraordinary response from our families. In fact one of the newest members of our faculty mentioned that having taught in several religious schools in our area, she has never seen the level of parent involvement she sees here at TSTI. But, of course, being the ultimate optimist, I'm not sure I'll be "off the wall happy", until we have 100% participation in our family education programming. So, we're workin' on it!

Coming up this month are two trips to the Jewish Museum in New York City by the 1st grade and the Enrichment Class on April 11th. The 1st

graders will have a program dealing with the Jewish holidays and the Enrichment Class will be "Digging up Time", an archeology lesson.

Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade all day trip to the United States Holocaust Museum will be on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, the day of Yom HaShoah. It should be an extraordinary experience.

We launched our Parent Connection Program in March. We have had four parents of the 3rd graders share amazing lessons on the Builders of the State of Israel. The students have experienced Golda Meir, David Ben-Gurion and Theodor Herzl. Kudos to these parents, Jamie Merold, Pam Mallon, Margie Feinberg and Laurie Landau. The children loved the lessons and we know that more parents will be jumping into this fabulous program next year as we spread the Parent Connection to all of our grades.

By the time you read this article we will be in the midst of Passover. From all the teachers, Religious School Board members, Allison Newfeld and myself, we wish you all a Zeissen Pesach.

Elizabeth Best, RJE
Religious School Director



## Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel's

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Camp Weekend Camp Nah-Jee-Wah June 11<sup>th</sup> – June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2004

TSTI's Seventh Annual Family Camp Weekend takes place this year at Camp Nah-Jee-Wah in Milford, PA. The fun begins on Friday afternoon, **June 11<sup>th</sup>** and continues through Sunday afternoon, **June 13<sup>th</sup>**. Our past weekend retreats have been unforgettable experiences and this year promises to be equally rewarding.

Family Camp is...

- © Creating Lasting Memories
- © Exploring the Beauty of Nature
- Making Family Arts and Crafts Projects
- © Worshipping in the Great Outdoors
- Building Friendship by the Campfire
- © Canoeing, Swimming, Sports and Games

The cost for this weekend is just \$95.00 per adult and \$75.00 per child (children under 2 years are free). This includes all meals (full service dining hall) from Shabbat dinner through Sunday lunch, private accommodations for each family (with indoor bathroom facilities, hot showers and electrical outlets), snacks, crafts and all activities.

Reserve your family's place today by returning the attached form with your payment to Temple no later than **May 7<sup>th</sup>**. Payments are fully refundable if you cancel prior to May 20<sup>th</sup>.

For more information on Camp Nah-Jee-Wah, visit online at <a href="www.njycamps.org">www.njycamps.org</a> **Any questions, please call** Todd Lurie (973) 275-1420 or Gale Weisenfeld (973) 762-9550.

ime	
of adults @ \$95.00 each	# of children @ \$75.00 each
nildren's names	Age as of June 11 <sup>th</sup>
	-
dress	
mail address	
ome Phone #	Work Phone #

# Renaissance Group

Although I am writing this on a typical March day, you will be reading it in April, and spring will have arrived.

The precursor to spring was our visit to the Philadelphia Flower Show in March. It was so beautiful and so inspiring. Our day in Philadelphia was one of much beauty. We visited the Philadelphia Art Museum to view Manet's stirring paintings of the sea, an experience to be long remembered. After lunch (which was super delicious), we had an opportunity to spend time at the highly acclaimed flower show. It was a long day but a very special day of art and beauty. We thank our chairperson, **Judy Miller** for having arranged this day for us.

April will be a quieter month for us, but a fun event is planned. Our second annual potluck supper is schedule for Sunday, April 25. We will gather in the Green Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. Fred Miller, a talented pianist, will entertain us with songs of "our era," and we will enjoy the company of our friends as we break bread together. Mimi Braun is the chairperson of this gracious and warm event. You will receive all the details in the mail. Return your reservation slip with the information indicating what you plan to contribute to dinner, along with your check, to Dan Goldberg, please.

