

CONNECTIONS

THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND
Brighter Together

NOVEMBER 2019
3 Cheshvan—2 Kislev 5780



Give
thanks



**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
- Friday Erev 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



NOVEMBER DATES AT A GLANCE:

- 1 Erev Shabbat Family Service: K-1 Grade Service
- 2 Bat Mitzvah of Olivia Stone
- 3 Daylight Saving
Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class
- 5 Adult Education Committee
- 6 Executive Committee Meeting
- 7 Committee Chair Meeting
Rockland Warming Center Volunteer Day
- 8 Erev Shabbat: Veteran's & Kristallnacht
Commemoration with Rockland/Orange District
Council Jewish War Veterans of the USA
- 9 6th Grade Shabbaton
- 10 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
- 11 OFFICE CLOSED: Veteran's Day
- 12 Knitting Circle
Finance Committee Meeting
Membership & Marketing Committee Meeting
- 14 Car Club
- 19 Ritual Committee Meeting
- 20 Security Committee Meeting
Board of Trustees Meeting
- 22 Erev Shabbat Rock Shabbat
- 23 Bat Mitzvah of Emily Sharff
- 26 Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service
- 28-29 OFFICE CLOSED: Thanksgiving
- 30 Bar Mitzvah of Elliot Kleinman

SEE PAGE 17 FOR OUR COMPLETE CALENDAR



RTR welcomes our new members:
Steve & Elaine Geller of Palisades
Adam & Alison Paul and family of Airmont
Melissa Simon and family of Nyack

Peek Inside...

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FROM THE RABBI

For my November article, I would like to further the conversation on my Yom Kippur morning sermon on antisemitism. For those who were unable to attend, or would like to read it again, it is available on the home page of

our website: www.rtrny.org.

The books I referenced were: *Antisemitism: Here and Now* by Deborah Lipstadt and *How to Fight Antisemitism* by Bari Weiss. There is also a third book that I did not reference which is *Rising Out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist* by Eli Saslow. The story is about Derek Black. He was at the heart of the white nationalist movement as his father founded Stormfront, a large racist and antisemitic online community. While attending college, Derek's beliefs were challenged, including by some Jews who kept inviting him to Shabbat dinners. Ultimately Derek disavowed his past and his past beliefs in a radical transformation. It is a fascinating and disturbing read that provides insight into the white nationalist movement.

However, for those who would like to take a deep dive into the history of antisemitism, one of my 'favorite' books is *Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews* by James Carroll. It is an excellent resource and it really helps frame the evolution and history of antisemitism. All of these books are available from most book sellers.

I also want to mention a few resources one can support with the fight against antisemitism. I mentioned the Anti-Defamation League as well as our congregation and the Federation that is combating local antisemitism almost on a daily basis through the CRC (Community Relations Council). We can support both the local and national Holocaust Museums who are not only combatting antisemitism but providing tremendous amounts of educational opportunities for schools. There are lots of online resources but be sure to double check who is providing the information. Some of it is helpful (such as the ADL.org), while other sites, not so much. In regards to counteracting what is happening on college campuses, the Louis D. Brandeis Center has some excellent resources. We can support Hillel as well as AIPAC and JNF. These organizations are doing important work on campuses as well.

The most questions and comments I received following my sermon on antisemitism was not about the greater world, but concerning our ultra-Orthodox neighbors. As I mentioned, I am no expert, and many of you have

an abundance of stories and frustrations to share. To each of you, I do not disagree. There are many problems and challenges. I, for one, am involved with several organizations working on issues relating to the Ultra-Orthodox. One is Yaffed, which is an organization fighting to get New York State to enforce educational mandates in Yeshivas. I will be serving on their rabbinical council. Our first meeting is scheduled for this month, and I am hoping to attend.

I am also involved with Rockland Clergy for Social Justice. This organization was formed to tackle the issues relating to the East Ramapo School District. Much has been accomplished, but there is a long way to go. There have also been preliminary meetings through the Holocaust Center to try to get more interactions between the progressive and some of the ultra-Orthodox communities. It is slow going, and I am not sure if it will get anywhere, but I did want to let you know, we are trying.

Again, I am not justifying actions done by members of the various ultra-Orthodox communities. The lack of oversight and accountability has certainly been detrimental to the larger Rockland Community. But what we cannot do is let antisemitic tropes rule the day when it comes to these issues.

Antisemitism is growing around the world and in New York. I did not even get into the issue of antisemitism among the radical Muslim communities which Bari Weiss discusses in much greater detail in her book. What I do know is that there are resources available to us, we have each other, and we have the larger Jewish community. Fighting antisemitism starts with us.

I hope the Yom Kippur Morning sermon and this article is less fearful and more an exploration of opportunities for action. As always, my door is open, and I am happy to discuss with you, your thoughts and concerns.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff
RabbiSharff@RTRny.org

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

EDUCATION CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Honoring Our Past...Educating Our Future

Education Campaign for RTR to offer FREE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL for all grades!

