CONNECTIONS

THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND
Brighter Together

MARCH 2019
24 Adar I— 24 Adar II 5779

THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND
Brighter Together

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 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Office: 845-358-2248

Fax: 845-358-3450

Website: www.RTRny.org

Email: info@RTRny.org

UNION for REFORM JUDAISM
A Proud Member of the URJ

MARCH DATES AT A GLANCE:

1	Erev Shabbat Family Service
	Confirmation Class in DC Mar 1-4
2	Men's Club Hockey Game at West Point
5	Adult Education Committee
6	Executive Committee Meeting
8	Men's Club Bagels & Business
12	Knitting Circle
	Membership & Marketing Committee
	Finance Committee
13	Board of Trustees
14	Car Club
	WRJ/Sisterhood Book Club: All The Rivers
15	Erev Shabbat: Purim
17	Family Purim Spiel & Carnival
19	Ritual Committee
20	Adult Purim Spiel & Cocktail Hour
22	Erev Shabbat: Torah Service
24	AIPAC Policy Conference Mar 24-26
27	WRJ/Sisterhood Board
28	Adult Ed: Movie Discussion
31	Men's Club: Personalizing Your Seder

SEE PAGE 17 FOR OUR COMPLETE CALENDAR

THE TASTE OF TRADITION
DeCicco Family Markets
SINCE 1973

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.

Want to share *your* good and welfare?
Email Susan@RTRny.org

Peak Inside...

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FROM THE RABBI

Last year I decided to forgo my usual Purim announcement of my candidacy for President of the United States of New York. However, this year I have been advised by counsel, namely repeated watching of reruns of *Law & Order*, that if I do not form an Exploratory Committee, one will be formed for me. Given that I am not sure what such committees like to explore, I felt I should get ahead of the game.

With that in mind, it is my pleasure to announce here, in this very newsletter article, that I will be forming an Exploratory Committee to explore the possibility of exploring the possibility of running for the aforementioned position of President of the United States of New York. Or as Hamilton sang, "I am not throwing away my shot." Though I think he was referring to a shot glass he acquired from the English Pub the Hungry Hangover, but I could be mistaken. I am still working my way through Ron Chernow's book on Hamilton.

Speaking of Hamilton, my Exploratory Committee is accepting all forms of currency be they Hamiltons, Benjamins, or Shekels; we'll take them all. I do apologize for the refunds my committee had to give in the past, apparently exploring alternative options for the White House in Aruba are not appropriate ways to expend campaign dollars. Though to be fair, it does not explicitly state this in the campaign rules.

But I digress. The reason why people select candidates is because of their stance on the issues. I am constantly asked how I feel about issues and I could not be more explicit. I agree that there are issues. If issues matter to you, they matter to me. If they don't matter to you, they don't matter to me, no matter the issue. My beliefs are that strong.

I also believe strongly in campaign promises. My promise to you this upcoming season is that I will make lots of promises to you. That is a promise you can take to the bank, unlike the refund checks from my previous campaign. I would hold off on cashing those for a few millennia.

I thank you for your support in advance. I would like to thank my loving family as well, who have, as of yet, not disowned me or replaced me with a dog. Though, I do think they are exploring these options. As a matter of fact, now that I think about it, this may be one of the Exploratory Committees that reached out to me. Needless to say, I am never too old to learn new tricks. I'm sure this will give me a leg up on my opponents.

To each and every one of you, I wish you a happy and healthy Purim season. Please join us for our **Family Purim Spiel and Carnival on Sunday, March 17** as well as our **Purim Cocktail Hour and Adult Purim Spiel: *Purim on the Roof* on Wednesday, March 20**. In the meantime, I've got some checks to postdate, and Exploratory Committees to hide from.

Chag Purim Sameach!

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff
RabbiSharff@RTRny.org

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Honoring Our Past...Educating Our Future

The Capital Campaign Committee wishes to enthusiastically thank the following congregants who have already contributed to our educational Capital Campaign. Your foresight and commitment to our youth bodes well for our children's future.

Due to your generosity we have achieved 30% of our goal.

Bruce Beck & Tama Shor Beck
Larry Beck & Susan Silver
Steven & Laurie Becker
Steven & Janice Bergman
Phillip & Patricia Beutel
James & Robin Condoluci
Ira & Susan Emanuel
Mimi Frishman
Barbara Gass
Ellis Gitlin
Marty & Norma Gottlieb
Jeff & Fran Grossman
Leonard Gross & Libby Tulin
Stephen & Sharon Hittman
Ellen Holtzman
Murray & Edna Kaplowitz
David & Susan Klein
Jeffrey & Marcy Leif
Joseph & Andrea Leighton
Sean & Susan Levin
Stephen & Judith Levy
Michele Lowy
David & Jeanne Marks
Tina Miller
Robert & Adrian Modansky
Ronald & Sherri Nahum
Jeff & Helayne Pfeffer
Lawrence & Amy Rapoport
Norman & Vivian Resnick
David & Libbi Rosenblum
Larry & Shelley Ruderman
Elliot & Diane Sachs
Peter Schaefer & Margaret Schwartz
Leon & Beatrice Schindel
Seth & Ruth Schlanger
Barry & Sally Schoenberg
Jorie Sear
Benjamin & Joy Sharff
Benjamin & Jane Shavitz
Leonard & June Silverman
James & Marcia Simon
Myrna Soslowitz
Daniel & Heidi Spitzer
Edward & Eva Steen
Peter & Rikke Stone
Jordan & Deborah Turner
Donald & Jo Ann Waldorf
Barry & Laura Weiss
Warren & Terry Willen

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In this month of March we join together to celebrate Purim. It is celebrated annually according to the Hebrew calendar on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Adar. This will take place on Wednesday, March 20th and Thursday, March 21st this year. It is the holiday that commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, who was planning to kill all the Jews. This took place in the ancient Achaemenid Persian Empire.

