



# Voice of the Shore

Congregation Torat El ~ Jersey Shore Jewish Center  
December 2019 - Kislev/Tevet 5780

## Congregation Torat El Chanukah Party

Come one, come all to the annual Chanukah Party!



All are welcome to attend, bring your family and friends  
along to join in the fun!  
No RSVP necessary - No charge!

**Men's Club Famous Latkes**

**DJ**

**50/50 Drawing**

**Yummy treats from Sisterhood**

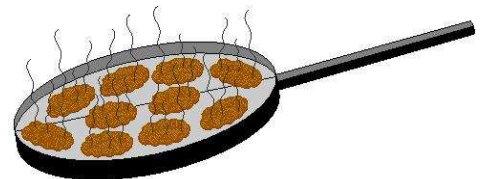
**Dreidel Games**



**Sunday, December 22**

**7:30 AM – 11:00 AM**

Guys, come and join us while we cook our world famous latkes.



**11:00 AM-1:00 PM**

Join the entire congregation, family, and friends for our annual celebration.

Enjoy famous Men's Club Latkes in the comfort of your home. Anyone wishing to purchase latkes from Men's Club must fill out the form below and return it to the Temple office no later than December 10th. Pre-paid orders may also be made on the temple website [www.torat-el.org](http://www.torat-el.org) and click on the Chanukah Party Link. The cost is \$15 for a baker's dozen. Make checks payable to CTE Men's Club. Pickup is at the end of the Chanukah Party.

### **Latke Order Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dozen: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$: \_\_\_\_\_

# CONGREGATION TORAT EL CONTACT INFORMATION

## Torat El Professional Staff

### **Senior Rabbi**

Aaron Schonbrun

### **Executive Director**

Pam Cardullo

### **Dir. Of Ritual Engagement**

Ben Laskowitz

### **Capital Campaign Director**

Rachel Port

### **Religious School Director**

Jaclyn Leibowitz

### **Bookkeeper/Admin.**

Joanne Bass

### **Administrative Asst.**

Lisa Arnold

## Torat El Executive Board

### **President**

Laurie Gross

### **V.P.**

Linda Pickelny

### **V.P.**

Andrew Robins

### **V.P.**

Carri Silverberg

### **V.P.**

Neil Weitzenkorn

### **V.P.**

Michelle Winters

### **Treasurer**

Michael Breslow

### **Secretary**

Alan Morris

## Board of Trustees

Dawn Barofsky Neil Becourtney

Susan Berkowitz Galit Binns

Marjorie Cotler Tanis Deitch

Mindy Estin Sheryl Kaplan

Howard Lang Beverle Richelson

Sherrie Robinson Judy Solomon

Mark Steinberg Monica Weiss

### **Sisterhood Co-Presidents:**

Jeanne Isaacson

Janet Cohen

### **Men's Club Pres.**

Gregg Taffet

## **Committee Contact Info**

Beth El Cemetery - Alan & Sonny Winters

732-222-2510

Chesed Chair - Alyce Isaacson

732-870-1492

Contribution Cards - Beverle Richelson

732-493-1595

Education Chair - Sherrie Robinson

732-513-9688

Hazak - Marjorie & Stanley Cotler

732-922-6590

Technology - Howard Lang

admin@torat-el.org

Koreen Family Library - Sandy & Carl Koreen

732-229-6125

## **Other Contact Info**

Temple President - Laurie Gross

732-531-0511

Sisterhood Co-President - Jeanne Isaacson

732-493-8375

Sisterhood Co-President - Janet Cohen

732-493-0367

Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet

732-544-4957

JNF Tree Donations - Sandy Rosen

732-870-2166

Facility Rental - Pam Cardullo

732-531-4410

Kiddush Information - Pam Cardullo

732-531-4410

Bulletin - Pam Cardullo

732-531-4410

Gift Cards - Joanne Bass

732-531-4410

Donations - Lisa Arnold

732-531-4410

## **Congregation Torat El Main Office 732-531-4410**

Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun

rabbi@torat-el.org

ext.13

Pam Cardullo, Exec. Director

pamc@torat-el.org

ext.10

Joanne Bass, Bookkeeper

joanneb@torat-el.org

ext.11

Lisa Arnold, Administrative Asst.