Our 3-year Education Campaign continues towards our goal of \$360,000 – and you can follow our progress by checking the “thermometer” in the main lobby. Our goal of providing free religious school for all grades, is a program that no other congregation is attempting. Our commitment to educating our children, who will take Reform Judaism into the future, is firm and deliberate. With everyone’s participation we will succeed in providing a tuition free quality Jewish education to the children in our congregation!

Together we can do this!

Thank you!

Thank you to the GROWING list of donors who have made commitments or donations in honor of our children's future:

Anonymous Donor	Marcia Glasser	Bernie Perry
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Marshall Gilbert	Robert & Adrian Modansky	Barry & Laura Weiss
Ellis Gitlin	Ronald & Sherri Nahum	Howard & Barbara Wilen
Eric & Jodi Gischner	David Greenberg & Cantor Sally Neff	Warren & Terry Willen
Jeffrey Glaser	Evan & Jeri Newman	



FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I begin to think about a topic to write about this month, the Thanksgiving holiday comes to mind. At the end of the month on November 28, we will be sitting with family and/or friends to celebrate what we are thankful and grateful for. The dictionary defines gratitude as a thankful appreciation for what

an individual receives, whether tangible or intangible. With gratitude, people acknowledge the goodness in their lives. Expressing gratitude will make you a happier person. It can provide an immediate boost of happiness. Thanksgiving is as much about gratitude as it is about eating turkey, potatoes and cranberry sauce. We will be eating home cooked foods, and sharing conversations of thanks to G-d. In the Torah, gratitude is an integral part of one's spiritual life.

When we think about what we are grateful for, we become conscious of how much we really have in our lives and feel enriched. It is also a good habit to encourage in our children. It is important not only to encourage them to say thank you, but to help them become aware of what they have in their lives. This way they can form a lifelong habit of appreciating what they are grateful for. Being thankful needs to be a regular habit and happen more than once a year at Thanksgiving. We can nurture this feeling in ourselves as well. Stop and think about all you have and all of the blessings you have enjoyed.

Every day we are given the gift of Judaism. I am grateful to be a Jew today for so many reasons. Family in Judaism is a top priority, and gives us clarity to put our relationships first. It creates a safe and warm environment. My family keeps growing and I am truly thankful for this. Miracles are everywhere and occur everyday. The Jewish world lives in them, as well as myself in my daily life. Community celebrates both joyous and sad occasions together. Sharing in conversations, meals, volunteerism, and helping one another is a beautiful thing. The Reform Temple of Rockland is our community and family. We are here for each other at all times. We celebrate and support all our congregants in any situation needed. Shabbat which occurs every week, allows us to start fresh and renews our strength. It gives us time to put our lives in perspective and reminds us how incredible creation is.

I am happy that my family and I traveled to Israel. We celebrated Matthew's (our middle son) bar mitzvah on top of Masada, with about 10 families who also had

children celebrating their b'nei mitzvah. We toured much of this magnificent country. Israel is a precious gift to all Jews. Whether there or not, it is near and dear to all our hearts. Jerusalem is beautiful with the reminders of our history all around you as well as all of the modern achievements, cities, landscapes and mountains. All this comprise a wonderful country. Israel is a home we can return to at any given time.

A few quotes I came across, I thought would shine some light for you.

"I am thankful for the mess to clean up after a party, because it means that I have been blessed by family and friends."

"I am thankful for the clothes that fit a little snug, because it means I have enough food to eat."

"I am thankful for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need repair, because it means I have a home."

"I am thankful for my large heating bill as it means I am warm."

"I am thankful for the alarm that goes off every morning, because it means I have another day in front of me."

A few questions to ask yourself:

What are the things you feel thankful or grateful for?

How can we appreciate ourselves and those around us more?

How can we show gratitude?

If we all look at our lives, we can all find many things to be thankful and grateful for. As Robert and I and our family welcome Jacob Albert our new grandson into our family, I know just how thankful and grateful we are.

Enjoy the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

B'Shalom,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Adrian Modansky".

Adrian Modansky, President
President@rtrny.org





FROM BRAD ZICHOLTZ, DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

On October 6, we tried something new. In an effort to build community here at RTR and amongst our Religious School families, we created family programming so that families and kids could meet each other.

Joining a Temple has many facets to it besides getting a Jewish education for your child. Finding community among others is something that is so important in Judaism. Rabbi Hillel says in Pirke Avot, "Do not separate yourself from the community." Nothing in Judaism suggests we are to be alone. From the entire community expected to come to a bris to a minyan to making shiva calls, without community Judaism cannot exist.

So back on October 6, thirty-eight Religious School students and parents got together, picked apples, went on a hayride, and picked pumpkins. Thank you to Robin Conduluci who led and helped facilitate this incredible community gathering. We will continue these events throughout the year including bowling on November 17 and the Star Wars Shabbat on December 21.

