

CONNECTIONS

THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND
Brighter Together

MAY 2018
16 Iyar — 17 Sivan 5778



THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

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MAY DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1 Adult Ed Committee
- 2 Executive Committee
- 4 Erev Shabbat Family Service w/ Klezmer Band
- 6 Men's Club Presents: Brett Topel
Religious School & Parents Mtg in Oy Vey Café
Rockland Jewish Family Service Gala
Honoring Steve & Judy Levy
- 8 Sisterhood/WRJ Board
- 9 Special Board Meeting
- 10 Car Club
- 11 Erev Shabbat Service - Sisterhood/WRJ Service
- 13 MOTHER'S DAY
Last Day of Religious School for Grades K-3
Kindergarten
- 14 Sisterhood/WRJ Fundraiser at Pinot's Palette, Nanuet
- 15 Last Day of Religious School for Grades 4-12
Membership & Marketing
- 16 Board of Trustees
- 18 Erev Shabbat Service -The Beatles Rock Shabbat
- 19 Erev Shavuot Service & Confirmation
- 20 Shavuot Morning & Yizkor Service
- 22 Ritual Committee
- 23 Erev Shabbat Service - Torah Service
- 28 MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED
- 29 Knitting Circle

SEE PAGE 17 FOR OUR COMPLETE CALENDAR

**Shabbat and holiday services may be
seen live: www.RTRny.org/live**

**SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JUNE CONNECTIONS
MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 10.
PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO SUSAN@RTRNY.ORG.**



A Proud Member of the URJ

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FROM RABBI BENJAMIN SHARFF

I've got a story to tell, and it is certainly not a *bubbe-myseh*. It is about three amazing teenagers who joined together not just to *schmooze* and *nosh*, but really to

get to the *tachlis* of what it means to be a Jew. I am proud to say that this year's class truly is quite *haimish*. That is something to certainly *kvell* about! What is even more amazing is all three of them were in preschool together at our legacy congregation: Temple Beth El. There are even pictures to prove it. It is so wonderful to see them reunited.

All three of them are certainly *mensch*es and not *yentes*. Yet, no matter the lesson or the materials we prepared, this group of energetic enthusiastic young people (who were later joined by our 8th and 9th graders) would often put the *kibosh* on our plans. This simply meant that we had to constantly change my *shtick* when it came to presenting topics for conversation because they wanted to always be learning more.

Now these students were certainly not *schnuks* or *schlumps* nor *shlemiels* or *shlimazels*, though they do have an appreciation for alliteration. At times they were all *mavens* to one degree or another, while at other time, they would simply be *nudnicks* or *letz*es.

The topics we covered were certainly not what we would consider *drek*, though when presented to them, they were never inclined to say "*feh!*" or "*oy!*" They diligently put away their *chotchkees* during the sessions and did not text each other or their friends because they loved to engage in the conversation. There was not a *kvetch* among them.

Now this may all just sound like *mishugas*, but there was an actual method to our madness. Through this course we hoped to raise up a group of *Talmud hachams*, all knowledgeable, wise and learned and not *eingeshparht*.

Thus, it is certainly a *mechaieh* to announce there is not a *klutz* or *schlub* among them. They all demonstrated tremendous *sachel* and would often make me want to proclaim, "That's my *boychick* (or *girlchick*)!" I am certainly not one to *shep naches*, though in retrospect maybe I am, but it has certainly been a pleasure teaching and learning with this year's Confirmation Class.

Nothing we discussed would anyone consider *narrishkeit*. This is because we covered such diverse topics as history of Judaism, theology, origins of life, God, tattoos, abor-

tion, Judaism and sexuality, and Judaism and Christianity. We also spent a sizeable number of classes focused on *tzedakah*, poverty, and what we, as Jews, can learn and do to combat this pernicious societal ill. Then of course there were the occasional "Yiddish Words of the Day."

However, the most popular highlight of the year was our Confirmation trip to Washington, D.C. to participate in the Religious Action Center's program: L'taken. This program is focused on the idea of advocacy through the lens of Jewish values. Our students studied with around 200 fellow 10th graders from around the country on topics such as the prevention of gun violence, immigration, LGBTQ rights, minimum wage, and the like.

Our group chose to speak about LGBTQ rights; many others, post-Parkland, chose to speak about the prevention of gun violence. Our students, wrote their presentations and advocated to the Legislative Assistants of our representatives, Senator Charles Schumer and Congresswoman Nita Lowey. It was a powerful experience for them as they found they do have a voice that can influence not just local issues, but also national issues, and that as Jews they have a tradition to help guide them moving forward.

Please plan on joining us in celebration of this year's Confirmation Class at their Confirmation Service on **Sat, May 19 at 7 PM** where Hannah Jay, Julia Wilen, and Melina Weisberg will all confirm their continued commitment to their Jewish heritage and give us all something to *kvell* about. I can assure you they will all be dressed in their Shabbat-finest, with nary a *shmatte* to be found among them.

But before then, our congregational trip to Israel will be departing on April 29 and returning on May 9. It is my intent to post occasional blogs and pictures (that you can find by clicking my blog, "Rabbi Sharff's Blog" link on our website homepage) from our journeys.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff

Don't miss the bios of these three amazing young ladies on the next page.