lisaa@torat-el.org

ext.12

Ben Laskowitz, Ritual Engagement

benlaskowitz@torat-el.org

ext.16

Jaclyn Leibowitz, Religious School Director

jaclynL@torat-el.org

Robin Wander, Pre-School Director

elc@torat-el.org

ext. 18

Rachel Port, Capital Campaign Director

reiink@verizon.net



facebook.com/CongregationToratEl



## December Service Announcements

**Friday, December 6, 2019**

**Erev Shabbat Service ~ 7:15pm**

**Candles 4:12pm**

Yahrzeits: Herman Adler, Jean Albert, Arnold Ansell, Marcia Baker, Harriet Bazer, Arnold Bienenstock, Betty Casper, Hilda Cohen, Jacob Droisen, Jacob Friedman, Theodora Granoff, Hilda Greenstein, Laurie Harris, Estelle Joseph, Maurice Karasic, Alex Kaufman, Peggy Kaufman, Donna Kibbel, Janet Kramer, Yetta Kullback, Zina Lapidés, Frances Morris, David Nagrod, Joseph Nelson, Seymour Rachles, Rose Rosen, Mildred Rubin, William Rubin, Philip Sabin, Harriet Schletter, Esther Schulman, Harriet Strauss, Morris Tauber, Emil Weiss, Lea Weiss, Sylvia Wilk, Bess Wizansky, Louis Zimmerman, Mala Zolty

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

**Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00am**

**Parsha: Vayetse 28:10-30:13**

**Haftarah: Hosea 12:13-14:10**

*Kiddush Luncheon is sponsored in honor of Isadore and Sylvia Bey  
by Russ Bey, Gilda Bey and Janice Shevell*

**Friday, December 13, 2019**

**Erev Shabbat Service ~ 7:15pm**

**Candles 4:12pm**

Yahrzeits: James Albert, Helayne Berger, Sylvia Colby, Ethel Friedman, Bertha Froot, Sadye Goldstein, Irving Granoff, Sidney Grossman, Morris Handel, Belle Horenstein, Morris Kantrowitz, Esther Kaplan, Rose Laskowitz, Harry Luria, Sharon Mandel, Minnie Miller, Ruben Pellmar, Joseph Rediker, Jakob Safier, Claire Schwartz, Dora Sulkin, Sanford Tabakin, Messody Thomas, Phyllis Weinstock, Norman Weiss, Ben Zimmern

**Saturday, December 14, 2019**

**Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00am**

**Parsha: Vayishlah 32:4-33:20**

**Haftarah: Obadiah 1:1-21**

**Friday, December 20, 2019**

**Erev Shabbat Service ~ 7:15 pm**

**Candles 4:14pm**

Yahrzeits: Manny Berkowitz, Judie Chalfin, Celia Cohen, Maxwell Colby, Harry Cooper, Alex Cotler, Joseph Crawford, Mildred Crystal, Esther Deitelbaum, Harold Eder, Nelson Farber, Marvin Friedman, Joseph Gaffin, Albert Ginsburg, Harold Gitten, Adrian Goldstein, Charles Goldstein, Jessie Ingber, William Kronengold, Hyman Marowitz, Iris Maurer, Betty Parness, William Parness, Albert Rediker, Sylvia Reich, Marilyn Rosset, Sadie Schlam, Irene Schreiber, Audrey Silverstein, Wesley Steinman, Arlene Wiener, Shirley Yaskulka, Roslyn Zimmerman

