

# Temple Rodeph Torah **NEWS**

הנהגה

DECEMBER 2000

KISLEV / TEVET, 5761

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FROM RABBI WEBER

## ISRAEL

When the Palestinians assemble for their attack, they set their battle lines:

In the front row, unprotected and defenseless, are the children. They have been taught by nursery rhyme and by indoctrination that dying in battle against the infidel guarantees immediate entry into heaven.

Behind them, with slingshots and stones, are the teenagers. They have been excused from school by the authorities, so they could participate in "spontaneous" demonstrations against the oppressors.

And behind them — safely hidden by buildings and vehicles, and by the children who march in front of them — are the soldiers, firing automatic weapons and sniper rifles.

When the soldiers attack — with the children's stones providing a cover for the bullets fired from behind — their goal is to kill the Israelis they face. So the Israeli soldiers shoot back, trying to aim *over* the children and *between* the teenagers, in order to hit those who are shooting to kill them.

Sometimes, they hit the children. When they do, *that* is what CNN reports.

What kind of cowards send unprotected children — or *any* children — into battle? What kind of soldier uses children as a shield? The answer is, an army which is making war on the battlefield of public opinion.

Why haven't we seen interviews with the Israelis who cannot live in their own homes in Jerusalem, because the Palestinians are firing into their living rooms every day? Why are there no pictures of them as they huddle in the bomb shelter in the basement of their apartment buildings? The answer is, because Israel is losing the public opinion war.

Remember those horrible pictures of a Palestinian man shielding his son against a wall, then the ghastly images of them crumbling as they were shot? Did you know that there is strong suspicion that *they were gunned down by Palestinian sharpshooters*, knowing that the cameras were trained on them? Probably not; somehow, it didn't make the national news.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**HANUKKAH BOUTIQUE & FAIR —  
December 3**

**10TH GRADE SEMINAR IN  
WASHINGTON, DC — December 11**

**CAMP HARLAM SHABBAT &  
REUNION — December 15**

**ADULT EDUCATION SERIES  
SPEAKER: STEPHEN DUBNER,  
AUTHOR OF *TURBULENT SOULS* —  
December 17**

**HANUKKAH BEGINS — December 21**

**FAMILY HANUKKAH / SHABBAT  
CELEBRATION — December 22**

**Please note the new TRT office email  
address: [trtooffice@att.net](mailto:trtooffice@att.net)**

Israel has been in this position before. In the mid-1970's, when the Arabs flexed their oil-embargo muscles, people suddenly decided that Israel was "the oppressor" in the Middle East, and she stood virtually alone. Not only were the media unwilling to present anything even remotely pro-Israeli; even the United Nations General Assembly — the same body which voted to establish the Jewish state in 1947 — voted that Zionism was a form of racism. Never mind that there are Jews of *every* race; never mind that Israel was busy spiriting *black* Jews out of Yemen and Ethiopia, because the other people in those countries hated Jews; never mind that the 1973 war was started by a surprise attack on Israel by its enemies, on Yom Kippur day, and that Israel barely survived the initial days of that war. None of that mattered, because the public opinion makers were not interested in facts. Israel was the racist oppressor, because they *said* it was the racist oppressor.

And so it is, once again. Without a doubt, Ariel Sharon was asking for trouble when he and his guards strolled around on the Temple Mount. But the *fact* is that they did not damage a single stone while they were there; why is that portrayed as such a crime, while the complete, total destruction of Joseph's Tomb by the Palestinians — who were quoted as saying, "We are doing this so the Jews do not ever come back" — was barely mentioned in the press? Why is it that the "unblinking eye" of the camera catches the Israeli soldiers firing on Palestinian children, but never seems to notice the sound of bullets — not stones, but *bullets* — whizzing by the Israelis? The answer is, because the media are buying what the Palestinians are selling, and that is what we get when we turn on the television or open the newspaper.

Equally as important, we are being led to believe that all of Israel is in a state of war, and this is also not true. While changes have been made in the routes people drive, and security has been increased in public places and meetings, life goes on, just as it always has. But when the Palestinians can "sell" the media on the image of violence, they know they are attacking one of Israel's most precious resources: tourism. No less serious than cutting off water or blockading a harbor, the Palestinian attack on the battlefield of public opinion is designed to keep everyone away, and to starve Israel's second-largest industry.

So, what can we do, living here in the United States? The first thing is very simple: don't believe everything you hear or see. Not because the things you hear and see aren't *true*, but because they are not the *whole truth*, and half-truths are what the Palestinians are selling. Second, listen to *Jewish sources* as well as secular ones: *The Jerusalem Report*, for example, is an excellent, honest reporter of events in the Middle East; I strongly suggest you subscribe. I, too, will do my best to forward stories and news reports of interest to you, through our temple's e-mail list; please let me know if you want to be included.

Finally, you need to believe that Israel matters — to Jews, and to the whole world — and that it is fighting a battle against overwhelming odds. The Arab nations have awesome financial resources, tremendous political power and two generations who have been raised to believe that the ultimate evil in the world is the existence of Jews in the Middle East. Israel needs your support — financially, but even more than that, politically and spiritually. We need to press the United States government to continue its support of Israel, to stand against the biased and false accusations made by her enemies, and to press for a settlement which will allow Israel to live in peace and security. We need to add our prayers for Israel's safety, for *shalom rav al Yisrael* — a great peace to descend on Israel, and to know that we are joining our voices with those of Jews and of other caring people around the world.

What will happen in the Middle East? I am not a prophet, but I will hazard a guess. While ultimately there *must* be peace, it will not happen soon. There must be peace, because there is no viable alternative. While the Israelis wish that the Palestinians would simply disappear, they will not; just as the Palestinians' wish that the Israelis simply disappear is not going to happen, either. In the long run, they will have to learn to live together, or at least, how to live near each other; until they do, suffering will continue on both sides. I am convinced that this violence was triggered, in part, by how close the two sides came to making peace this past summer: peace was so near that hard-liners on both sides welcomed the chance to tear the possibility of peace to pieces. One day, this will end; there is no other option.

That said, I do not believe that there will be any movement toward true peace during Yasser Arafat's lifetime. When he turned down the offer of Prime Minister Barak this summer — an offer in which Barak risked his political career by offering the Palestinians over 90% of the West Bank and Gaza, plus partial control over East Jerusalem — he made it clear that he would prefer to be remembered as the martyr who did not give up Jerusalem than as the statesman who made peace with the enemy. Clearly, there is no more that any Israeli leader can offer; even Leah Rabin (לֵאָה), who championed peace in the name of her late husband, declared that Barak had gone too far in his concessions on Jerusalem. Arafat has made it clear that his idea of "compromise" means getting everything the Palestinians want, including sovereignty over Jerusalem and the right of the families of every Arab who left Israel in 1948 to return to their "home." This "right of return" would mean the death of the Jewish state, as Israel would be overwhelmed by over a million Arabs who would be able to vote in Israeli elections. In other words, Arafat's "compromise" is that in return for a cessation of terrorist attacks against Israel, Israel would have to give up its right to exist.

Since Israel was unwilling to die to make peace, it is now, once again, the oppressor. This makes no sense, but neither does the world's outrage at the Israelis for shooting children, when no one cares that the Palestinians are using the children as human shields.