Purim has more of a national character than a religious character. Its status as a holiday is different than those ordained holy by the Torah. Places of business stay open and most daily occurrences continue on.

There are however four main mitzvot and obligations to celebrate Purim. They are; listening to the reading of the Megillah or Book of Esther usually in temple, sending mishloach manot or gifts of food, giving charity to the poor, and eating a festive meal called *seudat mitzvah*.

The Megillah is usually chanted in a different way than traditional Torah is. While listening to the Megillah, Haman's name is mentioned 54 times. When this happens noise makers or groggers are used to blot out his name.

According to halakha, each adult must give two different foods to one person and two charitable donations to two needy people. To help you perform these mitzvot, The Reform Temple of Rockland will have a fundraiser, spearheaded by WRJ/Sisterhood, for you to send mishloach manot to your congregant family. I hope you will participate in this joyous tradition and exchange reciprocal gifts with friends and family.

Like many of our holidays, Purim has a tradition of foods and related actions. When consuming the festive meal it is customary to drink wine or any other alcoholic beverage. One might say you should drink a little more than usual, till you can't distinguish between good Mordechai and evil Haman. Hamantaschen is the traditional pastry of Purim that has 3 corners like Haman's hat. It is filled with either a fruit filling, poppy seeds, or chocolate chips.

Please enjoy the following recipe to make hamantaschen:

3 eggs

1 c sugar

¾ c oil

2 ½ t vanilla extract

½ c orange juice

5 ½ c flour

1 T baking powder

1 c fruit preserves (any flavor), or chips etc.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease cookie sheets. Beat eggs and sugar till fluffy. Stir in oil, vanilla and orange juice. Combine flour, baking powder, and stir into a batter. On a floured surface roll out dough to ¼ in thickness. Cut into circles using a cookie cutter or glass rim. Place cookies two inches apart. Spoon 2 t of filling in middle of each one. Pinch the edges to form three corners. Bake 12-15 min until lightly browned. Allow to cool. Enjoy!

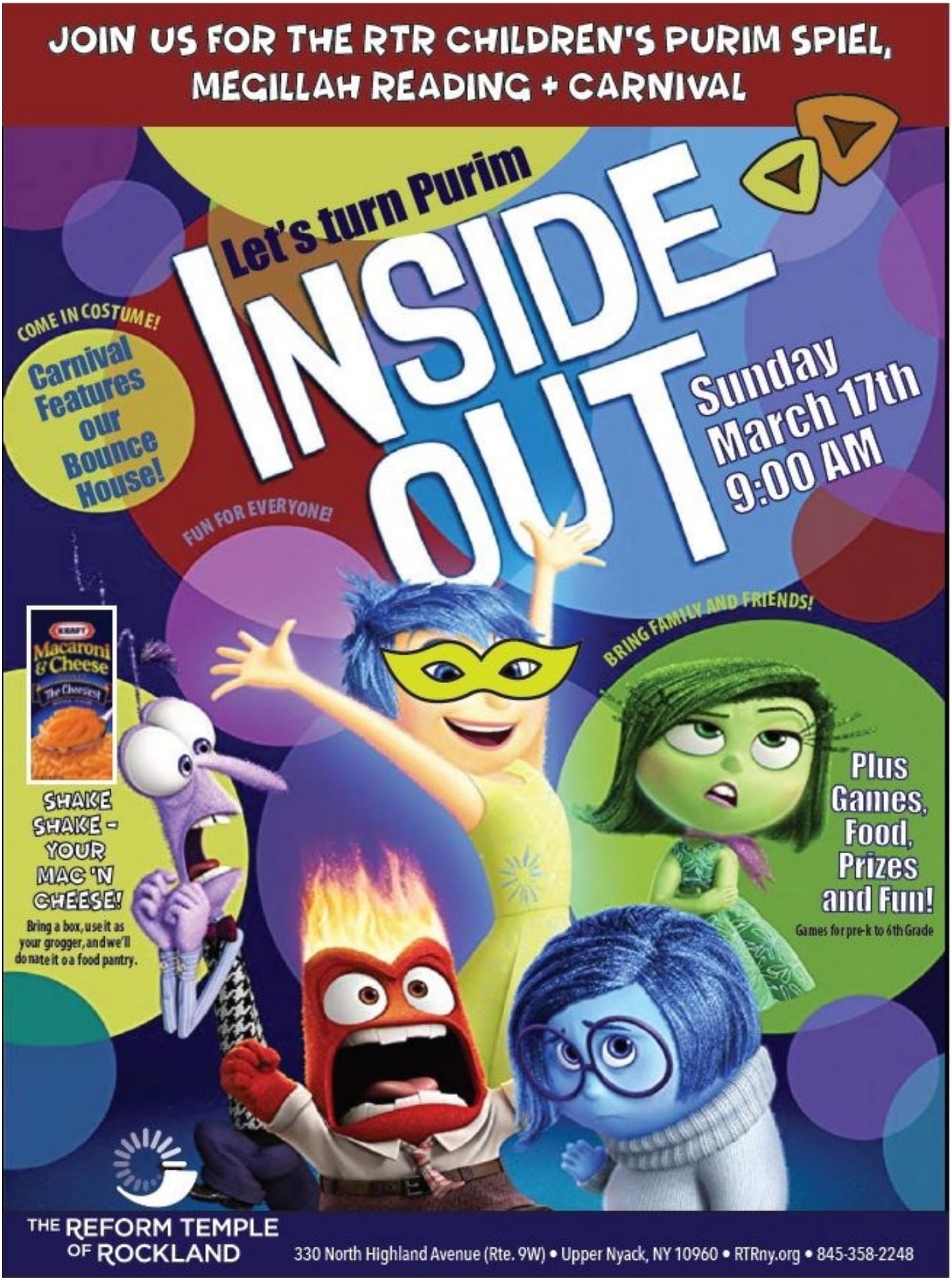
I hope you will join us on Sunday, March 17th, for our Religious School Family Purim Spiel and Carnival and then Wednesday, March 20th, for a Purim Cocktail hour and Adult Purim Spiel to celebrate this fun holiday. Wear a costume or mask and get in the spirit of Purim.