**Saturday, December 21, 2019**

**Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am**

**Parsha: Vayeshev 37:1-36**

**Haftarah: Amos: 2:6-3:8**

**Friday, December 27, 2019**

**Erev Shabbat Service ~ 7:15 pm**

**Candles 4:18pm**

Yahrzeits: Seymour Absatz, Owen Lloyd Altman, Allan Axelrod, Greta Boden, Abraham Brand, Anna Davis, Rae Donner, Sherwin Feinstein, Esther Fleishman, Vivian Forman, Rita Friedman, Minnie Ginsburg, Rhoda Goldberg, Adrienne Gordon, Emanuel Joseph, Shirley Kantor, Bernard Karasic, Lawrence Karasic, Howard Kibbel, Beatrice Kraus, Elsie Mannes, Elizabeth Medwin, Sally Meyer, Cecelia Ostroff, Yoseph Reuven, Sheldon Sacks, Reuben Samuel, Nathan Schulman, Harry Schutzer, George Schwartzstein, Victor Shain, Rosalind Stern, Roz Weinstein, Herman Wilk, Bernard Yeamans

**Saturday, December 28, 2019**

**Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am**

**Parsha: Mikkets 41:1-52**

**Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14-4:7**

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

### Mornings

**Sunday: 8:30am**

**Monday-Friday: 8:00am**

**Shabbat Morning: 9:00am**

### Evenings

**Monday-Thursday: 7:00pm**

**Shabbat Evening: 7:15pm**

# It Takes A Village



*A story is told of a rabbi who was in charge of planning a wedding for a small village in Poland. The townspeople were poor, and the rabbi was concerned that there would not be enough food and wine to celebrate with the entire village. Fortunately, he had a plan – at least for the wine.*

*In preparation for the wedding, the rabbi asked the mayor to construct a huge barrel in the middle of the town square with a ladder leading to the top. Next, the rabbi asked every member of the community to come with one small pail filled with wine to contribute to the barrel over the next month. That way, when the big day came, the bride and groom could be celebrated reciting the wedding blessings over the wine, and ensuring that there was enough left over for the celebration to follow.*

*For an entire month, villagers from all over came to contribute to the project. As the day of the wedding approached, everyone was excited and filled with anticipation for the big moment. Finally the wedding arrived. "Mazal tov," everyone exclaimed as the music was playing and the happy couple was beginning to prepare their lives together. As the rabbi went to open the spigot, the entire village fell silent.*

*As the liquid started to pour out, everyone gasped. There was nothing... but water.*

*Each villager hung his or her head in shame as they realized that for weeks, each villager had thought that he or she could get away with pouring a pail of water in the barrel instead of a pail of wine. Each villager had expected that someone else would bring the wine and everything would be fine. But in the end, they were all left with water.*

My friends, we have so much to be proud of as a community concerning the ways that we are here for one another. From caring for our members with calls and occasional food when they come home from the hospital, to showing up for one another at shiva houses, to celebrating with one another in times of joy – we are often there for each other. There are wonderful programs happening each and every day in our building and we have much of which to be proud. But lately, there is one area in particular where I have noticed that we are bringing too much water, and not enough wine.

Our daily minyan. 8am Monday-Friday, 8:30am Sunday, and 7pm Monday-Thursday.

For the first time in the nearly ten years that I have been here, this week we had an entire week without a morning minyan. And our evening minyan struggles more often than not these days to get to ten people. It is true that many of our "regulars" for morning minyan have been out of town. It is true that we are one of the few Conservative congregations to maintain a daily minyan twice a day. But it is also true that we have over 1,000 individuals above bar or bat mitzvah age in this congregation. Surely, we can find a few more than the 10-15 which show up each and every day to make sure that there is a minyan for anyone who needs to say Kaddish.

I know the challenges quite well. I know that people are working. I know that everyone's life is very busy. **But I also know that when it is a priority for people to do so, they show up.**

If you have ever shown up to services and been short of a minyan, please consider helping to make a minyan for someone else and bringing a friend. If you have ever shown up and been the tenth – thank you, and please consider doing that again and bringing a friend. If you are willing to be in our "What'sApp" group (search for CTE Minyan), we will sign you up to receive messages when we need a minyan. I am asking each of you today to do something concrete – **pick one minyan a month to try to attend and put it on your calendar.** If you show up and we are short, please don't be discouraged. Next month, bring a few more people to ensure that this doesn't happen again. Mornings take 30-45 minutes, and evenings take 15-25 minutes. In addition to helping those who need to say Mourner's Kaddish for a loved one, you might just discover that taking a few minutes of quiet reflection, prayer, and fellowship with other members of our community will also do your spiritual life some good.