As far as I can tell, there is no longer a peace movement in Israel. Yes, a few small groups are making tentative efforts to reach out and begin dialogue once again, and ultimately, those efforts will lead to new peace initiatives. But right now, everyone who had worked for peace on the Israeli side feels betrayed both by circumstances and by the people whom they had considered their partners. Worst of all, many Israelis are wondering if the hard-liners were correct all along: the Palestinians will say whatever they think it will take to get concessions, but in the end, they will never make peace until Israel is destroyed.

The most terrible example of this was the reaction of the Israeli Arabs to the recent violence. These people, who have been citizens of Israel for decades, suddenly erupted in protest and demonstration against their Israeli neighbors. Many were quoted as saying, "I am a Palestinian who is temporarily living in Israel, until it becomes a Palestinian state." This betrayal of trust — for, as full, voting citizens of Israel, these Arabs had been truly welcomed as neighbors — will be a very long time in healing. And when Israel is asked to consider making 1.5 million more Arabs their neighbors — with only a politician's signature on a peace treaty to guarantee that they will coexist — we must now understand how difficult a pill that will be for them to swallow.

Will Arafat's successor be able to make peace? Answering that would require some idea of who his successor will be, and no one knows. Arafat runs his government as he did the PLO: he holds all control, and approves almost every act personally (yes, including the terrorism). He has not shared power in any meaningful way, so we have no way of knowing whom he trusts to lead, or whether the people will accept *any* new leader. While I am very certain that Arafat will not make peace, we can only wonder whether his death, whenever it may come, will bring a new possibility of peace, or just more war.

Never give up on Israel, and never give up on peace. At times like this the two seem contradictory, but we need both. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and may those who love her thrive."

Shalom,  
Rabbi Don Weber

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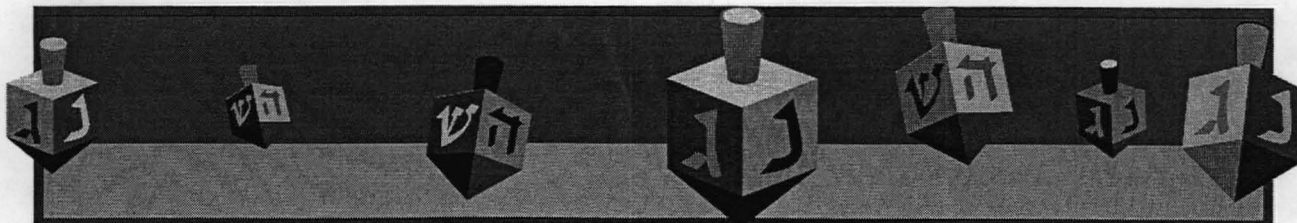
*Temple Rodeph Torah is a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations,  
and a Partner Congregation of Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger*



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

- Friday, 12/1 - Family Shabbat Service – 8:00 p.m.  
***Siddur Project IV: Ma'ariv Aravim***  
 Jennifer Kaye, Soloist  
 ☆ Birthday Blessings for December; Candle Lighting 4:11 p.m.
- Saturday, 12/2 - Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m. *Minyan Group Aleph.*  
 B'nai Mitzvah: Jacqueline Dicker and Stacey Ross
- Friday, 12/8 - Shabbat Service – 8:30 p.m.  
 Richard Herzog, Soloist; Candle Lighting 4:11 p.m.
- Saturday, 12/9 - Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m. *Minyan Group Bet.*
- Friday, 12/15 - Shabbat Services:  
 7:30 p.m. – “Very Young People’s Shabbat” (20 minutes, for pre-readers)  
 8:30 p.m. – Service  
***CAMP HARLAM SHABBAT: REUNION AND PRESENTATION***  
 Rabbi Shira Stern, Soloist; Candle Lighting 4:12 p.m.
- Saturday, 12/16 - Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m. *Minyan Group Aleph.*  
 B'nai Mitzvah: Andrew Cooper and Sophia Greenhouse
- Friday, 12/22 - Shabbat / Hanukkah Family Service – 8:00 p.m. - Note Earlier Time!  
***“Bring Your Own Hanukkiyah” (and candles!)***  
 ☆ Anniversary Blessings for December; prayer for Rosh Hodesh Tevet  
 Linda Cranin, Soloist; Candle Lighting 4:15 p.m.
- Saturday, 12/23 - Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m. *Minyan Group Bet.*  
 Bat Mitzvah: Laura Davis
- Friday, 12/29 - Shabbat Service – 8:30 p.m.  
 Candle Lighting 4:20 p.m.
- Saturday, 12/30 - Shabbat Morning Services – 10:00 a.m. *Minyan Group Aleph.*

*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!*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Throughout the fall and into the winter months, TRT has a full calendar of events, activities and classes. We offer a wide variety of programs and all we need to make them a success is your presence! If you have never participated in a temple activity, why not choose just one as a start? In the words of the television commercial from years ago, "Try us, you'll like us!"

Temple Rodeph Torah is co-sponsoring a Jewish Cultural Series with four other Reform congregations in Monmouth County. The series includes five programs focusing on Jewish literature, music, dance, film and drama. We are delighted to be the host congregation for a presentation by Stephen Dubner, author of the best seller *Turbulent Souls: A Catholic Son's Return to His Jewish Family*. This book was one of Rabbi Weber's literacy challenges last year and has been the subject of much discussion. We welcome Mr. Dubner to TRT and hope that many of you will attend what promises to be a stimulating and thought-provoking lecture. For more information about this program or to purchase tickets (only \$18 for the entire series), please call the temple office.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the families who have participated in our Feasibility Study by taking time from their busy schedules to meet with Barry Judelman. The opinions and feelings about the temple that you shared with Barry will help us make some important decisions about the future direction of the congregation.

Our High Holiday Appeal for 5761 was a great success! Thank you to the many generous families who made pledges during this year's campaign. Your support will enable us to continue and expand the programs and services available to all our members. The names of those who contributed to the Wall of Honor are presently at the engraver and will be returned to us shortly for installation on the Wall of Honor Plaque.

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that you are all welcome to participate in all aspects of temple life. Please consider joining a committee or helping out with a project or event. I guarantee that you will feel a sense of satisfaction whenever, and however, you contribute to the life of the congregation; and you will meet lots of nice people as well. If you would like to participate and need a suggestion about where, or how, please call me. I look forward to speaking with you and working with you.

*B'Shalom,*  
Ellen Finkelstein

## EDUCATION

Hanukkah begins this year on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at sundown with the lighting of the first Hanukkah candle. The celebration of Hanukkah is a very happy time in most Jewish homes. Unfortunately, because we Jews live in a society where we are in the minority, many of us strongly feel the pressure of living in a Christian world and the need to compete with the heavily commercialized holiday of Christmas.

Many Jewish children call Hanukkah the "Jewish Christmas." Some Jewish families would rather celebrate Christmas and be part of that excitement — dream of a white Christmas, decorate a Christmas tree, wake up on Christmas morning pretending that the gifts were left by Santa Claus.

Christmas is a major, Christian, religious holiday. It celebrates the birth of Jesus, the Christian Messiah. Since we do not regard Jesus as our savior, we cannot, in good conscience, observe Christmas. To do so is to violate our religious principles and deprive our children of the opportunity to feel proud of their own past, or develop a positive attitude toward their roots.

Hanukkah stands as a symbol of the Jewish people's struggle for religious freedom and their fight to maintain their Jewish identity against superior forces. It is something *really* important to be proud of.

