

Temple Rodeph Torah **NEWS**

תורה ודבר

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VOLUME 16, NUMBER 4

FROM RABBI WEBER

Why 2K?

That is the question posed by a coffee mug we have in our kitchen. It is from a Jewish educational organization, and it asks a very *good* question for Jews: why should this whole "Year 2000" thing matter to us?

Those of us who use computers have just about had our fill of Y2K paranoia. Most of us have decided not to stock up on six months' worth of food and water, and we are comfortable with the assumption that the bank will not "forget" all our deposits in a haze of Y2K hangover. As for this being the millennium — well, that just doesn't carry a lot of weight in Jewish circles. Even without the technicality that the new millennium doesn't begin until 2001, we Jews are bystanders in this whole craze: why should we care how long it has been since "their" savior was born?

For the most part, we shouldn't care. Whether Jesus was born in the year zero, or in minus-three, or whether the changes in the calendar over the centuries make the whole question moot, the number of the year A.D. — *Anno Domini*, "the Year of our Lord" — is nothing more than the date we write on letters and checks. As my friend always said, "Let *their* mother worry"; it's just not our problem.

But then again, it is.

This is a time of great excitement, great anticipation, in many Christian circles. Many people truly believe that as the new millennium begins, the Messiah will choose to return to earth and to complete the prophecies of ancient days. It is a time of waiting, of hoping, of reevaluating lives to prepare for the Day of Judgment. I find no fault with that; it is the equivalent of our opening the door for Elijah at each Pesach *seder*, as we pray that this year will be *the* year for all of us.

Our problem arises with those who feel it is their duty to hasten the Messiah's return, and who feel that Jews are standing in the way of that return. Missionary efforts directed at Jews have increased tremendously in recent years, culminating in the Southern Baptist Convention's publication of a prayer guide for the High Holidays this year, through which Baptists can pray that Jews will see the light and convert to Christianity. (They just recently issued another such guide, to help Hindus see the light; we're not the only ones lucky enough to

SPECIAL EVENTS

**FIRST NIGHT OF HANUKKAH —
Friday, December 3**

**BRING YOUR HANUKIYYAH TO
BOTH HANUKKAH SERVICES —
December 3 and December 10!**

**HANUKKAH PRAYERS &
READINGS — Page 5**

**MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST WITH
THE RABBI — December 12**

**KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICES
ON FRIDAY, 12/24 AND 12/31 —
5:30 p.m.**

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL WINTER
VACATION — December 22 through
January 4**

have them praying for our souls!) Beyond the missionizing, we have also seen an increase in anti-Jewish violence: the attack on the JCC in California, fire-bombing of synagogues in California, New York and Connecticut, and an Internet full of anti-Jewish venom. These are not mainstream Christians, but I fear they are people who have taken the Christian millennium fever as permission to kill and destroy. Searching your own soul to prepare for the Messiah is fine; feeling that *my* soul is standing in the way of the Messiah is a dangerous belief. And I am not alone in this concern: the FBI recently issued a report, cautioning that the coming months may well see an increase in anti-Semitic and anti-minority violence spurred on by images of the Apocalypse.

Arlo Guthrie once said, "Some people think I'm their problem, but that's their problem." He was right, but only to an extent. If people don't like us because we are Jewish, that is, indeed, *their* problem. But when they decide to "fix" their problem, it becomes ours, too.

What is going to happen? Well, either the Messiah *is* going to come this year (in which case, please ignore everything I've ever taught), or s/he is not. If s/he does not arrive, there will be a lot of disappointed people — and they can be just as dangerous as overanxious people. I believe that we will see a continuation of this sort of violence for the next few months, then a quiet time, and then another resurgence as we approach the end of the year 2000. It is possible that as people see the year slipping away they may be driven to force a resolution, and then it will become our problem once again. Once we are into 2001, I believe things will return to normal and we can go back to worrying about our computers taking over, as Stanley Kubrick predicted.

Why am I not more alarmed about the possibility of violence over the next year? First, because being alarmed will not solve anything, or prevent it from happening. We will take every possible precaution, both at Rodeph Torah and at Jewish institutions around the world, but there is nothing we can do to stop every crazy person who wants to take history into their own hands. But what reassures me, and allows me to relax even in the face of this threat, is the response of Americans to every act of violence we have seen. Unlike Germany in the 1930's, each attack on a Jew or a synagogue has brought a massive reaction from the *non-Jewish* community: marches, rallies, speeches and denunciations coming from every pulpit and podium in the country. So long as our non-Jewish neighbors cry out their disgust for those who would kill and destroy in the name of religion, we are as safe here as we are anywhere in the world.

So, on this Hanukkah, I suggest we celebrate with a little more seriousness, a little more focus on what it means to light a candle in the darkness. We should thank God for the gifts of our tradition, the blessings of our family and the safety of our country — a country where most of the people who don't believe as we do still stand up and speak out for our right to believe as we do.

Shira, Noah, Ari, Eytan and I wish you a *Chag Ha-Urim sameach* — a joyous Festival of Lights — and a happy... 5760.

Rabbi Don Weber

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We Warmly Welcome the Newest Members of Temple Rodeph Torah:

June Young and her children, Rachel Catanzaro and Rebecca Harraka

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

- Friday, 12/3 - **Family Shabbat Service/First Night of Hanukkah – 8:00 p.m.**
B.Y.O.H. — *Bring Your Own Hanukiyyah (and candles)!*
 ☆ Birthday Blessings for December; Candle Lighting p.m.
- Saturday, 12/4 - **Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m.** *Minyan Group Aleph.*
 B'nai Mitzvah: Amanda Gross and Corey Stein
- Friday, 12/10 - **Shabbat Service/Last Night of Hanukkah – 8:30 p.m.**
B.Y.O.H. — *Bring Your Own Hanukiyyah (and candles) AGAIN — This Time, with a Lot More Candles!*
 Sermon: "How Do You Respond to 'Merry Christmas'?"
 Richard Herzog, Soloist; Candle Lighting p.m.
- Saturday, 12/11 - **Shabbat Morning Service – 10:00 a.m.** *Minyan Group Bet.*
- Friday, 12/17 - **Shabbat Services:**
 7:30 p.m. – "Very Young People's Shabbat" (20 minutes, for pre-readers)
 8:30 p.m. – Service
 Sermon: "Strangers in a Strange Land"
 Rabbi Shira Stern, Soloist; Candle Lighting p.m.
- Saturday, 12/18 - **Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m.** *Minyan Group Aleph.*
 B'nai Mitzvah: Daniel Sugarman and Jonathan Tasch
- Friday, 12/24 - **Kabbalat Shabbat Service – 5:30 p.m. Note Earlier Time!**
 Linda Cranin, Soloist; Candle Lighting p.m.
- Saturday, 12/25 - **Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m.** *Minyan Group Bet.*
- Friday, 12/31 - **Kabbalat Shabbat Service – 5:30 p.m. Note Earlier Time!**
 ☆ **Anniversary Blessings for December;** Candle Lighting p.m.
- Saturday, 1/1 - **Shabbat Morning Service – 10:00 a.m.** *Minyan Group Aleph.*



Happy Hanukkah

TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH of Western Monmouth

P. O. Box 125, Marlboro, NJ 07746

Office Telephone 308-0055 / Religious School 308-3836 / Night Telephone at Temple 303-9701

www.trt.org

Rabbi	Donald A. Weber	Office 409-1268 Home 972-2595	RebWeb@compuserve.com
Educator	Edna Coleman	308-3836	
Temple Administrator	Sheryl Cooper	308-0055	Shez18@aol.com
Nursery School Director	Ellen Pearlman	308-0055	
President	Randy Cranin	409-2489	rcranin@worldnet.att.net
Vice-President	Ellen Finkelstein	972-8624	ellenstf@aol.com
Corresponding Secretary	Karen Goldstein	364-8493	klsgold@aol.com
Financial Secretary	Ron Tornberg	780-6860	RonTTRT@aol.com
Treasurer	Saul Curtis	536-1119	Saulcurtis@aol.com
Adult Education	David Brown	462-9772	dabprog@aol.com
ARZA	Steven Konigsberg	536-8404	stevenkon@aol.com
Building & Grounds	Cathy Karmiller	972-3522	
Caring Community	Janet Caruso	536-0001	
	Fran Cohen	446-2886	
College Outreach	Lynn Chodos	536-5036	
Design	Janet Klemons	462-4838	drcdrk@aol.com
Education	Laurie Kaufman	972-2920	Lhkaufman@aol.com
Empty Nesters	Rachel Pachter	536-5653	
Finance	Ron Berman	303-9432	Rjbcpa@monmouth.com
Horaiynu	Marla Bucher	972-7307	Mmack59@aol.com
	Lori Fishkin	972-3594	L64fish@aol.com
Judaica Shop	Marcia Borshof	972-1906	
Library	Bonnie Sugarman	972-8990	
Membership	Karen Goldstein	364-8493	klsgold@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Una Tedoff	946-3492	Rivkatl@aol.com
Onegs	Pam Brisman	303-1443	
	Bonnie Siegel	591-8797	Treebee1@aol.com
Sisterhood Presidents	Debbie Heitner	536-6114	
	Ellen Levine	446-1794	Ejzl@aol.com
Social Justice	Ed Russin	536-5498	lsource@monmouth.com
Web Site Administrator	Neal Finkelstein	972-8624	webadmin@trt.org
Worship	Neal Finkelstein	972-8624	
Yahrzeits	Linda Cranin	409-2489	zimra@worldnet.att.net
Youth	Peter Sugarman	972-8990	petes@njgs.dep.state.nj.us
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tutors	Rina Eliran	536-8916	
	Ruth Haim	536-3596	
Senior Youth Advisor	Ross Bear	609-936-0116	rtsy@trt.org
Junior Youth Advisor	Greg Benisch	761-1087	

Please call the temple office if you know of any temple member who is ill, or who has been admitted to the hospital. We want to visit and offer our help, but we cannot help unless we know about them!