B'Shalom

Adrian Modansky

Adrian Modansky, President
President@rtrny.org

PS: Happy 93rd Birthday Mom! We love you!


JOIN US FOR THE RTR CHILDREN'S PURIM SPIEL, MEGILLAH READING + CARNIVAL
Let's turn Purim
INSIDE OUT
Sunday March 17th 9:00 AM
COME IN COSTUME!
Carnival Features our Bounce House!
FUN FOR EVERYONE!
BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS!
Macaroni & Cheese
SHAKE SHAKE - YOUR MAC 'N CHEESE!
Bring a box, use it as your grogger, and we'll donate it o a food pantry.
Plus Games, Food, Prizes and Fun!
Games for pre-k to 6th Grade
THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND
330 North Highland Avenue (Rte. 9W) • Upper Nyack, NY 10960 • RTRny.org • 845-358-2248

FROM BRAD ZICHOLTZ, DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

To me, besides unpredictable weather and college basketball, March means Purim. Purim is that supercharged fun holiday that evokes memories of dressing up and playing games. Purim is kind of like Halloween and Mardi Gras combined (especially in Israel). However, there is more to the holiday than just being a party. Purim is the original gift giving holiday, not Chanukah (sorry to burst the bubble). Gifts on Chanukah is a completely American invention, created because of its close proximity to Christmas.

Giving gifts on Purim is not only nice but is a mitzvah. In fact, there are four Mitzvot, that we are asked to fulfill on Purim: Reading the *Megillah*, also known as the Book of Esther; sending *mishloach manot*, or gift baskets to your friends, family or members of your community; the *Seudah*, or festive meal; and *Matanot La'ev-yonim*, giving to the poor. This year you can perform all four mitzvot very easily:

Come hear the Megillah read on Purim and watch the fabulous Purim Spiel, either the adult "Purim on the Roof" or the kids spiel, "Inside Out."

Give your friends and family mishloach manot. WRJ/Sisterhood this year is offering to make and send gift baskets to your friends here at RTR.

Have a Purim meal with your family and friends. Dress up and make it fun.

Give Matanot La'ev-yonim at the Religious School's Mitzvah Mall this year at Purim. Each class is choosing an organization to donate to and creating a poser presentation to "sell you" on donating to that organization. This is a great way to not only fulfill the mitzvah but shows our learners that we as a community make giving a priority. We all should set an example for our children by giving what we can and honor their efforts.

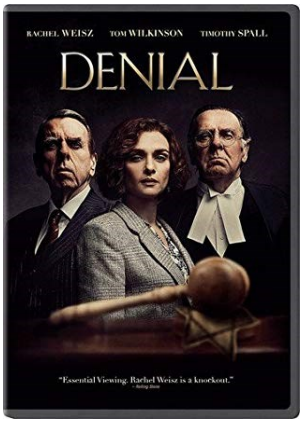
Brad Zicholtz
Brad@RTRny.org

Photo by: Jeff Karg

Cathy Klein

RTR's Honoree at the Lila Stern Brunch by Israel Bonds on February 23, 2019.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



Adult Education
Movie Discussion: *Denial*
Thurs, March 28 at 7:00 PM

A university professor battles to prove the Holocaust occurred. Enjoy this incredible movie on your own and then join Adult Ed for a lively discussion, dessert & coffee/tea.

***All the Rivers* by Dorit Rabinyan**
Thurs, March 14 at 6:30 PM

WRJ/Sisterhood invites you to bring your (meat) dinner and discuss Dorit Rabinyan's love story between an Israeli and a Palestinian. This book was banned from curriculum in Israel and was later reinstated as a result of protests. Guaranteed a great read.

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.

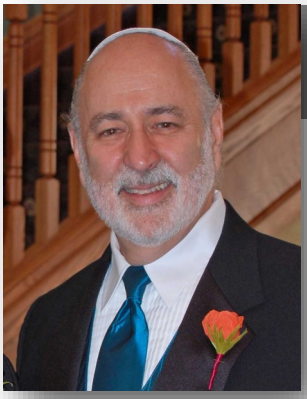
TASTE OF TORAH

Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Join us 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 own 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:
Mar 22, Apr 26 (Yom HaShoah Commemoration), May 24



MEN'S CLUB

Purim! Purim! Purim!

Yes, Purim is coming! The Men's Club is busy preparing, along with the Religious School, Youth Groups, & WRJ/Sisterhood for an exciting event for you and your children. See you all at the Family Purim Spiel & Carnival on Sun, March 17, where the Men's Club Youth Committee is preparing a fun-filled carnival for children of all ages. Then mark your calendar for the Adult Purim Spiel & Cocktail Hour on Wed, March 20.

