# Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey



# Journal

September 2003 Volume XXX, Issue 1

www.jcnwj.org

PO Box 2, 115 Youmans Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882 / (908) 689-0762

## Mark Your Calendar!

- Friday, Sept. 5, 7:45 p.m. Shabbat, Lay Service
- Sunday, Sept. 7, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School begins
- Friday, Sept. 12, 7:45 p.m.
   Shabbat
   Installation of Board of Directors
   Dedication of New Sound
   System
- Saturday, Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m. Family Game Night
- Sunday, Sept. 21, 9:30 a.m. Education/PTO meeting
- Friday, Sept. 26, 8:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah
- Saturday, Sept. 27, 8:30 a.m.
   Rosh Hashanah Morning Family Service
- Sunday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m.
   Rosh Hashanah (Tashlich) for Sunday School (no regular classes)

# Rabbi's Message

Try as we might, we can't leave the world behind even in the relaxed days of summer. Terrorism and war continue, Israel builds walls, and New York is blanketed in darkness. The vicissitudes of living show no respect for vacation plans. And yet we do our best to live our daily lives, being grateful for each moment even as we worry about what is yet to come.

We have passed Tisha B'Av, that dark moment in our calendar when we commemorate the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, and have moved into a more reflective mode. Our Hebrew calendar requires us on a yearly basis to ask ourselves these questions: What is our purpose? How do we return to that purpose if we have lost sight of it? How do we forgive and how do we ask for forgiveness? Where can we love where we have not been successful in loving? These are the essential questions. They remain timeless, uninfluenced by weather and politics and war.

After reflecting as individuals on these questions, we will soon ask them as a community during our high holy days. Use these days to relax and reflect, so that we can come together and return in repentance to the Holy One of Blessing who is the source of all Creation.

Rabbi Ellen J. Lewis

# President's Message

Having been the President of the congregation for two months as I write this, I am truly amazed by the love that people have for this organization. During the first months, I have led a lay service with a wonderful potluck dinner afterwards, have become involved in the upgrade of our building, the contract talks with Rabbi Lewis, upgrading our web site, discussing social ideas and your concerns with many of you over the summer and even got to help bail out the basement (again). After having been an involved member for nine years, I am still amazed that I am president. I definitely feel overwhelmed at times, as this job seems to occupy your thoughts at all times. I am still a novice and am depending on the advice of four past presidents, Stan, Helen, Sharon and Gwen. Each one of them has been a huge help to me so far.

I have plans for the fall, winter and spring of having more social events at the temple. Many things have been suggested and we will try as many as we can. My hope is that there will be something for everyone this year.

As we come up to the High Holidays, please consider how you can become more involved in our community. Our committees need volunteers and I need help in getting the social events off the ground. If you are interested in helping, please contact me. I know we will be able to put your talents to good use.

I wish you all a L'SHANAH TOVAH.

Howie Hirsch

## A Very Special Shabbat

Our first Rabbi-led service this year will be **September 12 at 7:45 p.m.** We will install our new board of directors that evening. We will also be dedicating our new sound system for the hearing impaired in honor of Rose Schneider.

## Family Game Night

On **September 13 at 6:30 p.m.** Cheryl Orenstein will explain to all who wish to learn the game of Mah Jong. If you do not wish to play Mah Jong, bring a deck of cards or a board game to play. This event is open to all age groups. Please bring a dessert with you. Reservations are not required. Contact the Temple if you are interested.

## Yom Kippur Food Drive

We are having our annual Yom Kippur food drive. Please bring fresh non-perishable items to the temple before Yom Kippur to be donated to NORWESCAP, the local community food bank.

### AT&T Cares Grant

Are you a current or former AT&T employee? If you are, any time that you volunteer to the temple can be used for a team grant from AT&T. Please contact the Temple if you qualify. We can earn up to \$5,000 a year.

## CareLink Mitzvah Opportunity

We have signed up as a sponsor for the MetroWest CARE-LINK program for Rosh Hashanah. They need people to put together and distribute packages (may be meals) for people at Rosh Hashanah. Please contact the Temple if interested.