*Temple Rodeph Torah is a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations,
and a Partner Congregation of Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger*

TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH of Western Monmouth

HANUKKAH SUPPLEMENT

"How many Hanukkahs are there?" asked the rabbis.

"Not just one," we say, "but eight. Eight dedications: Creation, Shabbat, the desert sanctuary, Solomon's Temple, the Second Temple, the Maccabees, Israel, and the World to Come..."

Blessed is the match consumed in kindling flame.

Blessed is the flame that burns in the heart's secret places.

Blessed is the heart with strength to stop its beating for honor's sake.

Blessed is the match consumed in kindling flame.

(The candles are placed in the *hanukkiyah* from right to left, and kindled from left to right. As you use the *Shamash* to light the other candles, recite these prayers:)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai, Elo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam, a-she kid-sha-nu be-mits-vo-tav ve-tsi-vanu le-had-lik ner shel Hanukkah.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Source of all Creation, for giving us *mitzvot* that make us holy, and commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai, Elo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam, she-asah ni-sim la-avo-tei-nu ba-ya-mim ha-heyman baz-man ha-zeh.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Source of all Creation, who performed wonderful deeds for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

(On the first night only, add this blessing:)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai, Elo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-che-yanu ve-ki-i-manu ve-hi-gi-anu laz-man ha-zeh.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Source of all Creation, for creating us, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

When Hanukkah falls on Friday evening, follow these blessings with the Shabbat candle lighting, *Kiddush*, and *Hamotsi*.

BOARD NOTES

The following action was taken at the October Board meeting:

The Board voted to accept a gift of a *Hanukiyyah* from Edna Coleman, given in memory of her late husband, Marty Coleman.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Who are the people making decisions for us all at TRT? Are they any different than you or me? Find yourself in their stories. This month we meet **Alyse Gleitman**.

Alyse and her husband, Gary, live in Marlboro with their two sons, Alex and Scott. The Gleitman family has lived in Marlboro for the past six years, moving here from East Brunswick. Alyse spent her childhood in Queens, New York, and her teenage years in Yonkers, New York. Gary grew up in Spring Valley, New York. The family has been members of the temple for the past five years.

Alyse works as a Marketing Assistant for Prudential Insurance Company. She also designs Mica furniture as a side venture and hobby. Gary is the Vice President of Sales for a New York recycling company. Everyone in the family is a big-time sports enthusiast, especially when it comes to baseball. Alyse and Gary both sit on the Marlboro Little League Board of Directors. Alex, age 12, and Scott, age 10, play all kinds of sports from soccer to hockey to basketball to baseball. Gary has a big passion for college basketball. Alyse loves to spend any free time she might have reading, checking out furniture, and shopping. Alyse is also a member of the Youth Committee and is a new member of the Social Justice Committee.

Alyse grew up in a Conservative Jewish home. She practiced a lot of traditions without knowing why she was doing things. Through adult education classes, she has gained a sense of understanding of, and commitment to, Judaism. "Being Jewish has become a part of me instead of just something I am." She decided to become a Board member because she had a lot of questions about why things were done one way or another. The opportunity to learn more was one she could not pass up. For Alyse, the most pressing issue the temple is faced with is one of finances. "When I listen to the things that the congregation would like to see changed, a lot has to do with affording to make those changes. If the members of the temple truly understood the strain our wallet is under, maybe some help would be more forthcoming." Alyse also thinks it is extremely important that we bridge the gap between the Board and the congregation. "I think we need to keep striving for more member involvement. The temple cannot just be a place to drop your kid off to become a Bar Mitzvah." As a new Board member, Alyse feels she is in a true learning stage. "The commitment of the Board members to really try and make decisions that are right for all of us is amazing. There is a great feeling of camaraderie one gets from being a part of something that is so critical to the temple." Despite all of this, Alyse finds it difficult at times. "It is tough explaining all that is involved in some of the Board's decision-making processes and all the hard work and research that goes into their decisions. I find it difficult to combat some of the negative attitudes I have encountered." Alyse would like to see us all discover the positive things the temple has to offer us. "If we expect our children to carry forth Jewish traditions, then we better give them something positive to carry forth. If the temple is important in your life, then it will be important for your children."

EDUCATION

A story is told of a prince who fell into the delusion of thinking he was a rooster. He took off all his clothes, sat under the table, and refused to eat any food but corn seeds. The king sent for many doctors and many specialists, but none of them could cure him. Finally, a wise man appeared before the king and said, "I think that I can cure the prince." The king gave him permission to try.

The wise man took off his clothes, crawled under the table, and began to munch on corn seeds. The prince looked at him suspiciously and said, "Who are you and what are you doing here?"

The wise man answered, "Who are you and what are you doing here?"

"I am a rooster," answered the prince belligerently.

"Oh, really? So am I," answered the wise man quietly.

The two of them sat together under the table until they became accustomed to each other. When the wise man felt that the prince was used to his presence, he signaled for some clothing. He put on the clothing and then he said to the prince, "Don't think that roosters can't wear clothing if they want to. A rooster can wear clothes and be a perfectly good rooster just the same."

The prince thought about this for a while and then he, too, agreed to put on clothes.

Another time the wise man signaled to have food put under the table. The prince became alarmed and said, "What are you doing?" The wise man reassured him. "Don't be upset. A rooster can eat the food that human beings eat if he wants to and still be a good rooster." The prince considered this statement for a time and then he, too, signaled for food. Then the wise man said to the prince, "Do you think that a rooster can get up and walk around if he wants to and still be a good rooster?" The prince considered these words for a time and then he followed the wise man up from under the table and began to walk. After he began dressing like a person and eating like a person he gradually recovered his senses and began to live like a person.

(Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav, as retold by Jack Riemer, and published in Joseph Telushkin's book *Jewish Wisdom*, William Morrow and Co., New York, c1994.)

In this way must genuine teachers go down to the level of their students if they wish to raise them up to their proper place. Our responsibilities as educators are many. The circumstances our teachers confront daily are challenging. Presently, as we enter the new millennium, the family structure is changing. There are more single parents raising our students than ever before, more "blended" families, more students with two working parents, and more relatives who identify with other faiths. There are many questions being asked by educators regarding the philosophical approach, the pedagogical techniques, the theological dilemma, and the effective and cognitive answers to this existing social situation.

Reform Judaism, with its foresight, is providing some guidelines to this complicated situation. We are a movement which indeed *moves* with the times.

On October 10, 1999, teachers from all five of the Reform Congregations in Monmouth County spent the morning together at Monmouth Reform Temple in Tinton Falls, where they studied, discussed, and debated some of the issues we are confronted with in our various classrooms. The theme of the day was "Why Reform Not

Reformed." Close to 100 Reform teachers attended. All welcomed the opportunity to be among "equals" with other Reform colleagues.

Rabbi Sally Priesand of Monmouth Reform Temple presented a moving keynote address, "Her Hopes for Her Students." I am indeed indebted to Rabbi Weber for finding the time and teaching us about "What We, as Reform Jews, Believe." We also focused on "How We, as Reform Jews, Pray," "What We, as Reform Jews, Celebrate," and "How We, as Reform Jews, Welcome (the non-Jewish relatives, etc.)."

My vision of many years came through with hard work and persistence. I am grateful to my colleagues Helene Matorin, Educator of Temple Beth Miriam, Dina Maiben, Educator of Temple Shaari Emeth, David Levinsky, Educator of Monmouth Reform Temple, and Ilana Feitlowitz, Educator of Temple Shalom for seeing the need, for believing in ourselves, and for accomplishing our goals. Our teachers asked that we continue this event each year, and we will.

This day could not have been possible without a generous grant from the Jewish Federation of Monmouth County and the help of the UAHC.

I wish you a wonderful and joyous Hanukkah.

