

Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey



Journal



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(908) 689-0762
www.jcnwj.org

November 2010
Vol. XXXVII, Issue 3

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- *Monday, November 1, 7:30 pm
Board Meeting
- *Tuesday, November 2, 7:00 pm
Adult Hebrew Class
- *Sunday, November 7
9:30 am Sunday School (K/1)(Music) and
Men's Club
10:30 am Sisterhood Meeting
- *Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 pm
Adult Hebrew Class
- *Saturday, November 13
10:30 am Torah Study
- *Sunday, November 14
9:30 am Sunday School and PTO Meeting
10:30 am Confirmation Class
- *Friday, November 19, 7:30 pm
Shabbat Services
Oneg: Bauer Family
- *Saturday, November 20, 10:00 am
Bat Mitzvah: Abby Bauer
- *Sunday, November 21
9:30 am Sunday School (K/1)(Music)
10:45 am Adult Education
- *Sunday, November 28
No Sunday School
- *Tuesday, November 30, 7:00 pm
Adult Hebrew Class

Rabbi's Message

It is fifteen years since Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated in Tel Aviv after attending a peace demonstration. It hardly seems that long ago. Last week, many in Israel observed the Hebrew yearzeit date of Oct. 20 as the anniversary of his death. Israel will also remember him on Nov. 4, the secular date of his death, with a mass rally in Tel Aviv in the square where Rabin was gunned down.

If all goes according to plan, I will be in Israel on that day, although, by that time, we will have left Tel Aviv and will have arrived in Jerusalem. I will carry with me the *tzedakah* entrusted to me by family and friends. I will also carry with me their prayers. And I will recite a prayer that appears in a book by Larry Hoffman ([Israel: A Spiritual Travel Guide](#)):

God make me a messenger for those I love.
Let me carry their prayers as if they were my own,
and leave them there, softly,
like bird's eggs, nesting in the crack of a wall,
awaiting the time for all they contain
to break out into joyous birth.
God grant me, too,
The merit to carry the means to Israel's redemption.
Until such time as we see the end of days,
God make me a witness to history.
May I revel in its glories,
And relieve its pains.
In some small way, let this, my journey,
Awaken hope in those I love and those I barely know,
The people among whom I walk in the days ahead.

It is impossible to make a visit to Israel without thinking about whether Israel will ever see peace. There are those who believe that, had Rabin lived, peace would have come to Israel. That is something we will never know. But we do know that that old soldier Rabin sang a peace song with the crowd that day that was to be his last. Shir LaShalom, A Song for Peace, has become an anthem for the peace movement in Israel. The chorus goes like this:

**Come on and sing a song for peace;
don't whisper us a prayer.
Better to sing a song for peace.
Let shouting fill the air!**

Ken yehi ratzon, may it be God's will.
Rabbi Ellen Lewis



President's Message

This month I want to quote a couple of passages from Pirke Avot, the ethics of the fathers. This book has been the basis of the adult education class for years. The first quote is from Ben Zoma, who says, "Who is rich? He who is happy with what he has." This is a wonderful definition of what it means to be satisfied with what one has in life. And Hillel says "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I?"

My impression of these two quotes is the following: While it is acceptable to be satisfied with what you have in life, it is not acceptable to not give back and help out those who are less fortunate than you. And no matter how bad you think things are going for you at the moment, there are folks out there who have far less than you do. And also, unless your name is Bill Gates, there is someone with more material wealth than you have. So that puts us all somewhere in the middle between rich and poor. The one thing that you do have control of in your life is your attitude. So when you wake up in the morning, think about how you can improve the life of someone else that day. To quote the Boy Scout Slogan, "Do a good turn daily".

As your president, I ask you to commit yourself for one week this month to do something nice for someone else, whether it is someone in your family, someone at your workplace, someone in your class, your coach or teammate, or a stranger on the street. Smile at someone as you pass them. Offer to assist someone who looks like they could use a hand. Work in a soup kitchen. Deliver a meal to someone who is ill. Phone a friend or family member that you have lost touch with. Or something else that is meaningful to you. Remember that a simple random act of kindness spreads like wildfire.

I think that as you do things for other people, you will end up helping yourself. Let's be part of the world that we can truly be proud of.

So to return to the initial quotes, enjoy what you have, kvell with your family and friends and reach out to others.

Shalom

Love,
Howie

Wanted: Advertisers for JCNWJ Journal

Reaching hundreds of readers each month in Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, and Warren Counties in New Jersey as well as those residing parts of Eastern Pennsylvania, advertising in the Journal is effective and affordable. Tell your friends and contacts at local businesses whom you patronize about the opportunity to market themselves through sponsoring an advertisement in the online newsletter. For more information on placing an ad, see the Journal Advertising Form ([on the temple website](#)) or contact Tracey Bauer.

Education/ PTO

The Hebrew School students will celebrate Jewish Book Month on **November 7th**. The younger students will enjoy stories read to them by the older students. Confirmation Class meets on **November 14th**. Also on **November 14th** we will have a PTO meeting – please plan to join us. On **November 21st** the Sunday School children will enjoy a Hanukkah craft project.

The Hanukkah Store, sponsored by our PTO, will be open after Friday night services, and during Sunday School, from **November 14th through December 5th**.

There is no Hebrew School on **November 28th** for Thanksgiving break.

Marsha Gross and Karen Finkelstein

(Education Co-Chairs)

Hanukkah Bazaar

**KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR OUR
UPCOMING HANUKKAH BAZAAR!!**

THE HANUKKAH STORE IS BACK AT THE JCNWJ!

Shop for Judaica items, gifts, holiday necessities (menorahs and candles, wrapping paper, chocolate gelt, dreidels, children's books, small toys, jewelry, etc.)