Our May trip is scheduled for early May: Wednesday the 11th and Thursday the 12th. We are off to Connecticut early Wednesday morning, stopping in Old Lyme to visit the Florence Griswold Museum for a guided tour with lunch (but, of course) at the famous Old Lyme Inn. We then board our bus to go to the Mohegan Sun Casino, where we will settle into our rooms. We are free to explore our new "territory," and select a restaurant, (one of many,) where we will choose to dine. After dinner, we can see one of several shows, or try our luck in the casino. The evening is ours to spend as we wish. In the morning, after breakfast, we will drive to the Mashantucket-Pequot Museum for a guided tour, enjoy a hot three-course lunch, then continue to the Lyman Allyn Art Museum in New London, Connecticut. After that, it is "all aboard" for the trip back to Temple. We hope to arrive in South Orange by 7:00 p.m.

When you belong to Renaissance, you have the opportunity to become well traveled and knowledgeable about places, things and art. We look forward to another year (2004-05) of more of the same. But, meanwhile, see you in April at supper.

Florence Seglin

# Sisterhood

I thought I would take this opportunity to list some of the projects Sisterhood has accomplished this year and in the recent past. The list is in no particular order and if some important things are left out please let me know.

#### Sisterhood:

- paid for the Torah table used in the main sanctuary
- provides scholarships for summer Jewish camp experiences
- purchased tablecloths and coffee carafes
- has given thousands of dollars to the religious school scholarship fund
- gives gift of silver candle sticks to the b'nai mitzvah youngsters
- sponsors Scholar-in-Residence brunches and provided the woman power
- sponsors Chai Learners program
- supports all temple functions with woman power and money when needed
- sent money to a synagogue in Germany where a member's husband was a visiting rabbi
- plans programs of interest to present to members and the congregation at large
- underwrites the Women's Seder
- sends Chanukah gifts to the College Corner students (this year we sent 45 packages)
- sponsors and serves lunch to Haggigah
- provides the High Holiday plantings around the building
- runs the Gift Shop a.k.a. the Judaica Shop
- bought High Holy Day prayer books
- bought furniture for the religious school
- participated in Chanukahmania crafts
- donated the Torah Covers which were made by Ina Golub

We hope you will join us as we continue to serve this wonderful Temple Family. We want your membership, your ideas, your participation, and your friendship.

Marcia Weinslein Sisterhood President

## Mazel Tov To Our B'nai Mitzvah

way to becoming a mature adult, "says Emily.



**Emily Sara Bank** will be called to the Torah on Saturday, April 3. With her will be her parents, Lisa and Todd Bank, brothers, Tyler and Jake, and grandparents Fran and Ed Bank and Shirley Landy. Emily attends Millburn Middle School where her favorite subjects are science and language arts. She enjoys her free time playing tennis, basketball, and softball and being peer leader. Her "Mitzvah Project" is volunteering for the "can Read" program, helping to create libraries in the greater Newark area. "Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means taking on new responsibilities and that I am on my



**Michael Jory Katz**, son of Michele and Peter Katz, looks forward to his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 3. Joining him will be his brothers, Eddie and Joey, and grandparents, Vicki and Lenny Katz and Lillian Taradash. Mike attends Heritage Middle School where he enjoys math and Spanish. He's also fond of basketball, baseball and ping-pong. His "Mitzvah Project" has been to help children with special needs after school with homework and sports activities.

Mike says of this milestone, "I will be expected to take greater responsibility for myself, my peers and my community."



**Jami Leigh Gallant**, daughter of Cindy and Greg Gallant, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, April 17. Jami will be joined by her sister and brother, Rachel and Josh, and grandparents Lenore and Irwin Cooperand Joan Gallant. Jami is a seventh grader at Heritage Middle School. She loves dance, soccer and field hockey, and enjoys studying math. She plans to volunteer for the American Cancer Society for her "Mitzvah Project." Jami notes, "My Bat Mitzvah means taking on greater responsibilities."



