

THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND

Brighter Together

NOVEMBER 2018 23 Cheshvan— 22 Kislev 5779





RTR is a welcoming beacon in Rockland County where Reform Jews can explore their individual Jewish identity and connectivity, inspiring friendship, spirituality and community service.

SERVICES

Friday Erev Shabbat 7:30 PM
First Friday-Family Shabbat 6:30 PM
Saturday Taste of Torah 9:00 AM
Saturday Morning Shabbat 10:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Office: 845-358-2248

Fax: 845-358-3450

Website: www.RTRny.org Email: info@RTRny.org

NOVEMBER DATES AT A GLANCE:

- 1 Adult Education Committee
- 2 Erev Shabbat Family Service
- 4 Adult Ed/WRJ Guest Speaker: Ellen Umansky
- 6 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: ELECTION DAY Religious School Teachers Conference
- 6 Executive Committee
- 7 Adult Ed/WRJ Central Synagogue Docent Tour Rosh Chodesh Car Club
- 9 Erev Shabbat: Veteran's Day & Kristallnacht
- 10 Chazen Jazz Concert at Pearl River High School
- 11 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: VETERAN'S DAY
- 12 OFFICE CLOSED: VETERAN'S DAY OBSERVED
- 13 Knitting Circle
 Membership & Marketing Committee
 Finance Committee
- 16 Erev Shabbat: Torah Service
- 18 K'tanim: MitzvotMen's Club Bagels & BusinessWRJ/Sisterhood Brunch & Boutique
- 20 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at St. Ann's Catholic Church
- 22-25 OFFICE CLOSED: THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
- 25 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- 25-27 Helping Hands
- 27 Ritual Committee
- 28 Board of Trustees
- 29 WRJ/Sisterhood Board Meeting

SEE PAGE 17 FOR OUR COMPLETE CALENDAR

RTR's Kashrut Policy:

All Temple-sponsored events held on Temple property shall be either a dairy or a meat event. Meat and dairy are ever served together during the same course of a meal.

- Shellfish and pork products are prohibited on the Temple property.
- Any party renting or using the Temple facilities must comply with this policy.
- Fish and eggs are "parve" (considered neutral) and can be served with either meat or dairy.
- Chicken and other poultry are considered meat.
- All products that come from milk are considered dairy (cheese, butter, cream, etc.).

Peak Inside...

From The Rabbi Interfaith Service From the President Noah's Ark Pictures From the Dir. Cong. Learn. Youth Group	page 3 page 4 page 5 page 6 page 7 page 8	Educational Opportunities WRJ/Men's Club Golf Outing Thanks Recent Tributes Chazen Jazz Concert Calendar	page 12 page 13 page 16	Volunteering & Outreach Simchat Torah Pictures WRJ Brunch & Boutique Let's Talk Art Birthdays & Anniversaries Sylvia Avstreih	page 19 page 21 page 18 page 22 page 23 page 24
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FROM THE RABBI

The history of Judaism in North America dates back to 1654 when a group of 23 Sephardic Jews arrived in New Amsterdam from Recife, Brazil. These Jews were fleeing the Spanish Inquisition which had fol-

lowed them from Europe. There had been individual Jews in North America prior to this date, including Joachim Gans in 1584 who is credited by some as being the first Jew in North America. There are even some scholars who speculate that Christopher Columbus may have been a crypto Jew. However, there is tremendous debate about this theory. What is known is that Columbus' first voyage was heavily financed both by *conversos* and by Jews.

Let's get back to this group of 23 Jewish refugees. Despite the protests of the Governor of New Amsterdam, Peter Stuyvesant, his bosses of the Dutch West India Company insisted he allow the Jews to stay assuming they provided for their own well-being and did not become a burden on society.

From this point on Jews have been a part of the fabric and makeup of North America. We have lived in every state in the Union. We have worked in just about every business imaginable. And we have fought in every war in this country. There was even Haym Solomon, who was credited with helping to almost single-handedly finance the Revolutionary War for a time. That Congress 'forgot' to repay him is a story for another day.

This does not even get into the number of Jews who have held political positions, sometimes very prominent, in our burgeoning and now firmly established government.

As you can see, we have historically been incredibly active in our Democracy we hold so dear. Traditionally Jews tended to vote as a block. But as we have become increasingly diverse, so have our voting trends.

That being said, no matter our individual political perspectives, we have always upheld the idea of democracy dating back as far as Talmudic times. In a fascinating article by Rabbi David Rosen entitled "Democracy: A Moral Imperative in Judaism," the author argues that throughout our history "the indi-

vidual that is key to the effective functioning of the democratic ideal in Judaism, an ideal which emphasizes not only the importance of public authority, but above all of the obligation of the system to provide for the greatest protection and enhancement of human life and dignity of all."¹

Throughout our history, both here and our history as a people, we have always placed an emphasis on proper governance. According to our tradition, it is a Jewish obligation to participate in the political process. In the words of Rabbi Feinstein, "A fundamental principle of Judaism is hakaras hatov—recognizing benefits afforded us and giving expression to our appreciation. Therefore, it is incumbent on each Jewish citizen to participate in the democratic system which guards the freedoms we enjoy. The most fundamental responsibility incumbent on each individual is to register and to vote."