#### **Education Committee and PTO News**

First Day of Sunday School: Sunday, September 7. Come join the PTO at the Hebrew school — add to your child's education and meet other parents! We meet six times a year. The first Education/PTO meeting is Sunday, September 21 at 9:30 a.m. Even if you help with only one event, you'll make a difference in your child's Jewish life. For information, contact the Temple.

#### Thank You!

A special thank you goes out to Bryant and Jerry Simons, Colson Hall and Eric Edelstein, who helped to get the water out of our basement at a moment's notice. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Rose Schneider would like to thank all her friends for the flowers and well wishes.

Be sure to check out the new Simcha tree in the front lobby. Many thanks to Ken Weiland for his vision and enthusiasm in creating this masterpiece.

#### **IDEAS** and **VOLUNTEERS** are needed for social events:

If you have an idea for an event at the temple, or involving the temple, Please contact the Temple. I need help in running social events.

## Shoprite/A&P Vouchers

ShopRite and A&P script can be purchased at Sunday School/Confirmation Class on the following dates:

 September 7, 21
 February 1, 22

 October 5, 19
 March 7, 21

 November 2, 16
 April 4, 18

 December 7
 May 2, 16

 January 4, 18

Alternatively, please call the Temple to make arrangements to purchase.

## WWW.JCNWJ.ORG

Check out the What's New section for latest updates. All of our events are listed in the calendar section: Services, Sunday School, Confirmation and even a link to all Jewish Holidays. Adult Ed will be added when the schedule is finalized. Social events will be added as they are planned.

## Congratulations!

Ira Melon was presented the Honey & Maurice Axelrod Award on June 22 at the JCC of Metropolitan New Jersey in West Orange. This award is a cooperative project of the Anti-Defamation League of New Jersey, The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, and the Axelrod family, who for over 15 years has provided financial awards to educators who have proved outstanding effort in the field of Holocaust/Genocide education and prejudice reduction. Mr. Melon received this award with his co-teacher, Adele Black. They teach a 7th grade elective course on the Holocaust in the Rockaway Township public school district.

David Ethan Melon, son of Ruth Bernadette and Ira Melon, has received his BA degree from the University of Virginia. He completed his undergraduate course work with a major in cognitive science and a minor in biology. David is currently employed in a UVA neuroscience laboratory researching secondary brain trauma. He began attending Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in August.

# PROGRAMS OUTSIDE THE JEWISH CENTER

New Season of Jewish LIFE Gets Underway!



The new season kicks off Sunday, September 21 at 10 a.m. Jewish LIFE as Dr. Mildred Goodwin of the Jewish Historical Society of

Central New Jersey presents "Outstanding Jewish Directors of the Silver Screen." Join us for the presentation and brunch. \$10/ Jewish LIFE members, \$15/non-members; guests are always welcome. RSVP to Laura Friedman at the JCC at 908-725-6994 x213; LFriedman@ssbjcc.org.

The new Jewish LIFE Program Guide detailing all programs and events for the coming year will be mailed to all Jewish LIFE members. Register in advance using the registration form. Contact Laura Friedman with questions.

Jewish LIFE needs your support. Consider becoming a Benefactor or Sponsor. For a contribution of \$360, your partially tax-deductible contribution entitles you to two tickets and preferred seating at every Jewish LIFE event, a reception with Yossi Klein Halevi ("Is the Palestinian Problem Solvable?") on Sunday, November 2 at 7 p.m., and recognition in the program literature. Yossi Klein Halevi is contributing editor and Israel correspondent of the New Republic and a columnist for the Jerusalem Post, as well as a contributor to other major newspapers. Jewish LIFE sponsorship opportunities for \$100 are also available for individual events. Mail your contribution (payable to the JCC) to the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum JCC, 775 Talamini Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807, Att: Jewish LIFE.

#### **Berman Center for Jewish Studies**

Wednesday, September 17, at 4:15 p.m. "The Ever-Alive Dead Sea Scrolls." Lecture by Shalom Paul, Professor of Bible at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (480 Maginnes Hall, at Lehigh University). He will discuss the three areas of research that have been revolutionized by their discovery: (1) pre-Rabbinic Judaism and its multiple sects at the time of Jesus; (2) the development of the Hebrew Bible and variant text traditions at the time right before and after the turn of the millennium; and (3) the development of early Christianity. Dr. Paul is an editorial advisor for the Biblical Archaeological Review, Bible Review, and Hebrew Annual Review, and the author of many volumes and articles on the Bible, the Ancient Near East, and archaeology. For further information, call the Berman Center for Jewish Studies at 610-758-3352.