Edna Coleman, RJE

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Wednesday, Dec. 1 | - | Mrs. Cohen/Mrs. Ghidali's Classes, 7 th Grade Service (1 st hour) - 8:00 p.m.
Parents, please join us. |
| Sunday, Dec. 12 | - | 4 th Grade Class Trip to the Yeshiva University Museum, leaving at 8:30 a.m. |
| Sunday, Dec. 19 | - | Mrs. Cohen/Mrs. Meyers' Classes, 4 th Grade Service (1 st hour) - 10:10 a.m.
Parents, please join us. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 21 | - | Mrs. Sherman/Mrs. Cheslow's Classes, 6 th Grade Service (1 st hour), 8:00 p.m.
Parents, please join us. |
| Wednesday, Dec. 22 - | | |
| Tuesday, Jan 4, 2000 | - | Winter Vacation |
| Wednesday, Jan. 5 | - | School Resumes |

HORAIYNU

The year is just flying by, and we have many exciting activities to look forward to in Hebrew School over the next few months. This month, the students will be celebrating . The fourth grade will be going on a trip to New York City that should be very exciting for all. In addition, several of the 4th, 6th, and 7th grade classes will be having a grade service. The 5th grade enjoyed the Hey Happening in Westfield on November 21st. A special thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with this event. On November 21st, Sisterhood and *Horaiynu* had their annual Hanukkah Boutique. This was a successful fundraising event and a good time was had by all. I would like to thank all of our volunteers who helped make this day a success. In addition, we just completed the "Gold C" Entertainment campaign, which went very well.

A happy and healthy holiday season to all!

Marla Bucher

SISTERHOOD

Once again our Hanukkah fair was a success. The children all had a wonderful time playing games, making crafts, and eating the delicious *latkes*.

We would like to thank the TRT Bowling League for their most generous donation to Sisterhood.

Our next program, "A Night at the Movies," will be held on Tuesday, January 23, 2000. More details will follow. Everyone is invited and you can bring a friend. Dr. Steven Gordon is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 22nd. We are looking forward to his return.

It is still not too late to join Sisterhood. We have had very successful membership participation this year. Don't be left out. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please give us a call. We would love to hear from you.

Debbie Heitner and Ellen Levine, Co-Presidents

MEN'S CLUB

The first Breakfast with the Rabbi was a resounding success. Twenty-five men had bagels and coffee and talked about their own Jewish upbringing. Everyone participated in the discussion and seemed to have enjoyed the experience. The next Breakfast with the Rabbi will be on December 12th, 1999, from 10:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will talk about the religious legacies we hope to leave our children. For more information please call Jeff Ball, at 462-2336.

Topics for the Next Breakfast with the Rabbi

What religious gift do *you, yourself* want to give your children or grandchildren? That is, what Jewish practice do you want them to do that reminds them of you?

What *should* be men's role in the temple?

*Sunday, December 12th, 1999
10:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
in the Sanctuary*

SOCIAL JUSTICE

On October 24th we held our first *Tikkun Olam* day. I want to thank all the people who helped make our first of many *Tikkun Olam* days a success. Throughout the community were members of our temple. If you went to the beach, we were there cleaning. If you went to the nursing home, we were there. We were also cleaning a park, giving blood, collecting food, and reading to children at a shelter. The day was a success and a start to repairing

a damaged world. Over 100 people gave their time to make this all happen. We had 30 people sign up to give blood, which is the biggest turnout we have ever had.

If you signed up for one of our projects through the Mitzvah Pledges you will be contacted in the near future. If you signed up to go to a soup kitchen we have a great problem. So many people have signed up that we will start sending people every week instead of once a month. I just love problems like this!

Here is an update on a project we undertook last year. A group of temple members helped a homeless family repair a run-down house in town. We painted and cleaned up the house so that the family would have a place to live. Today this husband and wife are both working and have medical coverage. They have a nice home to live in thanks to some wonderful people. We do a lot of things throughout the year to help repair our damaged world. We won't finish, but we sure do a lot. Why not come out and help us? If you want to join the committee you can come to our next meeting on Sunday, December 19th. If you just want to help with one of our projects and have not signed up, just call me and we will see what you would like to do.

Ed Russin

Reports from *Tikkun Olam* Day

On *Tikkun Olam* Day, a group of congregants went to the Cook Educational Center in Eatontown. The Cook Educational Center is affiliated with Spring House. Spring House is a halfway house for homeless women that provides the women and their young children with a safe, secure place to stay while they re-enter the workforce and save money so that they can eventually afford to move into apartments of their own.

Our mission that day was to provide story-time reading and craft activities for the children. We arrived at the Center at approximately 2:00 p.m. For the next hour and a half we read books to approximately 10 children ranging in age from 18 months old to seven years old. The group from the temple consisted of approximately seven adults and eight children. We all took turns getting involved, but it was especially rewarding to see our kids reading to these little ones, getting them interested in the stories, and later helping them with art projects. Our kids made pumpkins, ghosts, scarecrows, goblins, and paper chain dolls to the absolute delight of the children we were there for. One 18-month-old baby insisted on throwing all the books on the floor until one of our kids got him interested in a Sesame Street book!

Originally, we had been scheduled to go to a different locale for this project. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation we had collected, in August and September, approximately 500 books! At the last minute, this other place canceled on us and we had to scramble to come up with a venue to participate in. We were able to contact Spring House but they were unable to guarantee that any of their people would be available for this date. Thankfully, we had a wonderful turnout from the residents of Spring House.

Everyone who participated in this venture came away feeling absolutely wonderful. It is definitely something that we should strive to do again.

Una Tedoff

We did a good job this year cleaning Cliffwood Beach on *Tikkun Olam* day. Everyone who participated, young and old, worked very hard to transform the beach from the filthy state we found it in to a clean beach. We were all very happy with the results and left with a feeling of pride. Be on the lookout this spring when we will have another beach cleanup. Bring the family. You will enjoy helping and spending a wonderful few hours improving the environment.

Kenneth Tedoff

YOUTH

The Fifty-Sixers and the Thirty-Four Club had an incredible turnout for their first planned activity. Both groups enjoyed pizza and soda at the temple and then they took a bus to Sports 'N Stuff for laser tag, basketball, dodge ball, batting cages, and arcade games. I never saw so many smiles or heard so many compliments after the activities were over! On December 5th, the Fifty-Sixers will get to participate in making their own sundaes, playing games, and watching a mystery movie. We always welcome more kids into our membership. Membership for the year is \$18.00 plus a \$5.00 activity fee. Membership forms and flyers are in the temple office. The RSVP deadline is November 30th, so please sign up as soon as possible. The Thirty-Four Club's next event will be held in January. Watch for the details, coming soon!

Hope to see you soon!

Greg Benisch, Junior Youth Director
761-1087

COLLEGE OUTREACH

The TRT College Outreach Committee provides a link between TRT and its college students. Thus far, mailings consisting of temple newsletters and birthday cards and a gift package are being planned, as well as personal e-mail from Rabbi Weber. The committee (Sharon Aptaker, Susan Berman, Janet Caruso, Sandy Craig, Hillary Feldman, and I) has been contacting congregants for telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of our college students. If you have not been contacted and have a child in college, please call Rabbi Weber's office, at 408-1268, or call me, at 536-5036.

Lynn Chodos

FINANCE COMMITTEE

WHAT ARE "SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES"?

Since I have become Financial Secretary of the temple this past June, there have been several occasions where members have approached me to explain "special circumstances." Specifically, special circumstances are situations where, as a result of hardship (health, employment, marital, etc.) a temple member might not be able to pay their monthly temple bill. For years TRT has had a mechanism in place to deal with this. The Special Circumstances Committee is made up of the President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, and one other member of the Board of Directors appointed by the President. Currently, this committee is made up of Randy Cranin, Ellen Finkelstein, Robbin Leibowitz, and myself. When I took the Financial Secretary position, this included chairing the Special Circumstances Committee. I must tell you that years ago, I questioned the process as it seemed to be very secretive and I did not understand, as I am sure many of you do not either, that there was and still is a very formal process in place for determining special circumstances eligibility. Well, after having been involved for five months, I can tell you that the process is an excellent one. Let me outline the process for you.

(continued...)

1. The Special Circumstances Committee deals with matters brought to them in strictest confidence. The only people privy to what is going on are the four members of the Committee. Even the rabbi is not aware of who is being given consideration for special circumstances relief.
2. A Special Circumstances Application needs to be requested from the Financial Secretary. The application requires a written explanation of the special circumstances as well as certain financial information to assist the Committee in determining the amount of financial assistance necessary.
3. The application is submitted directly to the Financial Secretary for initial screening. The Financial Secretary will ensure proper completion of the application with the member should there be any missing information.
4. Every other month, or more frequently if needed, the Special Circumstances Committee convenes to consider the applications it receives. The Financial Secretary presents the information, and usually includes a recommendation to the Committee. The Committee, after an intensive review of the application, makes a preliminary decision on the amount of assistance to be granted. All decisions are then compared to the others being considered and to all currently open special circumstances cases. This gives us one more cross-check for reasonableness of the amount granted. A letter is then sent to the member informing them of the final decision.

Assistance is granted for the current fiscal year only, which ends in June of each year. The member must reapply annually. Furthermore, if the situation changes during the course of the year, it is the obligation of the member to inform the Financial Secretary, at which time the special circumstances will be reconsidered based upon the updated information.

The amount of relief granted can range from simply deferring the building fund and/or capital assessment until some future time (these are never waived; just deferred until the member is able to pay) to a complete waiver of membership dues and religious school fees. It is also important to recognize that the Bar/Bat Mitzvah fee and all religious schoolbooks must be paid when due. Approximately five percent of our members receive some form of special circumstances assistance. This amounts to less than three percent of our operating budget.