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...
Star Wars Shabbat

On December 21, we will be having a very special Star Wars themed Shabbat service, having lunch, and then heading to see the

new movie, *Star Wars - The Rise of Skywalker*. Keep an eye out for an email with the sign up form.

L'shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Zicholtz".

Brad Zicholtz

Director of Congregational Learning

Brad@RTRny.org



First Family Outing to Dr. Davie's Farm on October 6.



NOVEMBER B'NEI MITZVAH



Olivia Stone

November 2, 2019

I will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on November 2, 2019. I am a 7th grader and High Honor Roll student at Nyack Middle School. For my Mitzvah Project, I started an Environmental Club there. I like drawing, reading, writing, listening to music, and hanging out with my friends. I also play field hockey.

Thank you to everyone who helped me get ready for my Bat Mitzvah!

Emily Sharff

November 23, 2019

Hello my name is Emily. I live in Valley Cottage with my parents and my two younger brothers Noah and Alex. We have been members of RTR for the past four years, and I am now a madrichah for the second grade.

I am in seventh grade at Tuxedo Park School. Some of my favorite classes are math and English. I also play defense for my field hockey team.

For my mitzvah project, I am knitting hats to donate to the Center for Safety and Change. If you also like to knit, I have left a donation box next to the office. We are collecting hats and scarves. In my free time I enjoy playing piano, reading, and spending time with my friends. I am very excited for my Bat Mitzvah and hope you will join me in celebrating it on November 23!





Elliot Kleinman

November 30, 2019

Hi! My name is Elliot Kleinman and I am an 8th grade student at Felix Festa Middle School. You might know my parents Aaron and Michelle Kleinman and I also have a brother named Jordan who is fifteen years old and attends Clarkstown South High School. I have a cat- Fe-lini who is eight years old and is always fun to play with.

My favorite sport is baseball. I first started baseball when I was 4 years old playing tee ball at West Nyack Little League. I continued to move up in Little League and now play travel baseball. One thing about travel baseball is that I love is going to tournaments. This past summer I had the opportunity to play in Cooperstown which is one of the biggest tournaments in America. This experience I will never forget, hitting two homes and when I pitched I struck out twelve batters. I will continue with baseball for as long as I can working to get better every day.

I enjoy spending time with my grandparents who have and continue to support me in all of my efforts. It's always fun spending time with them and my cousins. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday as it combines food, family, and football.

For my Bar Mitzvah project I am collecting and donating new and gently used sports equipment, such as floor hockey sticks, gloves, bats and tennis rackets for the Spring Valley Salvation Army after school program. I also volunteer at the Rhoda Bloom Food Pantry whenever I can. If you would like to donate any sports equipment, please call 845-641-6961 or e-mail Michelle Kleinman at Appleadaymk@gmail.com.

Thank you to Rabbi Sharff for helping me learn and grow in Judaism. Thank you to Cantor Neff and Cantor Dunkerley for teaching me how to chant Hebrew. I would like to thank everyone who has helped me become a Bar Mitzvah it means so much to me.

Times for Torah...

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.

**Clergy will read from the Torah at Erev Shabbat Services on the following dates:
November 15, December 27**

YOUTH GROUP NEWS AND NOTES

October was a great month for our Youth Groups! Lil' ReTRO had a fabulous afternoon at nearby Dr. Davies Farm picking apples and pumpkins! ReTweens and ReTRO worked diligently through the High Holy Days collecting and sorting tuna, barley and cleaning supplies for RTR's Yom Kippur Donation Drive. Many thanks to all who donated – it is greatly appreciated! We also want to thank Central Plumbing Specialties for once again donating the clear plastic bags that we used!



Lil' ReTRO (grades 3-5) upcoming:

November 17: Family Bowling

November 26: Interfaith Youth Thanksgiving Program/Dinner/Service

ReTweens (grades 6-8) upcoming:

November 26: Interfaith Youth Thanksgiving Program/Dinner/Service

December 6-8: 6th/7th/8th Taste Of NFTY Kallah at Camp Harlam



ReTRO (grades 9-12):

ReTRO had a fun afternoon bowling with ReTweens for their opening event! They also spent a great deal of time distributing Food Drive collection bags and honey sticks on Rosh Hashanah. Then they collected and sorted donations that were brought in by congregants!

Upcoming ReTRO events are:

November 15-17: NFTY-GER Fall Kallah at URJ Camp Harlam

November 26: Interfaith Youth Thanksgiving Program/Dinner/Service

**RTR members can also find event updates/photos in the CLOSED Facebook group
Reform Temple of Rockland Youth Groups**

IF YOU HAVE A JEWISH FRIEND WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF RTR AND WOULD LIKE YOUTH GROUP INFO LET ELISE OR ROBIN KNOW. SEVERAL CHILDREN HAVE BROUGHT FRIENDS TO EVENTS ALREADY. WE'D LOVE TO SEE THEM AGAIN! FEEL FREE TO CALL WITH ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ANYTHING YOUTH GROUP RELATED!

We wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Elise Lehrman 914-715-9845/Leesee54@gmail.com
Robin Condoluci 845-638-2655/rtrlilretro@gmail.com



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



MEN'S CLUB

My family had a most enjoyable holiday season, I hope your family did as well. I was most impressed by all the shofar blowers who lined up on the bima to make sure we heard that haunting call. But we are commanded not to just hear the sound of the

shofar but to HARKEN to the call of the shofar.

For me that haunting sound has been one of the forces that has kept me involved in my Jewish community these past 45 years, and keeps me involved today as your Men's Club President.

Men's Club is a vital and integral part of our temple community. We provide fellowship for the men of the congregation as well as support of our youth, by supporting both Youth Group and Religious School events. Men's Club supports the congregation in general by providing Friday night onegs along with WRJ/Sisterhood.

Men's Club wants to be there for you, we want to harken to your call. What can we do for you? In the

past, our legacy Men's Clubs have supported soft ball teams, we run a Comedy Night and a Golf Outing. What more would you like to see? We will harken to your needs if you will harken to ours.

The current two year term of all Officers and Trustees of the RTR Men's Club expires this June. Some Officers and Trustees will want to remain and continue their involvement, while others have heard a different call. This is your time to step up, it is an open invitation for you to make sure our commitment to our Temple continues.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the RTR Men's Club Board please send a letter to me at the temple. Mark it "ATTN DAVID FIRSTENBERG" OR send me a e-mail at Davidfirstenberg@gmail.com hoping to hear from you.

David Firstenberg,
Men's Club President
DavidFirstenberg@gmail.com

All Supporters of Temple Youth:

Please consider joining Men's Club. Men's Club's main purpose is to support youth programming. Your dues and the other funds Men's Club raises throughout the year go toward the Youth Group and other youth-related activities. We also support Jewish education, including the RTR Religious School. We also have some fun helping with the Purim carnival, barbecues, and breakfasts. There are enjoyable events during the year such as comedy night, the golf outing, and baseball games. Please be a mensch and use the application form below to join or renew your membership. Thank you for your support!

Interested in learning more? Please contact me directly. I would love to hear from you.

Russell Jay, Membership Chair
russjay@gmail.com
845-368-8695 / 201-538-9872

**Men's Club dues are \$40. Please make checks payable to RTRMC and mail to:
RTR ATTN: Men's Club, 330 N. Highland Ave, Upper Nyack, NY 10960**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM OF RTR

2019 Fall Brunch & Boutique

The Complimentary Brunch

FOR All Members of WRJ- Temple Membership Not Required

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!

Many exciting vendors will be in attendance.

You may shop for clothing, jewelry, handbags, housewares, novelty items & more. Our Judaica Shop will be open with beautiful items and great bargains.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 ~ 10:00^{AM}

Shop until you drop!

You may become a member at the event.

Please RSVP by NOVEMBER 10th

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 jbareader@aol.com (914)-522-1009

Jorie Sear jsear1@verizon.net (845)-634-3060

WRJ is collecting NEW unwrapped toys for **People to People's Project Joy**. NO stuffed animals.

We look forward to seeing you.

ANNE JACOBS & JORIE SEAR

co-chairs of WRJ membership





WRJ/SISTERHOOD

Autumn is here and so are some wonderful activities from your sisters at WRJ. The big event of the month is our Fall Brunch and Boutique on November 17 at 10 AM. Come and meet new members and greet old

friends and family. We wish to thank Sally Marvin, our programming chair, for gathering the vendors offering a variety of gifts for the holidays. Sally has also arranged outside activities including an upcoming pre-*Chanukah* chocolate event in December, see the flyer below. Be on the lookout for more exciting opportunities from Sally and her support crew. Remember, we are a sisterhood and sisters help each other.

Speaking of sisters who help each other, are you aware of all that goes into the Theater group? Eadie Kanchuger leads a group of women who order, prepare and distribute tickets for shows during the year. Membership in the theater group has been closed for this season, but tickets are sometimes available due to changes in our members' schedules. So far this fall, we have seen *Tootsie* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. For further information please contact Eadie at: eadiek@optonline.net. Barbara Gross is the coordinator for the buses for the plays, and must be

thanked for arranging our transportation. Did you know that there are over 200 people attending each of these shows? Yes, it is a big task and Eadie and all of the helpers receive our continued thanks.

Our December meeting will include *treasured memories*. Bring a treasured memory to share. It could be related to a family or personal object, or just a tale of time and place. We would love to have you share with us on December 5 at 7:30 PM before our board meeting. No RSVP necessary.

For all of the readers in the group – please be aware that we are co-hosting a book discussion with Adult Ed on January 7 at 6:30 PM. The book is *Button Man* by Andrew Gross. Please bring your dinner so that we can chat and eat together. This is an early notice so that you can plan to access the book via the library, buy the book, find it on kindle or listen to an audio version. It is about Andrew's grandfather and family, and gives us an inside look at some of the Jewish gangsters in New York City.