While you are marking our calendars, make sure you add: Personalizing Your Seder on Sun, March 24 and the Men's Club sponsored Comedy Night on Sat, May 4. We have booked two great comedians and will present the "RTR Woman & Man of the Year."

The Men's Club Annual Golf Outing is approaching sooner than we think. The Golf Committee is working hard to make the event more inclusive for all Temple members.

Like all Men's Club events we invite ALL RTR members to attend and to bring their friends.

David Firstenberg, President
DavidFirstenberg@gmail.com

Men's Club Hockey Game at West Point, NY

Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 7:05 PM

West Point Black Knights vs. Bentley Falcons

Those who bought tickets:

Meet at RTR at 5:00 PM and we will take cars to West Point.

Personalizing Your Seder Sun, Mar 31, at 9:30 AM

The Men's Club invites the congregation, in advance of Passover, to learn how to make your seder more meaningful. Outside readings and other ideas will be presented and discussed. RSVP to Seth Schlanger at sethschlangerlaw@aol.com.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS AND NOTES

We hope everyone has been enjoying the 2019 school year so far (including the days you have not had to go due to snow!). There are wonderful events for March and April coming up. E-mails for all events go out periodically! Make sure to keep checking your email. If your child is not yet a member, please contact us and we will send you the mailing! If you know anyone interested in joining, have them email Elise at Leesee54@gmail.com for ReTRo and ReTweens information, or Robin at rtrlilretro@gmail.com for Lil' ReTRo information. We encourage all of you to sign your son or daughter up for these wonderful experiences and opportunities to meet lifelong friends.

Lil' ReTRo (Grades 3-5)

Upcoming events:

Sun, Mar 17: Purim Carnival

Sun, Apr 14: Chocolate Seder

ReTweens (Grades 6-8)

Upcoming events:

Fri, Mar 1: NFTY-GER Pop-up Shabbat – details forthcoming

Sun, Mar 17: Purim Carnival – 7th/8th graders help run games for our children (Community Service hours and bagels!)

SAVE THE DATE: Apr 12-14- 8th Graders at NFTY-GER Spring Kallah

ReTRo (Grades 9-12)

Upcoming events :

Sun, Mar 10: NFTY-GER Elections at Temple Sholom, Scotch Plains, NJ. Registration is open at http://gardenempire.nfty.org/

Sun, Mar 17: Purim Carnival – 9th-12th graders help run games for our children (Community Service hours and bagels!)

Fri, Mar 29: NFTY-GER Northern Subregional Pop-up Shabbat Details TBD

SAVE THE DATE: Apr 12-14– 9th-12th Graders at NFTY-GER Spring Kallah

FEEL FREE TO CALL US WITH ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT JUNIOR AND SENIOR YOUTH GROUP!

Elise Lehrman (914) 715-9845, Advisor: ReTRo and ReTweens
Robin Condoluci (845) 638-2655, Advisor: Lil' ReTRo

All Youth Group activities are coordinated by the Youth Committee and financially supported by the Men's Club.

JOIN US FOR RTR'S ANNUAL PURIM SPIEL & MEGILLAH READING

Purim on the Roof

March 20th

6:30 COCKTAIL HOUR
7:30 MEGILLAH READING AND SPIEL

COME IN COSTUME
BRING THE FAMILY!

BRING A BOX OF MAC & CHEESE, USE IT AS YOUR GROGGER, AND WE'LL DONATE IT TO A FOOD PANTRY.

THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

330 North Highland Avenue (Rte. 9W) • Upper Nyack, NY 10960 • RTRny.org • 845-358-2248

RTR CREATES COMMUNITY

A Car Club for a Temple?? by: Barry Fleischman

NEXT MEETINGS: MAR 14, APR 11

I confess, I am an automotive enthusiast, gear head, car nut and have lived and breathed everything automotive since the age of 6. In a valiant effort to continue this tradition, even within the confines of our very own Temple, I innocently volunteered to start a car club during a Membership and Marketing meeting at our Temple last year. Inserting a request for members in our weekly and monthly bulletins resulted in a surprising response from our RTR (Reform Temple of Rockland) Congregation. Our first meeting was held a little over a year ago with over a dozen people attending.

Since then we have had the following events:

- Go kart racing (yes, we actually raced!)
- NY Auto Show
- Simeone Museum (Philadelphia)
- Lime Rock Park (We watched! None of our cars would pass tech inspection!)
- Bear Mountain Car Show
- Nyack Car Show
- Mahwah Car Show
- MASCDCS (Madison Avenue Sports Car Driving and Chowder Society) A monthly event held at Sardi's in NYC
- Greenwich Concours Car Show
- Dragone Classic Motor Cars (restoration facility in CT) We had a private tour
- Movie Night at RTR (car movies of course!)
- Dinner/Get Together for husbands and wives

Future Events:

- Car Rally (I am working on this one now)
- More Go kart Racing
- More car Shows
- Project car?? Spec Miata??
- Visit to Wayne Carini's collection
- More Movie Nights
- Visit to RedLine Restorations in CT (March 2019)
- Coordination of future events with other local clubs (e.g. MB Club, Ferrari Club, SCCA, MASCDCS, etc.)

Our club welcomes new members and is open to all. If you are interested in joining our club which meets usually on the second Thursday of every month, please contact Barry Fleischman at barrymb@aol.com or 845.494.4023. You can also join our mailing list by sending us your email address. We keep our members informed of interesting events in the automotive.