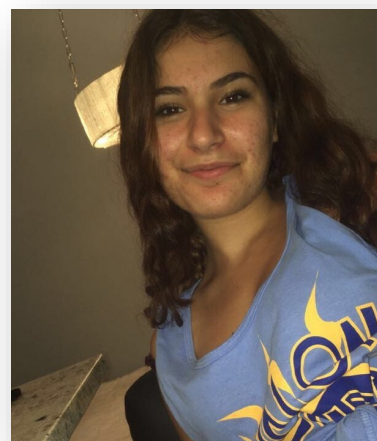
2017 Confirmands

May 19, 2018



Hannah Toby Jay is a High Honor Roll Sophomore at Suffern High School where she keeps busy in the marching band, as a member of the varsity ski team, and is a part of the pit orchestra of the spring musical. Hannah REALLY enjoys playing her trumpet and can be heard in many of the musical shabbatot at the Temple. Hannah also has begun exploring the world of creating her own videos! Hannah thoroughly enjoyed L'Taken this spring and has appreciated being a part of the dialogues in Confirmation Class. Thank you's to the Rabbi and the Cantor for keeping her busy and fulfilled!

Melina Dani Weisberg will joyfully celebrate her confirmation at RTR. She is the daughter of Alicia Bader-Weisberg and the younger sister of Joshua. Her grandparents are Sue and Stu Bader. Melina is a 10th grader at Clarkstown South High School and enjoys singing and playing guitar. She participates in the "School of Rock" where she sings and plays guitar in a band. She enjoys hanging out with her friends, dancing, watching movies and playing cards with her family. Melina is an active participant in RTR's ReTRO/NFTY-GER Youth Group. In addition, Melina had her Bat Mitzvah at Temple Beth El and another one on Massada as the family travelled throughout Israel. This experience made a huge impact on her life. Melina loves to travel and she has also gone to Costa Rica, Mexico and visited many U.S. States including Nevada, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., Maryland, Florida and Colorado. Melina is excited and looking forward to celebrating her Confirmation at The Reform Temple of Rockland.



Julia Rose Wilen is extremely passionate about social justice, literature, art, and music. She has actively sought to create inspiration in her life around her ideals and interests in order to live an authentic life. She seeks to affect change in her community and takes action as an individual as well as being the Youth Social Action Chair at RTR, and as a member of the SAEDA Sub Committee at the Center for Safety & Change where she is working to become a student facilitator. She cultivates her interests in school by participating in Epiphany (CHSN Literary Magazine) of which next year she will be Editor, Bard in the Yard (CHSN Shakespearean Play) of which she is Assistant Director and next year will be Director, and Java Jive (spoken word poetry). Julia is a conscientious student and has earned a seat at the CHSN Academic Banquet (a celebration for students holding a GPA of above 95). In participating in NYFTY -GER as a cabinet member, she grows her spiritual connections as well as friendships and community.

Through Leadership Rockland, Julia is taking initiative to grow her skills to become influential in society. If you were to spend the afternoon to get to know Julia (first you would have to get her headphones out), you would learn that she is sarcastic and funny as well as perceptive, intense and intelligent. We are incredibly proud of Julia as we watch her develop into an enthusiastic, passionate, amazing individual. One of Julia's favorite quotes is, *"Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars."*



FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS, ALLEN FETTERMAN & BARRY WEISS

Pride in America's Youth

Robert Kennedy's Day of Affirmation Address (also known as the "Ripple of Hope" Speech) was given before the National Union of South African Stu-

dents at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, on June 6, 1966. At that time, Kennedy was a U.S. Senator from New York. In the address Kennedy talked about the need for justice in the United States. He emphasized inclusiveness, individual action and the importance of youth involvement in society. Kennedy opened the address by stating:

"I come here this evening because of my deep interest and affection for a land settled by the Dutch in the mid-seventeenth century, then taken over by the British, and at last independent; a land in which the native inhabitants were at first subdued, but relations with whom remain a problem to this day; a land which defined itself on a hostile frontier; a land which has tamed rich natural resources through the energetic application of modern technology; a land which was once the importer of slaves, and now must struggle to wipe out the last traces of that former bondage. I refer, of course, to the United States of America."

This drew laughter and applause from the audience. Kennedy then discussed individual liberty and the need for civil rights. The notable phrase "ripple of hope" came shortly thereafter:

"It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the

*lot of others or strikes out against injustice. He sends forth a tiny **ripple of hope**,...build[ing] a current that can sweep down the mightiest wall of oppression and resistance."*

Fifty-two years ago, RFK spoke of the importance of youth involvement, standing up for an ideal and striking out against injustice. That is what we witnessed last month at the "March For Our Lives" in Washington, D.C., New York City, locally in New City and in many other cities and towns throughout the nation. These were youth-organized and youth-led protests that demonstrated that today's youth of America can and will stand up for what they consider ideal and against what they consider unjust.

We are not, in this article, taking any political position on the important and divisive issues surrounding gun violence. We understand that there are arguments on all sides. We are just expressing pride in the youth of America. They saw what they perceived as injustice...children dying and the U.S. Congress taking no action...and they organized, they marched and they spoke. These protests represent an awakening of our students that we have not witnessed since the Vietnam War era. It was reminiscent of the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s...a movement that resulted in change. Maybe the youth of America have begun a movement today that will result in change tomorrow. Maybe they have sent forth a **ripple of hope** for those who want our government to take some action.

Whatever your views on the issues surrounding gun violence, we should all be very proud of America's youth!

Allen L. Fetterman

Allen Fetterman

Barry Weiss

Barry Weiss



**\$50
OFF!**



RTR Religious School

Online Registration is Open!

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!

REGISTER BEFORE
JUNE 1!

Guess what else the little birdie told us?



**Grades K-3
Go for FREE**

NEW this year
(2018-2019): Children
in Kindergarten
through 3rd Grades*
can attend Religious
School for **FREE!**

Spread the word and



REGISTER NOW!

This offer is made possible through the generosity of the
Sylvia & Hyman Rosenzweig Memorial Youth Fund.

** 3rd grade registration requires family membership.*



FROM BRAD ZICHOLTZ, DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

Justice, Justice Shall You Pursue

In March, I stood with approximately 30 congregants and several hundred thousand people at the “March for our Lives” in NYC. We also had congregants travel to the rally in Washington, D.C., and had a contingency at the rally locally in New City where our very own Jadyn Turner spoke about her experiences. In hearing the speeches and the passion of the chants, I was reminded of why we were there. I was there as a father, as a concerned citizen, and because this is what it means to be Jewish.