Wishing you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jill Tannev
WRJ/Sisterhood President
jillscout@aol.com

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE
... AND CHOCOLATE

I'D GIVE UP
CHOCOLATE
BUT I'M NOT
A QUITTER

A balanced diet is having
Chocolate in both hands

SAVE THE DATE for a delectable, delicious, and fun evening at

The WRJ/Sisterhood *Chocolate* Event!

Monday, December 9, at 7:00 PM

at Chocolatier Matisse in Orangeburg, NY

For more info call: Sally Marvin at 914-645-5163

K'tanim

"Little Ones"



Sunday, Nov 17
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'll learn about Mitzvot. Contact Brad at Brad@RTRny.org for more information.

HOW WILL YOU ASSURE JEWISH TOMORROWS?



We all have an opportunity to support the continued vitality of the Jewish organizations important to us—including The Reform Temple of Rockland.

To create your Jewish legacy contact:

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff
RabbiSharff@RTRny.org
845-358-2248
www.RTRny.org



The RTR Car Club encourages our members to help build friendships through a mutual enjoyment of automobiles. We hold a monthly meeting generally 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 by phone at 845-494-4023.

NEXT MEETINGS: NOV 21, DEC 12



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 12 at 10 AM; Dec 10 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.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Happy Anniversary

Day	Name (up to age 25)
1	Jacob Scull
1	Abigail Scull
1	Samuel Studnitzer
3	Benjamin Levin
14	Theodore Gambale
14	Nathaniel Hirsch
17	David Lustig
20	Andrew Greenberg
23	Jeremy Jacomowitz
26	Ethan Klayman
28	Elliot Kleinman

Those with November birthdays are invited
To join us on November 1 to receive a
birthday blessing and get
a sweet treat!

Day	Names	Years
1	Alan & Susan Sadovnick	50
2	Cantor Sally & David Neff	11
2	Sidney & Gail Hoffman	44
6	David & Libbi Rosenblum	31
7	Arthur & Cindy Norton	27
13	Denis & Jill Tanney	42
14	Dave & Pamela Auerbach	19
16	Warren & Terry Willen	27
16	Joel & Carol Kanter	51
19	Joe & Michelle Scull	14
21	Joel & Marci Koral	38
23	Samuel & Elaine Simon	69
24	Marvin & Irma Meyeroff	54
25	Bruce & Tama Beck	20
25	Larry & Shelley Ruderman	49
25	Ian Spence & Aileen Tan-Spence	43
27	Jeffrey & Robin Lubatkin	31
27	Alan Jeffrey & Beth Friedberg	26
29	Jeffrey & Shari Brodsky	33

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

GOOD & WELFARE

Mazel Tov to **Adrian & Robert Modansky** on
the birth of their grandson, Jacob Albert.

Mazel Tov to **Cathy & Michael Klein** on the
birth of their grandson, Ethan Daniel.

Mazel Tov to **Andrew & April Solomon** on the
marriage of their son, Jaryd to Laura Yost on
June 6.

Mazel Tov to **Edward Fisher & Robyn Griffier**
on the birth of their grandson, Maverick.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies to **Howard Wilen**, his uncle, Ira Wilen, died October 13.

Our deepest sympathies to **Andie Leighton**, her sister-in-law, Judie Zweifler, died October 6.

Our deepest sympathies to **Howard Wilen**, his father, Mark Wilen, died October 3.

INTERFAITH

Thanksgiving

Service

Tues, Nov 26, 2019, at 7:00 PM

Youth Program Begins at 5:30 PM

(Pizza dinner will be served)