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:
Mar 12 at 10:00 AM; Apr 16 at 10:00 AM

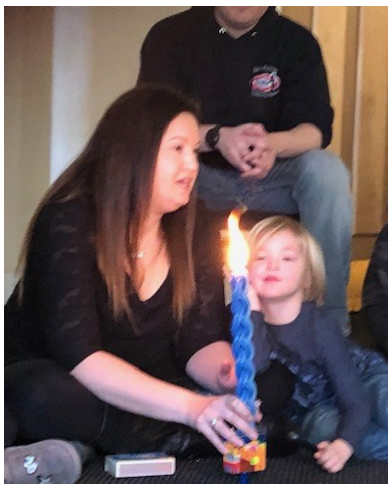
If you know of a temple member who is in need of some comfort, please do not hesitate to let us know so we can provide one of our handmade Mi Shebeirach bears or comfort shawls. Contact: Helayne Pfeffer at 845-429-2939.
All names will be kept confidential.

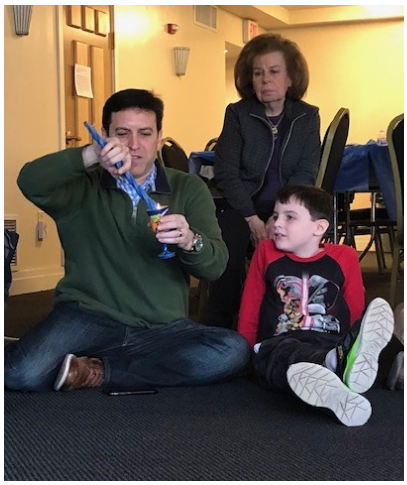
Cantor Neff & WRJ/Sisterhood's Yarn-dyeing Workshop: Jan 31, 2019

Take a look at the online bulletin to see the brilliant colors!

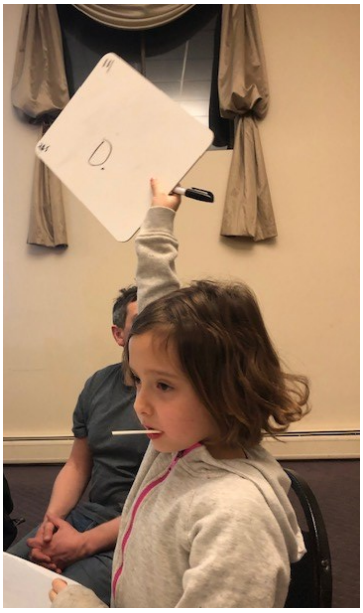
Kindergarten and First Grade Family Ed: January 27

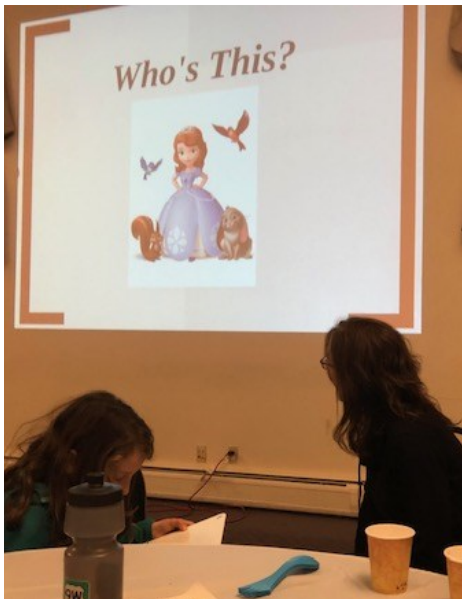
Learning about Havdallah





2nd Annual Family Trivia Night
February 9, 2019





SOCIAL ACTION

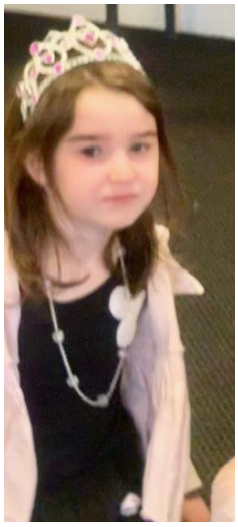
Spring is coming and with it the Social Action Committee will have a Pajama Drive of NEW Pajamas, all sizes and genders, for Rockland County's neediest families.

Now's the time to bring in all the great finds that were purchased during those winter sales!

Bins will be available at Temple to drop off pajamas. Questions can be directed to Lisa Fox at OTLF@aol.com or 845-304-1669. Please contribute NEW pajamas only. Thank you in advance!

TREE OF LIFE & YAHRZEIT PLAQUES	**MI SHEBEIRACH LIST**
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.	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 let us know when a name can be removed.**