What I strongly encourage you to do is to get out there and vote. Please note this is not an article endorsing any particular issue, though I have, and I will continue to speak out on issues from a Jewish perspective.

Nor is it an endorsement of any particular candidate. As a non-profit, it is inappropriate to publicly endorse any candidate for office from the pulpit, and we will never publicly endorse any candidates for office.

Instead, it is simply a reminder that voting is not only the duty of every American, but it is also a duty for every American-Jew or Jewish-American. For this is the first country that ever granted us this right, and it is a right we should all continue to hold dear.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff RabbiSharff@RTRny.org

¹rabbidavidrosen.net

² http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2012/10/22/rabbi-why-should-i-vote.html



Tues, Nov 20, 2018, at 7:00 PM

Youth Program Begins at 5:30 PM

(Pizza dinner will be served)

Hosted by St. Ann's Catholic Church Nyack 16 Jefferson Street in Nyack

The collection will benefit the Nyack Hunger Coalition Please arrive early to ensure a parking spot

The Youth Program will collect unexpired food donations for St. Ann's Food Cupboard:

Cereal or Oatmeal Pasta: 1 lb. packages of spaghetti or other types Pasta Sauce Macaroni & Cheese: boxed mixes

Peanut Butter

Dry beans Rice

Tuna Fish

Canned Fruits or Vegetables

Canned Meats: Beef Stew or canned chicken Cooking Oil in Plastic Bottles Fruit Juice in Plastic Bottles or cans Parmalat or Powdered Milk Boxed Stuffing

Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes Canned Yams/Sweet Potatoes getables



FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is fall, and the excitement of the High Holy Days and the beginning of the new school year are behind us. We now look forward to the leaves changing colors, apple

picking, temperatures cooling down, and Thanksgiving.

This past month we celebrated Simchat Torah. It was a joyous celebration with music played by our Chai Life Band. With everyone dancing, parading around and passing the Torahs from one person to another. The children were waving flags and shaking tambourines. As the scroll was unrolled around the entire room, adults and children helped hold the precious handwritten parchment. What a wonderful site this was! A number of students read aloud their Torah portions from their B'nei Mitzvah. The Rabbi and Cantor chanted the last and first verses of the Torah.

We have begun the renovation of our Temple facility. The roof repairs are complete, the air conditioners have been updated and Religious School classrooms have received a fresh coat of paint. Our Membership & Marketing Committee is working extremely hard to grow our population in all age groups. We are in a period of membership growth. New members are joining us, and our Religious School enrollment is increasing.

We are trying to make changes to benefit all congregants, but as you know change is difficult at times to put into action. Many of us

have a tendency to hold onto things we thought were great ideas when we were younger. "They were so good why change them?" "I always did things this way." It's hard to let go and look forward to the unknown. But some changes are good. Our belief system makes us open to new ideas. Be open to the changes.

It's rare that something new is perfect the first time it is tried. We need to be open minded and see how it works. Trial and error is a necessary part of any growth process. Mistakes and failures are natural and necessary. If you have recommendations or concerns as to how programs, activities or events are working or not, we would love to hear from you. Voice your opinions to myself, our Professional Staff or Temple Board. I urge you at the same time to participate and come up with solutions to implement your comments. Constructive criticism is an invaluable problem solving tool. Be an active participant in RTR and help us make effective changes for the current year and our next generation of congregants.

Most importantly we need YOU to make change successful! Join us, get involved! The more congregants that are involved, the more we can accomplish together.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

B'Shalom,

Adrian Modansky, President President@RTRny.org

Noah's Ark Came to RTR on October 14!





FROM BRAD ZICHOLTZ, DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

This November, The Reform Temple of Rockland's Religious School is dedicated to making the world a

better place.

"You too must befriend (love) the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." (Deuteronomy 10:19). Our teens and some adults will be embarking on an incredible event on November 10th. They will be participating on a Midnight Run. The Midnight Run is an organization founded some 30 years ago to help support homeless men and women living on the streets of New York City. Before we leave, younger children and other adults will help us get ready by packing and making sandwiches. We will then caravan into the city that night to meet the homeless on the streets at certain designated areas. We will be bringing with us food, warm clothing, shoes, blankets, and toiletries. However, the most important part of the evening will be how we treat the people we encounter. Far too often, the homeless are treated as if they are invisible or they are seen as a nuisance, like the pigeons. Our job that evening will be to treat the people we meet as human beings. We will say "please," "thank you," "sir," and "ma'am." As a veteran of over 40 runs, I can say that the best part of any Midnight Run is getting to talk to our guests on a level that they really never get. Dignity is the best thing we can bring with us that night.

"Do not stand idly by while your neighbor's blood is shed." (Leviticus 19:16) This month will also see something growing at the Religious School, my beard! I will be growing a beard in support of "Movember," a Men's Health organization, to raise money and awareness. Movember raises money to help reduce prostate cancer and testicular cancer rates, mental health, and suicide prevention. All the money collected for tzedakah in the Religious School will go to this organization. The class that raises the most money will get to choose what shape I will shave my beard into in early December.