How can we make our children identify with their past and feel proud and strong of their Jewishness, especially at this time of year?

- ✧ Retell the Hanukkah story to your family every year. Emphasize these concepts: freedom, Jewish identity, light as a symbol of knowledge. De-emphasize the miracle of the oil.
- ✧ Light the *Hanukiyyah* every night.
- ✧ Prepare *latkes* from scratch with your children.
- ✧ Give a different kind of gift — a story for each night. Members of the family can take turns telling the story.
- ✧ Invite a senior citizen to join your family celebration on one of the nights of Hanukkah. They will have wonderful stories to share with you.
- ✧ Give Jewish gifts during Hanukkah.
- ✧ Borrow or buy videotapes and/or books with Hanukkah themes.

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, TRT participated in *Tikkun Olam* Day. The entire school learned the importance of performing *mitzvot* (commandments). Many students joined their parents and did acts of kindness throughout the community. As a result of learning about *tikkun olam*, students agreed that one of the gifts they receive on Hanukkah will be donated to the needy. I am extremely impressed with their understanding of the message that we are trying to teach them.

Have a joyous Hanukkah.

*B'veracha*  
Edna Coleman, RJE

**Dates to Remember:**

Sunday, Dec. 3	5 <sup>th</sup> grade "Hey Happening," 12 noon to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 3	Hanukkah Boutique, during Religious School.
Sunday, Dec. 3	Teaching with Class, Session #8; 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 4	Hanukkah Boutique, during Religious School.
Tuesday, Dec. 5	Hanukkah Boutique, during Religious School.
Friday, Dec. 11	10 <sup>th</sup> grade trip to RAC, Washington, DC (Return Mon., 12/11).
Sunday, Dec. 10	<b><u>Hanukkah Concert — Students and Parents:</u></b>
	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> grade: 10:00 to 10:40 a.m.
	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade: 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 10	Teaching with Class, Session #9; 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Mrs. Meyers' & Mrs. Sherman's 6 <sup>th</sup> grade, 1 <sup>st</sup> hour Service: 8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Parents please join us.
Sunday, Dec. 17	Teaching with Class, Session #10; 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 24 thru	Winter Vacation
Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2001	
Thursday, Jan. 4, 2001	School resumes.



**HORAIYNU**

It seems that the year is just flying by, and we have so many exciting events to look forward to over the next few months. The *Hanukkah* Boutique will be held on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hebrew School students will be able to shop during these hours, as well as on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 p.m. until 6:15 p.m., and on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. Please send your children with money for the *Hanukkah* Boutique, as well as for the Bake Sale to be held on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will have lots of fun crafts for them to do as well. Our Hebrew School students should enjoy this as well as the *Hanukkah* celebrations planned for the month of December.

Games/Ladies' Night Out has been postponed. Please check the Newsletter for further updates.

It is not too late to send in your *Horaiynu* dues, if you have not already done so. These funds are used for various Hebrew School functions that your children participate in. I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and bright *Hanukkah* and a happy, healthy New Year!

Marla Bucher

**ADULT EDUCATION****Jewish Cultural Series Offered by Reform Congregations**

Four Reform Jewish congregations in Monmouth County, including Temple Rodeph Torah, are sponsoring a series of five cultural events celebrating the Jewish creative spirit through film, literature, theater, dance, and music. These programs will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons and are open to the public. The Series is supported in part through a grant from the Strategic Plan Initiative Fund of the Jewish Federation of Greater Monmouth County.

On December 17, Stephen J. Dubner, author of the national bestseller *Turbulent Souls*, will speak at Temple Rodeph Torah in Marlboro. This book describes the author's experiences returning to his Jewish family having being raised as a Catholic. His book is crafted with the eye of a journalist and the art of a novelist. The author was a writer and editor at the "New York Times Magazine" from 1995 to 1999. Arrangements for Stephen Dubner were made through the B'Nai B'rith Lecture Bureau.

"The Six Points of the Star," a Theater of Witness piece created and performed by six Jewish Russian refugees, will be given on January 21, at Temple Beth Miriam, Elberon. This original work from "Tova" is presented in spoken word, music, movement, and film. It offers the personal and collective life stories of people whose voices are not usually heard in our society.

"Exploring Sacred Text through Dance" will be performed by The Avodah Dance Ensemble at Monmouth Reform Temple, Tinton Falls, on February 25. Avodah's performances are rooted in Jewish tradition and use Jewish themes as an impetus for movement, dance and visual expression of what is in the heart. The company was founded and is directed by JoAnne Tucker, who serves on the faculty of the Doctor of Ministry Program at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York.

Foremost Jewish composer, Bonia Shur, will present "From Traditional to Jazz in the Synagogue" on April 29, at Temple Shalom, Aberdeen. This program will take listeners on a journey through centuries of Jewish music from the Middle East to Europe and beyond. The speaker has published over 300 compositions used in synagogues around the country and abroad and is Director of Liturgical Arts at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati.

Series tickets cost \$18 and can be requested through any of the four synagogues. Tickets for individual performances cost \$5 and will be available at the door. Please call 747-9365 for further information, or call Brion Feinberg, at 591-5814.

## SISTERHOOD

Our membership luncheon at the Chef's Table was attended by 40 women. We had a wonderful afternoon. Our gratitude to Jodi Weintraub for sharing her coupon shopping expertise with us. She brought \$250 worth of nonperishable groceries which cost her only \$1.79! She told us her "secrets" and we left with valuable information and a new way to grocery shop. All of the food was donated to a food pantry. The next time you visit the supermarket, please remember those less fortunate. You can make a difference.

**Please clip all manufacturers' coupons and exchange your unwanted ones for those you do want. Our categorized coupon exchange box is located in the kitchen at TRT.**

Our Judaica Shop will be set up at the *Horaiynu* Hanukkah Fair on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have many items for your holiday gift giving. If you have special items you are looking for, we can most likely get it for you. Call Marcia Borshof, at 972-1906.

ENTERTAINMENT 2001 books are still available. Call Bonnie Sugarman, at 972-8990.

Ellen Levine

## MEN'S CLUB

Thanks to everyone who attended the November 19th Men's Club Breakfast and to Rabbi Weber for leading our group discussion. It was an informative and rewarding meeting and we look forward to continuing these Breakfast Meetings as the year goes on. Please stay posted for our upcoming event schedule. We welcome new ideas and new members. Please join us.

Larry Herman

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Shalom! I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Rodeph Torah community. My name is Melissa Kaplan and my title is Senior Youth Group Advisor for RTSY. I want to encourage all 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders to **get involved!** It is a **great** group and we have loads of fun. I realize your lives are packed with extra-curricular activities, but this one only takes 1-3 days a month out of your schedule (if you are not on the Board/Chairperson) to participate in really **fun activities**. Let me tell you about some of the fun we have at RTSY.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, RTSY presented "RTSY Road Rules Adventure in Red Bank." It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon and we spent the day on a scavenger hunt throughout the town of Red Bank (clues provided by Beth Kanofsky and Noah Stern Weber, program co-chairs.) Congrats to them for a **spectacularly** put-together and executed program! And thanks to Jill Finkelstein for her contributions (car) to the program as well. The last clue sent all three teams to the Broadway Grill, where we all enjoyed a yummy meal and lots of laughs. We then loaded onto the bus and headed back to the temple.