**David Maxwell Keith**, son of Laurie and Paul Keith, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 17. His sister, Genessa, and grandparents Albert Leebow and Renee Levy, look forward to celebrating with him. David enjoys science and social studies at Millburn Middle School where he plays the viola. He also plays for the Youth Orchestra of Essex County and finds spare time for playing tennis, hockey and baseball. His "Mitzvah Project" involved playing the viola for the senior citizens at he JCC. David says, "I am very proud to be carrying on the Jewish tradition of becoming a Bar Mitzvah. I look forward to taking on greater responsibilities in my home and in my Jewish community."

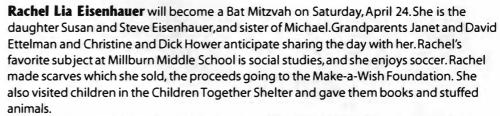


**Alexander Lewis Berkenkamp** will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 24. Celebrating with him are his parents, Marla Smith and Thomas Berkenkamp, sister, Jenna, and grandparents Jeri Smith and Ruth and Fred Berkenkamp. Alex attends Millburn Middle School where he excels in science and language arts. He enjoys playing tennis and guitar. Alex's "Mitzvah Project" is to tutor children once a week at the Boys and Girls Club in Newark, which he will continue doing because he finds it so gratifying.

Alex notes, "This is my transition to adulthood and through my mitzvah project and preparation for my Bar Mitzvah I am already assuming more responsibility. I have learned that I can accomplish whatever I really want to."

## Mazel Tov To Our B'nai Mitzvah





Rachel says, "My Bat Mitzvah marks a the time I will become a woman in our Temple. I have more responsibilities and can make more choices for myself."



**Pamela Renee Hirschberg**, daughter of Eileen Hoskin and Craig Hirschberg, will be called to the Torah on Saturday, April 24. Her brother Alex and grandparents Marian Hirschberg, Nikki Rosen and Norman Hoskin look forward to joining her. Science and language arts are Pamela's favorite subjects at South Orange Middle School. She also likes to play soccer and hang out with her friends. Pamela is collecting eye glasses for the needy and will give a portion of her Bat Mitzvah gifts to the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous.

"Becoming a Bat Mitzvah makes me realize that things I do or say can impact other people. I want my actions to change things in a positive way," says Pamela.



**Samantha Colleen Kennedy** looks forward to her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, April 24. She is the daughter of Robin and John Kennedy, sister of Sara, and granddaughter of Anne and Bill Schwartz, Patricia and John Kennedy and Pat Kennedy. Sammy attends Millburn Middle School where language arts and math are the subjects she likes best. She dances and does gymnastics in her free time. She is performing a dance routine with two friends in hospitals and nursing homes for her "Mitzvah Project."

"Becoming a Bat Mitzvah made me realize that it takes hard work and dedication to be a Jew. I know this is only one milestone in my Jewish life and that I will continue my Jewish education and work hard to increase my involvement in the larger Jewish community."

## Chai Learners

## MUSIC AND RITUAL OF THE SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Sunday, April 11,8:30AM and 11:00AM Ballroom

Instructor:Cantor Ted Aronson
Explore the music, words and meanings of our
Saturday morning prayers. Class is specially
designed to help our current and incoming B'nai
Mitzvah families. All are welcome to attend.

#### YOTZER OR

Sunday, April 18,8:30AM and 11:00AM
Rabbi Cohen's Study
Instructor: Rabbi Daniel M. Cohen
Spend the morning looking in-depth at the
Yotzer Or, one of our central prayers from the
morning service. Together we will explore this
prayer word for word and examine how it
reflects the thinking of the time and other
Jewish Literature.





## CIRQUE de SHULE ENCORE Saturday, May 15, 2004

We are looking for donations for a silent auction. Be creative! Do you have a timeshare to donate? A week at your vacation home? Airline tickets, frequent flier awards? Golf twosomes or foursomes? Spa treatments? Gift certificates to local merchants?

Or sponsor a casino table, blackjack, roulette? Last uear the auction raised significant funds for Temple programs. Make a difference for TSTI.