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18) On Tuesday, November 20, we will be participating in the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service and Youth Program. This is an opportunity for our teens to make connections with teens of other faiths. Last year, we had a chance to learn a little bit about each other's religions and this year we will do the same. This incredible program allows our teens to see that most people have more in common than they think. Meeting people face to face who are different from you helps to create a bond that hate cannot break.

We hope your children can help out with the programs and make a Jewish difference in the world.

Brad Zicholtz Brad@RTRny.org

YOUTH GROUP NEWS AND NOTES

Lil' ReTRo Grades 3-5

ReTweens Grades 6-8

ReTRo Grades 9-12

UPCOMING:

October 26-28 – 5th Graders at Eisner Camp Retreat in the Berkshires
November 10—Help prepare for Midnight Run
November 20—Interfaith Youth Thanksgiving Program/Dinner/Service

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October 26-28 – 5th Graders at Eisner Camp Retreat in theBerkshires
November 10—Help prepare for Midnight Run
November 20—Interfaith Youth Thanksgiving Program/Dinner/Service
November 30-December 2 – NFTY-GER Taste of NFTY Kallah

UPCOMING:

November 10—Help prepare for Midnight Run November 17—NFTY-GER Mitzvah Day: Registration is now open! November 20—Interfaith Youth Thanksgiving Program/Dinner/Service December 27-30 – NFTY-GER Winter Kallah

ReTRo had a fabulous afternoon on the Lower East Side Food Tour! They sampled pickles, bialys, fried plantains, various cheeses and cannoli! They also attended NFTY-GER's Fall Kallah at Kutz Camp where they prayed, participated in fun programs and met new friends from the GER region!











IF YOU HAVE A JEWISH FRIEND WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF RTR AND WOULD LIKE A YOUTH GROUP PACKET, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Join our CLOSED Facebook group (Reform Temple of Rockland Youth Groups) for up to the minute information and photos of your children at events!

If you have any questions please contact: Elise Lehrman (914) 715-9845, Advisor: ReTRo and ReTweens Robin Condoluci (845) 638-2655, Advisor: Lil' ReTRo

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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: Nov 16, Dec 21



NOV 7 7:00 PM KISLEV

Rosh Chodesh is a monthly celebration of the new moon, traditionally observed by Jewish women. At RTR, we observe with candlelight, music, some study, and meditation. It is a beautiful and meaningful way to take some time just for you, to reconnect and renew.

ALL women are welcome. Please come and join us as we celebrate the upcoming month of Kislev. Feel free to bring a friend! Please RSVP to the RTR Office with the name(s) and number attending.



Guest Speaker:
Ellen Umansky
Author of
The Fortunate Ones
Sun, Nov 4
10:00 AM

The Fortunate Ones was named by Booklist as one of the best debut novels of 2017. Ellen has published fiction and nonfiction in numerous publications, including The New York Times, Slate, and the short-story anthology Lost Tribe: Jewish Fiction from the Edge. She earned a BA from the University of Pennsylvania, an MFA in creative writing from Columbia University, and has worked in the editorial departments of The Forward, Tablet, and The New Yorker. She grew up in Los Angeles and lives in Brooklyn with her husband and two daughters.

Brought to you by Adult Ed and WRJ/Sisterhood

Join Adult Ed and WRJ/Sisterhood for a Docent Tour of Central Synagogue in NYC



Thursday, November 8 Tour Begins at 11:00 AM

We will arrange carpools to leave from RTR and have lunch in the City. THERE IS A LIMIT OF 22 GUESTS ON THIS TOUR

RSVPs ARE REQUIRED!

Wendy Fleischman: WendySue55@aol.com Susan Klein: rsdsk@aol.com

Additional information will be provided when you RSVP.



TREE OF LIFE & YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

Honor or memorialize your loved one or an event. Forms are available through our Office by calling 845-358-2248 or by emailing: Susan@RTRny.org.

Jewish Federation &Foundation

Global Day of Jewish Learning November 11, 2018

Rockland Jewish Community Campus 450 W. Nyack Road | West Nyack, New Y









Sunday November 11 2018 Register online: www.jewishrockland.org/global

Connect

Learn

Sign-in & Refreshments

Belong

Take a Step Ahead

Extraordinary Passages: Texts and Travels

CLASS NAME

SCHEDULE

9:30am

Generations: A Family's Journeys Jonah: A Story of Many Journeys Journey into the Unknown The Journey of Our Names The Making of a Wandering People

The Stops along the Way

11:15am-12:15pm Session Two

SESSION ONE Dr. Martin O. Cohen Rabbi Daniel Pernick Judith Rose Rabbi Elchanan Weinbach

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff Session Two ONLY

SESSION TWO Session One ONLY Dr. Debra Raice Rabbi Paul Kurland Rabbi David Berkman

Rabbi Brian Leiken Rabbi Jill Hackell

REGISTER ONLINE: www.jewishrockland.org/global Pre-registration: \$10 Registration at door: \$18*

500 Communities. 40 Countries.

Thousands of lives touched through our sacred texts.