### RTSY 2000 CALENDAR

- Sunday, December 3     RTSY tentative SAR Program (Social Action Ring) SAR is *lots of fun!* Contact Beth Kanofsky for details about SAR.
- Sunday, December 17     RTSY Hanukkah party/event... *Any ideas? Let me know!!!*
- December 27 through     NFTY Winter Conclave. NFTY is the national organization RTSY is  
December 31     involved with. Contact me for more information.

As *always*, I welcome 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders' suggestions for future RTSY programs you may have in mind. It is your youth group and, within reason, I will try my very best to make your ideas happen.

I encourage all non-board members to really think about applying for a chairperson position. Either contact one of the RTSY co-presidents, Michelle Cooper or Beth Kanofsky, or me, your RTSY advisor, for details and/or forms. It is lots of fun and very rewarding, personally, to be actively involved. And college applications like it too! But on a serious note, *please* only do this if you are 100% committed and are willing to follow through with all of your projects.

On a personal note, to any skeptical parents or perspective youth members: Youth group is a wonderful way to make lasting friendships while enjoying fun times. Many of my dearest friendships today were founded 12 to 14 years ago when I was a board member at my local TYG (Temple Youth Group) and a member of a National Youth Organization. I cannot say enough wonderful things about youth group. This is why I am proud to say I have found that piece of my life again — this time as a youth group advisor to a wonderful "family" at TRT.

- I welcome any questions you may have. You can contact me, at 721-8992.

Looking forward to meeting *many* new members in the *very near future!* You can help make this the *best RTSY year ever!*

Melissa Kaplan, RTSY Advisor

### Junior RTSY

Jr. RTSY has some exciting upcoming events. We will be joining Temple Shalom and two other temples in a dance. Seventh and 8<sup>th</sup> graders love dances and this one gives them the opportunity to meet Jewish peers from other synagogues. The dance will be held on December 16th. We will also be going to a Devils game on January 7; a Nets game on February 4; and a Yankee Game in the spring. If you have any questions please call me, at 761-1087. Hope to see you at upcoming events!

### Fifty-Sixers

The Fifty-Sixers have some exciting upcoming events. We will be doing bowling, a Hanukkah party, and a dance with three or four other temples. We will be doing some activities with Jr. RTSY such as attending a Devils Game on January 7; a Nets game on February 4; and a Yankee game in the spring. We will be doing events by ourselves and combined with other youth groups. This gives all participants the opportunity to meet Jewish peers from all over central New Jersey. If you have any questions please call me, at 761-1087. Hope to see you at upcoming events!

### Thirty-Four Club

The Thirty-Four Club is off to a roaring start. We had a great turnout for Sports "n" Stuff and we had a smashing time on the Crayola Factory trip in November. Some upcoming events will be bowling, a Hanukkah party, and pizza making and animal balloons. If you have any questions about upcoming events please call me, at 761-1087. Hope to see you soon!

Greg Benisch, Advisor for  
Jr. RTSY, Fifty-Sixers and Thirty-Four Club



## SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Social Justice Committee has been very busy this fall with various projects. We held a very successful Food Drive in conjunction with *Yom Kippur*, during which a record amount of food was contributed. A great deal of work goes into the preparation of the bags that are handed out at Rosh Hashanah services. Please thank those people listed in the Honorable *Menschen* column for all their hard work.

Candidates' Night, so ably coordinated by Bill Fireman, was a huge success, in spite of competition from the World Series. The candidates for Freeholder and Congress held forth in an interesting exchange of ideas and platforms that made for a most informative and enlightening evening.

The activities of *Tikkun Olam* Day were met with resounding success. We should be proud of the fine job we did helping to repair the earth. We participated in cleanups at local beaches and parks, donated blood, brought cheer to nursing home residents, and helped serve those more needy at local soup kitchens. A tremendous response has been recorded and we should have a great turnout for the various efforts we have planned for the future. Thanks to all those who helped in the "nuts and bolts" of this event.

The ongoing collection of articles for our *Mitzvah* Crib, in the temple atrium, should soon be bolstered by a new receptacle, the form of which is currently in the hands of the Design Committee. As ever, we appreciate any comments or help and look forward to planning many other projects. Please contact me with any thoughts or criticism.

Ron Klug

## CARING COMMUNITY

Many of you have asked, and we finally have an idea when our next Traveling Talent Show will take place. We are planning to visit a local nursing home on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, and then again some time in February. If you or your children are interested in participating, please call Fran Cohen, at 446-2886. We would be happy to have you join us. Remember, any talents, hobbies, jokes, etc., you have are welcome. This is purely amateur so please do not be intimidated. For more information, please call and we will be happy to fill you in.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Fran Cohen and Lynne Schwitz

## LIBRARY LINES

**December 21st is HANUKKAH! HANUKKAH! HANUKKAH!** What is the best gift for Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa, spouse, child, teacher, or friend? What would the "Library Lady" suggest? **BOOKS!!!!** Especially any type of Jewish book. After you have read all the new Jewish books you receive for Hanukkah, look in the next Newsletter for a special way to tell us about your new books.

**DON'T FORGET:** Check out (literally) the featured book on the "Circulation Desk," and browse our "Pick-Up & Leave Table" at the Hanukkah Boutique on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Maxine Perlman

## SHABBAT MINYAN GROUP

Please help us make a *minyan*. Come pray, study Torah, sing and *nosh* with us on Saturday morning. We meet for an informal *Shabbat* morning service, in a classroom, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Dress is casual and *Shabbat* service script is given to students. Coming just once a month would help make a *minyan* each week. If you are interested in leading a Saturday morning *minyan* group, or for any further information, call Ruth Kaufman, at 972-8958.

## WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

The Women's Spirituality Group invites you to join us for a *Shabbaton* on January 19-20, 2001. Shira Stern and our temple educator, Edna Coleman, will enlighten us with their vast knowledge of Judaism. We will explore our own personal family histories, and learn about different biblical women throughout the ages.

Karen Joseph, our own TRT music teacher, will enhance our program and delight us with Jewish songs and prayer. The glow of *Shabbat* will end with a warm and memorable *Havdalah* service filled with song. The friendships, sense of community, and bonding with Jewish women will refresh you and bring new meaning to your view of *Shabbat*. We are looking forward to sharing this lovely day with you.

Please join us at our December meeting, which will be held at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters on Symmes Road, on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m., in Meeting Room A.

Gail Davis

### *We Warmly Welcome the Newest Members of Temple Rodeph Torah:*

Herbert and Barbara Caravella and their children, Ryan, Shay and Alex

Mitch and Karen Haller and their children, David and Benjamin

Lew and Bernice Levison

Jeff Neuman and Carol Edelman-Neuman and their children, Rebecca and Rachel

## Viewpoint

It was one year ago and the service had just ended, as it does every year, with "next year in Jerusalem." It held a special meaning for us because "next year" (summer 2000) we were going to Israel. Every time we had wanted to go, something had come up and we would cancel our plans to visit our homeland, Israel. This time nothing was going to stop us. As the time grew close for us to go to Israel, something came up and we thought about canceling the trip. "No, not this time!" we said. We were going, no matter what. We are so glad we did. We went with Rabbi Weber and the other families from the temple on the most emotional trip that one can take in their lives.

When we came back, friends and family asked us about the trip. It was so hard to explain how great the trip was. We knew that we had fallen in love with our homeland. We had become attached to a land that we had only heard of but had never seen except in pictures or through other people's eyes. How do you explain your feelings? I did not think I could explain our feelings but then it came to me. This is what we told them.