#### **Introduction to Judaism**

New Jersey-West Hudson Valley Council has a wonderful schedule lined up. Classes are 16 sessions except in the Spring/Summer:

#### FALL/WINTER 2003-04

Fair Lawn Oct. 13-March 1 (Mon.) Parsippany Oct. 20-Feb 23 (Mon.) Elberon\*\* Nov. 16-March 14 (Sun.)

\*\* Meets 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

#### WINTER/SPRING 2004

Pearl River, NY Jan. 5-May 10 (Mon.) **Princeton Junction** Jan. 6-April 27 (Tues.) New Brunswick Jan. 7-April 21 (Wed.)

#### SPRING/SUMMER 2004 (8 weeks)

Springfield May 3-June 24 (Mon. &Thurs.)

Please contact Rabbi Lewis at the Temple for contact information.

JEWISH CENTER OF NORTHWEST JERSEY			
Name	Email		
Address	I/We would like to make a contribution of In honor of		
Phone	In memory of		
	Please contact me/us about membership  Make check payable to Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey and mail to:  JCNWJ, c/o Sharon Herson, 270 Rocky Run Road, Glen Gardner, NJ 08826		

## 2003-2004 CALENDAR JEWISH CENTER OF NORTHWEST JERSEY <u>REVISED AUGUST 6</u>

Time	Friday 7:45 p.m.	Sat. 10:00 a.m. Sunday: 11:00 a	ı.m.	
September	***5	Lay Service		
	12	Shabbat		
	26	Erev Rosh Hashanah	8:00 p.m.	
	27	Rosh Morning Family Service	8:30 a.m.	
	28	Rosh Morning (Tashlich) Sunday School	9:30 a.m.	
October	5	Kol Nidre	8:00 p.m.	
	6	Yom Kippur	9:30 a.m.	
		Family Service	3:30 p.m.	
		Nielah / Break the Fast	4:40 p.m.	
	12	Sukkot (Sunday)	11:00 a.m.	
	17	Shabbat Simchat Torah Family		
	24	Shabbat		
	25	Bar Mitzvah-Marinich 8/12		
UAHC Nat'l Convention Nov. 5-9				
November	7	Shabbat Kristallnacht		
	8	Bar Mitzvah / Hessels 8/20		
	***14	Lay led Shabbat service (6:30 followed by Potluck dinner)		
	21	Shabbat		
	22	Bar Mitzvah Rosborough 8/31		
December	5	Shabbat		
6 Bar Mitz		Bar Mitzvah Goldner 10/24	ar Mitzvah Goldner 10/24	
	***12	Lay led Shabbat service (6:30 followed by Potluck dinner)		
	19	Shabbat / Chanukah 12/20-12/27 Family/ New Member		
January	y ***2 Lay Led Shabbat (6:30 followed by Potluck dinner)			
	9	Shabbat		
	23	Shabbat		
February	February 6 Shabbat Tu b'Shevat Feb 7th			
	8	Tu B'Shevat Seder/Sunday		
	***20	Shabbat: Sunday School Lay Led Service		
March	7	Purim Family		
	12	Shabbat: Shabbat Across America		
	***26	Lay Led Shabbat (6:30 followed by Potluck dinner)		
April	2	Shabbat Pesech 1st Seder April	5-13	
1 <b>1</b> p111	16	Shabbat	J 13	
	18	Yom HaShoah Sunday	11:00 a.m.	
	30	Shabbat Honoring Graduates	11.00 <b>u</b> .m.	
May	***7	Lay Led Shabbat (6:30 followed by Potluck din	ner)	
1.247	14	Shabbat	<i>)</i>	
	15	Shabbat Bat Mitzvah Lauren Bauch		
	23	Shavuot Confirmation / Family Sunday	9:30 a.m.	
			7.50 w.m.	
June	4	Shabbat		
	18	Shabbat		
	***25	Lay Led Shabbat (6:30 followed by Potluck din	ner)	