To send your donation or sponsorship, or to ask any questions, please contact:

Rich Flaum at Rflaum@NewJerseylaw.net or call 908-757-7800 ext 172 Fern Eatroff at Fern1551@yahoo.com or call 973-379-1551 Leslie Sporn at Lsporn@tsti.org or call 973-763-4116

# A Night at the Races



Sisterhood and Brotherhood are planning a Night at the Races. This fun event will take place on Saturday evening, June 19 at the Meadlowlands Racetrack. For only \$36 per person, you will be treated to admission, a program, and enjoy a sumptuous dinner. Our reserved tables will have an unobstructed view of the track near the finish line. What better way to enjoy a late spring evening? Watch for further information in the mail.

## A Reminder ... PROJECT SHIN

As the Project SHIN (Spiritual Healing Integrating Nursing) Nurse, I integrate the physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of health and healing in an effort to help our congregants feel connected especially in difficult times. I am available for consultations with congregants and family members to assess medical, emotional and housing related issues, helping to find appropriate and safe interventions, resources and referrals. Sometimes it only takes a short conversation, a visit, a kind word or some specific information or education to make a difference in how to approach a problem. I also make home and hospital visits by request of congregants, family members or by referral from our clergy. My goal is to help empower people to advocate for themselves and be as independent as is safe. Please contact me through the synagogue office or leave a message on my work phone, 973-736-3200 ext. 372. Note that all inquiries are confidential. As always, I am looking forward to working with you.

> Claire Absolvad Project SHIN Nurse

(Project SHIN of the MetroWest Jewish Health and Healing Center is funded through a grant provided by NJ Healthcare Foundation and United Jewish Federation Special Initiatives.)



## Elizabeth Best, RJE

Director of the Linda and Rudy Slucker Religious School

In appreciation of 18 years of leadership, dedication and inspiration to our children.



Join us for Shabbat Services
Friday, May 7, 2004 at 7:30 P.M.

A delightful Oneg Shabbat will follow

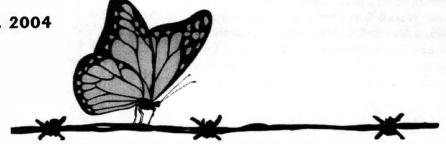


South Orange/Maplewood

## 27th Annual Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service

"Reflections: A Survivor's Story"

Tuesday, April 20, 2004



Torchlight March of Remembrance 6:45 p.m. (assemble at Grove Park on South Orange Avenue)

Remembrance Service 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church 217 Prospect St., South Orange

Co-Sponsored by South Mountain Lodge of B'nai B'rith South Orange/Maplewood Clergy Association

# Mitzvah News

Be the change you want to see in the world.

—Mohandas Gandhi

This month's Mitzvah page includes some new information, as well as reports on what we've been doing in the past few months. We hope they provide inspiration.

#### Bakin' and Jammin for Bubbes and Zaydas

In late February, a group of dedicated bakers, led by baker extraordinaire **Cathy Ehrlich**, made 800 cookies and rugulach, and jam-making expert **Robin Greenberg** and her crew made 130 jars of pear butter. The goodies went into 80 baskets, beautifully decorated by **Cheryl Weiss**, and then were delivered to six senior citizen facilities, where they warmed the hearts of people who greatly appreciated all our hard work. Special thanks to Roberta Newfeld for giving us ingredients, equipment, and kitchen space with tremendous grace and generosity.

Thanks to Cathy, Cheryl, and Robin for taking spectacular leadership roles, and thanks to those who beribboned, peeled, stirred, mashed, rolled, cut, sprinkled, and cellophaned: Zachary & Harrison Angoff, Joyce Baldinucci, Debbie Bernstein, Ivy Bernstein, Stacey Cohen, Suzie Cohen-Hanes, Rebecca & Sylvia Cutler, The Ehrlich family, Joan & Ron Finn, Carol Gelber, Josh Jacobs, Debbie Krasner, Robb & Matt Kushner, The Mink family, Jane Ostacher, Nora & Emily Patrone, Doreen Penzer, Lori, Hannah, & Alex Rafkin, Maxine Soren, Carolyn & Luisa Weiss, and Daniel Winkler. Thanks also to Al, the produce manager of ShopRite of Livingston, for a generous discount on pounds and pounds of fresh, perfect pears!