If we just saw Tel Aviv from the plane, that would have been enough. Gloria and I cried when we saw the city. We had a strong feeling of coming home. If we only saw all of the *mezuzot* on all the doors of all the hotel rooms, that would have been enough. If we only saw the signs in all the hotels pointing to the temples, that would have been enough. If we only saw all the Israeli flags, that would have been enough. If we only touched the Wall once, that would have been enough.

Try to imagine being away from home for a very, very long time. As soon as you get home you feel that comfort that only your home can give you. That is Israel, our home. We went to a Reform temple in Jerusalem for *Shabbat* services. Words cannot describe the feeling that we all felt. We were praying in Jerusalem, the east that we face when we go to services here. When we left the city for the last time a feeling of depression came over me and I started to cry. It was then that I knew that we had to come back again. Our two weeks were up and we had to leave. It was hard to say goodbye because we had fallen in love with our homeland. It was then that we started to plan our next trip because we have to go back.

I did not even tell my friends about the history that we saw. Where can you see over 5000 years of history? There are no words to do it justice, so we let the pictures speak for themselves. We brought back stones from Jerusalem to give to our friends and family, and I have asked them to bring the stones I have given them back to Israel when they go, and bring back other stones for their friends and family. I hope this idea will catch on. There is one more thing that I want to say about the trip. The first Friday after we came back from Israel, we went to services. When we saw the word "Jerusalem" in the pray book it was alive. It came off the page, if that is possible. Others from the trip also felt the same way.

If you are thinking of going to Israel, go with the temple, when Rabbi Weber goes again. If you are not thinking of going to Israel, start thinking about going. There are many types of love in this world. You can love your spouse, you can love a friend, but we have found a new type of love — the love of Israel — and you will, too. It will be the best thing you ever did. Israel will be your trip of love, just as it was ours.

Ed Russin

(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](mailto:Rivkat1@aol.com))



## *Torah Today*

### *Brief Summary of Each Week's Torah Portion*

**Shabbat 12/1-2**

**Parashat Toledot, Genesis 25:19-28:9**

**Summary by Mark J. Schwitz**

Isaac, at age 40, marries Rebekkah. When Isaac is 60, Rebekkah conceives twins, who struggle in her womb. Esau, the other brother, is an outdoorsman. Jacob, the younger brother, stays more at home. Esau, returning desperately hungry from the outdoors, trades his birthright to Jacob for some lentil stew. Later, Jacob, disguised as Esau, receives his father's blessing. Esau, angry at Jacob, leaves home



to marry a Hittite woman. Jacob, having both the birthright and his father's blessing, is sent to find a wife.

**Shabbat 12/8-9      *Parashat Vayetze*, Genesis 28:10-32:3      Summary by Nina Grossman**

Jacob leaves Beer-sheba. On route to Haran, he has his famous dream of a stairway from ground to sky, with angels of God climbing up and down. God gives the land he is lying on to Jacob and his numerous descendants, and promises to protect him. Upon arrival in his Uncle Laban's territory, he falls in love with Laban's younger daughter, Rachel. Jacob works for seven years to marry her, is tricked by Laban into marrying older daughter Leah first, and working another seven years to marry Rachel. Jacob works another six years to earn his own livestock, then is "free" to go back to Canaan with his wives, 11 sons, one daughter, and the livestock.

**Shabbat 12/15-16      *Parashat Vayishlach*, Genesis 32:4-36:43      Summary by Ira Klemons**

Jacob wants to go back home to Canaan, but he fears his brother Esau. Jacob sends Esau gifts in advance of his return. When alone, Jacob wrestles with a divine being who then changes Jacob's name to "Israel." When "Israel" arrives in Canaan, God tells him that a nation will grow from him, and will live in the land God gave to Abraham.

**Shabbat 12/22-23      *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 12/29-30      *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.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### "LIVING WILLS" AVAILABLE FROM RABBI WEBER

Following a presentation on health-care issues, Rabbi Weber obtained copies of the New Jersey Advance-Care Directive, known as a "living will." It is vital — and a precious gift to your loved ones — that every adult complete one of these forms, and make them available to your family. This form allows you to have control over what health care you receive or do not receive if you are unable to make the decisions yourself, and they provide your family with the peace of mind which comes from knowing what you really want.

Copies are available without charge from Rabbi Weber. Please stop by to pick them up, and please feel free to ask him any questions you may have about the procedure.

#### REMINDER TO ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Our Confirmation students each have to complete 18 hours of community service prior to being confirmed. If you have an event, a program, or a job that the students can help you with please contact Una Tedoff, at 946-3492.

### **"HONORABLE MENSCHEN"**

Thanks to Brion Feinberg, our Adult Education Chairperson, for helping to arrange the exciting Jewish Cultural Series programs.

The Social Justice Committee extends their thanks to Gary Braun, Lauren Braun, Alex Brumel, Josh Bucher, Matthew Hirsch, Ben Joseph, Lindsay Klein, Stefanie Klovsky, Nicki Klug, Rich Plavin, Evan Wien and Pam Weiner for their great contribution of time during the High Holidays.

Sisterhood thanks Marcia Borshof for donating nail polish as favors at our luncheon, and Zina Hassel, of ZLH Enterprises, an advertising specialty company, for donating the calendars.

The Men's Club extends thanks to Jeff Ball, Evan and Cory Cole, Jay Davis, Neal Finkelstein, Ed Katz, Barry Kaye, Irwin Misshula, and Hal Sprechman for putting up the temple's *Sukkah*. And thanks to Bruce Cooper, Irwin Kizel, and Hal Sprechman for taking it down.

#### CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

to Bryan Berrol, son of Ellen and Steve Berrol, on his marriage to Ms. Kara Kreaflé  
to Mark Borell, son of Judy and Marty Borell, on his engagement to Ms. Michelle Markel  
to Denise Reibel, daughter of Ro and Marty Reibel, on her engagement to Mr. Ira Miller  
to Joan and Richie Ruffine, on the birth of their grandson, Jonathan Patrick Elliott  
to Michele and Marty Miller, on the birth of their granddaughter, Sylvia Rose McMakin  
to Craig Koster, son of Marsha and Steve Koster, on passing the New York State Bar Exam  
to Rabbi Shira Stern, on receiving the Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Award for the year 2000

*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!*

#### OUR CONDOLENCES

to Elise, Barry and Jennifer Kaye, on the death of Elise's father, Samuel Levine  
to David, Randi, Lindsay and Jared Sorin, on the death of David's grandmother, Rose Kravitz  
to Charles Kramer, Laurie Bier-Kramer, Nicole and Alexandra, on the death of Charles' mother, Angeline Kramer  
to Sandy, Richard, Janna and David Craig, on the death of Sandy's mother, Ruth Agress  
to Steve, Marsha, Craig and Lauren Koster, on the death of Steve's uncle, Morris Koster  
to Marcia Dorfman, our Religious School teacher, on the death of her father, William Smith  
to the family and colleagues of Rabbi Alexander Schindler, President of the UAHC for a quarter-century

*"Zichronam Livrachá"* — May their memory be a blessing to all who knew them.

*You are Cordially Invited*

With much love and pride, we invite you to celebrate with us as our daughter, Jacqueline Paige, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on December 2, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for the *oneg* following services.