Hosted by First Reformed Church of Nyack

18 South Broadway, Nyack

Annual collection information will be forthcoming

Please arrive early to ensure a parking spot



**INTERFAITH CLERGY
ASSOCIATION OF NYACK**

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<p>1 3 Cheshvan 6:30p Erev Shabbat Family Service: Grade Service (K-1)</p> 	<p>2 4 Cheshvan Parashat Noach 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service: Bat Mitzvah: Stone</p> 
<p>3 5 Cheshvan Daylight Saving 9:00a Religious School 9:00a Religious School Parent Mtg 10:00a Adult He- brew 10:30a Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class 11:30a Jr. Choir 12:30p Band</p>	<p>4 6 Cheshvan</p>	<p>5 7 Cheshvan Yom HaAliyah Election Day NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 4:00p Teachers Conf. 7:30p Adult Ed Comm.</p>	<p>6 8 Cheshvan 6:30p AA 7:00p Choir 7:30p Exec. Comm. 8:00p PFLAG</p>	<p>7 9 Cheshvan 10:30a Torah Topics</p>	<p>8 10 Cheshvan 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service: Veteran's and Kristallnacht Commemoration with Rockland/ Orange Distrcit Council Jewish Vet- erans of the USA</p> 	<p>9 11 Cheshvan Parashat Lech-Lecha Kristallnacht 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:00a 6th Grade Shabbatton 10:30a Shabbat Service</p>
<p>10 12 Cheshvan NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p>	<p>11 13 Cheshvan Veteran's Day OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>12 14 Cheshvan 10:00a Knitting Cir- cle 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 7:15a Membership & Marketing Com- mittee 7:30p Social Action 7:30p Finance Com- mittee</p>	<p>13 15 Cheshvan 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir</p>	<p>14 16 Cheshvan 10:30a Torah Topics</p>	<p>15 17 Cheshvan NFTY Fall Kallah 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service: Torah Ser- vice</p> 	<p>16 18 Cheshvan Parashat Vayera NFTY Fall Kallah 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service</p>
<p>17 19 Cheshvan 9:00a Religious School 9:00a K'tanim: Mitz- vot 9:30a Men's Club 10:00a Adult He- brew 10:00a WRJ/ Sisterhood Paid-up Brunch 11:30a Jr. Choir 12:30p Band</p>	<p>18 20 Cheshvan</p>	<p>19 21 Cheshvan 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy 7:30p Ritual</p>	<p>20 22 Cheshvan 6:30p AA 6:30p CANDLE 6:30p Security Com- mittee 7:00p Trans-Parents 7:30p Board of Trus- tees</p>	<p>21 23 Cheshvan 10:30a Torah Topics 7:00p Choir 7:30p Car Club</p>	<p>22 24 Cheshvan 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service: Rock Shab- bat</p> 	<p>23 25 Cheshvan Parashat Chayei Sara 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service: Bat Mitzvah: Sharff</p> 
<p>24 26 Cheshvan 9:00a Religious School 10:00a Adult He- brew 11:30a Jr. Choir 12:30p Band</p>	<p>25 27 Cheshvan</p>	<p>26 28 Cheshvan 4:45p Religious School 6:00p Academy at First Reformed Church 7:00p Interfaith Thanksgiving Ser- vice</p>	<p>27 29 Cheshvan 6:30p AA</p>	<p>28 30 Cheshvan Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED NO TORAH TOPICS</p> 	<p>29 1 Kislev OFFICE CLOSED 7:30p Erev Shabbat Service</p>	<p>30 2 Kislev Parashat Toldot 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service: Bar Mitz- vah: Kleinman</p> 

VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH

The Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry



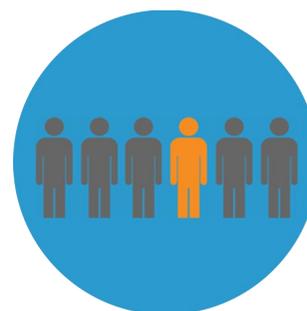
KOSHER BARLEY

RTR is collecting **bags of Barley** for The Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry. While you're welcome to bring in bags of barley, the Social Action Committee encourages members to make donations to the Social Action Fund to help cover the cost of these donations.

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: Nov 17, Dec 8

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!

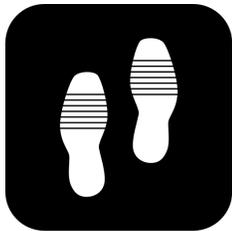
To volunteer, email Eva Steen:
Chesed@RTRny.org

VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH



Center for Safety & Change

Social Action will now be collecting items for women of domestic and sexual abuse and donating them to the Center for Safety & Change. **Please help by bringing in the following items in all sizes: NEW sweatpants, NEW plain tee-shirts without writing and NEW flip flops.** Thank you in advance for your support. Please direct any questions to Martha Siegel at mrsiegel48@gmail.com.



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.

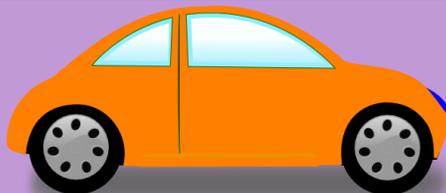


Rockland Warming Center

You can help Rockland homeless by volunteering only a few hours of your time. All you need to do is bring some store bought desserts, serve dinner and have fun. The Warming Center is staffed by a manager and security personnel. Meals are provided by a local caterer. Volunteer time is 6:00-9:00 PM. If you're interested, have questions, or ready to sign up—contact Barbara Wilen at Barbwilen@live.com or call 845-596-5061.

This year's dates are:

Nov 7 & 21, Dec 12, Jan 9 & 23, Feb 6 & 27, Mar 6 and Apr 30



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!

Holiday Gift Card Drive



SOCIALACTION



Donate \$25 Gift Cards from the following businesses or send in a check made payable to WRJ and they will purchase gift cards on your behalf.



TARGET



ShopRite®

CVS

Walgreens

For the month of December the Social Action Committee and WRJ/Sisterhood ask you to help bring some love and light into someone's holiday season by collecting gift cards (\$25 in value) for adults 18 years of age and older who are receiving services from the Rockland County Department of Social Services (DSS). The cards allow the adults to feel remembered at the holiday season and retain their dignity by ensuring personal choice on how the funds are spent (with input from DSS).