K'tanim: Shabbat Feb 10



Save The Date-It's A Presidential Party!
Honoring Our Past Co-Presidents
Allen L. Fetterman & Barry F. Weiss
DINNER DANCE
APRIL 13, 2019
Saturday Evening • 7:00 PM
GREAT MUSIC • GREAT FUN • GREAT FOOD
Watch for your invitation in the mail. For more information call Susan at 845.358.2248
THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 24 Adar I **NFTY Popup Shabbat** **L'taken** 6:30p Erev Shabbat Family Service	2 25 Adar I **Parashat Vayakhel Shabbat Shekalim** **L'taken** 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service 7:00p Men's Club Hockey Game at West Point
3 26 Adar I **L'taken** 6-8:30a Church 9:00a Religious School 11:30a Jr. Choir 12-5p Church	4 27 Adar I **L'taken**	5 28 Adar I 10:00a Food Addicts 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 7:30p Adult Ed Comm. 8-10p Church	6 29 Adar I 6:30p AA 7:00p Purim Rehearsal 7:30p Exec. Comm. 8:00p PFLAG	7 30 Adar I 10:30a Torah Topics 8-10p Church	8 1 Adar II 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service	9 2 Adar II **Parashat Pekudei** 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service 6:30p AA
10 3 Adar II **NFTY Elections** 9:00a Religious School 9:15a Religious School Parents Mtg in Oy Vey Cafe 9:30a Men's Club 11:30a Jr. Choir 12-5p Church	11 4 Adar II	12 5 Adar II 10:00a Food Addicts 10:00a Knitting Circle 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 7:15p Membership & Marketing 7:30p Finance Comm. 8-10p Church	13 6 Adar II 6:30p AA 7:00p Purim Rehearsal 7:30p Board of Trustees	14 7 Adar II 10:30a Torah Topics 6:30p WRJ Book Club: All the Rivers 7:30p Car Club	15 8 Adar II 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service: **Purim Service** 	16 9 Adar II **Parashat Vayikra Shabbat Zachor** 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service
17 10 Adar II 9:00a Religious School: **Family Purim Spiel & Carnival** 12-5p Church	18 11 Adar II	19 12 Adar II 10:00a Food Addicts 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 6:30p Post-Confirm 7:30p Ritual Comm. 8-10p Church	20 13 Adar II **Erev Purim** 6:30p **Purim Cocktail Hour** 7:30p **Adult Purim Spiel** 	21 14 Adar II **Purim** 10:30a Torah Topics 8-10p Church	22 15 Adar II **Shushan Purim** 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service: **Torah Service** 11:30p-3a Church	23 16 Adar II **Parashat Tzav** 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service
24 17 Adar II **AIPAC** 9:00a Religious School 11:30a Jr. Choir 12-5p Church	25 18 Adar II **AIPAC**	26 19 Adar II **AIPAC** 10:00a Food Addicts 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 8-10p Church	27 20 Adar II 6:30p AA 7:30p WRJ/ Sisterhood Board	28 21 Adar II 10:30a Torah Topics 7:00p Adult Ed: Movie Discussion: Denial 8-10p Church	29 22 Adar II 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service	30 23 Adar II **Parashat Shmini Shabbat Parah** 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service
31 24 Adar II **CCAR** 9:00a Religious School 9:30a Men's Club: Personalizing Your Seder 11:30a Jr. Choir 12-5p Church						

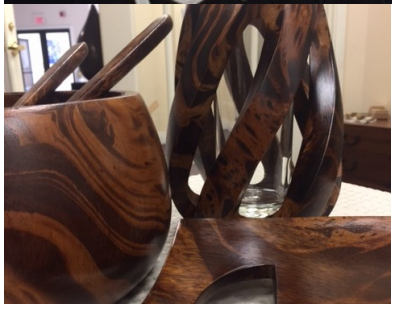
For the most up-to-date event information, please visit our online calendar at www.RTRny.org.

LET'S TALK ART

SERIES XII

The Past President's Displays can be located on the lower level down the hallway from the Multi-Purpose Room. On the left side hallway wall, you'll find the Temple Beth Torah display. Further down, before the end of the hallway you'll find Temple Beth El's display.

On the right side of the same hallway you will find Temple Beth El's Past President's Displays of the Men's Club and WRJ/ Sisterhood. Also the Man and Woman of the Year display.



Come Visit
The RTR WRJ/Sisterhood
JUDAICA SHOP
For ALL Your Passover Needs!

Passover is just around the corner! Shop now!

Select from an assortment of beautiful seder plates, serving dishes, salad bowls, and more!

We have incredible gifts for the Seder Host!

We have picture frames, jewelry, mezzuzot, and a tremendous assortment of Michael Aram!

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

February was a short month; however, we have had some exciting events take place.

We began with our Yarn-dyeing Workshop, held two days after the original date due to dangerous driving conditions. Almost everyone was able to make the shift and a wonderful time was had by all. Our thanks to Cantor Neff for her informative and passionate workshop. Her enthusiasm is contagious as some of us are already "hooked" on doing more dyeing. Keep your eyes open for the finished projects as we wear them to Temple. For those of you who were unable to attend, but requested another opportunity to share in this event, keep your eyes on Connections and WRJ emails. We are planning another round!

The Israel Bonds Brunch with our honoree, Cathy Klein was wonderful. Cathy is the perfect example of commitment to Israel, Judaism and our Temple. Her leadership on the Education Committee and her membership on many other committees as well as the Board of Trustees makes her contributions invaluable to our whole congregation! Thank you, Cathy, for all the time and expertise you give to all of us.

Thank you to our WRJ Treasurer, Michelle Lowy and Jodi Gischner (*see picture*), for leading our Bake Sale on February 3 as we joined with Youth Group's Blood Drive and Men's Club Super Bowl Breakfast to share a wonderful day of mitzvah and food for our congregants.

Please join us on the evening of March 14, at 6:30 PM for a Book Club discussion. Bring your own Meat or Pareve meal to discuss <u>All the Rivers</u> by Dorit Rabinyan. This book that will cause you to think about relationships between groups whose history makes deep and personal contact very difficult. Much to contemplate in our current world.

Our Purim Shaloach Manot is in full swing. We look forward to all of you joining in celebrating with your fellow congregants. Watch for our emails and flyers on how to share our joy for this holiday and show our kindness to each other.