Maureen and Joel Dicker

Please share our happiness when our daughter, Stacey Brooke, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, December 2, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for the *oneg* following services.

Susan and Allan Ross

We invite you to share a cherished day in our lives when Andrew David is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 16, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for the *oneg* following services.

Randy, Jeffrey and Evan Cooper

With great pride and joy, we invite you to share in our happiness when our daughter, Laura Caitlin, is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on December 23, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for the *oneg* following services.

Francine and Kevin Davis

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Rachel, Erik and Ira Pachter, in honor of Rich Herzog – “another wonderful year of your gift to us”  
 in honor of Rabbi Weber – “It’s a double honor on the High Holidays”  
 in honor of Ellen Finkelstein and family – “May the new year be kind and rewarding”  
 in honor of Marlene, David, Jenna and Sara Shapiro – “Thanks for another wonderful year of holiday memories”  
 Rachel Pachter, in honor of Irwin Kizel – “Thank you for making the holidays go so smoothly”  
 Chaim Goutter, for the *yahrzeit* of Henry Goutter

### **Building Fund**

Harriet and Martin Shapiro, in memory of our parents  
 Ellen and Robert Levine, with best wishes for the speedy recovery of Joe Perl  
 in memory of Tillie Walgamoth  
 Elise, David and Alan Schapiro, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Beth Schapiro  
 Ilene, Bob, Michael and Jeffrey Horowitz, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Kimberly Tornberg

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Irving and Phyllis Stummer, for the *yahrzeit* of Max Stummer  
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 with best Wishes to JoAnn, Steve and Liora Silkes in their new home  
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(continued...)

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Steve Kaufman, for the *yahrzeit* of Leonard Kaufman  
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Suzie and Gil Hershman, in honor of the New Year

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Elise, Barry and Jennifer Kaye, in appreciation of Rabbi Weber putting all his heart and soul into the eulogy for Samuel Levine, and for comforting our entire family

Niki Weber, in memory of Sol Weber  
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Toni and Sarah Cooper, for the *yahrzeit* of Antoinette Arciola

(continued...)



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The Rasko-Martinis Family, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Porter  
Lonnie, Andy and Danielle Saxe, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Jaclyn Saxe  
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Jennifer and Barry Kaye, in loving memory of Samuel Levine

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Rachel Pachter, in honor of Ellen Levine and Joan Nulman, for a wonderful luncheon

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Linda, Charles, Jenna and Lindsey Sobel, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Lauren Brooke Sobel  
The Friedgood Family and Klepner Family, in honor of Mark Landesman's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Francine, Kevin and Matthew Davis, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Lauren Caitlin Davis  
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**TEMPLE CONTRIBUTIONS FORM**

- ☐ **BOLENDER HOLOCAUST EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT** (For Holocaust education in our temple)
- ☐ **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: \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgment to be sent to the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions of any amount are welcomed, but there is a \$10 minimum for each acknowledgment 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
<b>Shabbat Observance 12/1-12/2</b>		
12/01	David Davidowitz	Grandfather of Jay Davis
12/01	Bernard H. Loebel *	Father of Janet Fine
12/01	Milton Herman	Father of Marilyn Jaclin
12/02	Ely Kushel	Father of Barbara Klein
12/02	Irving Zeltzer *	Father of Ellen Levine, Husband of Ray Zeltzer
<b>Shabbat Observance 12/8-12/9</b>		
12/03	Lynn Lipson	Friend of Susan Barber
12/04	Robert Salowitz	Father of Terri Kolodny
12/04	Arnold Bayer	Uncle of Mark Schwitz
12/06	Max Blank *	Father of Ellen Zipkin
12/07	Samuel Samuelson	Grandfather of Susan Berman
12/07	Isadore Weiner	Father of David Weiner, Husband of Selma Weiner
12/08	Murray Midoneck	Father of Bob Midoneck
12/08	Leah Shapiro *	Mother of Allen Shapiro
12/08	Fannie Shapiro	Mother of Irwin Shapiro
12/08	A. Leon Futterman	Father of Marjorie Stevens
12/09	Sidney Leader *	Father of Michael Leader ז"ל
<b>Shabbat Observance 12/15-12/16</b>		
12/10	Herbert Beizer	Father of Suzanne Hershman
12/10	Stuart Sharenow	Brother of Paula Kanofsky
12/10	Irving Weinberg *	Father of Stuart Weinberg
12/11	Benjamin Lehrer	Father of Richard Lehrer
12/11	Herman Leibowitz	Grandfather of Craig Leibowitz, Douglas Leibowitz and Marc Leibowitz
12/11	Ida Treibitz	Grandmother of Lisa Reingold
12/12	Joseph S. Newman *	Father of Roberta Rafaloff, Husband of Shirley Newman ז"ל
12/12	Ann Sarna	Mother of Steve Sarna
12/12	Gesina B. Pfeufer *	Aunt of Barbara Sprechman
12/13	Herbert Shenkman	Uncle of Lois Korman
12/13	Clara Stern	Grandmother of Shira Stern
12/14	Neal Stevens	Brother of Jeff Stevens
12/15	Emanuel Herzog *	Husband of Rose Herzog, Father of Richard Herzog and Fred Herzog
12/15	Morris Shukovsky	Father of Gary Shukovsky ז"ל
12/16	Ida Edenbaum	Aunt of Susan Berman
12/16	Susan Winslow *	Daughter of Renee Winslow and Sy Winslow, Sister of Judy Pius ז"ל



## YAHREZEITS, continued...

## Shabbat Observance 12/22-12/23

12/17	Marvin Davis *	Father of Jay Davis
12/17	Irwin Kaplan	Father of David Kaplan
12/17	Leon Kaplinsky *	Father of Richard Kaplin
12/18	Clair C. Snyder	Friend of Linda Cranin
12/18	Sheila Seider	Sister of William Fireman
12/18	Monroe Goldenberg	Father of Mark Goldenberg
12/18	Abraham Ruderman	Grandfather of Janet Klemons
12/19	Herbert Smith	Father of Judi Stern
12/20	Irving Orlofsky *	Father of Ellen Berrol
12/20	Albert Lipset	Uncle of Randy Cranin
12/20	Esther Ross	Mother of Allan Ross
12/20	Mildred Litman	Mother of Marcia Sokal
12/21	Mildred Korkes *	Great Aunt of Randy Cranin
12/21	Milton Trencher *	Father of Sheryl Cooper and Ellen Finkelstein
12/21	Esta Goldstein	Mother of Sanford Goldstein
12/22	Harry Allen *	Husband of Lorraine Allen
12/22	Margaret Jehudith Philipps	Cousin of Ernest Grunwald
12/22	Maxwell Klapholz	Grandfather of Andrea Kazin
12/22	Bella Leah Lehrer	Mother of Richard Lehrer
12/22	Stanley Levine *	Father of Myrna Nussbaum
12/23	Bernard Burstein	Father of Alan Burstein
12/23	Harry Karmel	Father of Arthur Karmel
12/23	Fannie Kornbluth Dundish	Mother of Gail Lewis
12/23	Rose Krasna	Grandmother of Lisa Plavin

## Shabbat Observance 12/29-12/30

12/24	Lorraine Mahler *	Mother of Robin Schwartz
12/25	Nathan Shapiro	Father of Jeff Shapiro
12/26	Anna Ackerman	Grandmother of Stu Katzanek
12/26	Sara Beverly Milstein *	Mother of Maxine Perlman
12/26	Joseph Amarosa *	Grandfather of Loretta Shapiro
12/27	Morris Eisner	Father of Sheila Aptaker
12/27	Jacob Rosenhoch	Grandfather of Neal Finkelstein
12/27	Molly Gross	Aunt of Ruth Kaufman
12/27	Selma Kahn	Grandmother of Cindy Sarna
12/28	Murray Falk	Father of Edward Falk
12/28	Harry Silver	Father of Allan Silver
12/29	Daniel Panconi	Father of Pamela Brisman
12/29	David Kornbluth	Father of Gail Lewis
12/29	Milton Wolfson	Father of Martin Wolfson
12/30	Norman Willner	Father of Marc Willner

\* 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.