The end of the story traditionally goes like this: *The villagers were distraught. The rabbi sent them all back to try again. The next time, the village had a wedding the likes of which no one had ever seen. It was filled with joy, laughter, love – and plenty of wine!*

As we continue to try to fill our barrel with wine, I thank you all for your consideration.

*\*\*Taken from Tuesday Morning Torah, November 5, 2019*

## **Lunch and Learn: Mussar 2.0- Living A Life Of Character and Integrity - Rabbi Schonbrun**

Back by popular demand. Mussar is a Jewish spiritual discipline that helps to nurture depth of soul and spirit. Guiding us through life's daily struggles and blessings, Mussar has much wisdom to offer as we seek to nurture our character and develop our souls.

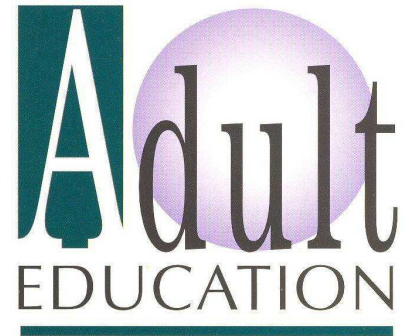
***Wednesdays, 12:00pm***

## **On Constructive Disagreements - Rabbi Schonbrun**

As we head into 2020 and what will be sure to be a contentious election cycle in this country, we are blessed to have a wonderful resource that will give us insight into how Jewish tradition encourages us to engage in civil, constructive, and meaningful disagreements. Come and join us as we strive to "rise above" in the pursuit of arguments for the sake of heaven. And most importantly, bring a listening ear and an open mind.

***Wednesdays, December 4, 11, 18, 7:30pm***

**Please RSVP for all Adult Ed courses online or through temple office at 732-531-4410**



## **Know From Where You Came: An Introduction to Jewish Genealogy Course Presented by Steven Stein of the Jewish Genealogical Society of New York**

The course provides a primer to doing Jewish family research. The following topics will be covered:

- (1) What Are Your Objectives?
- (2) Jewish Geography
- (3) Sources – Documents, Photographs, Interviews, Colleagues and More
- (4) Where To Find – Websites, Archives
- (5) Genealogy Software
- (6) Putting It All Together: Strategies and Pitfalls



***Mondays, December 2, 9, 16, 7:30pm***



A collection box is in the temple office for donations of gently used coats, hats, gloves and scarves for both adults and children. Thank you for helping those less fortunate stay warm this winter!



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Did you know.....

Congregation Torat El members have been conducting weekly Shabbat services at Brandywine Assisted Living in Shrewsbury for the last ten years!!

Every Friday afternoon, 3:30-4:30pm, one or two of our congregants lead services through prayer, song and discussion. Challah, grape juice and a few sweets are enjoyed by all after the conclusion of the service.

It is such an invaluable service that a few of our congregants do on a weekly rotating basis. The residents are so appreciative that they are given the opportunity to keep connected with their Judaism.

Yasher Koach and thank you to Mike Gordon, Steve Cohen, Marian Warshauer, Toby Sukinik, Marcia Sacks, and Eva Wiener.

If you are interested in volunteering your time and leading services at Brandywine please contact Mike Gordon at 732-922-4264. It is not necessary to be able to read Hebrew to do this mitzvah!!!

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### Publicity Committee Volunteers Needed!

Our synagogue continues to grow its Social Media presence on Facebook, Instagram and other platforms and we'd like to continue to expand its reach.