These are individuals:

- with mental or physical impairments who cannot provide for their basic need for food, clothing or shelter
- who need to protect themselves from neglect, abuse or hazardous conditions



October and November Winter Coat Drive

For the months of October and November, RTR's Social Action Committee will be collecting:

CLEAN, gently used child and adult-sized coats & NEW hats, gloves and scarves.



Items will be collected in bins or on racks in both lobbies.



Collected items will be donated to People to People and Rockland Action Partnership.



Thank you in advance for your support.



DONATIONS & DEDICATIONS (Sept 11, 2019—Oct 10, 2019)

ADULT & FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

in memory of

Alvin Burgay from **Matthew & Felice Burgay**

Ida Mlotok from **Warren & Wendy Witt**

ART FUND

in memory of

Eva Berenyl and Charles Silver from **Larry Beck & Susan Silver**

BEVERLY GILBERT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Myron & Nina Lazar

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

in memory of

Sandra Hammer from **Howard Hammer**

Jean (GG) Mama Resnick from **Janet Kaminsky**

Steven Gudowitz from **Michael & Lisa Haber**

Stanley Spiro from **Michael & Lisa Haber**

Arthur Diamond and Philip Diamond from **Paul & Ellen Ratisher**

Aaron Sandler from **Stephen & Jacqueline Solomon**

CHESED FUND

in memory of

Harry Schadow from **Larry Beck & Susan Silver**

Shirley Sterman from **Michael & Iris Jacobs**

Elise Newman from **Stuart & Renee Kratter**

EDUCATION CAMPAIGN 2019

in honor of

Marlene Stoll's speedy recovery from **Jeff & Helayne Pfeffer**

Ellen Holtzman as an honoree for the Rockland Women Leaders Hall of Fame at the 40th Anniversary at the Center for Safety & Change from **Jeff & Helayne Pfeffer**

Our grandchildren, Josh, Dylan, Noah & Bodhi from **Stephen & Irene Kopelman**

in memory of

Sandra Forman from **Steven & Debra Forman**

Mark Wilen from **Stewart & Suzanne Bader**

FAMILY IN CRISIS FUND

in memory of

Bernard Kratter from **Stuart & Renee Kratter**

KAREN AMI SOCIAL ACTION FUND

from **Myron & Nina Lazar**



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

(Continued from page 22)

OPERATING FUND

in honor of

Joe Friedman's 90th birthday from **Bernie Perry**

in memory of

Benedict Kanter from **Joel & Carol Kanter**

Hannah Mahler and Jack Mahler from **Marilyn Meltzer**

Maynard Deutschman from **Hal & Cecile Deutschman**

Frieda Fleischmann from **Stephen & Susan Schlusel**

Meyer Cherkiss from **Stewart & Suzanne Bader**

PHYLLIS & MORTON SIMON PRAYER BOOK FUND

in memory of

Ann Rosofsky from **Cyril & Roberta Ross**

Yale Tauber from **Howard & Gail Golden**

David Spector from **Samuel & Barbara Spector**

RABBI LOUIS FRISHMAN YOUTH ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of

Rose Maudel from **Cantor Mimi Frishman**

Maury Weinberg from **Jay & Marcia Lurch**

Phyllis & David Sackler from **Karen Sackler Weingart**

Stanley Fischer from **Morton & Rhoda Klibonoff**

Nora Glanzrock from **Mitchell Glanzrock**

Samuel Pausack from **Myrna Soslowitz**

Sarah Soslowitz from **Myrna Soslowitz**

Melvin Soslowitz from **Myrna Soslowitz**

Louis Lehrman from **Norman & Elise Lehrman**

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

in honor of

Helayne Pfeffer for taking me to services from **Barbara Caren**

The birth of Adrian & Robert Modansky's grandson, Jacob Albert from **Michele Lowy**