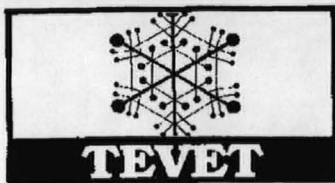


# TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH

## December 2000





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																						
<div>Nov 2000</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			<div>Jan 2001</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				<div>1</div> <div>  8:00 PM Family Shabbat Service </div>	<div>2</div> <div>10:00 AM Services: B'nai Mitzvah of Jacqueline Dicker &amp; Stacey Ross; Minyan Aleph</div>
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<div>3</div> <div>10:00 AM Hanukkah Boutique</div> <div>1:00 PM Hanukkah Fair</div>	<div>4</div> <div>12:30 PM Adult Ed - "Intro to Talmud"</div>	<div>5</div> <div>8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew</div>	<div>6</div> <div>6:30 PM RTSY Board</div> <div>8:30 PM Worship Committee</div>	<div>7</div> <div>8:10 PM Adult Ed - "Intro To Talmud"</div>	<div>8</div> <div>8:30 PM Shabbat Service</div> <div>10th Grade DC Trip</div>	<div>9</div> <div>10:00 AM Service: Minyan Bet</div> <div>Bowling 2</div>																																																																						
<div>10</div> <div>9:30 AM Exec Board</div> <div>10th Grade DC Trip</div>	<div>11</div> <div>7:30 PM Women's Spirituality, at Manalapan Library</div>	<div>12</div> <div>7:30 PM Youth Committee</div> <div>8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew</div> <div>8:30 PM Sisterhood Board Meeting</div>	<div>13</div> <div>6:45 PM Post-Confirmation</div>	<div>14</div> <div>8:10 PM Adult Ed - Reform Judaism</div>	<div>15</div> <div>7:30 PM Young People's Shabbat</div> <div>8:30 PM Shabbat Service</div>	<div>16</div> <div>10:00 AM Services: B'nai Mitzvah of Andrew Cooper &amp; Sophia Greenhouse; Minyan Aleph</div>																																																																						
<div>17</div> <div>2:00 PM Speaker: Author Stephen Dubner</div>	<div>18</div> <div>12:30 PM Adult Ed - "Intro to Talmud"</div>	<div>19</div> <div>8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8:30 PM Board of Directors</div>	<div>21</div> <div>8:10 PM Adult Ed - "Intro To Talmud"</div> <div>Hanukkah</div>	<div>22</div> <div>8:00 PM Family Shabbat / Hanukkah Service</div>	<div>23</div> <div>10:00 AM Services: Bat Mitzvah of Laura Davis; Minyan Bet</div> <div>Bowling 3</div>																																																																						
<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div>No Religious School</div> <div>Hanukkah</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>8:30 PM Shabbat Service</div>	<div>30</div> <div>10:00 AM Service: Minyan Aleph</div>																																																																						
<div>31</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div> <div>No Religious School</div>																																																																												



# TEMPLE RODEPH TORAH

## January 2001



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
	1 <div>No Religious School</div>	2 8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew	3 6:30 PM RTSY Board  8:30 PM Worship Committee	4  No Adult Ed.	5 8:00 PM Family Shabbat Service  Fast of Tevet	6 10:00 AM Services: Bat Mitzvah of Robin Ducore; Minyan Bet																																										
7 9:30 AM Executive Board  11:30 AM Literacy Challenge	8 12:30 PM Adult Ed - "Intro to Talmud"	9 7:30 PM Youth Committee 8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew  8:30 PM Sisterhood Board Meeting	10 6:45 PM Post-Confirmation	11 8:10 PM Adult Ed - Reform Judaism	12  8:30 PM Shabbat Service	13 10:00 AM Services: B'nai Mitzvah of Lawrence Fox & Jesse Greenberg; Minyan Aleph  7:30 PM Bowling 2																																										
14 <div>No Religious School</div>	15 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	16 8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew	17 8:30 PM Board of Directors	18 8:10 PM Adult Ed - "Intro To Talmud"	19 6:00 PM Women's Spirituality Service  7:30 PM Young People's Shabbat  8:30 PM Shabbat Service	20 9:00 AM Women's Shabbaton  10:00 AM Services: Bat Mitzvah of Lindsay Krantz; Minyan Bet																																										
21	22 12:30 PM Adult Ed - "Intro to Talmud"	23 8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew	24 8:30 PM Education Committee	25 8:10 PM Adult Ed - Reform Judaism	26  8:30 PM Shabbat Service	27 10:00 AM Services: B'nai Mitzvah of Dana Falk & Daniel Midoneck; Minyan Aleph  7:30 PM Bowling 3																																										
28	29	30 8:30 PM Adult Ed - Beginning Hebrew	31	<div>Dec 2000</div> <table><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
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## TRT'S HANUKKAH PARTY

When: Sunday, December 3rd

Time: 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Food, Judaica, books, costume jewelry,  
gifts for your family and friends, plus crafts, games and  
fun activities!

Free Admission!

Religious School students can shop during  
the following hours:

Sun. Dec. 3 - 10:00-12:30 p.m.

Mon. Dec. 4 - 4:30-6:15 p.m.

Tue. Dec. 5 - 4:30-8:15 p.m.

For further information, call Marla Bucher (972-7307) or  
Lori Fishkin (972-3594).

Sponsored by Horaiynu and TRT Nursery School



***THE T.R.T. LIBRARY INVITES YOU TO ~***

***PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF US!!!!  
AT THE HANNUKKAH BOUTIQUE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> 2000***

***BRING BOOKS---GET BOOKS  
(WITH JEWISH THEMES &/OR  
CONNECTIONS)  
IT'S THE HANNUKKAH  
" PICK - UP & LEAVE IT "  
BOOK EXCHANGE TABLE***

***Just bring in books you've read and exchange them  
for something else.***

***You can come empty-handed and leave with a treat  
Just give us a peek while you're at the boutique***

***Thank you,  
The Library Lady***

# It's time for the Purim Schpiel

If you can act or can't act, if you can sing or can't sing...we want you!!!

Rehearsals will begin in January on Sunday evenings. The Purim Schpiel will be on Thursday, March 8.

Tell us you will be in it by calling Robbin Friedell, at 462-1692 or the temple office, at 308-0055.

Adults and kids are welcome!

## Join in the fun!



SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL. VISIT

# schoolcash.com

## TODAY!

HERE'S HOW:

1. Visit [www.schoolcash.com](http://www.schoolcash.com)
2. Select Temple Rodeph Torah
3. Go shopping in the [schoolcash.com](http://schoolcash.com) mall with over 250 merchants.

Up to 20% of the purchases you make is donated to our temple as cash rebates!