I hope this overview answers some of your questions and gives you some comfort with this very serious subject. I do implore any member that is aware of abuses of this critical process, to bring it in strictest confidence to my attention, or to the attention of any executive board member with whom you feel comfortable speaking. Naturally, if you would like to discuss any of this information, or your personal situation, please feel free to contact me at 780-6860, Monday through Thursday, between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., or anytime on Sunday. You can e-mail me at RCTTRT@aol.com.

Ron Tornberg
Financial Secretary

Viewpoint

A subtle, yet significant, change caught my attention this year during the High Holy Day services. Sitting in our lovely, new, freezing-cold, holiday sanctuary I was noticing the congregants who had been given the honor of reading *aliyot*. In previous years, there was always a pause as new people went up to the podium to read their part. This year that really did not happen. The congregation, reading along in their prayerbooks, did not skip a

beat. In many instances, it was up to the reader to keep up with the congregation. No one was stopping and waiting for the reader to take the lead.

Does anyone remember the times in years past when the rabbi would be doing all the reading and hardly anyone would be reading aloud with him? He would interject into the services something like, "I'm not here to pray for all of you so you better start praying for yourselves." When is the last time he had to remind us of that? It appears that as a congregation we have really grown to this place where we are all praying for ourselves and the readers keep us on the right page but are a part of us rather than separate from us.

After thinking about this for awhile, I realized that there have been other subtle, yet significant, changes taking place that are very positive for us. During Friday night services it seems as if more people are getting up and going out of their way to truly say hello to someone they have never met before. During our first *Tikkun Olam* Day held in October, we had over 100 volunteers of all ages participating in community service projects, all at the same time! The Men's Club will meet this month, for the second month in a row, to discuss the issue of men's spirituality. A group of women meet on a monthly basis to discuss women's spirituality. The newly formed Fifty-Sixers and Thirty-Four Club had an incredible response to their kickoff activities. Adult Education classes are bursting at the seams with enrollment in the eighties, per class. Okay, so this last one is not subtle at all!

Could there actually be a momentum building here at TRT — a momentum of participation that we have been striving so hard to reach? How exciting it will be if we continue on this way, with more and more congregants taking small forays into temple life, giving it the infusion of new blood it needs to keep its heart beating strongly. It may be a momentum that does not gather much speed and that is okay. We only need it to gather passengers.

Una M. Tedoff

(Share your views. Guest columnists welcome. All appropriate material will be given consideration. Comments, suggestions, feedback? Drop me a line or e-mail me at Rivkat1@aol.com)



Torah Today

A Brief Summary of Each Week's Torah Portion

Shabbat 12/3-4 Parashat Vayyeshev, Genesis 37:1-40:23 Summary by Jason Goldberg

Joseph, son of Jacob, is subdued by his jealous brothers and sold into slavery in Egypt. His brother, Judah, tricks his daughter-in-law into fathering her child. Joseph's master's wife tries to seduce him, and has him imprisoned when he refuses. While in prison, Joseph successfully interprets two men's dreams.

Shabbat 12/10-11 Parashat Mikketz, Genesis 41:1-44:17 Summary by Tracy Berman

Pharaoh has two dreams about the number seven. Joseph is the only one who can interpret them, saying God was telling Pharaoh there would be seven years of abundance and then seven years of famine. Joseph is put in charge of the court, and his predictions come true. During the famine, Joseph's brothers come begging for food which Egypt had rationed, but they did not recognize Joseph, who gives them food, but takes his brother Benjamin as a prisoner.

(continued...)

Shabbat 12/17-18 Parashat Vayyigash, Genesis 44:18-47:27 Summary by Neal Finkelstein

Joseph is alone with his brothers and reveals his identity to them. He reassures them that he is not angry with them. Joseph believes that God meant for him to rise to power in Egypt so that Joseph could save his family's lives.

Joseph sends his brothers home to Canaan with food and gifts, and tells them to bring his father and all the family to Egypt where he will provide for them. Pharaoh also invites Jacob and his family to dwell in Egypt and provides wagons and food for the journey. Jacob and his family travel to Egypt. God appears to Jacob and assures him that God will be with him while Israel is in Egypt. God promises to redeem Israel from Egypt, thus foretelling the Exodus.

Shabbat 12/24-25 Parashat Vayechi, Genesis 47:28-50:26 Summary by Jessica Hanan

Before dying, Israel (Jacob) asks to be buried with his ancestors. He blesses Joseph's sons and tells his own sons, who become the twelve tribes of Israel, their future. With the Pharaoh's permission Joseph brings Israel to his burial place. Joseph returns, forgives his brothers, promises to feed them, and before dying, tells them God will help bring them out of Egypt.

Shabbat 12/31-1/1 Parashat Shemot, Exodus 1:1-6:1 Summary by Beverly Azarchi

The Egyptians try to control the Israelites by enslaving them. Moses' mother hides him in the Nile, to save him; he is found and raised by Pharaoh's daughter. After killing an Egyptian (who was beating a Hebrew slave), Moses flees Egypt only to return after God appears to him in a burning bush. Moses and Aaron are sent by God to save the Hebrew slaves from the misery of Egypt. God predicts that Pharaoh will release the Israelites only out of fear of a greater might.

NEWS AND NOTES

ARE YOU COLLEGE-SHOPPING?

Children of our members are currently attending a number of colleges and universities across the nation. If you are planning a visit to any of these schools, we would appreciate your looking up "our kids" and saying hello. In addition, they may be able to help you with questions about the school, or to provide some real-life insight into programs, atmosphere, and college living.

This year, our students are at these schools:

American University	Ithaca College	Tufts University
Binghamton University	Johnson & Wales Culinary East	University of Delaware
Brandeis University	Montclair State	University of Denver
Brookdale College	New Mexico Technology	University of Indiana
Columbia University	New York University	University of Maryland
Cook College	NYU	University of Michigan
Cornell University	Penn State University	University of Pennsylvania
Douglass College	Ramapo College	University of Pennsylvania -
Duke University	Rider University	Wharton School of Business
Earlham College	Rutgers University	University of Rhode Island
Emerson College	SUNY Albany	University of Rochester
George Washington University	Syracuse University	University of Virginia
Hofstra University	Towson University	William Patterson University

If you would like the names and addresses for any of our students, please call the office or Rabbi Weber.

NEWS AND NOTES, continued...

QUALITY PROGRAMS IN ISRAEL FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Reform Movement sponsors a wide range of exciting summer and semester-long programs in Israel for high school and college-age students. These programs are open to all members of Reform congregations throughout the world, and include extensive touring, seminars, archaeological digs, kibbutz life, college credit, and more!

UAHC/NFTY IN ISRAEL Programs offer unforgettable, creative summers and semesters for young people seeking to explore the miracle of modern Israel. Contact NFTY IN ISRAEL at (914) 987-6300, or see Rabbi Weber for more information.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES THRIFT SHOP

Jewish Family & Children's Services (JF&CS) operates a Thrift Shop for used furniture, appliances, and decorative items. They depend on donations of these items from members of the community. All proceeds from the sales go to support the JF&CS programs.

Contact the Thrift Shop through Joyce Fisch, at 774-6886. They will arrange to pick up your donations, which are still tax-deductible!

WHY YOU SHOULD ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN

Right now you are reading our temple newsletter. Every day of every month, temple members (and the temple) purchase products and services from non-temple members when those same products and services are offered by temple members! Why? Because we don't know what business you are in. All things being equal, wouldn't you rather buy from a temple member? So would we! So, let us know who you are and what your product or service is, and we'll look forward to doing business with you!

For further information, please contact the temple office, at 308-0055.

"HONORABLE MENSCHEN"

For all the time, effort, consideration, and caring he put into making *Tikkun Olam* day a reality, the participants would like to thank Ed Russin.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

to Brian and Barbara Kaplan, on the birth of their daughter, Samara Jill Kaplan
to Andrea and Joel Brandt, on the birth of their granddaughter, Leigh Veronica Brandt
to Irene and Arthur Farber, on the birth of their grandson, Gregg Hunter Gorstein
to Mary Singer, on her election to the Marlboro Township Council
to Rory Singer, son of Marsha Singer, on winning the Georgia State USA and Georgia Golden Gloves titles in amateur boxing

Do you have a simcha in your family — an engagement, promotion or academic award? Please call the temple office and tell us, so we can tell the world for you!

You are Cordially Invited

You have shared in our lives with your friendship and love. We invite our family and friends to celebrate with us as our daughter, Amanda Karyn, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, December 4, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for the *oneg* following services.

Marsha and Kevin Gross

It is with much love, pride, and joy that we invite you to join our family as our son, Jonathan Scott, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 18, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for the *oneg* following services.

Debbie, Brian and Justin Tasch

With great pride and joy, we invite you to share in our happiness as our son, **דניאל** Daniel Isaac, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on December 18, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. Please celebrate with us at the *oneg* following services.