As Reform Jews we are tasked with a great challenge: to make choices through the learning and understanding of our faith and traditions. The Reform Movement has looked back at these traditions and teachings and declared very clearly that our faith implores us to do the work to make the world a better place. The great 20th Century Jewish philosopher Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel declared that “*mitzvah* expresses what G-d wills: a *mitzvah* (*commandment/good deed*) is a prayer in the form

of a deed. To perform deeds of holiness is to absorb the holiness of deeds.” In other words, through our actions of justice, we can become closer to G-d.

These actions are what we all as Jews can take with us out into the world. We are not Jews only at a Seder or Shabbat services or in Religious School, we are Jews in moments that you might not necessarily associate with being Jewish. We are called to action from the Holiness Code in Leviticus, “Love your neighbor as yourself” and “Do not stand idly by while your neighbor bleeds.” These mitzvot command us to call upon our Jewish traditions in times when they are required. We march, we protest, we pray with our feet.

As Rabbi Heschel famously said, “In a free society, all are involved in what some are doing. Some are guilty, all are responsible.”

Brad Zicholtz

Brad@RTRny.org





Religious School March 25



On April 15, our Religious School students were all out in the Community. Some helped run the RTR booth as a Bedouin tent at the 70th Israel Celebration, some volunteered at The Rhoda Bloom Food Pantry, and some also traveled to the Museum of Jewish Heritage in NYC then had a delectable lunch at Katz's.



YOUTH GROUP NEWS AND NOTES

SERIES IV

It's hard to believe that this year is quickly drawing to a close! Wow, the year sure did fly by. We still have a few more fabulous events coming up. We wish a Happy Mother's Day to all of our fabulous RTR moms!

Lil' ReTRO (Grades 3-5)

Advisor: Robin Condoluci
Email: rtrlilretro@gmail.com
Phone: 845-638-2655

Sun, Jun 10: End-of-Year Pool Party-
More details forthcoming!



ReTweens (Grades 6-8)

Advisor: Elise Lehrman
Email: Leese54@gmail.com
Phone: 914-715-9845

Sun, May 6: Event TBD

Sun, June 10: End-of-Year Pool Party-
More details forthcoming!



ReTRO (Grades 9-12)

Advisor: Elise Lehrman
Email: Leese54@gmail.com
Phone: 914-715-9845

Sat, May 12: AP Escape - Movie & Dinner at the Palisades Mall.

Sun, May 20: Horseback Riding - Details TBD.

Sat, Jun 2: NFTY-GER Leadership Summit. Details TBD.

Sun, Jun 10: End-of-Year Pool Party-More details forthcoming!

Look for our CLOSED The Reform Temple of Rockland Youth Groups page on Facebook for updates on events and photos from events!

Children who are grade eligible for Lil ReTRO and ReTweens and are members of RTR do not need to register for Youth Group. All children in those eligible grades are automatically registered.

If you have any questions about our youth groups, please contact the Youth Group Advisors.

All youth group activities are coordinated by RTR Youth Committee and financially supported by RTR Men's Club.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



Are you interested in becoming a part of RTR's *FIRST* ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH CLASS?

If you never had the experience of a meaningful Bar or Bat Mitzvah, this is your opportunity! Please send an email to Debbie Silberberg at dgrower@aol.com to let us know if you are interested in attending an informational meeting. We'll contact you with further information.

SIGN UP FOR ROCKLAND COUNTY BIRTHRIGHT TRIPS!

Free Trip to Israel

JUNE 4-14 COLLEGE AGE
JULY 12-19 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

(AGES 18-32)



Register at MayanotIsrael.com
or call 845.659.2388 for more info

TORAH TOPICS

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Torah Topics is an informal discussion group. Elements of the Torah are related to today's life through readings and personal narratives. The group freely shares observations and opinions and welcomes drop-ins and regular participants. Coffee, tea, and a small nosh are provided.



TASTE OF TORAH

Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Join in as we make sense of each week's (English translated) Torah portion and find out what meaning it has in our lives today. Listen to the discussion or put in your two cents and let our commentators put in theirs. Great fun and learning! Facilitated by our Clergy. Bagels at 9 AM. Study 9:15-10:15 AM.

Torah Services at RTR

Clergy will read from the Torah at Erev Shabbat Services on the following dates:

May 25, June 15



Get to know your RTR family one story at a time. Names will be randomly selected so, yes... YOU may be our next call!



Meet Wendy and Barry Fleischman

100% authentic RTR members (the first couple to join RTR after the merger), this awesome couple joined The Reform Temple of Rockland in 2016 after being active in another local reform Synagogue for 28 years. Both Wendy and Barry were very involved in all aspects of their temple life, culminating in both of them the desire to become temple Presidents at different times. Why leave all that and join RTR? Their reasoning was simple, "With the merger of the two legacy temples (TBE and TBT), we decided to join RTR. It was an opportunity to become part of what we saw as an exciting time – to meet

new people from both temples and to become part of a new beginning."

Wendy and Barry went from a zero to 80 miles per hour participation level in no time flat. That car reference is for Barry, who is a car buff and has worked in the automotive field for the past 40 years as a Parts and Service Director for luxury cars. He has even brought his passion for cars to RTR by starting its Car Club for all automotive enthusiasts! You can also add the House Committee, and Marketing & Membership to his RTR resume.

Wendy is on the board of WRJ/Sisterhood, co-chairs Adult Education, and is on both the Ritual and Marketing & Membership committees. When asked how she became immersed in RTR life so quickly, she replied, "It has been easy to become involved in a temple that has been so welcoming to us."