#### **Bridges**

Earlier in February, a group of TSTlers participated in the Bridges Outreach program. Peggy Barnett, The Harris family, Jill & Alex Kassirer, Fran & Coby Kurtis, Jill Kushner, The Lasky family, Stuart & Sarah Lipkind, Nancy & Leslie Marshall, and Emily, Dan, & Ricky Zacharias met at temple to sort clothing and prepare 220 bagged lunches which were delivered, along with a huge quantity of donated clothing, to a homeless shelter in Newark. Also offered were toiletry items such as soap, diapers, and baby wipes to help young homeless families.

Bridges Outreach is a non-profit organization from Summit that leads groups of volunteers to homeless areas in

New York and New Jersey. Similar to the "Midnight Run" program TSTI's youth group, STISY, participates in each year, Bridges is open to all temple families. Some of our volunteers this year were as young as 3 years old!

The program is led by Frances Moses, a man who knows the ins-and-outs of all the shelters in the area. His guidance and knowledge is amazing and we all shared a wonderful day of mitzvah together. Special kudos go to Peggy Barnett, overall supervisor and food coordinator, and Jill Kassirer, clothing coordinator and trip leader, who put in time and energy beforehand to make the day possible.

#### Green Team

Watch the May bulletin for details about a special and exciting environmentally-focused program. You'll like this one (hint: It zips along but is quiet as a mouse)! **Michael Gordon** has arranged for a presentation on hybrid cars by a Toyota representative on Wednesday, April 21 at 7:00 P.M. You won't want to miss this interesting discussion, plus you'll get a chance to see a hybrid car close-up and personal! For more information, contact Michael Gordon at gordonlaw7@aol.com or call him at 973-376-0883.

#### **Habitat**

Reminder: We're now taking signups for two more workdays. Dates are Sunday, April 18, and Sunday, June 27. Email **Barbara Laub** and **Dennis Percher** at bjlaub@att.net or call them at 973-763-8379.

Also coming up on May 11 at 8:00 a.m. is a special breakfast at the lovely Newark Club to raise funds for Habitat. Dennis and Barbara invite TSTI-ers to join them. It's a great way to learn more about the good work Habitat is doing. While this event is a Habitat fundraiser, they promise that there will be no minimum and no maximum, and no arm twisting. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Barbara and Dennis.

Kudos to Barbara and Dennis for a wonderful, sustained job of connecting us to Habitat. You can tell from the slides on our website how much TSTI-ers enjoyed their day.

#### Mitzvah Clowns

They're doing it again! Watch the May bulletin for details about TSTI's third Mitzvah Clown event. We'll learn about how Mitzvah clowning is different from regular clowning. We'll eat an early light dinner, learn how to put on make-up, get in costume, and go to a senior citizen facility to visit with residents.

# Mitzvah News

This is a pre-registered event. Participation is limited. The event is being partially subsidized by the TSTI Mitzvah Program, but EACH person is asked to pay \$18 to cover the cost of a small professional clown make-up kit, which becomes yours to keep. Please email **Rachel Kaplan** at zoulicat2@aol.com for more information.

## Soup Kitchen

Check with **Karen Seidmon** about upcoming open dates when TSTI will be going to the Lighthouse in Newark. In addition, if you'd like to go any first Sunday of the month or third Sunday of the month, please feel free to get a group of 3 to 4 families (or 4 to 6 adults plus some kids over age 7). Then call Karen, and she will help you arrange for your group to go. Contact info for Karen: email her at Kseidmon@aol.com or call her at 973-564-6272. The time commitment is from 10:15 am to 1:45 pm on a Sunday (including travel to Newark), plus some preliminary food shopping and prep work.

## A Family in Need

You may have read about David Coble, a 4-year-old struggling with brain cancer, in the South Orange/ Maplewood News-Record (the article was dated Feb. 26, 2004). It's a heartbreaking story, and his family needs money for treatment and supplementary expenses. If you are able to donate some of your Tzedekah money, this family could use it. Send to: David Coble Fund, P.O. Box 191, Maplewood, NJ 07040.