We are looking for a few volunteers who are social media savvy to help post on our sites on behalf of Congregation Torat El.



If you are interested, please contact Laurie Gross at 732-531-0511 or Pam Cardullo at 732-531-4410.



Comedy Night  
March 7

# RITUAL ENGAGEMENT

Yasher Koach to Jonathan Horowitz for receiving a Yad in recognition of his 18<sup>th</sup> Torah reading!

Yasher Koach to Emma Barofsky upon being added to the Congregation Torat El Master Readers plaque in recognition of her 24<sup>th</sup> Torah reading!

Yasher Koach to Sydney Shapiro upon being added to the Congregation Torat El Master Readers plaque in recognition of her 24<sup>th</sup> Torah reading!

Yasher Koach to Jacob Gutman upon being added to the Congregation Torat El Master Readers plaque in recognition of his 24<sup>th</sup> Torah reading!

Yasher Koach to our newly established 'Jonah Squad' — Logan Kaplan, Olivia Kaplan, Jessica Healy, Blaine Grayson, and Cameron Fields. The 'Jonah Squad' was originally established by Cantor Siegel as a group of teens assembled for the purpose of chanting Haftarat Jonah at Yom Kippur Mincha Services. Yasher Koach to our new 'Jonah Squad' for a beautiful rendition of Haftarat Jonah!

During the time period of September 30-October 31, the following individuals performed the Mitzvot of leyning Torah, chanting the Haftarah, and/or leading Shacharit, Musaf and the Torah Service. Those with an asterisk (\*) next to their name also led services and/or chanted Torah/Haftarah during the High Holidays:

Alana Barofsky\*  
Emma Barofsky\*  
Julia Comer\*  
Mady Einhorn\*  
Mark Engel\*  
Judy Feldbaum  
Cameron Fields\*  
Steven Fineberg  
Michael Gordon  
Blaine Grayson\*  
Cantor Ira Greenberg\*  
Jacob Gutman\*  
Jared Gutman\*  
Noah Gutman\*

Jessica Healy\*  
Jonathan Horowitz\*  
Harvey Jacob\*  
Logan Kaplan\*  
Olivia Kaplan\*  
Randi Kervick\*  
Ben Laskowitz\*  
Ari Malek\*  
Noah Malek\*  
Richard Marlieb\*  
Sheila Morris  
Fran Nudelman\*  
Bonnie Reiss  
Michele Robins

Marcia Sacks  
Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun\*  
Aviva Schonbrun  
Joshua Schor  
Lori Schuldiner Schor  
Joel Schulman  
Steven Schwaber\*  
Katie Schwartz\*  
Dorothy Secol\*  
Sydney Shapiro\*  
Alan Stern\*  
Neil Weitzenkorn\*  
Ava Winters\*  
Lynn Zimmerman\*

## Yasher Koach To All!!!

If you are interested in chanting your Bar/Bat Mitzvah Haftarah, or if you are interested in learning to become a CTE Leader/Reader, please contact Ben Laskowitz at [benlaskowitz@torat-el.org](mailto:benlaskowitz@torat-el.org), cell 732-861-7450.



## OUR STORY. OUR TIME: THE CAMPAIGN FOR CONGREGATION TORAT EL

- ♦ Our Campaign pledges as of October 30, stand at **\$1,054,910** toward our overall goal of \$1,500,000. There are not enough words of gratitude for your meaningful support. We invite everyone to join us in this exciting endeavor!