Bonnie and Peter Sugarman

CONTRIBUTIONS

Building Fund

Sue and Ron Berman, in memory of Lewis Stein
in memory of Benek Bolender, father of Marlene Shapiro
for the speedy recovery of Shira Stern

Teri and Lou Friedman

Ilene Norber, for the *yahrzeit* of Marcia Kaplan

Ronald Klug, for the *yahrzeit* of Hans Michael Rosenow

Craig Fischer Memorial Fund

Barbara Klein, for the *yahrzeit* of Theda Kushel
for the *yahrzeit* of Ely Kushel

General Fund

Janet Fine, for the *yahrzeit* of Richard C. Loebel

Ellen, Robert, Jeremy and Adam Levine, for the *yahrzeits* of Irving Zeltzer, Ida Zeltzer and Morris Zeltzer

Bert Kaplan, in memory of Al Heller

Rachel, Erik and Ira Pachter, in memory of Benek Bolender

Robert Midoneck, for the *yahrzeit* of Murray Midoneck

Melody Midoneck, for the *yahrzeit* of Brett Jessurun

Goldie Wein, for the *yahrzeit* of Dena Goldstein

The Jaclin Family and Gorskie Family, in memory of Thomas Connolly

Robin and Barry Smolofsky, in memory of Vicki Goldstein's grandmother

Rosemarie Kindon, in memory of Lewis Stein

Ingrid DiFazio, for the *yahrzeit* of Max Klein

Stella Guarna, for the *yahrzeit* of Terry Deutsch

for the *yahrzeit* of Alex Deutsch

(continued...)

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund, continued...

Linda Golden, for the *yahrzeit* of Manuel Pollack
Lynn Sternberg, for the *yahrzeit* of Leon Garelick
The Sugarman Family, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Tedoff

Helena Project Fund

Seth Misshula
Sheryl, Bruce, Jon and Michelle Cooper, in memory of Sylvia Weinstein

Herzog Cantorial Fund

Elise, Barry and Jennifer Kaye, in recognition of the profound impact that Rich Herzog's cantorial services have had on our TRT experience
Linda, Randy, Dani and Rachel Cranin, best wishes for the speedy recovery of Rabbi Shira Stern
Marlene and David Shapiro, in appreciation of Richard Herzog for his beautiful cantorials

High Holiday Prayerbook Fund

The Dudick Family, Ruskin Family, Wildman Family and Windman Family, in memory of Joseph Thaller
Judy Goldberg, for the *yahrzeit* of Gerry Goldberg
Susan and Alan Ross and Family, in memory of Selma Barack

Hirsch/Rosen Memorial Youth Fund

Elise, Barry and Jennifer Kaye, in celebration of Stu Gleich's wonderful medical report and with best wishes for continued good health
Men's Club
Robin and Barry Smolofsky, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Scott Heitner

Israel Scholarship Fund

Ellen, Neal, Rachel and Jill Finkelstein, with best wishes for the speedy recovery of Rabbi Shira Stern
Paula Kanofsky, for the *yahrzeit* of Stuart L. Sharenow
Laurie, Steve, Liza and Adam Kaufman, in memory of Benek Bolender
Ellen, Neal, Rachel and Jill Finkelstein, in memory of Benek Bolender
Andrea, Chaim, Chad and Sara Goutter, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Steven Oved
Ellen, Neal, Rachel and Jill Finkelstein, in memory of Lewis Stein
in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Gregory Silverman

Mortgage Fund

Teri and Lou Friedman
Irene Ash, for the *yahrzeit* of Thomas Schulman
Marlene Shapiro, in appreciation of my temple family for their support
Steven Kaufman, for the *yahrzeit* of Leonard Kaufman
for the *yahrzeit* of Masha Shulman
Marlene and David Shapiro, in memory of Miriam Reesfeld
for the *yahrzeit* of Jennie Weinstein
for the *yahrzeit* of Sam Litwak
for the *yahrzeit* of Nettie Litwak
for the *yahrzeit* of Leah Litwak

Nursery School Fund

TRT Nursery School, to Beth and Jamie Sholom, in honor of the birth of their son, Ethan

(continued...)

CONTRIBUTIONS

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Glen Myers, Samantha Geracht Myers and Joshua, in honor of the New Year
 Patti and Edward Klein, in honor of Lindsay's Bat Mitzvah
 Doreen Mizrahi, in honor of Rabbi Weber's encouragement and guidance toward her Bat Mitzvah
 Phyllis and Burt Krauss, in honor of the rabbi and shofar blowers coming to their home on Rosh HaShanah
 Sheryl, Bruce, Jon and Michelle Cooper, for the speedy recovery of Rabbi Shira Stern
 Elise, Barry and Jennifer Kaye, for the speedy recovery of Rabbi Shira Stern
 in appreciation of Rabbi Weber's sincerity and caring support
 Janet and Paul Goldstein, for the speedy recovery of Rabbi Shira Stern
 Gloria and Ed Russin
 Karen and Brian Halpern
 Principal's Cooperative Exchange, in honor of Rabbi Weber's classes for Reform Jewish teachers
 Evelyn Halstead Cooper, in honor of the anniversary of her conversion
 Warren and Iris Schubert, for the *yahrzeit* of Leon Schubert
 for the *yahrzeit* of Gussie Schubert
 Cathy and Steve Karmiller, for the *yahrzeit* of Rose Katz

Religious School Equipment Fund

Janet and Paul Goldstein, in memory of Benek Bolender
 Marlene, David, Jenna and Sara Shapiro, in memory of Benek Bolender
 TRT Faculty, congratulations to the Tedoff Family on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Tedoff
 Sheryl, Bruce, Jon and Michelle Cooper, in memory of Benek Bolender
 Elaine and Edward Kahan, in honor of our wonderful grandson, Daniel Kahan, on the occasion of his beginning his
 Hebrew education

Sanctuary Improvement and Beautification Fund

Marsha, Kevin, Elissa, Amanda and Daniel Gross, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Doreen Mizrahi
 Richie, Aaron, Eva and Brooke Mizrahi, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Doreen Mizrahi
 Sarah Mizrahi, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Doreen Mizrahi
 Betty, Fred, Stephanie, Paul and Shari Pilcz, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Doreen Mizrahi
 Mrs. and Mr. Stein, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Doreen Mizrahi
 Doreen, Richie, Aaron, Eva and Brooke Mizrahi, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Gross
 Rhonda, Steve, Shaun, Landon and Derin Goodman, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Gross
 TRT Board of Directors, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Scott Heitner
 Sheryl, Bruce, Jon and Michelle Cooper, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Doreen Mizrahi
 Marlene and David Shapiro, in appreciation of our temple family

Social Justice Fund

Teri and Lou Friedman
 Gloria and Ed Russin, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Tedoff
 Barbara, Mark, Matthew and Gregory Hirsch, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Stephanie Sherman

Tree of Life Plaques

Rhonda, Steve, Landon and Derin Goodman, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Shaun Goodman
 Rhonda, Steve, Shaun and Derin Goodman, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Landon Goodman

HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL

We thank the following families for their generous support of this year's High Holiday Appeal.

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Robert Silverman
The Von der Fecht Family
Belle Weiss
Carol & Jed Zaitz & Family

TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH of Western Monmouth
P.O. Box 125, Marlboro, NJ 07746
TEMPLE CONTRIBUTIONS FORM

- ☐ **BUILDING FUND** (For the construction and maintenance of our home)
- ☐ **CRAIG FISCHER MEMORIAL FUND** (To honor Craig's memory with a communal dedication)
- ☐ **GENERAL FUND** (For the maintenance of temple programs and activities)
- ☐ **HELENA PROJECT FUND** (To provide Shabbat meals for families in times of upset and difficulty)
- ☐ **HERZOG CANTORIAL FUND** (For the future cantorial needs of the congregation)
- ☐ **HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYERBOOK FUND** (For the purchase of prayerbooks) Any amount may be donated to this Fund, but a contribution of \$20 or more is required to dedicate a prayerbook.
- ☐ **HIRSCH/ROSEN MEMORIAL YOUTH FUND** (Provides funding for youth programs)
- ☐ **ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND** (Provides financial assistance for youth trips to Israel)
- ☐ **LANDSCAPING FUND** (For the purchase of trees, shrubs and flowers to beautify our property)
- ☐ **LIBRARY FUND** (For the purchase of books for our new Library)
- ☐ **MORTGAGE FUND** (Dedicated completely to paying down the principal on our mortgage)
- ☐ **NURSERY SCHOOL** (For the development and support of our Nursery School program)
- ☐ **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND** (Administered by the Rabbi for the benefit of the congregation)*
- ☐ **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL EQUIPMENT FUND** (Provides durable equipment for the Religious School)
- ☐ **SANCTUARY IMPROVEMENT and BEAUTIFICATION FUND** (To refurbish the Sanctuary)
- ☐ **SISTERHOOD TRIBUTE FUND** (To further the work of Sisterhood)
- ☐ **SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND** (To support the Committee's work of "repairing the world")
- ☐ **TEMPLE BEAUTIFICATION FUND** (For the purchase of art and aesthetically pleasing items for our building)
- ☐ **WILLNER/WEINSTEIN EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND** (Provides interest income for the Religious School's future)

*** **TREE OF LIFE/MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** To celebrate a special occasion by purchasing a leaf for the Tree of Life, or to honor the memory of a loved one who has died, please call the Temple office. A Dedication Form will be sent to you.

* Make checks payable to *TRT-Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*; all other funds payable to Temple Rodeph Torah.

This donation is being made:

In MEMORY of: _____

In HONOR of: _____

Donation made by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Acknowledgement to be sent to the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contributions of any amount are welcomed, but there is a \$10 minimum for each acknowledgement you wish sent.
 Please refer all questions to our temple office, 308-0055.