in memory of

Hyman Rubin from **Barbara Gass**

Jacob Warmbrand from **Estelle Trachtenberg**

Tillie Lifshitz from **Larry & Sandy Markowitz**

William Schlegel from **Larry & Sandy Markowitz**

Murray Levine from **Ethel Levine**

Rita Wiepert from **Sima Zisman**

SYLVIA & HYMAN ROSENZWEIG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

from **Steven & Gwen Rosenzweig**

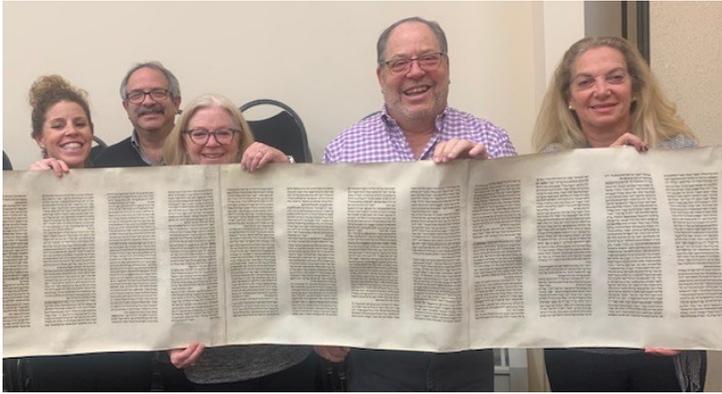
in memory of

Mollie Stillman from **David & Arlene Hulnick**



Clarkstown Police Department has donated hours of their time to train our Staff, Clergy, Board and congregants as well as assess our building for safety and security on numerous occasions. They have increased patrol including having a visible presence at our High Holy Day services (particularly on Yom Kippur in response to news from Germany), they can oftentimes be found parked in our parking lots, and are always graciously there to answer any questions we may have. Should it move you, please make a donation of gratitude in their honor by sending it to: **Clarkstown Policemen's Benevolent Association, Inc.**
P.O. Box 75, New City, NY 10956.
Please let them know how much you appreciate all they do for RTR.





*Give thanks with
gifts that keep
giving...*



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

For ALL your Giving Needs

Show your thanks with a gift from
our beautiful collection!

*Select from an assortment of jewelry, home goods,
children's gifts and more!*

Bring a host gift they'll use!

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

Make your appointments now!

Email JudaicaShop@RTRny.org or call:

Lisa Jay at 914-572-0200

Irene Kopelman at 845-304-5673

Helayne Pfeffer at 845-429-2939

Renee Kratter at 845-357-6715

We look forward to seeing you soon!

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

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.

DID YOU KNOW?



Do you shop at DeCicco's or at Clarkstown Pharmacy? If you do, just let the cashier know you belong to The Reform Temple of Rockland (RTR) in Nyack and a percentage of your purchase will be given to RTR.

PLEASE HELP US MAKE A MINYAN! Saturday morning Shabbat 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.

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	Men's Club	David Firstenberg davidfirstenberg@gmail.com
Brit Olam	Nancy Bermon n.bermon@verizon.net Julie Buffington-Rizner jbuffington2@gmail.com	Membership	Sharon Hittman sharonhittman@gmail.com Michael Rutter shotime@aol.com
Building and Grounds	Jeff Grossman jeffgrossman@gmail.com Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com	Religious School	Tama Shor Beck shorbeck@verizon.net Cathy Klein kleincb@gmail.com
Caring & Inclusion Initiative	Eva Steen eesteen@optonline.net Helayne Pfeffer hayne1954@gmail.com	Ritual	Jodi Gischner ritualcommittee@RTRny.org Judith Kiss ritualcommittee@RTRny.org
Finance	Stephen Hittman stephen.hittman@gmail.com	WRJ/Sisterhood	Jill Tanney jillscout@aol.com
Fundraising	Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com	Social Action	Helayne Pfeffer hayne1954@gmail.com Sue Emanuel sbemanuel57@gmail.com
Marketing	Fran Grossman franzgrossman@gmail.com	Youth	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

Rabbi Cantor	Benjamin Sharff Sally Neff	RabbiSharff@RTRny.org CantorNeff@RTRny.org
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Staff

Director of Cong. Learning Executive Director Bookkeeper Administrative Asst. Maintenance Staff	Brad Zicholtz Susan Caminez Kama Clark Marcy Camacho Michael Schmall Calvin Evans	Brad@RTRny.org Susan@RTRny.org Kama@RTRny.org Marcy@RTRny.org
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Board of Trustees

President First Vice President Vice President Vice President Vice President Treasurer Recording Secretary Financial Secretary Men's Club President WRJ/Sisterhood President Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee	Adrian Modansky Sean Levin Eva Steen Cathy Klein Ellen Holtzman Stephen Hittman Estelle Hans Jeri Newman David Firstenberg Jill Tanney Pam Auerbach Janice Bergman Steven Dachs Fran Grossman Jeff Grossman Robert Modansky Warren Samuels Barry Schoenberg Tama Shor Beck Deby Turner Barbara Wilen Jenn Woods	President@RTRny.org seanrichardlevin@verizon.net e.esteen821@gmail.com kleincb@gmail.com ellenh@rocklandfamilylaw.com stephen.hittman@gmail.com estelleh1@verizon.net jeri@ibcshell.com davidfirstenberg@gmail.com jillscout@aol.com pamela.auerbach@gmail.com janicebbergman@gmail.com desdax@aol.com franzgrossman@gmail.com jeffgrossman@gmail.com rmodansky@citricooperman.com warren513@gmail.com bjsdoc@aol.com shorbeck@verizon.net deby1012@gmail.com barbwilen@live.com jennywoods@optonline.net
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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.

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

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Monsey, New York

Permit No. 7009

Current Resident Or:

RTR's Got Talent!

ARTTR

Come out and Show Us Your Stuff!

We are looking for artists from all walks of life to share their talents for a "Get to Know Your Members Art Show" this year. If you have a passion or talent and would like to consider exhibiting our RTR art show please call the office at 845 358 2248.

- Photography
- Sculpture
- Needle point
- Jewelry Making
- Painting
- Mixed Media
- Knitting
- Book Design