For class descriptions and to register for Global Day, please visit v.jewishrockland.org/global. Or call Roberta Seltzman, 845-362-4200 x130

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. Please remember to let us know when a name can be removed.

RTR CREATES COMMUNITY



The RTR Car Club encourages our members to help build friendships through a mutual enjoyment of automobiles. We hold a monthly meeting on the second Thursday of every month and share stories and experiences and help each other with answers to all questions regarding automobiles. We also attend events off site. If you are interested in joining our Car Club, please contact Barry Fleischman by email at barrymb@aol.com or phone at 845-494-4023.

NEXT MEETINGS: NOV 8, DEC 13

RTR'S KNITTING CIRCLE

Do you crochet, knit, or want to learn how? Bring what you're working on or just show up and we'll get you started. Come join us and schmooze, craft and enjoy refreshments with fellow congregants.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES: Nov 13 at 10 AM; Dec 11 at 10 AM

If you know of a temple member who is in need of some comfort, please do not hesitate to let us know so we can provide one of our handmade Mi Shebeirach bears or comfort shawls. Contact: Helayne Pfeffer at 845-429-2939. All names will be kept confidential.



WRJ/SISTERHOOD

As Co-Presidents of Woman of Reform Judaism/ Sisterhood, we are using Connections to inform our RTR fellow congregants of who we are and what we do.

We had the pleasure

of leading this dynamic group of women since 2016 and have been members of WRJ for many years. As a Sisterhood, we have many goals which we will discuss in subsequent articles.

Our four major goals are:

- To create a better experience for our Temple's school by supporting its special functions.
- To create and support Social Action projects for our community and our country.
- To create both day and evening events for our members to spend productive time in a social experience, strengthening old friendships and creating new bonds in our ever-changing personal worlds.
- To support all arms of Temple by sharing the cost of creating and attending all events.

In addition to the above, we make financial contributions to RTR, support Onegs, fund scholarships, support the Women's Seder, run The Judaica Shop, organize and fund many Temple Dinners, run the Theater Group to Broadway, and much more.

Join us for our November events:

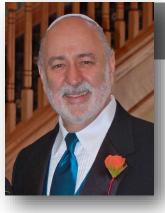
- Book Discussion of The Fortunate Ones with author Ellen Umansky as a guest speaker – Nov 4.
- A trip to Central Synagogue: Co-sponsored with Adult Educations—Nov 8.
- Our annual Paid-Up Membership Brunch & Boutique: a fabulous opportunity to share brunch with friends and purchase holiday gifts

 Nov 18.
- Watch for announcements about a WRJ Ladies Lunch, the Rosh Chodesh monthly celebration, a book club meeting with a bring-your-own lunch at Temple, Knitting Circle morning and other day trips.

To those who have joined, we look forward to sharing time with you. To those not yet with WRJ, please join with us to help your Temple, your community and yourself.

We are stronger together,

Jane Aronoff & Estelle Hans
Co-Presidents



MEN'S CLUB

It was a beautiful fall day as the golfers checked in for the RTR Men's Club Golf Classic. The third scheduled time was truly the charm! As I stood on the veranda of The New

York Country Club overlooking the course, I was transported to another place, another time, as a young adult playing golf with my parents in the Great White Mountains of New Hampshire. I was brought back to Rockland only if I squinted into the distance and made out the faint skyline of NYC.

Congratulations to all the winners of the golf

tournament as well as all the raffle winners A great event to help fund our support of RTR youth!

Our next Bagels & Business Meeting is Nov 18. Along with some time to schmooze, we will be planning for the Purim Carnival, Super Bowl Breakfast & Raffle, and maybe some other fun events.

Thank you to all the men who remembered and sent in their annual dues. If you have not yet sent yours in, please do so soon.

David Firstenberg, President DavidFirstenberg@gmail.com



HONORING

BARRY ROSENBLUM



Thank you for <u>Supporting our</u> <u>County-Wide Youth Program</u>

"The Children Are Our Future"

Made possible by our generous Sponsors, Golfers and

THE GOLF OUTING COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mitch Glanzrock
Steve Dachs
Eric Gischner
Russell Jay
Robert Modansky
Barry Rosenblum
Barry Schoenberg
Barry Weiss

We'd like to thank the following individuals and companies that supported this year's Golf Outing:

Event Sponsor

Central Plumbing Specialties

Golf Cart Sponsor

Elkay

Lunch Sponsors

Eagle Insulation Distributors Supply

Beverage Sponsor

Manhattan Beer

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Berard & Associates U.S. Information Systems

Car Hole in One Sponsor

Wide World BMW Grand Prize of Nanuet

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Cantor Sally Neff and David Greenberg

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Rabbi Ben Sharff and Joy Sharff

RAB Lighting

Rockland Hyundai

Slant Fin

Southern Wine and Spirit

Vision Sports Club of Pearl River

Waterford Wedgewood USA

Wells Fargo Bank

West Hills Country Club

WRJ/Sisterhood



DONATIONS (September 11—October 10, 2018)

Adult & Family Education Fund

Stewart & Suzanne Bader in memory of Jack Hiller William & Estelle Hans in memory of Abraham Stein & Gussy Stein