Wendy has been involved in Adult Jewish Education and has taken Melton courses every year at JCC Rockland since 2003. She became an adult Bat Mitzvah in 2004 and a confirmand soon after.

The Fleischmans moved to Rockland in 1984 with their infant daughter, Alana, and bought a house in Orangeburg. With the addition of their son, Jonathan, they moved to New City in 1987.

In Wendy's words, "We stay connected with our Jewish identity by attending services and helping our temple in any way we can in order for it to remain a strong presence in Rockland County."

The next time you come to temple, sign up for Barry's Car Club and come get revved up! If you want to find Wendy, look for a book discussion or learning opportunity, and there she is!

GOOD & WELFARE



Mazel Tov to **Sheryl Santi** on her engagement to Max Wernick on Valentine's Day.

Mazel Tov to **Alicia Bader-Weisberg**, her daughter Melina will be confirmed May 19.

Mazel Tov to **Russell & Lisa Jay**, their daughter Hannah will be confirmed May 19.

Mazel Tov to **Howard & Barbara Wilen**, their daughter Julia will be confirmed May 19.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



| Day | Name (up to age 25) |
|-----|---------------------|
| 3 | Kyle Berkowitz |
| 3 | Mitchell Brodsky |
| 4 | Arin Deutsch |
| 4 | Rian Shapiro |
| 9 | Avi Vinecour |
| 16 | Ashley Malat |
| 17 | Nicole Askenas |
| 18 | Rowyn Fleissig |
| 20 | Pierce Alvir |
| 23 | Noah Shapiro |
| 23 | Hayley Norton |
| 23 | Hannah Lustig |
| 25 | Samantha Keegan |
| 25 | Zachary Silverman |
| 25 | Emma Kronish |
| 28 | Scott Silverman |
| 28 | Lauren Gerber |
| 28 | Alec Brodsky |
| 28 | Jacob Dachs |
| 29 | Ashley Haber |
| 30 | Lauren Rothstein |
| 31 | Zoe Friedberg |

Those of any age with May birthdays are welcome to join us at Family Services at 6:30 PM on May 4 to receive a birthday blessing on the bima and get a sweet treat!

| Day | Names | Years |
|-----|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 7 | Barry & Wendy Fleischman | 41 |
| 8 | Leonard Gross & Libby Tulin | 36 |
| 11 | Edward & Marilyn Lawner | 49 |
| 18 | Kenneth & Janet Levitt | 38 |
| 18 | Edward & Ronnie Mallin | 44 |
| 23 | Joseph & Estelle Trachtenberg | 67 |
| 23 | Matthew & Felice Burgay | 42 |
| 23 | Lawrence & Amy Rapoport | 42 |
| 24 | Evan & Jeri Newman | 31 |
| 24 | Ira & Susan Emanuel | 31 |
| 24 | Steven & Gwen Rosenzweig | 49 |
| 24 | Jeffrey & Sharon Rubin | 31 |
| 25 | Stephen & Susan Schlusel | 43 |
| 25 | Larry & Linda Hecht | 49 |
| 26 | Alan & Deborah Silberberg | 17 |
| 26 | Benjamin & Joy Sharff | 16 |
| 27 | Albert & Jessica Meyer | 57 |
| 28 | Steven & Bonnie Kurtz | 40 |
| 28 | John & Harriet Dunkerley | 23 |
| 28 | Marvin & Phyllis Fier | 23 |
| 28 | Bruce & Sharon Schultz | 46 |
| 29 | Barry & Sally Schoenberg | 41 |
| 29 | James & Judy O'Neill | 30 |
| 29 | David & Leslie Klayman | 21 |

If you are celebrating a big anniversary and would like a special blessing, please let us know.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies to **Nancy Bermon**. Her father, Ronald Bermon, died March 14.

Our deepest sympathies to **Roberta Ross**. Her cousin, Robert Rubin, died March 14.

Our deepest sympathies to **Abby Kemp**. Her mother, Irma Kemp, died March 18.

Our deepest sympathies to **Laurie Firstenberg**. Her cousin, Anita May Fisher, died March 19.

Our deepest sympathies to **Peter Stone**. His grandmother, Sylvia Goshen, died March 21.

Our deepest sympathies to **Larry Kronish**. Her mother, Alice Kronish, died April 1.

Our deepest sympathies to **Cantor Sally Neff**. Her friend, Carole Sue Gallof, died April 1.

Our deepest sympathies to **Robin Loeb**. Her cousin, Michael Hillelsohn, died April 11.

Our deepest sympathies to **Sharon Hittman**. Her mother, Ann Scheffler, died April 14.

RTR mourns the loss of longtime member, **Irwin Kahn**. Irwin died April 15.

MEN'S CLUB

I hope you all had a zisn Pesach and that your seder were meaningful.

On Sun, May 6 at 10 AM we proudly present Brett Topel, a sportswriter and author of books about the Mets and Shea Stadium. The entire congregation is invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you there—both men AND women.

Please join us for our Business & Bagels Meeting at 9 AM prior to Brett's talk.

At this meeting, the Men's Club calendar dates for the next fiscal year, starting July 1, will be reported and we will hear about the Slate of Officers proposed for the next two years.

Thank you to all who attended Comedy Night. It was a fabulous evening!

Mark your calendars for Fri, Jun 15 at 7:30 PM for Men's Club Shabbat where Men's Club members will participate in the service. Let's show support for Men's Club and its role in RTR life.

My term as President ends on June 30. On July 1 Men's Club will continue forward with a new Board. Please support them as you have always supports Men's Club. I look forward to continue being an active participant in MC and at RTR.

I have learned that we cannot take anything for granted. I would specially like to thank RTR's office staff for all they have done in enabling us to do what we have been able to do during these past two years.