We are stronger together,
Jane Aronoff & Estelle Hans
Co-Presidents

Annual Women's Seder

WRJ/SISTERHOOD & ROSH CHODESH GROUP

of The Reform Temple of Rockland

Invite You To Take A Spiritual Journey Celebrating Women!

Sunday, April 7, 2018

Doors open at **4:00pm** for sign-in, gathering, and appetizers. Program is from **4:30-7:30pm.**

$36.00 per RTR & WRJ member / $40 for guests, $18 for pre-teens and teens.

Our Seder includes a catered dinner, dessert, live music, Manischewitz wine & grape juice (or BYO wine)

PLEASE SEND YOUR RSVP FORM & CHECK (no credit cards please)

To: RTR, 330 N. Highland Ave, Upper Nyack, NY 10960 **ATTN: WRJ SEDER**

Make check payable to **WRJ Seder. RSVP BY: March 31, 2019.**

Name _____

Email_____ # of additional guests _____

Names & Emails of Guests_____

Please write seating requests on the back of this form. We may not be able to accommodate requests that are made after the deadline.

☐ I would like to donate $ _____ to support those who might need assistance to attend the Seder.

☐ I will contribute: _____ # of lbs of Charosis, ☐ _____ # doz. Hard Boiled Eggs (peeled).

☐ Enclosed is my check for $_____. Total should include guest tickets and optional donation.

☐ I am interested in doing a reading from the Haggadah: Contact Shelle Goldstein at shellego@optonline.net

For more information, please contact Linda Vinecour at lvinecour@gmail.com or 914-714-0362.
To apply for a discount based on financial need, please contact Linda in strict confidence by 3/31/19.

DONATIONS (January 11, 2019—February 10, 2019)

Adult & Family Education Fund

David & Susan Klein in honor of Cathy Klein, honoree at Lila Stern Brunch
Stewart & Suzanne Bader in honor of Ron & Sherri Nahum's new grandbaby

Beverly Gilbert Scholarship Fund

Dorothy Steinberg in memory of Celia Wolfson
Elaine Katz in memory of Burt Katz
Marshall Gilbert in memory of Florence Kass

Building Fund

Jorie Sear in memory of Jack Klonsky

Cantor George Weinflash Music Fund

Marvin & Irma Meyeroff in memory of Lillian Meyeroff and Gerald Meyeroff

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Kenneth & Rowena Marvin in honor of Dylan's Bar Mitzvah
Larry Beck & Susan Silver in honor of Noah Silver-Beck's completion of 4 years active service in the US Marine Corps
Michael & Eileen Rutter in memory of Bernard Feier
Russell Rizner & Julie Buffington-Rizner in memory of Sol Elson
Stephen & Jacqueline Solomon in memory of Thelma Sandler
Stephen & Jacqueline Solomon in memory of Jean Solomon
Steven & Laurie Becker in memory of Sol Becker
Warren & Terry Willen in memory of Grace Holland

Family in Crisis Fund

Anonymous
Larry Beck & Susan Silver in memory of Louisa Beck and Ida Schadlow
Marian Schwartz in memory of Oscar Newiger
Sima Zisman in memory of William Chercass
Sima Zisman in memory of May Chercass
Warren & Terry Willen in memory of Betty Willen

Karen Ami Social Action Fund

Benjamin & Gloria Pereira in memory of Edna Praskoff
Lee & Anne Ostroff in memory of Ethel Ostroff

Morton Troy Educational Enrichment Fund

Martin & Vanessa Greenberg in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Gabrielle Rae

Operating Fund

Lloyd & Linda Grossman
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Wolf
Bernie Perry in honor of Mel Feiner's 90th Birthday
Alan & Valerie Bagun in memory of Ray Deitz
Alan & Valerie Bagun in memory of Irving Deitz
Deborah Nyman in memory of Ethel Kaye and Bessie Kaye
Howard & Carole Cohen in memory of Elmore Cohen

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

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

Operating Fund (*continued*)

Lawrence & Amy Rapoport in memory of Evelyn Bernstein
Martin & Vanessa Greenberg in memory of Walter Askenas
Michael & Rochelle Berger in memory of Selma Berger
Michael & Rochelle Berger in memory of Thelma Sandler
Sheryl Santi & Max Wernick in memory of Vivian Davis, Arthur Davis, John Santi, Tamra Wernick, Anne Wernick & Charles Wernick
Stewart & Suzanne Bader in memory of Sally Bader
Victor & Rochelle Stein in memory of Sam Stein
Walter & Barbara Fiedler in memory of Irving Sacknoff

Rabbi Louis Frishman Youth Endowment Fund

Cheryl Mazen in memory of Alvin Kravat
Iris Fialkoff in memory of Evelyn Silverberg
Marvin & Irma Meyeroff in memory of Lillian Meyeroff and Gerald Meyeroff
Mimi Frishman in memory of Rabbi Louis Frishman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Kenneth & Rowena Marvin in honor of Dylan's Bar Mitzvah
Larry Beck & Susan Silver in honor of Noah Silver-Beck's completion of 4 years active service in the US Marine Corps
Bernard & Elaine Berson in memory of Jeanette Berson
David & Michelle Tucker in memory of Mack J. Tucker
Elaine Casper in memory of Max Haber
Howard & Gail Golden in memory of Riva Golden
Janice Baker in memory of Maurice Guralnick
John & Judy Neumann in memory of Rosalie Weinberger
Matthew & Felice Burgay in memory of Alvin Kravat
Michael & Eileen Rutter in memory of Bernard Feiner
Norman & Vivian Resnick in memory of Sylvia Resnick
Victor & Rochelle Stein in memory of Anna Stein
Victor & Rochelle Stein in memory of Murray Stein
Warren & Terry Willen in memory of Grace Holland