Art Fund

Edward & Marilyn Lawner in memory of Jack Hiller Edward & Marilyn Lawner in memory of Joseph Rosario

Cantor George Weinflash Music Fund

Leonard & Edith Kanchuger in memory of Herman Silverman

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Arthur Leibowitz & Victoria Ficco-Panzer in honor of the High Holy Day Services
Barbara Zucker in honor of the High Holy Day Services
Alvin & Jane Aronoff in memory of Raselle Fisher
Howard Hammer in memory of Sandra Hammer
Janet Kaminsky in memory of Ruth Kaminsky
Michael & Eileen Rutter in memory of David Fihlstein
Mike & Ronni Brenner in memory of Raselle Fisher
Paul & Ellen Ratisher in memory of Arthur Diamond, Philip Diamond &Max Dratsky

Chesed Fund

Robert & Sandra Arenson in honor of the marriage of their daughter, Lauren Arenson to Chris Dias Michael & Iris Jacobs in memory of Jack Sterman Stephen & Judith Levy in memory of George Nadelberg

Family in Crisis Fund

Carole Denker
Enid Gross in memory of Arthur Siegel
Myron & Nina Lazar in memory of William Friedman
Paul & Judy Melter in memory of Joseph Strumlauf
Stuart & Renee Kratter in memory of Else Newman & Bernard Kratter

Karen Ami Social Action Fund

Barbara Caren in memory of Jack Hiller

Lillian Spier in memory of Joel Winkler, Clara Winkler Migden, Frances Rosenberg, Goldie Weinberg, & Nathan Spier Myron & Nina Lazar in memory of William Friedman

Stephen & Jacqueline Solomon in memory of Aaron Sandler

Walter & Barbara Fiedler in memory of Goldie Sacknoff

William & Estelle Hans in memory of Miriam Stein

Oneg Fund

Lee & Anne Ostroff in memory of Charlotte Wolf

Operating Fund

David & Linda Goldstein

Eric & Jennifer Rotbard

Myron & Joyce Rogow in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Taryn Kanter, granddaughter of Joel & Carol Kanter

Carl & Joan Radin in memory of Rose Goodman

David & Libbi Rosenblum in memory of Freda Rosenblum

Douglas Antelman in memory of Rose Shelofsky

Gerald & Joan Lenkowitz in memory of Judith Lenkowitz



TOUCH THANKS RTR

A huge THANK YOU for RTR's participation in the cleaning supplies collection.

(Continued from page 13)

Joel & Carol Kanter in memory of Benedict Kanter
Joseph & Estelle Trachtenberg in memory of Jacob Warmbrand & Nettie Warmbrand
Lewis & Judith Fishlin in memory of Herman Fishlin
Michael & Rochelle Berger in memory of Aaron Sandler
Norman & Ilona Resnick in memory of Jack Hiller
Norman & Vivian Resnick in memory of Murray Spitzer
Richard & Catherine Rothbard in memory of Shirley Rothbard
Ruth Lee in memory of Jack Hiller

Phyllis & Morton Simon Prayer Book Fund

Michele Lowy in memory of Joseph Rosario Michele Lowy in memory of Walter Askenas Michele Lowy in memory of Jack Hiller Samuel & Barbara Spector in memory of David Spector



Rabbi Louis Frishman Youth Endowment Fund

Anonymous

Barbara Gass in memory of Jack Hiller
Iris Fialkoff in memory of Joseph Rosario
Iris Fialkoff in memory of Jack Hiller
Iris Fialkoff in memory of Joseph Rosario
Larry & Sandy Markowitz in memory of William Schlegel
Mitchell Glanzrock in memory of Nora Glanzrock
Victor & Rochelle Stein in memory of Betty Pinsly

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Arthur Leibowitz & Victoria Ficco-Panzer t in honor of the High Holy Day Services
Barbara Zucker in honor of the High Holy Day Services
Alvin & Jane Aronoff in memory of Joseph Rosario
Alvin & Jane Aronoff in memory of Raselle Fisher
Barbara Caren in memory of Jack Hiller
Ethel Levine in memory of Murray Levine
Marsha Milich in memory of Beth Milich & Dolph Milich
Michael & Eileen Rutter in memory of David Fihlstein
Morton Simon in memory of Phyllis Simon
Phyllis Hiller in memory of Jack Hiller
Ruth Lipman in memory of Elizabeth Lipman
Stuart & Renee Kratter in memory of Else Newman & Bernard Kratter
William & Estelle Hans in memory of Abraham Stein & Gussy Stein
Morton Simon with appreciation for Rabbi Ronald S. Mass
Morton Simon with appreciation for Ed Lawner's lifelong devotion to Temple

Religious School Campaign

Ronald & Sherri Nahum Daniel & Heidi Spitzer in honor of Mimi & Alan Fetterman Ronald & Sherri Nahum in memory of Joseph Rosario

Rose & Moe Aranow Library Fund

Jorie Sear in memory of Rose Alpert
Joseph & Estelle Trachtenberg in memory of Jacob Warmbrand & Nettie Warmbrand