#### **Boarder Babies**

Thanks to Joan Finn for helping us to raise awareness about this need. "Boarder babies" are babies whose mothers have been discharged from the hospital without them. They often are born with some degree of drug involvement.

There are several kinds of Boarder Babies programs in New Jersey—some of them involve foster care. Others, such as Newark Beth Israel and UMDNJ's University Hospital, involve having volunteers come to a facility to participate in direct care for the babies. Still others, such as Isaiah House, located at 238 North Munn Ave in East Orange, provide a residential care program in a family-type setting for these infants.

Here are contact numbers if you'd like more information. For Beth Israel, call Kim Cook, Volunteer Coordinator, at 973-926-7194. For UMDN J, call Department of Volunteer Services at 973-972-4064 For Isaiah House, call 973-678-5882.

# Dealing with Breast Cancer Treatment A Panel Presentation Sponsored by TSTI Sisterhood

for those who have been diagnosed and for those who love someone who has been diagnosed

One of the most frightening phrases you can hear is, "You have cancer." And for women who are told they have breast cancer, fears about mortality are accompanied by intense feelings about how their bodies will be altered.

The bad news about breast cancer is that many women will get it—1 out of 8, in fact. But the very good news about breast cancer is that it is detectable in early stages and it is treatable. So the survival rate is excellent.

Still, you have to go through treatment. Often, the time span from the diagnosis to surgery is just a few weeks, a head-spinning time to absorb information, make decisions, and communicate with family members. Then, after surgery, there is sometimes medication to take, chemotherapy, and/or radiation.

Our panelists—**Deborah Duane, Jill Kushner,** and **Cindy Sobelman**—are *not* offering a seminar about the clinical side of breast cancer treatment. The medical profession can offer you state-of-the-art equipment and knowledge. What we're offering is the other side of the experience—a patient's perspective on ways to cope, along with some techniques and tricks for feeling good. We will provide a list of resources and give you a terrific book.

We will also offer some ideas about how you can help others who have been diagnosed—how to offer support where and when it counts most. It seemed appropriate to coordinate this Mitzvah project with the TSTI Sisterhood as a way to reach the women of TSTI (and, of course, the people who love them). Our thanks to Sisterhood for their generous sponsorship of this program. Watch for details in the May bulletin with the date and sign-up sheet, and email Jill Kushner at jillmkushner@yahoo.com or call her at 973-763-8844 if you want more information



## **Conversations**

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Open to the community Admission \$12.00 Admission is free for students with ID

For tickets, please call: 973-763-4116

Coffee and dessert will be served

At noon on Sunday, April 25, 2004, our congregation will join with hundreds of thousands of people from around the country in a historic March on Washington, D.C., to protect reproductive freedom and women's health.

## Join the March for **Women's Lives** April 25, 2004

Busses leave Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel parking lot at 6:00 a.m. sharp and return about 9:00 p.m.

We will supply metro passes to get to and from the bus parking lot and the National Mall.

Important!!! Be sure to bring both a bagged breakfast and a bagged lunch. The bus is not scheduled to make any stops for food on the way to Washington, D.C.

We will stop on the way home for dinner — please bring money for food.

Cost per person: \$36 (check made out to "TSTI – March)

We must have your response by APRIL 15 to reserve a space on the bus. There is *limited* space available, so please register as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Rabbi Miller at 973-763-4116 or email March@tsti.org

Waiver: The March for Women's Lives and Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel assume no liability or responsibility for damage or theft to cars that are parked in the departure parking lot or for the theft of any possessions left on the bus. Take all personal belongings with you.

Yes,I (we) want to join you on this important march!	
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Mail to:TSTI March, 432 Scotland Road, South Orange, NJ 07079	

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Contributions in memory of loved ones and in honor of the simchas in our lives are acts of loving kindness. We are grateful for your generous support of Temple through various Tribute Funds.

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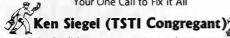
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