*Our sincere thanks to the following members who have already made pledges:*

The Abrams Family	George & Alice Kadesh	Joel & Madeline Schulman
Lisa & Michael Absatz	Sheryl & Gary Kaplan	Steven & Ilene Schwaber
Carol & Danny Amrany	Arlene & Kenneth Lutz	Judy & Alan Sherman
Steven & Susan Berkowitz	Men's Club Golf Outing/Estin	Jay-Ann & Harvey Shooman
Galit & Chris Binns	Alan & Meryl Morris	Marilyn & Barry Steiner
Pam Cardullo	Sheila Morris & Family	Matthew & Jacqueline Tobin
Marjorie & Stanley Cotler	Jeffrey & Linda Pickelny	Drs. Penny & Larry Turtel,
Tanis Deitch	Rachel & Ira Port	Benjamin, Daniel & Joseph
Melanie & Mark Engel	Jules Resnick	Anne & Jeff Weinstein
Drs. David & Mindy Estin	Beverle & Howard Richelson	Monica & Lester Weiss
Steven & Vicki Fineberg	Michele & Andrew Robins	Neil & Marcia Weitzenkorn
Margo R. Gelfman	Sherrie J. Robinson	Rachel Weitzenkorn
Charlotte Ginsburg	Zeke Rose	The Wetstein Family
Laurie & Gary Gross	Ellen & Myron Samuel	Sonny & Alan Winters
Jeanne & Rick Isaacson	Rabbi Aaron & Jane-Rachel Schonbrun	Harriet Wiser

*Thank You as well to the many donors who asked to remain Anonymous*

As we work together on the goal of Eliminating Our Synagogue Debt, we ask that if you are able, **please make a campaign gift or pledge payment before December 31**. This will enable us to reduce our line of credit significantly this year. **Front loading your pledge payments is also incredibly helpful**. Please see the box on page 9 for year-end giving options that may have tax benefits for you.

- ♦ Think of Chanukah as an opportunity for making a Campaign gift! Rather than exchanging gifts one night, make a Campaign gift in honor of your family!
- ♦ Naming Opportunities for Sanctuary Pews are going! There are now 20 Center Pews and 14 Side Pews remaining. Please check our new website: [www.torat-el.org/capitalcampaign](http://www.torat-el.org/capitalcampaign) for all Naming Opportunities still available and consider this unique occasion as a beautiful way to leave a lasting memory of yourself, your family or a loved one.
- ♦ We held two information sessions on the campaign October 27 and 28. It was meaningful to hear from Laurie Gross, Mindy Estin, Past Presidents and Board members about why our synagogue, and this Campaign, are so important. Thank you to those who were able to attend.

Our tradition teaches that we are each a link in the chain of our Jewish heritage. Just as others built for us, so too must we build for the future. This is our opportunity to embrace the privilege and obligation we have to renew our spiritual home for today and tomorrow.

*To make a gift, request a donor pledge form, or discuss naming opportunities, please contact Pam Cardullo, Executive Director, at 732-531-4410 or [pamc@torat-el.org](mailto:pamc@torat-el.org), or Rachel Port, Campaign Director, at [reiink@verizon.net](mailto:reiink@verizon.net).*



## YEAR-END TAX REMINDER

### **Pay Commitment, other obligations or Capital Campaign donations with Appreciated Securities**

You can contribute appreciated securities (stocks or mutual funds) held more than one year and obtain a Federal income tax deduction for the fair market value on the date of the donation. The advantage of doing this is that you avoid tax on the appreciation. For example, assume you purchased a stock several years ago for \$1,000 and the value today is \$2,500. By donating the stock you obtain a tax deduction for \$2,500 no different if you wrote a check to CTE for \$2,500. If you first sell the stock then you will realize a long-term capital gain of \$1,500, incurring Federal as well as New Jersey income tax on the gain, as high as 33% combined absent any capital losses that would offset the gain.

### **Pay Commitment, other obligations or Capital Campaign donations with transfer of funds from your IRA**

If you have attained the age of 70½, you have the ability to transfer up to \$100,000 annually out of an IRA to charitable organizations, so called Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD). This strategy works well for taxpayers who cannot itemize deductions for Federal income tax purposes due to the increases in the standard deduction along with the limit on deducting state income + real estate taxes. For 2019 the standard deduction for a single individual is \$12,200 and increases to \$13,850 if age 65 or older. For joint filers the standard deduction for 2019 is \$24,400 plus an additional \$1,300 for a spouse age 65 or older. If both spouses have attained age 65 the standard deduction is \$27,000. A QCD is not reportable as income nor is a charitable contribution claimed for Federal income tax purposes. If a donor is unable to itemize their deductions and is required to receive distributions from their IRA due to having attained the age of 70½, the IRA distributions will generally be taxable with no tax deduction obtained for making charitable contributions. Using a QCD results in the IRA distribution not being subject to Federal income tax.