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



High Holy Day Appeal (Sept 11-Oct 10)



Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Sylvia Avstreih

Larry Beck & Susan Silver Steven & Laurie Becker Steven & Janice Bergman Simon & Stefany Bergson Barry & Marcia Berk Marjorie Bernstein Bernard & Elaine Berson Phillip & Patricia Beutel Matthew & Felice Burgay

Gwenn Canfield Elaine Casper

Jerome & Simona Chazen

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Howard & Carole Cohen James & Robin Condoluci Ira & Susan Emanuel Scott & Beth Esbin

Allen & Miriam Fetterman Walter & Barbara Fiedler Marvin & Phyllis Fier Rena Finkelstein

Barry & Wendy Fleischman Howard & Leslie Gabler Mitchell Glanzrock Howard & Gail Golden Steven & Joan Goldman Marty & Norma Gottlieb

Barbara Gross

Harvey & Norma Gultz Susan Haimowitz William & Estelle Hans

Phyllis Hiller

Stephen & Kathleen Iger Marc & Shelly Jacobs

Robert & Cheryl Jerris Michael & Barbara Kalvert

Janet Kaminsky Joel & Carol Kanter Murray & Edna Kaplowitz

Rita Katz

Judith Kiss

Stephen & Irene Kopelman

Joel & Marci Koral Stuart & Renee Kratter Ira & Eileen Laderman Michael & Joanna Landau Myron & Nina Lazar

Arthur Leibowitz & Victoria Ficco-Panzer

Martin & Helene Leibowitz Joseph & Andrea Leighton

Sean & Susan Levin Jay & Marcia Lurch Clifford & Sima Malat Edward & Ronnie Mallin

Gail Mandel Beryl Meyer

Robert & Adrian Modansky

David Greenberg & Cantor Sally Neff

Jeffrey & Marisa Plotkin Lawrence & Amy Rapoport Norman & Vivian Resnick

Russell Rizner & Julie Buffington-Rizner

David & Libbi Rosenblum

Lawrence & Barbara Rosenzweig Steven & Gwen Rosenzweig Richard & Catherine Rothbard Larry & Shelley Ruderman Alan & Susan Sadovnick

Sheryl Santi Jorie Sear

Benjamin & Joy Sharff Benjamin & Jane Shavitz

Martha Siegel

Roger & Esther Siegel Steven & Arlene Silverberg Leonard & June Silverman
James & Marcia Simon
Samuel & Elaine Simon
Joel & Renee Slutsky
Boris & Bella Spektor
Edward & Eva Steen
Peter & Teresa Stone
Donald & Jo Ann Waldorf
Mark & Ellen Warner
Madeline Weinberg
Barry & Laura Weiss
Michele Weissman
Warren & Terry Willen





November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	hank	HAPP Sgivi n		1 23 Cheshvan 10:30a Torah Topics 7:30p Adult Ed Comm.	6:30p Erev Shabbat Family Service	
4 26 Cheshvan Daylight Saving 6-8:30a 3rd NJC 9:00a Religious School 10:00a Adult Ed/ WRJ: Speaker & Book Disc. 11:30a Jr. Choir 12:30p Band Rehearsal 12-5p 3rd NJC Bible	5 27 Cheshvan	NO RELIGIOÚS SCHOOL	6:30p AA 7:30p Choir 7:30p Exec. Comm.	of Central Synagogue	Kristallnacht 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service—Veteran's and Kristallnacht 80th Anniv.	Parashat Toldot 9:00a Taste of
11 3 Kislev Veteran's Day NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 12:00p Band Rehearsal	12 4 Kislev Veteran's Day (observed) OFFICE CLOSED THANKYOU VETERANS	10:00a Food Addicts 10:00a Knitting Circle 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 7:15a Membership & Marketing 7:30p Finance Comm.	14 6 Kislev 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir		7:30p Erev Shabbat Service— Torah Service	17 9 Kislev Parashat Vayetzei NFTY Mitzvah Day 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service
18 10 Kislev 9:00a Religious School 9:15a RS & Parents Mtg 9:00a K'tanim: Mitzvah 9:30a Men's Club (L) 10:00a WRJ Brunch (BSH) 11:30a Jr. Choir		10:00a Food Addicts	21 13 Kislev 6:30p AA 6:30p CANDLE 7:00p TransParents	Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED NO TORAH TOPICS	OFFICE CLOSED 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service	Parashat Vayish-
25 17 Kislev NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Helping Hands	26 18 Kislev Helping Hands	Helping Hands	28 20 Kislev 6:30p AA 7:30p Board of Trustees	10:30a Torah Topics 7:30p Choir	30 22 Kislev Taste of NFTY at Camp Harlam 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service	

VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH

The Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry



RTR is committed to donate **200 HALF GALLON KOSHER APPLE JUICE CONTAINERS** *each month* to the Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry.

WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW: When we don't meet that number... we purchase the difference. Please help us out.

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. One in six people go hungry.

<u>WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW:</u> The Food Pantry doesn't serve only Kosher families, it serves ALL families in our community.



Upcoming Volunteer Days: Oct 14, Nov 18, Dec 9

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



Isn't it funny how just one little phone call or text can make your bad day suddenly wonderful?