## High Holy Day Greetings (as of August 22)

To all my friends at the Center – a Happy New Year

Happy New Year to the JCNWJ Family

Happy New Year to One and All

To the membership of the Center – A happy and healthy year for all

Happy New Year to all the congregants

A happy, healthy New Year to all the members of the congregation

To my friends at the Jewish Center -

Wishing you all health and happiness in the New Year

Happy New Year to the entire Congregation

Happy New Year to the Congregation

Hoping that all our members have a year of happiness

A happy and healthy New Year to all Happy New Year to the Congregation Happy New Year to the Congregation

Best wishes to the congregation for a happy and healthy New Year

Happy New Year to the Congregation

Shanah Tovah to all. May 5764 be a year of peace

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

to the Jewish Center Family of Members Happy New Year to the entire Congregation Happy New Year to the entire Congregation

Sharon and Daniel and Edythe and Richard

The Mattsons The Schroeders The Sulvinski Family

Cynthia Bloom

Eric Edelstein

Judy and Paul May

Rose and Ben Schneider

Rona and Stanley Schick

Marsha Koppenhaver

The Nagorsky Family

The Bauch Family

The Ehrlich Family

The Goldner Family

The Orenstein Family

The Eisenberg Family

Marsha Gross and Family

Lee, Jan, Tara, Dana and Eric Romanczyk

The Melon Family – Ruth, Ira, Rebecca and David

Thank you to the following people for their contributions to our Flower Fund for the High Holidays:

The Hirshberg Family Robert and Janice Finkelstein The Orenstein Family The Romanczyk Family Anonymous The Gross Family The Melon Family The Nagorsky Family The Eisenberg Family The Marinich Family Gail and Joe Trachtenberg The Herson Family Eric Edelstein Karen, Shelley and Hannah Finkelstein The Fleckles Family The Weiss Family The Ehrlich Family The Mattson Family The Koppenhaver Family The Goldner Family The Schroeder Family Rona and Stanley Schick The Meltz Family The Sulvinski Family

Edward, Roseann, and Sarah Weinstein The Bauch Family

## **Donations**

#### Simchas:

Diane Margolin and Michael Weiner, Simcha Tree leaf in honor of Margie's bat mitzvah

Helen and John Mattson, donations in honor of the conversion of Mercedes Weiland and Maureen Baeck

Judy and Wain Schroeder, Simcha Tree leaf in honor of Jeffrey's bar mitzvah

Barbara and Gerald Simons, Simcha Tree leaf in honor of Bryant's bar mitzvah

#### Mishabeirach

Helen and John Mattson for Michael Mattson

#### Yahrzeits and Memorials

The families of Jerrold Berkowitz, Joel and Jeri Berkowitz, and Jeff and Gina Berkowitz, memorial plaque for Betty Berkowitz

Stan and Pearl Ehrlich, book purchase donations in honor of the memory of Betty Berkowitz and of Harold Bloom

Richard and Sally Eisenberg, donation in memory of Bea Trachtenberg

Helen and John Mattson, donations in memory of Bea Trachtenberg and Zelda Marcovitch

Stan and Rona Schick, donations in memory of Zelda Marcovitch and in honor of the Yahrzeit of Abraham Schick, Francis Hock, and Jack Fleisher

Lorraine Kaplowitz, donation in honor of the Yahrzeit of Sylvia Markowitz

Eric Edelstein, donation in memory Zelda Marcovitch Joan Chase, donation in memory of Zelda Marcovitch

The family of Edythe Herson is grateful for the support, the kind words, the prayers, and the donations to the Center and to Mazon that have been made by friends at the Jewish Center in memory of Edythe's mother, Zelda Marcovitch.

The congregation wishes a speedy recovery to: Rose Schneider, Leslie Heller, Art Sirkis

The congregation extends its condolences to:

Joe Trachtenberg, on the death of his mother, Beatrice Mellon Trachtenberg

The congregation mourns the passing of Eva Cohen, one of our founding members.