As always, please discuss with your personal tax adviser to see what works best for you!

## OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILIES

### **Mazel Tov to**

Stacey & Glen Abrams on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Ryan

Rita Abrams on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter Ryan

Tracie & Matthew Lissauer on the Bar Mitzvah of their son William

Joyce & Martin Luria on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Ari Nadav Rudin-Luria

Janet & David Attner on the birth of their first grandson Ethan Reuben, son of Rachel & David Sussman



### **The Torat El Family extends condolences to:**

Kathleen Schneider on the loss of her father Everett Garey

Robert Isaacson on the loss of his wife Barbara Isaacson

Richard Isaacson on the loss of his mother Barbara Isaacson

James Isaacson the loss of his mother Barbara Isaacson

Joan Silberman on the loss of her husband Arnold Silberman

Milton & Shirley Sabin on the loss of their son Stuart Sabin

Alan Krupnick on the loss of his father Sydney Krupnick

Gary Theodore on the loss of his mother Harriet Theodore

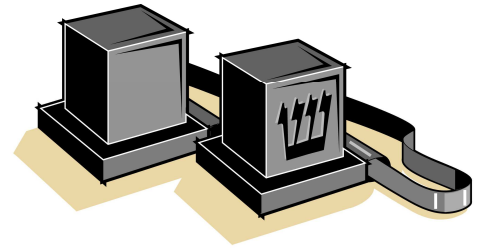
## MEN'S CLUB CHAI LITES

# World Wide Wrap

Open to all of the men, women and teens in our congregation. A chance to wrap ourselves in tallit and tefillin on the same day as tens of thousands of our fellow Jews worldwide.

Minyan followed by a deluxe breakfast.

**Sunday, February 2, 8:30am**



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## Men's Club Paid Up Sunday, January 26, 1:00pm

**Free to all Paid-up Members**

Bowling at Shore Lanes, Rt. 35 Circle, Neptune  
Food to be provided at a brewery in Asbury Park (appx. 3:00pm)

Please RSVP to Gregg Taffet at [boatman141@verizon.net](mailto:boatman141@verizon.net) or 917-882-4941.  
Cut-off date to RSVP is January 19. You must RSVP if you plan to attend.

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## Hazak Movie "Denial" and Chinese Dinner Sunday, December 15, 3:00pm



*In 1993 Deborah Listadt and Penguin Books published 'Denying the Holocaust.' Two years later the English author David Irving sued her for libel on the grounds that her book had ruined his once well-regarded career as an historian by accusing him of deliberately distorting historical facts. The resulting court case puts the onus on her legal team to prove that the Holocaust did indeed take place. Based on a true story.*

**Join us for a great afternoon!**

**Hazak Members \$10, Guests \$15**

**ADMITTANCE BY RESERVATION ONLY!**  
**RSVP by December 12 to the temple office**  
**at 732-531-4410 or at [torat-el.org](http://torat-el.org)**

## **SISTERHOOD CHAI LITES**

***Sisterhood Torah Fund Program  
featuring Rabbi Sally J. Priesand,  
first female Rabbi to be ordained in America***

Rabbi Priesand received ordination in 1972 from Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati. She served from 1981 to 2006 as Rabbi of Monmouth Reform Temple in Tinton Falls and retired as Rabbi Emerita.

***Thursday, December 19, 7:15pm  
\$18 per person (checks payable to CTE Sisterhood)  
Dessert and Coffee will be served  
Kindly RSVP to nanaeva@optonline.net or  
732-918-1273 by December 12.***

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***Annual January Sisterhood Luncheon  
Thursday, January 16, 12 Noon  
\$15 Per Person***

Marina Kerber will be doing a demonstration of Ikebana – Japanese Flower Arranging. Please join us for this fun program and a delicious lunch – bring a friend or two!