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.

Compassionate Callers 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:
Chesed@RTRny.org

VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH



Assist Homeless Women

Donate **sanitary napkins and tampons** for the women who are served by Helping Hands, Rockland's program to aid and shelter homeless Rocklanders. Kindly bring them to a WRJ/Sisterhood meeting or place them in the collection bin either 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!

WRJ/Sisterhood 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.



College Care Packages

Do you have a child in college? Please email the mailing address to RTR's College Chair, Ruth Schlanger, at rjs521@aol.com. RTR and the WRJ/Sisterhood want our college students to remain part of our family and will send them some surprises while they are away at college.



Baby Items

The Social Action Committee will be collecting **NEW diapers, wipes, clothing and SMALL baby items such as bibs** for The Center for Safety and Change. Collection bins are available at RTR. This will be an ongoing effort.

LARGE items such as bassinets, strollers, high chairs, large bags of gently used clothing/bibs can be donated directly to The Center for Safety and Change at 9 Johnson Lane in New City.

Please direct any questions to Lisa Fox at otlf@aol.com or 845-304-1669.



Helping Hands

Volunteer to serve food and assist the homeless at the Yeager Health Center in Pomona. Contact RTR's Helping Hands Safe Haven Coordinators with any questions and to sign up to volunteer today!

Lillian Grossbard: lgrossbard@gmail.com/917-273-6105 Barbara Wilen: barbwilen@live.com / 845-596-5061

5779 VOLUNTEER DATES:

Nov 25, 26, 27 Feb 26, 27, 28 Apr 9, 10, 11

Simchat Torah: October 2



























RTR'S WRJ/SISTERHOOD

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

The 2018 Paid-Up-Membership **Brunch & Boutique**

A Complimentary Brunch For

All Women of WRJ- Temple Membership Not Required Many exciting vendors will be in attendance. You may shop for clothing, jewelry, handbags, housewares,

novelty items and more.



First year membership to WRJ is FREE for all NEW RTR Temple Members.

Come get a taste of WRJ and find out why we are stronger together!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018 AT RTR

Brunch: Begins 10:00am - Shop until you drop!

Please RSVP by NOVEMBER 7th

Mail in the form below with a \$36 check or join at the event If you are already a WRJ Member you can email your RSVP to co-chairs For additional information about this event or membership, contact Membership Co-Chairs:

> Anne Jacobs ibareader@aol.com (914)-522-1009 Jorie Sear (845)-634-3060 jsear1@verizon.net

Please return this form to:

ATTN: WRJ 2018 Brunch The Reform Temple of Rockland 330 North Highland Ave Upper Nyack, NY 10960

Name(s):		# of people:
Phone #·	Fmail·	

LET'S TALK ART

SERIES XI

The large tapestry located in RTR's rear social hall on the left hand wall as you walk in is entitled *Lifecycle of a Jew* by Efrom Weitzman and was donated by Edward Fields, Inc. and dedicated in memory of Herbert Batkin.





The Queen Esther Sculpture by Hanna Geber was donated by Howard and Judy Ruderman and is located in the lobby area outside the Sanctuary near the entrance doors.

Another sculpture in the Oy Vey Café near the entrance doors is Judith Peck's *Bar Mitzvah Boy*, it is made from Georgia Marble and was donated by Corrine and Martin Oshrin.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Day	Name (up to age 25)		
1	Jacob Scull		
1	Abigail Scull		
1	Samuel Studnitzer		
3	Benjamin Levin		
7	Peter O'Neill		
14	Theodore Gambale		
17	David Lustig		
20	Charley Freeman		
20	Andrew Greenberg		
23	Jeremy Jacomowitz		
26	Ethan Klayman		
28	Elliot Kleinman		

Those of any age with November birthdays are welcome to join us at Family Services at 6:30 PM on November 2 to receive a birthday blessing and get a sweet treat!



Day	Names	Years
1	Alan & Susan Sadovnick	49
2	Sidney & Gail Hoffman	43
2	David Greenberg & Cantor Sally Neff	10
6	David & Libbi Rosenblum	30
7	Arthur & Cindy Norton	26
13	Denis & Jill Tanney	41
14	Dave & Pamela Auerbach	18
16	Joel & Carol Kanter	50
16	Warren & Terry Willen	26
19	Joe & Michelle Scull	13
21	Joel & Marci Koral	37
23	Samuel & Elaine Simon	68
24	Marvin & Irma Meyeroff	53
25	Bruce Beck & Tama Shor Beck	19
25	Larry & Shelley Ruderman	48
25	lan Spence & Aileen Stan-Spence	42
27	Alan Jeffrey & Beth Friedberg	25
27	Jeffrey & Robin Lubatkin	30
29	Jeffrey & Shari Brodsky	32

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





...to **Simon & Stefany Bergson** who will be honored at the Holocaust Museum & Center for Tolerance and Education's Annual Benefit Brunch as the recipients of the Elie Weisel Memorial Award on November 4.

GOOD & WELFARE

Mazel Tov to **Jim & Judy O'Neill** on the engagement of their son, David.