Yahrzeits

These names will be included in the list of *yahrzeits* on the Shabbat indicated. In addition, at our Friday evening service and Shabbat morning *minyan*, we will invite all those who wish to rise and say the name of the one(s) for whom they are saying *Kaddish*.

DATE	DECEASED	REMEMBERED BY
Shabbat Observance 12/3-4		
12/1	David Davidowitz	Jay Davis
12/1	Herbert Smith	Judi Stern
12/2	Irving Orlofsky *	Ellen Berrol
12/2	Mildred Litman	Marcia Sokal
12/2	Ely Kushel	Barbara E. Klein
12/3	Milton Trencher *	Ellen Finkelstein and Sheryl Cooper
12/4	Stanley Levine *	Myrna Nussbaum
12/4	Bella Leah Lehrer	Richard Lehrer
12/4	Arnold Bayer	Mark Schwitz
12/4	Robert Salowitz	Terri Kolodny
Shabbat Observance 12/10-11		
12/5	Fannie Kornbluth Dundish	Gail Lewis
12/5	Bernard Burstein	Alan Burstein
12/6	Lorraine Mahler *	Robin Schwartz
12/7	Samuel Samuelson	Susan Berman
12/8	Leah Shapiro *	Allen Shapiro
12/8	Fannie Shapiro	Irwin Shapiro
12/8	A. Leon Futterman	Marjorie Stevens
12/8	Sara Beverly Milstein *	Maxine Perlman
12/8	Anna Ackerman	Stu Katzanek
12/10	Molly Gross	Ruth Kaufman
12/10	Morris Eisner	Sheila Aptaker
12/11	Harry Silver	Allan Silver
12/11	Murray Falk	Ed Falk
Shabbat Observance 12/17-18		
12/12	Milton Wolfson	Martin Wolfson
12/12	Joseph S. Newman *	Roberta Rafaloff and Shirley Newman ל"ה
12/12	Ann Sarna	Steve Sarna
12/12	Gesina B. Pfeufer *	Barbara Sprechman
12/13	Herbert Shenkman	Lois Korman
12/14	Neal Stevens	Jeff Stevens
12/15	Emanuel Herzog *	Richard and Fred Herzog, Rose Herzog
12/16	Ida Edenbaum	Susan Berman
12/16	Susan Winslow *	Judy Pius ל"ה, Renee and Sy Winslow
12/17	Marvin Davis *	Jay Davis
12/17	Irwin Kaplan	David Kaplan
12/18	Clair C. Snyder	Linda and Randy Cranin

(continued...)

Shabbat Observance 12/17-18, continued...

12/18	Herman Reingold	Brian Reingold
12/18	Gertrude Averack Silverberg	Lisa Reingold
12/18	Sheila Seider	William Fireman
12/18	Abraham Ruderman	Janet Crain Klemons

Shabbat Observance 12/24-25

12/19	Jacob Rosenhoch	Neal Finkelstein
12/20	Esther Ross	Allan Ross
12/21	Ralph George Handwerker	Ray Handwerker
12/21	Mildred Korkes *	Randy Cranin
12/22	Harry Allen *	Lorraine Allen
12/22	David Kornbluth	Gail Lewis
12/22	Patrick Groleau	Donna Hirsch
12/22	Maxwell Klapholz	Andrea K. Kazin
12/23	Rose Krasna	Lisa Plavin
12/23	Harry Karmel	Arthur Karmel
12/24	Charles M. Goldsmith *	Chuck Kavitsky
12/25	Samuel Selfon *	Mindy Kavitsky
12/25	Abraham William Schenk *	Fran Gottlieb
12/25	Anna Marcus	Barbara E. Klein
12/25	Nathan Shapiro	Jeff Shapiro

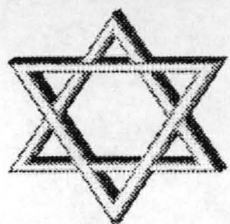
Shabbat Observance 12/31-1/1

12/26	Jack Sundelson	Joan Leimbach
12/26	Robert Kahan	David Kahan
12/26	Joseph Amarosa *	Loretta Shapiro
12/27	Ida Robins	Ronit Litwack
12/27	Selma Kahn	Cindy Sarna
12/28	Julius Rudnick	Marlene Schlossberg
12/28	David Ebert	Terry Ebert
12/28	Abraham Wolfe	Barbara Sher
12/29	Debra Kreitman	Ilana Silvan
12/29	Daniel Panconi	Pamela Brisman
12/30	Norman Willner	Marc Willner
12/30	Morris Korman	Steve Korman
12/30	Joseph Margolies *	Alan Margolies and Bernard Margolies
12/30	Stephen Honig	Alana Cohen

*** Indicates the dedication of a plaque on our Memorial Wall.**








Jewish tradition suggests that we give *tzedakah* to honor the memory of our loved ones who have died.



Temple Rodeph Torah

December 1999







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30 PM RTSY Board 8:30 PM Worship Committee	2 8:10 PM Adult Ed. Talmud for Beginners	3 8 PM Family Hanukkah Service  Hanukkah 1st night	4 10 AM Services B'Nai Mitzvah of Amanda Gross & Corey Stein Minyan Aleph Hanukkah 2nd night
5 9:30 AM Exec Board 11:00 AM Gun Control Committee 6 PM 5-6ers Movie Night Hanukkah 3rd night	6 12:30 PM Adult Ed. Talmud for Beginners Hanukkah 4th night	7 8:30 PM Youth Committee Hanukkah 5th night	8 6:45 Post Confirmation 8:30 PM Caring Community Comm. Hanukkah 6th night	9 8:10 PM Adult Ed. History of Israel Hanukkah 7th night	10 8:30 PM Shabbat Service  Hanukkah 8th night	11 10 AM Services Minyan Bet
12 10 AM Membership Comm 10:50 AM Men's Club Bkfst 1 PM RTSY Social Action Program 7 PM Women's Sprituality Group	13	14 8:30 PM Sisterhood Board	15 8:30 PM RTSY Board 8:30 PM Board of Directors	16 8:10 PM Adult Ed. Talmud for Beginners	17 7:30 PM Young People's Shabbat  8:30 PM Shabbat Service	18 10 AM Services B'Nai Mitzvah of Daniel Sugarman & Jonathan Tasch Minyan Aleph
19 7 PM Social Justice Committee	20 12:30 PM Adult Ed. Talmud for Beginners	21	22 No Religious School (thru Jan. 4)	23 8:10 PM Adult Ed. History of Israel	24 5:30 PM Early Shabbat Service 	25 10 AM Services Minyan Bet
26	27	28	29	30	31 OFFICE CLOSED  5:30 PM Early Shabbat Service	



Temple Rodeph Torah

January 2000



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10 AM Service Minyan Aleph
2	3	4 8:30 PM Youth Committee	5 6:30 PM RTSY Board 8:30 Worship Committee	6 8:10 Adult Ed. Talmud for Beginners	7 8:00 PM Shabbat  Family Service	8 10 AM B'nai Mitzvah of Perri Goldstein & Landon Goodman Minyan Bet
9 9:30 AM Exec Bd 5:30 PM New Member Orientation 7 PM Israel Trip Meeting	10 Hebrew HS begins at TRT	11 8:30 PM Sisterhood Board	12 8:30 Education Committee	13 8:10 PM Adult Ed. History of Israel	14 8:30 PM Shabbat  Service RTSY Creative Service	15 10 AM Bar Mitzvah of Michael Curtis Minyan Aleph
16 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	17 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19 6:30 PM RTSY Workshop 8:30 PM Board of Directors	20 8:10 Adult Ed. Talmud for Beginners	21 7:30 PM Young People's Shabbat  8:30 PM Shabbat Service	22 10 AM Bar Mitzvah of Alex Gleitman Minyan Bet 7:15 PM Bowling UAHC Shabbaton
23 10 AM Wicker Church Visit	24	25 8:30 PM Sisterhood	26 6:45 PM Post Confirmation	27 8:10 PM Adult Ed. History of Israel	28  8:30 PM Shabbat Service	29 10AM Bat Mitzvah of Lindsay Silberman Minyan Aleph 7:15 PM Bowling
30 11 AM Literacy Challenge	31					

Join
Rabbi Donald Weber
and Temple Rodeph Torah
On a Tour to

Israel

with *Ayelet* Tours, Ltd.

July 27 – August 9, 2000

\$3,219.00 per person

Double Occupancy

Your Tour Includes:

- * Round-trip Air from JFK on EL AL Israel Airlines
 - * 2 nights at the Hyatt Hotel in Jerusalem
 - * 1 night at the Dan Panorama Hotel in Haifa
- * 2 nights at Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar in the Galilee
 - * 4 nights at the Hyatt Hotel in Jerusalem
 - * 1 night at the Hyatt Hotel in the Dead Sea
- * 1 night plus late check-out at the Hilton Hotel in Tel Aviv
 - * Full Israeli breakfast daily
 - * 2 Shabbat dinners
 - * 2 Kibbutz dinners
- * Gala Bar/Bat Mitzvah dinner at Cardo Culinarium
 - * 1 Dinner at the Dead Sea
 - * Farewell dinner
- * Touring and entrance fees
- * Transfers and Portage

Itinerary

Day 1: Thurs., July 27th: Depart the U.S. for overnight flight to Israel.