Seth H. Schlanger, President

THE MEN'S CLUB *presents*

Brett Topel **Renowned Sports Author** **Sun, May 6 at 10 AM**

Everyone is invited to this FREE event. Please join the Men's Club for a Bagel Breakfast and a lively discussion on all topics baseball! The discussion will cover the history of the NY Mets and Shea Stadium as well as local baseball history. Brett has authored the books "So You Think You're a New York Mets Fan?" and "When Shea was Home."

Books will be available for purchase.



Fun Fundraiser Women of Reform Judaism / Sisterhood of RTR

Show your Support,
Invite Friends
& Family to Paint
Fluer de Midnight



\$45

Snacks
Included
& Cash Bar

No Talent Needed

Doors open 6:30 pm

Space is Limited

Reserve Your
Easel Today !



Join us for an unforgettable evening of
Friends, Fundraising and Fine Art!

Monday May 14, 2018

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

PINOT'S PALETTE

412 Market Street

Nanuet, NY 845-623-8300

For Tickets, RSVP by May 1, 2018

RSVP to Sally Marvin, email Sallymarv678@icloud.com

Make check payable to WRJ of RTR and mail to RTR attn: Sally

ON MAY 18th, "ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE".

BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS!
FEATURING THE CHAI LIFE BAND & CHOIR!



The Beatles **Rock Shabbat**

FRIDAY, MAY 18th
7:30 PM

Join us as we Rock in Shabbat.



THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND

For more information call 845.358.2248 • 330 North Highland Ave. (9W) • Upper Nyack, New York 10960

May 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
|  | | 1 16 Iyar RTR Israel Trip 4:30p Religious School 6:45p Academy 7:30p Adult Ed 8-10p 3rd NJC | 2 17 Iyar RTR Israel Trip 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir 7:30p Exec. Comm. | 3 18 Iyar RTR Israel Trip Lag BaOmer 10:30a Torah Topics 12:00p Purim L&L 7:30p Choir 7:30p Band 8-10p 3rd NJC | 4 19 Iyar RTR Israel Trip 6:30p Erev Shabbat Family Service— w/ Klezmer Band | 5 20 Iyar RTR Israel Trip Parashat Emor 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service |
| 6 21 Iyar RTR Israel Trip 6-8:30a 3rd NJC 9:30a Religious School 9:30p Men's Club Bfast & speaker: Brett Topel 9:45a Parents Mtg Oy Vey Cafe 10:00a Post Conf. 5:00p RJFS Gala 12-5p 3rd NJC Bible Study | 7 22 Iyar RTR Israel Trip | 8 23 Iyar RTR Israel Trip 4:30p Religious School 6:45p Academy 7:30p Sisterhood/WRJ 8-10p 3rd NJC | 9 24 Iyar RTR Israel Trip 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir & Band 8:00p Special Board Meeting | 10 25 Iyar 10:30a Torah Topics 12:00p Purim L&L 7:30p Car Club 8-10p 3rd NJC | 11 26 Iyar 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service— Sisterhood/WRJ Service  | 12 27 Iyar Parashat Behar-Bechukotai 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service |
| 13 28 Iyar Mother's Day Yom Yerushalayim 9:30a Religious School 9:30a Kindergarten 12-5p 3rd NJC Bible Study | 14 29 Iyar 7:00p Sisterhood Fundraiser: Pinot's Palette (<i>off-site</i>) | 15 1 Sivan Last Day of Religious School 4:30p Religious School 6:45p Academy 7:00p Mem & Marketing 8-10p 3rd NJC | 16 2 Sivan 6:30p AA 7:30p CANDLE 7:30p Choir 7:30p Board of Trustees | 17 3 Sivan 10:30a Torah Topics 12:00p Purim L&L 8-10p 3rd NJC | 18 4 Sivan 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service— Beatles Rock Shabbat  | 19 5 Sivan Parashat Bamidbar Erev Shavuot 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service 7:00p Erev Shavuot Service & Confirmation |
| 20 6 Sivan Shavuot I 10:30a Shavuot Morning & Yizkor Service 12-5p 3rd NJC Bible Study | 21 7 Sivan Shavuot II | 22 8 Sivan 7:30p Ritual Comm. 8-10p 3rd NJC | 23 9 Sivan 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir | 24 10 Sivan 10:30a Torah Topics 12:00p Purim L&L 8-10p 3rd NJC | 25 11 Sivan 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service— Torah Service  11:30p-3a 3rd NJC | 26 12 Sivan Parashat Nasso 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service |
| 27 13 Sivan 12-5p 3rd NJC Bible Study | 28 14 Sivan Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED | 29 15 Sivan 10:00a Knitting Circle 8-10p 3rd NJC | 30 16 Sivan 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir | 31 17 Sivan 10:30a Torah Topics 12:00p Purim L&L 8-10p 3rd NJC |  | |

For the most up-to-date event information, please visit our online calendar at www.RTRny.org.

DONATIONS (February 11—March 10, 2018)

Adult & Family Education Fund

Clifford & Sima Malat in honor of Hudson Stone's Bar Mitzvah
 Clifford & Sima Malat in honor of Reed Stone's Bar Mitzvah
 Clifford & Sima Malat in honor of Jacob Muehlbauer's Bar Mitzvah
 Martin & Vanessa Greenberg in memory of Sanford Greenberg
 Myrna Soslowitz in memory of Cory Soslowitz

Art Fund

Larry Beck & Susan Silver in memory of Esther Beck

Building Fund

Marvin & Joan Anderman in memory of Lucie Friedman

Cantor George Weinflash Music Fund

Ira Goodman
 Leonard & June Silverman in honor of Cantor Neff
 Norman & Vivian Resnick in honor of Len Silverman's 80th Birthday
 Fredric & Judith Greenberg in memory of Frances Shulman
 Jorie Sear in memory of Mollie Klonsky
 Martin & Helene Leibowitz in memory of Arthur Leibowitz