Mazel Tov to **Stanley & Dayle Yoskowitz** on the birth of their grandson, Tyler Matthew Pines on Oct 17. Proud parents are Sara & Sam Pines.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies to **Bonnie Michaels**. Her mother, Lynn Lever, died October 19.



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



Albert & Sylvia

Meet Sylvia Avstreih

We're proud to share Ben Levin's 2017 interview with Sylvia Avstreih with you. This interview was part of Ben's Bar Mitzvah Project.

Sylvia was born on October 28, 1918 in Bristol, Connecticut. Both of her parents were from towns that are now part of Russia. She was the eldest of three children: she had a little brother named Gerald and a sister named Miriam. She had a good childhood. She remembers going to the mountains every summer.

In 1945, Sylvia married her husband, Albert. He was a pharmacist and ran a drug store. She worked there with him.

They had two daughters. The elder was named Miriam, whom Sylvia described as "a giant" who constantly made her mom run after her. She remembers Martha as deeply intelligent. She earned two college degrees.

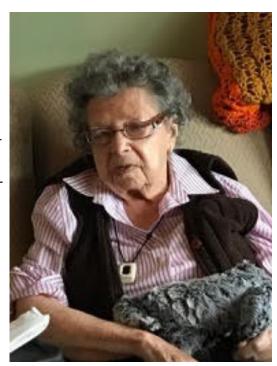
Sylvia (& Albert) eventually helped found Temple Beth Torah. As Sylvia said, "We were a bunch of people who liked each other and formed our own services: We got to talking about forming a tem-

ple because there was none around us..." She taught Hebrew and Bible studies. Her favorite part of TBT was the friendship and laughter. She loved every Rabbi the Temple had. There was one adventure at the Temple she remembers: breaking her arm in the Temple sanctuary.

Sylvia also liked politics. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor during World War II, she joined a march in support of WWII and the Israeli statehood. She was very against the Japanese internment camps. Sylvia is a wonderful woman with a great love of her family, her temple, and for life!

Happy 100th Birthday, Sylvia!

And Thank You, Ben Levin!



Join us in wishing Sylvia Avstreih, our oldest founding member of Temple Beth Torah, a very Happy 100th Birthday!

Happy 100th Birthday SYLVIA AVSTREIH!



Temple Beth Torah opened its doors in 1965 with just 13 families. Sylvia is the last living member of those original families. Her love of reading and her commitment to supporting our students motivated her to build the Temple's library, which is named in honor of her and Albert, her husband of blessed memory. We are honored and proud to celebrate Sylvia's 100th Birthday.

Mazel Toy and L'chaim!

From Your RTR Family!







Come Visit The RTR WRJ/Sisterhood

JUDAICA SHOP

For ALL Your Chanukah Needs!

Chanukah is the first week of Dec! Shop now!

We have picture frames, salad bowls, serving platters, and a tremendous assortment of Michael Aram!

We have incredible gifts for the children in your life!

Select from an assortment of wonderful toys and gifts for your grandchildren and children!

Make your appointments now:

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

WRJ/Sisterhood Theater Group at Smokey Joe's on Broadway























The Reform Temple of Rockland Committee Chairs

Adult Education	Susan Klein rsdsk@aol.com Wendy Fleischman wendysue55@aol.com
Brit Olam	Nancy Bermon n.bermon@verizon.net Julie Buffington-Rizner jbuffington2@gmail.com
Building and Grounds	Jeff Grossman jeffggrossman@gmail.com Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com
Caring & Inclusion Initiative	Eva Steen <u>eesteen@optonline.net</u> Helayne Pfeffer <u>hayne1954@gmail.com</u>
Finance	Stephen Hittman stephen.hittman@gmail.com
Fundraising	Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com
Marketing	Fran Grossman franzgrossman@gmail.com

Men's Club	David Firstenberg davidfirstenberg@gmail.com
Membership	Sean Levin seanrichardlevin@verizon.net Michael Rutter shotime@aol.com
Religious School	Tama Shor Beck shorbeck@verizon.net Cathy Klein kleincb@gmail.com
Ritual	Jodi Gischner ritualcommittee@RTRny.org Judith Kiss ritualcommittee@RTRny.org
WRJ/Sisterhood	Jane Aronoff aronoff@aol.com Estelle Hans estelleh1@verizon.net
Social Action	Helayne Pfeffer hayne1954@gmail.com
Youth Groups	Russell Jay ripjay@optonline.net Sally Schoenberg carrot1060@aol.com

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

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Sunday, November 14 9:00 AM: Mitzvot

Parents and grandparents are invited to bring their "little ones" to our free monthly preschool program. Through interactive play, crafts and music children will learn the basics of Judaism. This month we learn about mitzvot. Contact Brad at Brad@RTRny.org for more information.



PLEASE HELP US MAKE A MINYAN!

As the temperatures drop, so does the attendance at our Saturday morning Shabbat services. These services take place downstairs and begin at 10:30 AM on Saturday mornings. Please join us and help us make a minyan.

Reminder: Yahrzeits can be observed on a Saturday morning, not only on a Friday night. All names are read again on Saturday mornings.