Sylvia & Hyman Rosenzweig Scholarship Fund

Martin & Vanessa Greenberg in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Gabrielle Rae

You can sponsor an Oneg after a service to honor a special occasion or person. You can also sponsor an Oneg in memory of a loved one and request his/her favorite treats. Call the office at 845-358-2248 to select a date. Sponsorship is $250 and can be charged to your account.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Day	Name (up to age 25)
2	Mark Shapiro
5	Samantha Haber
9	Ethan Jacobs
9	Jonathan Rotbard
10	Henry Gelman
16	Brooklyn Grossbard
16	Hollis Grossbard
17	Adam Forman
18	Brad Schulman
19	Alex Sharff
21	Jared Jay
25	Charlie Wilen
26	Zoe Turner
26	Lily Warren
27	Rosella Dunkerley
29	Mirabelle Megdal
30	Emily Jacomowitz
30	Kyle Leader

Those of any age with March birthdays are welcome to join us at Erev Shabbat at 6:30 PM on March 1 to receive a birthday blessing and get a sweet treat!

Day	Names	Year
18	Raymond & Eve Fox	12
18	Eliot & Deborah Studnitzer	29
23	**Stuart & Renee Kratter**	**50**
26	Warren & Sharon Cohen	42
27	**David & Dara Warren**	**20**
28	Mark & Nancy Brecher	49
28	Clifford & Sima Malat	49
30	Herbert & Natalie Plaut	61
30	James & Marcia Simon	56

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

GOOD & WELFARE

Mazel Tov to **Ed & Eva Steen** on the engagement of their son, David, to Staci Feigenberg.

Mazel Tov to **Asher Siebert** on his engagement to Melissa Simon.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies to **Peter Stone.** His father, Paul Stone, died February 20.
Our deepest sympathies to **Arthur Leibowitz.** His sister, Florence Krantz died February 8.
Our deepest sympathies to **David Greenberg.** His cousin, Robbie Carlat, died February 6.
Our deepest sympathies to **Cindy Norton.** Her father, Leon Werzansky, died January 30.

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 goes hungry.

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

Upcoming Volunteer Days:
Mar 10 & RTR DAY: Apr 14

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 the Warming Center, Rockland's program to aid and shelter homeless Rocklanders. Kindly bring them to a WRJ/Sisterhood meeting or place 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!

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.

***NEW* CALL TO ACTION!**

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 & 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 & Change at 9 Johnson Lane in New City.

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

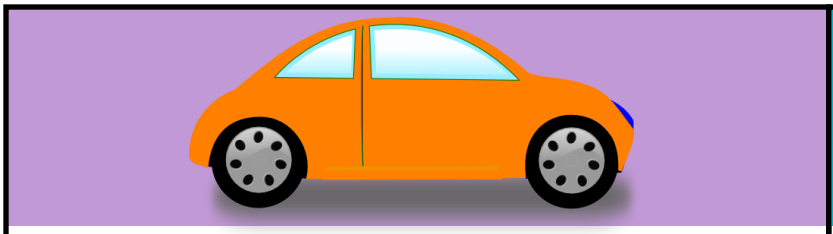
Rockland County Warming Center

Volunteering to help Rockland County's homeless has never been easier! All our volunteers need to do is: donate your time 6:30-9:30 PM, bring a store-bought dessert, serve dinner and have fun! RTR's youth are leading the way and have already committed to dates. The Warming Center is staffed by a manager and security personnel. Meals are provided by a local caterer. Interested? Have Questions? Ready to Sign Up?

Barbara Wilen: barbwilen@live.com / 845-596-5061

Lillian Grossbard: lgrossbard@gmail.com/917-273-6105

2019 VOLUNTEER DATES AT YEAGER HEALTH CENTER IN POMONA: Apr 10, 11



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 Susan Caminez, Executive Director, at (845) 358-2248 or Susan@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!

You Might Not Know….

That we now have spare reading glasses outside our sanctuary in various strengths as a courtesy in case you forget your pair. Simply borrow them and put them back in the basket before you leave.

Thank you, Larry Beck & Susan Silver!

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.

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 never 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.).

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 eesteen@optonline.net Helayne Pfeffer hayne1954@gmail.com
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

THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

Tel.: 845-358-2248 ♦ Fax: 845-358-3450
www.RTRny.org ♦ info@RTRny.org

Clergy

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Cantor	Sally Neff	CantorNeff@RTRny.org

Staff

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Executive Director	Susan Caminez	Susan@RTRny.org
Bookkeeper	Kama Clark	Kama@RTRny.org

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Vice President	Eva Steen	eesteen@optonline.net
Vice President	Cathy Klein	kleincb@gmail.com
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Trustee	Tama Shor Beck	shorbeck@verizon.net
Trustee	Deby Turner	deby1012@gmail.com
Trustee	Barbara Wilen	barbwilen@live.com
Trustee	Jenn Woods	jnnywoods@optonline.net

Helpful Deadline Information & Guidelines

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

Our weekly email, "e-Connections," goes out to our distribution list every Wednesday. This communication is for *upcoming events and important announcements only*. It is intended to be a short (two-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 Shabbat Services handout. If there are any changes/additions to these lists, please notify the RTR Office by 10 AM on Friday. 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.
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