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Anonymous
 Howard & Gail Golden in memory of Harvey Golden
 James & Marcia Simon in memory of Ernest Solomon
 Keven & Helene Peck in memory of Miriam Bentman
 Laurie Rindskopf in memory of Barbara Stolzenberg
 Myrna Soslowitz in memory of Martin Soslowitz
 Paul & Ellen Ratisher in memory of Irving Ratisher

Chesed Fund

Joyce Scharaga & Stacey Nissenbaum in memory of Elaine Levitt
 Larry Beck & Susan Silver in memory of Eugene Beck and Lillian Silver
 Lillian Spier in memory of Clara Migden
 Rosalyn Mintz in memory of Elaine Levitt

Family in Crisis Fund

Paul & Judy Melter
 Phillip & Patricia Beutel in memory of Wallace Polirer

Karen Ami Social Action Fund

James & Marcia Simon in memory of Ernest Solomon

Morton Troy Educational Enrichment Fund

Joseph & Estelle Trachtenberg in memory of Celia, William & Lee Warmbrand, & Estelle Trachtenberg



RTR greatly appreciates all donations. If any have been overlooked or improperly allocated, please call the office and let us know.

*(Continued from page 18)***Oneg Fund**

Boris & Bella Spektor in memory of Haim Gersh Kremenchutsky

Operating Fund

Eric & Jennifer Rotbard

Ira Goodman

Lawrence & Sally Levy in honor of Larry Levy's speedy recovery

Ruth Levy in honor of Len Silverman's 80th Birthday

Alice Berman in memory of Sarah Goldsmith

Alice Berman in memory of Anne Berman

Allen & Miriam Fetterman in memory of Max Fetterman

David & Libbi Rosenblum in memory of Bernard Rosenblum

Hal & Cecile Deutschman in memory of Irving Bremen

Leonard & June Silverman in memory of Mollie Silverman

Marjorie Bernstein in memory of Elaine Solomon

Michael & Mia Rothstein in memory of Arthur Rothstein

Mr. & Mrs. Fredric Lewis in memory of Pauline E. Lewis

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Greenstein in memory of Rose Bauman

Norman & Carole Nudelman in memory of Florence Poliner

Shari Galligan in memory of Samuel Rapaport

Stephen & Susan Schlusel in memory of Alexander Fleischmann

Phyllis & Morton Simon Prayer Book Fund

Robert & Helayne Lefland in honor of Adrienne Glasgow's Bat Mitzvah

Alan & Valerie Bagun in memory of Meyer Bagun

Jorie Sear in memory of Frances Alpert & Gussie Fishbein

Rabbi Louis Frishman Youth Endowment Fund

Robert & Helayne Lefland in honor of Adrienne Glasgow's Bat Mitzvah

Joseph & Andrea Leighton in memory of Gerald Zweifler

Lawrence & Amy Rapoport in memory of Robert Jacobson

Mitchell Glanzrock in memory of Stan Glanzrock

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Alvin & Jane Aronoff in memory of Sheldon Silverman

Barbara Caren in memory of Harvey Sherman

Barry and Marcia Berk in memory of Estelle Berk and Melvin Berk

David & Libbi Rosenblum in memory of Sylvia Schulman

Donald & Jo Ann Waldorf in memory of Lillian Perelman

Elaine Casper in memory of Arthur Casper

Helene Byron in memory of Fred Kruh

Laurie Rindskopf in memory of Barbara Stolzenberg

Marian Schwartz in memory of Anne Newiger

Myrna Soslowitz in memory of Albert Soslowitz

Ruth Lipman in memory of Lillian Lipman

Stewart & Suzanne Bader in memory of Barbara Stolzenberg

A BIG
thank
you!

**...to those who
volunteered their
time to deliver
Mishloach Manot to
our members!
A true mitzvah!**



Do you shop at DeCicco's in New City?
If you do, just let the cashier know you
belong to The Reform Temple of
Rockland in Nyack and a percentage of
your purchase will be given to RTR.
It's that easy!

The Reform Temple of Rockland Invites you to

Art Walk



JUNE 10, 2018

SUNDAY MORNING • 10:00 AM

Learn about the history behind some of RTR's great artwork throughout the building - a wonderful collection of both our previous synagogues' pasts.

Grab a cup of coffee and cake after the walk and catch up with old friends or make new friends.



**THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND**

For more information call 845.358.2248 • 330 North Highland Ave. (9W) • Upper Nyack, New York 10960

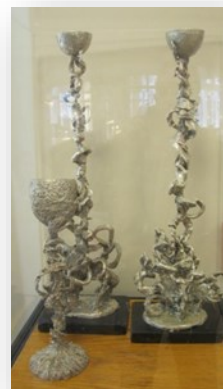
LET'S TALK ART

The displays that follow are of the Contributors & Donors to the buildings of our two Legacy Congregations (Temple Beth Torah and Temple Beth El). These displays are on the lower level in our school wing on either side of the Library with Temple Beth Torah to the left and Temple Beth El to the right. The Temple Beth El original Donor Wall could not be transferred to the Nyack building as it consisted of 14 wood panels 4' wide by 7' high totaling 56' in length. It has been replicated by professionally photographing each panel and transferring those photos onto two 76" wide by 21" high panels of canvas totaling 12' 8" as pictured on the right.



The Candlesticks and Kiddush Cups from both Legacy Temples are used regularly at Shabbat services. Those shown on the left are from Temple Beth Torah and are in the Sanctuary. In the late 1990's, Temple Beth Torah created a Legacy Campaign in honor of their past. The money raised was to be used to expand the building including a dedicated sanctuary. A list of gifts for donation was created and families were asked to contribute. The free-standing brass candelabra and matching Kiddush cup were created by the Jewish artist David Klass and was made in a Soho metal shop. The donation for this gift was made by the Firstenberg/Wetrogan family in memory of members of their families. The base was designed by Stephen Kopelman, a TBT/RTR member, and was built by a woodworking friend of his. Its base was originally covered in blue velvet.