Day 2, Fri., July 28th: Arrive in Israel. Transfer to Jerusalem. Sh'hekianu on Mount Scopus. Welcome Shabbat at the Western Wall. Shabbat dinner and overnight Jerusalem.

Day 3, Sat., July 29th: Morning services at local synagogue. Old City walking tour. Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 4, Sun., July 30th: Caesarea, Akko, Rosh Hanikra, Haifa. Overnight Haifa.

Day 5, Mon., July 31st: Bahai Shrine, Visit to Druze Village, Safed – dinner and overnight Galilee.

Day 6, Tues., Aug. 1st: Golan Heights, Tel Dan Nature Reserve, Katzrin. Dinner and overnight Galilee.

Day 7, Wed., Aug. 2nd: Sachne, Bet Alpha, Bet Shean, Pass Jericho. Return to Jerusalem. Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 8, Thurs., Aug. 3rd: Morning Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony at Kehillat Kol Hanesama. Yad VaShem, Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery. Scavenger hunt in Jerusalem. Gala Bar/Bat Mitzvah dinner at the Cardo. Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 9, Fri., Aug. 4th: Israel Museum, Gosh Etzyon Settlement, Mea Shearim, Shabbat services at local synagogue. Shabbat dinner and overnight Jerusalem.

Day 10, Sat., Aug. 5th: At leisure. Overnight Jerusalem.

Day 11, Sun., Aug. 6th: Depart for Dead Sea region, Qumran, Flour caves, Dead Sea "swim". Dinner and overnight Dead Sea.

Day 12, Mon., Aug. 7th: Massada, Be'er Sheva, Airforce Museum, Tel Aviv. Overnight Tel Aviv.

Day 13, Tues., Aug. 8th: At leisure in Tel Aviv. This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner in Jaffa. Late night departure for the airport.

Day 14, Wed., Aug. 9th: We arrive in the U.S. in the early morning. *The memories last forever!!*

Tour does not include: departure taxes (approx. \$53.00), tips, or items of a personal nature. Price is based on double occupancy. Single supplement is \$839.00. Cancellation penalties are as follows: \$100 per person charge if cancelled more than 60 days before departure. \$250 per person charge if cancelled 60-15 days before departure. Additional hotel/airline penalties may apply if cancelled 14 days or less before departure. Travel insurance is available and recommended.

Disclaimer: Ayelet Tours, Ltd., Temple Rodeph Torah and Rabbi Don Weber act only as agents for the tour members in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, touring, restaurants or any other services in connection with the itinerary. We will exercise reasonable care in making such arrangements. However, we do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity to person and property because of an act of default of any hotel, airline carrier, restaurant, company, or person rendering any of the services included in the tour. The right is reserved to cancel or change itineraries or to substitute comparable service without notice. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any tour passengers should such person's health or general deportment impede the operation of the tour to the detriment of the other tour passengers.

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Rabbi Don Weber

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If you have always said that you are too old to begin Jewish study, this course will prove that you are only too old if you choose not to learn. Join us as we begin to learn together

Members: No fee. Non-Members: \$100. The texts can be purchased online or at Bookeeze, Yorktowne Shopping Center, Manalapan.

Classes will meet on alternate Mondays, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m., beginning **November 1st**.

To register, please complete this form and return it to the temple office.

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COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

Please register me/us for the Daytime Adult Education Program

Name _____

Name _____

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH of Western Monmouth
P.O. Box 125, Marlboro, NJ 07746

Temple Rodeph Torah's Second Annual

JEWISH LITERACY CHALLENGE

As Rabbi Weber discussed on Yom Kippur, we challenge every temple member to read one Jewish book in the next four months, and join us for a discussion on January 30th.

This program is open to the entire community, without charge.

The Challenge: *The Chosen*, by Chaim Potok

Few stories offer more warmth, wisdom, or generosity than this tale of two boys, their fathers, their friendship, and the chaotic times in which they live. Though on the surface it explores religious faith--the intellectually committed as well as the passionately observant--the struggles addressed in *The Chosen* are familiar to families of all faiths and in all nations.

To accept the Literacy Challenge, please complete the attached form and return it to the temple. We will be happy to order the book for you, or you may purchase it on your own.

YES, I ACCEPT THE JEWISH LITERACY CHALLENGE!

This fall's challenge: *The Chosen*, by Chaim Potok.

I will read the book between now and Sunday, January 30th,
and I will come to the discussion group on that date.

The discussion will be from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; refreshments will be served.

Print Name(s)

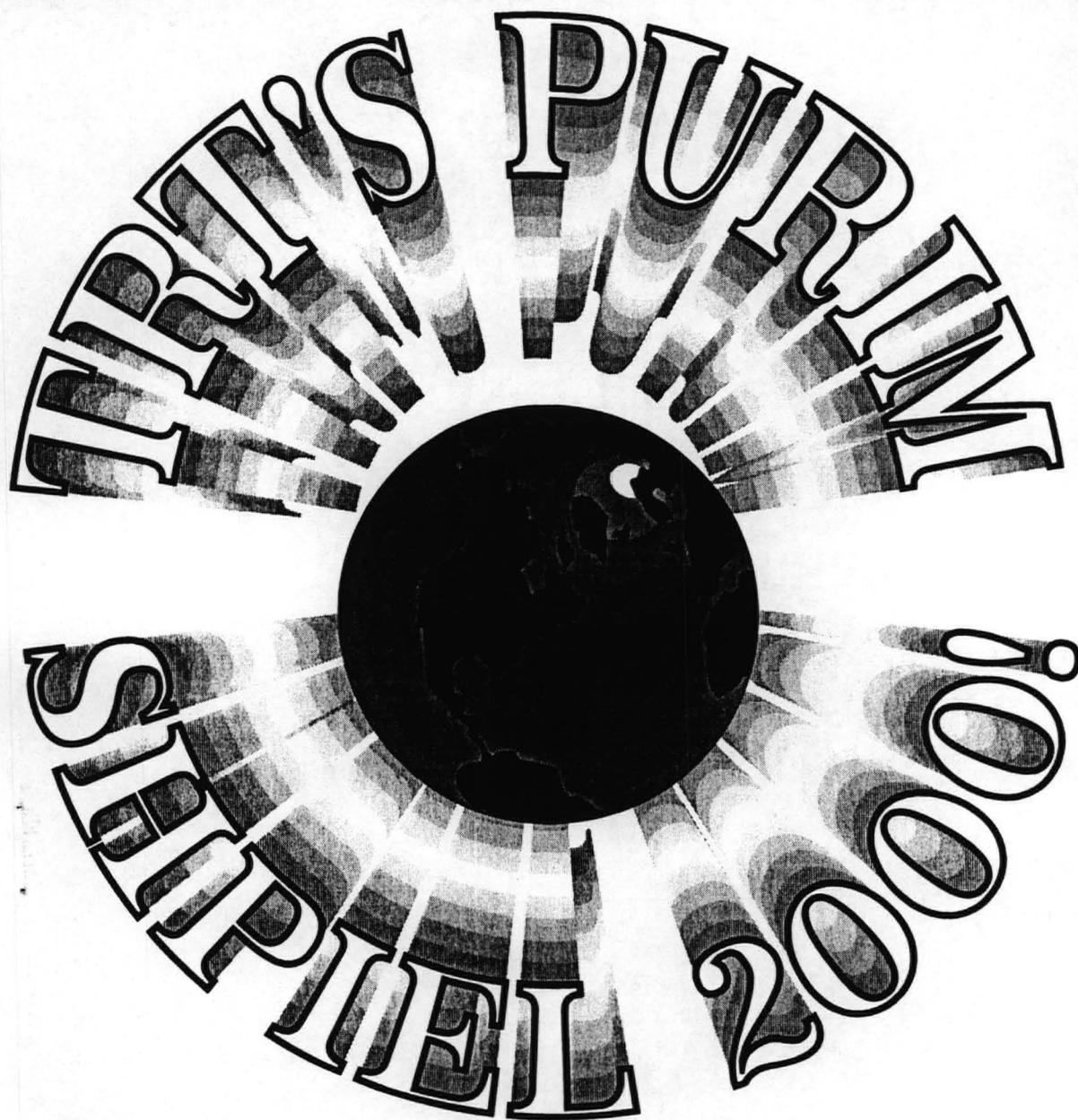
Phone

Please order _____ book(s) for me/us. (Cost: \$7.00; please enclose a check payable to Temple Rodeph Torah)

Signature

Return this form to:

TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH of Western Monmouth
PO Box 125
Marlboro, NJ 07746



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Bonnie Sugarman, 14 Montreal Square, Marlboro, New Jersey 07746.

Purchase a Booster Ad in our Temple Rodeph Torah 18th Anniversary Celebration Ad Journal

***Write any message of congratulations, Mazal Tov, or any type of greeting to the temple.**

***Congratulate current or past officers, committee chairpeople, and teachers.**

***Thank someone for just being there!**

***If you solicit \$300 worth of Journal ads you can receive a free dinner dance ticket.**

***The form is on the other side. Please send it back by January 5, 2000.**

A Booster ad is only \$18.00!