### MORE SPECIALS FROM SCHOOLCASH.COM

## Virtual Book Fair

September 5 – October 31

Triple your school's cash rebate!

Shop for books at [schoolcash.com](http://schoolcash.com) and your school gets a **15%** cash rebate from

**BARNES & NOBLE.com**  
[www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com)

## Virtual Electronics Fair

October 16 - November 16

Double your school's cash rebate!

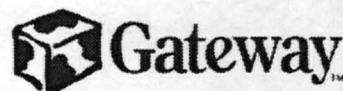
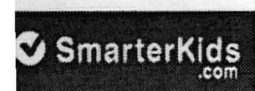
Shop for electronics at [schoolcash.com](http://schoolcash.com) and your school gets a **6%** cash rebate from

**buy.com**

the internet superstore

Shop at these premier merchants at the [schoolcash.com](http://schoolcash.com) online mall:

[jcpenny.com](http://jcpenny.com) [OfficeMax.com](http://OfficeMax.com) [FINGERHUT.com](http://FINGERHUT.com)



Benefit your kids and their school with Gateway and [schoolcash.com](http://schoolcash.com). Visit [www.schoolcash.com/gateway](http://www.schoolcash.com/gateway) or [www.gateway.com/promotion/schoolcash](http://www.gateway.com/promotion/schoolcash), a Gateway Country® store or by calling 800-424-1473.

# Temple Rodeph Torah's Third Annual

## JEWISH LITERACY CHALLENGE

Working toward our goal of a literate and educated Jewish Community, we proudly announce our first Literacy Challenge book for the year 5761.

The discussion will be held on Sunday, January 7, 2001.

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

### The Challenge: *The Red Tent*, by Anita Diamant

The red tent is the place where women gathered during their cycles of birthing, menses, and even illness. Like the conversations and mysteries held within this feminine tent, this sweeping piece of fiction offers an insider's look at the daily life of a biblical sorority of mothers and wives and their one and only daughter, Dinah. Told in the voice of Jacob's daughter Dinah (who only received a glimpse of recognition in the Book of Genesis), we are privy to the fascinating feminine characters who bled within the red tent. In a confiding and poetic voice, Dinah whispers stories of her four mothers, Rachel, Leah, Zilpah, and Bilhah — all wives to Jacob, and each one embodying unique feminine traits. As she reveals these sensual and emotionally charged stories we learn of birthing miracles, slaves, artisans, household gods, and sisterhood secrets. Eventually Dinah delves into her own saga of betrayals, grief, and a call to midwifery.

Since its publication, *The Red Tent* has been a staple of Jewish feminist reading lists. We believe its message is equally important — and challenging — to men, and so we hope that *everyone* will join in reading and discussing this book.

*To accept the Literacy Challenge, please complete the attached form and return it to the temple. To order the book, please visit the temple web site at [www.trt.org](http://www.trt.org). Click on the Literacy Challenge link, and you will be connected to Amazon.com. When you do this, the temple receives a commission, and you still get Amazon's low price! (You may get together with others and order several copies, to save shipping costs, too.) Of course, you may also order it from your local bookstore.*

# *YES, I ACCEPT THE JEWISH LITERACY CHALLENGE!*

This fall's challenge: *The Red Tent*, by Anita Diamant.

I will read the book between now and Sunday, January 7th,  
and I will come to the discussion group on that date.

The discussion will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; refreshments will be served.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name(s)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

We encourage you to visit [www.trt.org](http://www.trt.org) and click on the Literacy Challenge, to order this book from Amazon.com, or visit your local bookstore!

Please return this form to:

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





# TRT'S SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

PRESENTS

## OUR YEAR ROUND *MITZVAH* CRIB

**OCTOBER**

**BABY ITEMS**

Food, Pampers, Wipes, etc.

**NOVEMBER**

**TOYS**

New unwrapped toys

**DECEMBER**

**COATS**

Clean & in good conditions

**JANUARY**

**COLD WEATHER ITEMS**

Hats, Gloves, Mittens, Scarves, etc.

**FEBRUARY**

**TOILETRIES**

Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shavers, etc.

**MARCH**

**PASSOVER FOOD**

Matzah, soupmix, horseradish, etc.

**APRIL**

**SOCKS**

New socks for men, women, & children

**MAY**

**NON-PERISHABLE FOOD**

Canned goods, pasta, rice, etc.



**WE HAVE WHAT YOU WANT!  
AT THE  
TRT SISTERHOOD  
JUDAICA SHOP**

**WE CARRY BEAUTIFUL GIFTS AND ARTWORK  
TALLIT**

**YARMULKAS IN ALL STYLES AND COLORS  
HAND MADE HEAD COVERINGS FOR WOMEN  
GOLD AND SILVER JEWELRY  
Yahrzeit Candles**

**WE CAN EVEN PLAN A TREE IN ISRAEL!**

**CALL US FIRST BEFORE YOU GO ELSEWHERE  
WE HAVE WHAT YOU WANT!**

**CALL MARCIA BORSHOF 972-1906**

**We even accept  
VISA and MasterCard.**



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

***I*** *t 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.*

## Mount Sinai Memorial Chapels, Inc.

***Cranbury Road at Evergreen Boulevard, EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ***

***(800) 395-9199***

(732) 390-9199 P. Kulbacki, Mgr.

1999, Mount Sinai Memorial Chapels, Inc.

***Leaders in Advance Funeral Planning***



**Mark J. Schwitz, D.D.S.**  
Orthodontist  
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Visit other temple members

\_\_\_\_\_ Bring in a meal when needed

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide transportation to and from doctors

\_\_\_\_\_ Pick up food and medicine

\_\_\_\_\_ Make phone calls

\_\_\_\_\_ Help out when Wicker Baptist Church visits

\_\_\_\_\_ Help out when visiting a Nursing Home

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# How do I become an organ donor?

The completion of a donor card from the UAHC Committees on Older Adults and Bio-Ethics will allow you to become an organ donor. The Uniform Anatomical Gift Act of 1969 (USA) gives you the right to sign such a card. Patients who receive organs are chosen based upon many factors and are matched via need through a computerized system.



Donor Card	
I, _____ have spoken to my family about organ and tissue donation. The following people have witnessed my commitment to be a donor:	
Witness	_____
Witness	_____
I wish to donate the following:	
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<input type="checkbox"/> only the following organs and tissues:	
_____	
_____	
Donor Signature	_____ Age _____ Date _____
Next of Kin Contact	_____

Before you sign, please discuss this with your family. Share this decision with them as they are an important part of the process. Discuss the decision with your rabbi. Make sure that your health care providers are informed. Carry the signed and witnessed donor card with you.

*For further information,  
or to receive a copy of the brochure on organ donation, please contact:*



The UAHC Committee on Older Adults and Bio-Ethics  
Rabbi Richard F. Address  
1511 Walnut Street, Suite 401  
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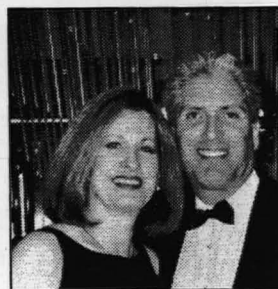
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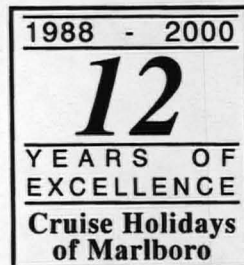
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