The Candlesticks on the right were designed by Hanna Geber and contributed by Lillian and Morris Adrian, and the Kiddush cup was designed by Mehran Shirazi and contributed by Ruth and Gabriel Bayes and are from Temple Beth El. These are in a display case in the Oy Vey Café near the exit doors.



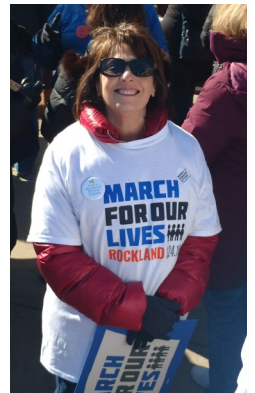
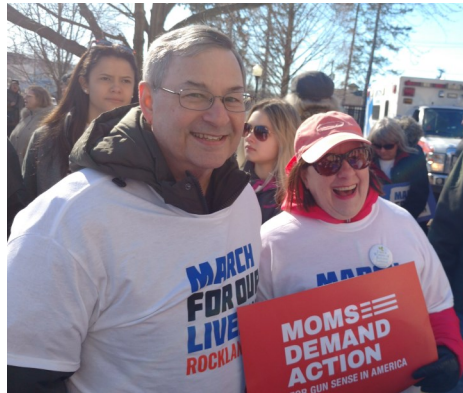
BRIT OLAM



In March under the leadership and guidance of RTR's clergy, our congregation signed on to Religious Action Center's Brit Olam, "covenant with our world". RAC's vision is of "a strong, networked Reform Movement acting powerfully and together to bring upon the world we want- a world filled with justice, compassion and wholeness."

Signing on to Brit Olam allows RTR to publicly reaffirm our commitment to meaningful social justice work, grounded in our sacred and enduring Jewish values. Our commitment to moral leadership and congregational and community-based action is supported by RAC resources. The network of Brit Olam congregations working together to repair our world amplifies our message and our work.

Following the leadership of our youth, RTR chose to focus our initial actions on gun violence prevention. On March 24, congregants participated in "March For Our Lives" in Washington, D.C., New York City and rallied in New City. We will continue to support our youth as they work for common sense gun legislation. Look for upcoming actions in e-Connections under our new heading: **Brit Olam**.



Nicaragua Service Learning Trip Informational Session



On Sun, May 6 at 10 AM in the Oy Vey Cafe, Brad will hold an informational meeting for any teens and adults interested in traveling to Nicaragua for a service learning trip during winter break, Feb 16-23, 2019.

For seven days in Nicaragua, we will be building homes for two families. More importantly we will be participating in a cross-cultural exchange as well as coming to grips with the harsh realities of poverty. We will learn about our neighbors, our Judaism, the world, and ourselves. It is the true essence of *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world).



March with your Rockland community in New York City's Annual Celebrate Israel Parade! Buses will take marchers to and from the Rockland Jewish Community Campus.

Registration Information & More Details Coming Soon!

SAVE THE DATE: Sun, Jun 3

VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH

Rhoda Bloom Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed monthly.
The shift starts at 8:45 AM and ends
before noon.

**Upcoming Volunteer Days:
May 6, Jun 10, Jul 15**

ONE OF THE
GREATEST GIFTS
YOU CAN GIVE IS
YOUR TIME

One in six Americans is affected by “food insecurity” – the lack of consistent, dependable access to food due to limited money or resources. Rockland Jewish Family Service works to alleviate hunger in our community through the Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry, which delivers kosher food to anyone in Rockland who is in need.

The Food Pantry currently feeds approximately 200 families in our community. RTR has been asked to donate **200 HALF GALLON KOSHER APPLE JUICE CONTAINERS** *each month* to the Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry. Please drop off juice donations in the bins downstairs in front of the office or in the upstairs lobby.

**RTR needs a volunteer to coordinate monthly juice orders. Please call the office if you can help!
It only requires a few phone calls each month.**

Can You Make a Phone Call?

Compassionate RTR Congregants Needed

Some in our RTR family would love an occasional friendly phone call or visit. Let's do a mitzvah and show that we care for each other!

To volunteer, email Eva Steen:
eesteen@optonline.net

Can You Drive a Car?

RTR is seeking volunteer drivers (21 or older) to provide transportation for congregants who are unable to drive themselves. If you will be coming to Friday or Saturday services or any events and have room in your car, please contact Jolie Levy,

Temple Administrator, at (845) 358-2248 or Jolie@RTRny.org to get matched up with someone in your area who might be in need of a ride.

Your help would be greatly appreciated!

LIFE'S MOST
PERSISTENT
AND URGENT
QUESTION IS:
*WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
FOR OTHERS?*

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH



Yahrzeit Callers Needed

Callers are needed to make a few (3-4) brief, weekly calls to remind people of the service schedule for their loved one's Yahrzeit. Names, relevant information and the script are provided weekly via email.

You must have access to email to help with this project.

If interested in helping, please email Jorie Sear at volunteer@RTRny.org. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Please Note: Any request for changes to Yahrzeit name readings made with the office will not be reflected in the reminder calls.

Do you have a steamer and an hour or two to spare? We're looking for a volunteer to help keep our building warm and welcoming. Call the office if you're available at 845-358-2248.

Sisterhood/WRJ Assists Homeless Women

As part of our community outreach, we are collecting feminine hygiene products for the women who are served by Helping Hands, Rockland's program to aid and shelter homeless Rocklanders.

**We are accepting
sanitary napkins and tampons ONLY.**

Kindly donate these products by bringing them to a Sisterhood meeting or by placing them in either the collection bin outside the temple office or the one in the upstairs lobby.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness.