All reasonably priced, most items \$1.00-\$5.00.

Have fun shopping and supporting our Temple!

Conveniently open during Sunday School and Friday evening services from November 14th-December 5th. (Please note that no money will be accepted during services, so I.O.U.'s will be utilized).

Hanukkah comes early this year so be ready!

Contact Debbie Fesinstine, Hanukkah Store Chair, with any questions.

Contributions

In appreciation of Charlotte Fels' book
~Joanne and Davis Weiss

In honor of Abby Bauer's Bat Mitzvah
~The Onweller Family

In memory of Walter Sobine
~Leslie and Murray Heller

In memory of Rose Fleisher
~Rona and Stanely Schick

In honor of Abby Bauer's Bat Mitzvah, a gift to the Rabbi's
discretionary fund
~Tracey and Mo Bauer

A Message from the Sisterhood

I have to confess that when I dreamed of what a sisterhood would be like at the JCNWJ, never in my wildest dreams did I envision the group of devoted and dynamic women that our sisterhood has become. (I am feeling a little fa- chlemp). You have risen to every occasion with honor!

The Mitzvah Day was proof that there are still people in this world, even in these difficult times, that place others before themselves. Mench is the only word in Hebrew that I know that comes close. Thank you, not only from myself, but from our neighbors who were able to provide healthy food to their families, due to your selflessness! Be proud of the role model that you are for your own children and one day they will pass on your legacy of mitzvot.

As for the unbelievably hard working and dedicated people who made the rummage sale possible, I have no words! The event was bittersweet. It required alot of preparation and hard work but paid off in spades. Not only did we raise \$1,204.00 for the Temple, but once again we came together as a family and accomplished a major feat.

I would like to thank the Rummage Sale Committee who planned and executed this fund raiser from soup to nuts with a standard of excellence! I would especially like to thank Marci Braunstein, Iris Hirsch and Gerri Klein who gave of themselves and went far and above to make sure that this event was a success!

I believe that "someone up there" is proud of the work that you are doing for our temple and the community. I know that I am. Thank you for going beyond my greatest expectations!

Rochelle Ostenfeld

JCNWJ Sisterhood President

December Journal Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles, advertisements, and photos to be included in the December Issue is **November 22, 2010**. Please email articles, ideas or news items to Journal Editor, Abby Bauer.

Mazel Tov

From the JCNWJ

To the Bauer Family on Abby's
upcoming bat mitzvah

Membership

The Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey welcomes the following new members:

Jason & Kimberly Schaffer and their children Noah, Ari and Eden.

Memorial Plaques

If anyone is interested in honoring a loved one with a permanent bronze memorial plaque, please contact Helen Mattson. Not only will the light on the Memorial Board be lit at the anniversary, or yahrzeit, of that person, but the Rabbi will announce the name and kaddish will be recited by the congregation, as well.

Photo Album



JCNWJ Menchs Picked Apples for Those in Need



These lovely ladies are only a few of the hard working individuals who made the JCNWJ rummage sale a success!



Open Cast Call

Actors • Singers • Dancers

Durim Spiel 2011

Presents... "A Beatles Durim Spiel"

For more information contact Debbie Fesinstine



Hospitality for Our Cantor

Any member who would like to offer hospitality to student cantor Elana Rosen-Brown during the coming year should contact Sharon Herson by phone or email.

UJA METROWEST'S BIGGEST ANNUAL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION AND PHONATHON EVENT!

This is the day when the MetroWest Jewish community comes together to support each other, to show that in good times and tough times we help Jews in need and we help build Jewish community. More than 1,000 people come out to make phone calls and participate in community activities. This year also includes a CareLink mitzvah fair for families, and a Mama Doni kids concert (both free), Gift of Life bone marrow registry drive, children's book drive, tzedakah can drop, blood drive, Judaica vendors, canned food drive, and capping the day a blowout teen/college student call session. For more information, please visit www.ujcnj.org/supersunday or call (973) 929-3010.

Chanukah Invite

Give a friend a CHANUKAH Gift: FREE Membership to the Jewish Center!

As a membership drive, the JCNWJ is offering free membership from January to June 2011. Send the attached invitation to families who may be looking for their first Jewish community or seeking to join a new one. You may reproduce the invitation in order to send it to more than one family! (Note that the family must accept the gift by **January 15, 2011.**)

If you have any questions, contact Susan McNamara or Melissa Parson at jcnwjmembership@gmail.com.

You are cordially invited to be a member of the
Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey
for six months free with Sunday School.*

To: _____

From (member): _____

If interested, please fill out and return.
A membership committee member will contact you:
The JCNWJ Membership
PO Box 2
Washington, NJ 07882

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Chanukah Service December 3rd at 7:30 pm
All are welcome
www.jcnwj.org

*space permitting

Teen Summer Opportunities Info Session

Summer offers limitless opportunities for teens to enjoy camp, travel, internships, volunteering and more!

Who: Teens and their parents

When: Tuesday, December 14th at 7:30PM

Where: The UJC Aidekman Campus

901 Route 10, Whippany

RSVP: By 12/1 with your name, email & phone number to sgreene@thepartnershipnj.org

Information will be available on a wide array of summer programs – locally, across the US, in Israel and around the world – as well as grants and scholarships to help make these experiences more affordable. You'll also meet representatives from a variety of organizations.

**Think summer!
Ice cream sundaes
Will be served**

**Filmmaking in NYC,
world-class sports academy,
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Israel and over 25 more
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Fri. 7:30 am -- 7 pm
Sat. 7:30 am -- 5 pm



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Tues-Wed 9:30-5:15 Thurs-Fri 9:30-7:00

Sat 9:30-4:00 (9:30-2:00 During Summer)