**Remember the dinner dance will be on
Saturday, February 5, 2000
Watch for your invitation!**

JOURNAL ADVERTISEMENT

Please Print Information

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ to place an advertisement in the Temple Rodeph Torah 18th Anniversary Celebration Journal

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____

Telephone () _____

Solicited By_____

Golden Page..... (5-1/2" x 8-1/2") \$500
Silver Page..... (5-1/2" x 8-1/2") \$300
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Half Page..... (5-1/2" x 4-1/4") \$100
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November 4, 1999

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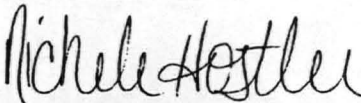
Temple Rodeph Torah
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Marlboro, NJ 07746

Please accept our heartfelt gratitude to you and the other participants whose willingness to hold a food drive benefited the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Your very generous collection of 870 pounds of assorted food will be distributed to several of our 285 member charities, which include soup kitchens, homeless shelters, homes for abused or disabled children, church and synagogue pantries and other emergency feeding programs throughout our two counties.

Last year, the foodbank distributed over two million pounds of food to the needy in the communities we serve. It is because of people like you, that we are able to continue to grow and to make a difference in the fight to end hunger in our time.

We are truly grateful to you and the other participants who support the foodbank and its programs. Your commitment to those less fortunate serves as an example for us all.

Sincerely,


Nichele Hostler

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Temple Rodeph Torah Youth Programs Membership Application Form
Academic Year 1999-2000

In order for your child to take part in any RTSY events, it is necessary to fill out this form!

Child's Full Name: _____ Parent's Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____ Grade as of 9/99: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____ @ _____

Child's Phone: _____ Parent's Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age as of 9/99: _____

Are you a member of Temple Rodeph Torah? _____

If not, please indicate who is sponsoring you: _____

Medical Information

Insurance Carrier: _____ Policy Number: _____

Date of last tetniaous: _____ Date of last MMR: _____

Does the child, whose name is listed above have any emotional problems or physical limitations that the advisor should be made aware of? _____

Please list any allergies, including foods: _____

Medical Release

I allow the RTSY Advisor to begin medical treatment in an emergency basis. This includes signing surgical releases and possibly the use of anesthesia. Because of the seriousness of this issue, I understand that contact may not occur immediately, but rather when the opportunity arises. **IF ANY EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT SHOULD BE NECESSARY, INCLUDING SURGERY, I AUTHORIZE THE RTSY ADVISOR, AND STAFF AS LEGAL GUARDIANS TO MY CHILD.**

Parent Signature: _____

Permission

I allow my child _____ permission to become a member of RTSY. I understand that for each event, I will have to sign a permission slip, wit the exact details of such event. As a parent of a child in a TRT youth program, I understand that I may be asked to chaperone one event per academic year. I understand that my child may be transported to events in vehicles owned by both TRT staff, chaperones, and volunteers. I hold harmless both Temple Rodeph Torah, The TRT staff, and volunteers harmless from any harm caused my child, accidental or otherwise.

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Child _____ Date: _____

1999-2000 Dues: Grades 9-12, RTSY \$36.00 Temple Members, \$50.00 non temple members.
Grade 8, JR RTSY Dues (TRT Members ONLY, \$25.00)

**UNIQUE SUMMER EXPERIENCE
ONLY FOR TEENS**

KUTZ CAMP, the Leadership Academy of the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY), for entering 9th through 12th graders, is set in the mountains of New York. It is the ideal place for teenagers to play and work together with Reform Jewish youth from across the world.



Future leaders choose their own program and develop leadership potential in specialized areas of interest:

- ✧ Jewish studies
- ✧ Folk dance leading
- ✧ Youth group leadership
- ✧ Student teacher training
- ✧ Song leading
- ✧ Art or theater
- ✧ Social action

*For more information, contact Rabbi Glynis Conyer
914/987-6300 or E-mail kutzcamp@warwick.net*

visit us at www.kutzcamp.org

UAHC Kutz Camp, PO Box 443, Warwick, NY 10990



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- ✧ Student teacher training
- ✧ Youth group leadership
- ✧ Folk dance leading

*For more information, contact Rabbi Glynis Conyer at 914/987-6300 or E-mail kutzcamp@warwick.net or write to
UAHC Kutz Camp, PO Box 443, Warwick, NY 10990 and visit us at www.kutzcamp.org*

Temple Rodeph Torah Youth Programs Code of Conduct 1999-2000

Before attending any RTSY of TRTJYG event, you must have read and signed this form.

This code is modeled after the North American Federation of Temple Youth, (NFTY). All Participant must fill out one of the codes prior to each event. If you have any questions, please contact the RTSY/TRTJYG staff prior to signing this form.

- 1 The possession or consumption of alcohol (other than Shabbat wine, served at kiddish) is strictly prohibited.
- 2 The possession of tobacco and drugs (of any type), is strictly prohibited.
- 3 I will not have any body alterations done, this includes earrings, tattoos, and any other non-temporary disfiguration.
- 4 I will not violate any laws: local, state, or federal, as they are part of this code.
- 5 I will abide by all rules set forth by the Temple Rodeph Torah Youth Director, staff, chaperones, and other trip advisors.
- 6 At any over night trips, I will follow all rules concerning curfews. When the last event of each day is completed, I will return to my host home/room. I will remain there until the following morning. I will also follow rules concerning housing assignments.
- 7 I will not engage in any inappropriate behavior, including sexual behavior.
- 8 I will not engage in any hazing of any type.
- 9 I will stay within any boundaries set forth on any trip.
- 10 I will not do any damage to the temple, or any car, bus building etc. that we travel to.

Child's Signature: _____ Parent's Signature: _____

Child's Name: _____ Parent's Name: _____

Parent Section

I understand that if my child should break any of these rules, he/she may be sent home immediately from the event at my expense. Any damage my child does, I am also responsible for. I also understand that I may be asked to chaperone one event per year, at the request of the TRT youth director.

Parents Signature: _____

Does it matter if your funeral home is independent & locally owned?

It should..At most corporately-owned firms, costs are *substantially higher*...than the local independent firms, and the large corporations have begun to buy funeral homes right here in our area.... in *Manalapan and Old Bridge, in fact!*

At Mount Sinai, we are proud to be independent and locally owned. We believe that *every family we serve* should receive the same careful and efficient professional service, *at a fair and reasonable cost*. We know that compared to the corporate-owned firms, our costs are substantially less, and our services are far superior. *We guarantee it.*

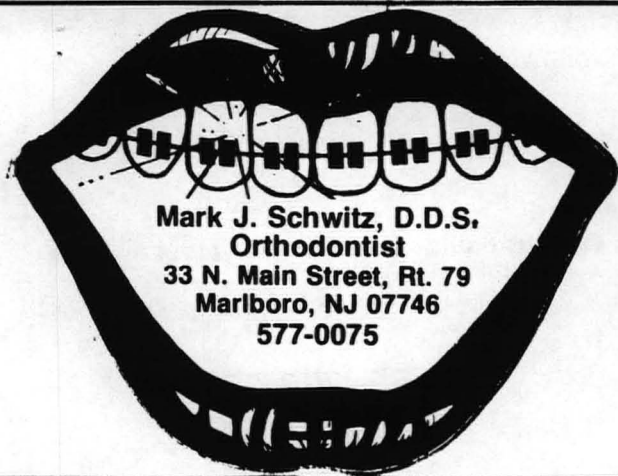
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Call: Lisa Zelenetz, Project Coordinator at (201) 722-9090 x204 or
Write: Send me your name, address and phone number and ..
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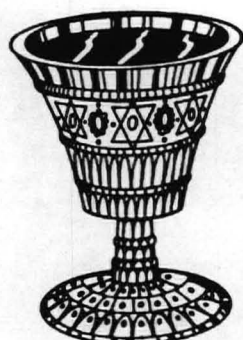
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We see it on our Temple stationery; we proclaim it on our masthead; we are invited to participate in its biennial—what is it?

It is the Union of American Hebrew Congregations known as the UAHC. It is the umbrella organization for over 850 Reform congregations in the United States, Canada, and the Virgin Islands. What does it do?

It, the Union, does many things for us that no individual or small group of congregations could do for themselves.

It links us with other Reform congregations in our area and in North America. Together we find new and effective ways to improve our Temple.

It provides valuable tools and materials about everything from social action programs to synagogue management, from attracting new members to youth programming, from outreach to dues structure.

It provides mechanisms through which we may access our Movement's rabbis, educators, and administrators when we need to hire new staff or get information.

It is responsible for many of the books and curricula we use in our religious school, as well as for a wealth of books, tapes, and videos about Judaism in the synagogue and Judaism in our homes.

It created and now funds the Religious Action Center in Washington, D.C. through which the collective voice of Reform Jews is heard on issues of conscience.

It runs nine camps across the country that provide a fantastic Jewish camping experience for our children.

It sponsors summer educational experiences for adults.

It provides a rabbinic aide training program for congregations too small to have a full time rabbi or for larger congregations where the rabbi needs assistance.

The UAHC is funded by its member congregations. Part of our UAHC dues goes to fund the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC—JIR). At the HUC—JIR campus, future Reform rabbis, cantors, educators, social workers, communal workers, and administrators are trained. HUC—JIR also offers programs, lectures, and concerts which are open to all.

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