Give Your Old Shoes a New Life!

Sisterhood/WRJ continues their fundraiser collecting used shoes, which are "worn, but definitely not worn out!" Used shoes are in great demand in developing countries. Recycled shoes create jobs and fuel local economies. Please drop off pairs of men's, women's or children's shoes. **Look for donation boxes in the upstairs lobby and downstairs entrance.**

Do you have a child in college?

Please email the mailing address to Ruth Schlanger at rjs521@aol.com. RTR and the Sisterhood/WRJ want our college students to remain part of our family and will send them some surprises while they are away at college.



Come Visit The RTR Sisterhood/WRJ **JUDAICA SHOP**

Consider our great gift ideas
for Engagements, Weddings,
Housewarmings, Graduations
and Birthdays

We have a wide selection of items:

**For Bar & Bat Mitzvah's
Tallitot and Customized Kippot**

**Mezzuzot * Children's Gifts * Glassware
Jewelry * Challah Covers * Holiday
Specialty items and much more**

To make an appointment:

Email JudaicaShop@RTRNY.org or call

Lisa Jay at 914-572-0200

Renee Kratter at 845-357-6715

Helayne Pfeffer at 845-429-2939

We look forward to seeing you soon

*A portion of all sales go to support
our Temple and Religious School*

The white yahrzeit plaques displayed in Spring Valley will be available for members **until June 2018**. If you or someone you know is interested in collecting the plaques, please call the office with the names at 845-358-2248. The names will be pulled monthly and will be available for pick-up or mailing to out-of-state families.



It's never too late to honor a simcha on our new and beautiful Tree of Life in our Main Lobby. Honor a birth, celebration, Bar or Bat Mitzvah or accomplishment on a permanent leaf. Two sizes are available.

It's also never too late to memorialize the death of a loved one on our stunning Yahrzeit Plaque wall.

Forms are available through our Office by calling 845-358-2248 or by emailing: Susan@RTRny.org.

MI SHEBEIRACH LIST

If you have names you would like to add or keep on the list, please email susan@RTRny.org or call [845-358-2248](tel:845-358-2248). **Please remember to let us know when a name can be removed.**

Turn off Your Cell and Make a Date with The Reform Temple of Rockland Every Friday Evening.

Come Experience

JOYFUL JUDAISM!



THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND

The Reform Temple of Rockland Committees

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| Adult Education | Susan Klein rsdsk@aol.com Wendy Fleischman wendysue55@aol.com | Membership | Adrian Modansky adrianmodansky@gmail.com Michael Rutter shotime@aol.com |
| Building and Grounds | Jeff Grossman jeffgrossman@gmail.com Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com | Outreach | Aaron & Michelle Kleinman amrockland@msn.com |
| Caring & Inclusion Initiative | Eva Steen eeestein@optonline.net Helayne Pfeffer hayne1954@gmail.com | Pulpit | Joanna Landau yona180@optonline.net |
| College | Ruth Schlanger rjs521@aol.com | Religious School | Tama Shor Beck shorbeck@verizon.net Cathy Klein kleincb@gmail.com |
| Communications & Marketing | Fran Grossman franzgrossman@gmail.com Adrian Modansky adrianmodansky@gmail.com | Ritual | Jodi Gischner ritualcommittee@RTRny.org Judith Kiss ritualcommittee@RTRny.org |
| Finance | Stephen Hittman stephen.hittman@gmail.com | Sisterhood/WRJ | Jane Aronoff aronoff@aol.com Estelle Hans estelleh1@verizon.net |
| Fundraising | Adrian Modansky adrianmodansky@gmail.com Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com | Social Action | Michelle Kleinman amrockland@msn.com |
| Men's Club | Seth Schlanger sethschlangerlaw@aol.com | Youth Group | Russell Jay ripjay@optonline.net Sally Schoenberg carrot1060@aol.com |

Helpful Deadline Information & Guidelines

Please help us notify our members of important information and events by using these guidelines:

• **WEEKLY (Wednesdays): e-Connections** **Deadline: 3:00 PM Tuesday**

Our weekly email, "e-Connections," goes out to our congregation every Wednesday. This communication is for *upcoming events and important announcements only*. It is intended to be a short (2-page max.) newsletter; it is not intended to run repetitive flyers or announcements (i.e., Soul Mates shoe collection). Text will be limited and graphics will be small. Flyers will be linked. **Please note:** stand-alone e-blasts are primarily for life cycle events.

• **WEEKLY (Fridays): Erev Shabbat Services Handout** **Deadline: 10:00 AM Friday**

Each Friday, we prepare the Yahrzeit and Mi Shebeirach lists for the Erev Shabbat Services handout. If there are any changes/additions to these lists, please notify the RTR Office by 10 AM. Changes/additions made after the deadline will be communicated to clergy and appropriately read, but the handout will not be changed.

• **MONTHLY: Connections** **Deadline: 10th of the Prior Month (Ex: Dec 10th for Jan)**

Each month, we produce a bulletin that is mailed to homes and businesses. Entries are due in the Office by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the following month's bulletin. This communication is intended for ongoing events, flyers, news, articles, and announcements.

Submission Guidelines: Please submit your own flyers. Be sure to include a date, time, location, description and contact person. We accept all formats. All of the above information can be emailed to Susan@RTRny.org.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US BE AS EFFICIENT AS POSSIBLE IN KEEPING OUR MEMBERS APPRISED OF RTR HAPPENINGS!



THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND

Brighter Together.

330 N. Highland Avenue
Upper Nyack, NY 10960
www.RTRNY.org

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

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Monsey, New York

Permit No. 7009

Current Resident Or:



Save the Date

Shabbat in the Park

Fri, Jun 1 at 6:30 PM