Please RSVP with PAID reservations to the Temple Office by January 2. Please make checks payable to CTE Sisterhood and make a note on the envelope to indicate January luncheon so the check can be directed to the correct place.

Please contact Susan Sferas, [suesfer@aol.com](mailto:suesfer@aol.com) or Melanie Engel, [melanieengel@comcast.net](mailto:melanieengel@comcast.net)

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**2020 MAH JONGG CARDS  
Standard \$8 Large \$9**

Please make checks payable to CTE Sisterhood

**Mail to:** Jeryl Krupnick  
521 Bridlemere Ave.  
Interlaken, NJ 07712

**All orders must be received by  
January 22**

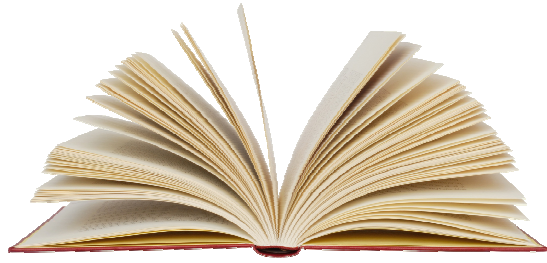
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***Save the date  
Sisterhood Game Night  
at the Temple  
Saturday, February 8***

More details to follow.

Please contact  
Laurie Ruben, [glucky23@aol.com](mailto:glucky23@aol.com) or  
Debbie Sidran-Hertz, [levittowngirl@aol.com](mailto:levittowngirl@aol.com)  
for more information.

# MEET THE AUTHOR SERIES

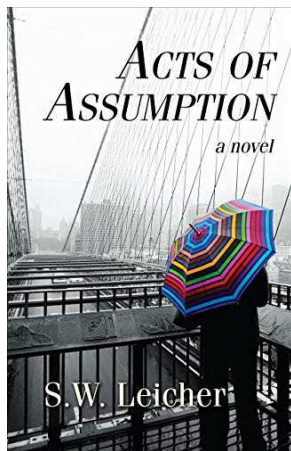


## CONGREGATION TORAT EL

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 11:00AM**

**Meet Susan Leicher, author of *Acts of Assumption***



In America, we are good at dividing ourselves into tribes – into “insiders” and “outsiders” – based on race, religion, and beliefs. *Acts of Assumption* is the story of two young women who are outsiders even in their outsider tribes. One is the mathematically-gifted daughter of an Orthodox Jewish family and the other is the street-smart daughter of a neglectful immigrant Latina mother. Their meeting, under unusual circumstances, and their struggles with the cultural bonds of their respective communities, is a vivid story of faith, love, and family.

Ms. Leicher grew up in a Jewish and Latina family in the Bronx which gave her a keen eye for the prejudices, beauty, and spirituality of each culture. She holds two degrees from Harvard and has devoted her work life to social justice causes. *Acts of Assumption* is her debut novel.

Pre-Paid \$15 per person/\$20 at the door  
Books are available at the temple office for \$15  
A light brunch will be served  
Reservations at [www.torat-el.org](http://www.torat-el.org) or 732-531-4410

*This ongoing series has been made possible by a generous grant from the B’nai Sholom/Beth El Foundation.*





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*In partnership with Congregation Torat El*

## AIPAC New Jersey Club Briefing

Guest Speaker:

Steve Beckerman

AIPAC Deputy Director of Policy and Government Affairs

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December 12, 2019 | 7:00-9:00PM  
301 Monmouth Rd, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

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*This event is exclusively for AIPAC Club members and Torat El congregants.  
For security purposes, everyone must register to attend.  
Kindly RSVP to [mjaffe@aipac.org](mailto:mjaffe@aipac.org).*



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CHAI LITES



Saturday, December 14 is Family Education with Rabbi Schonbrun for **Ganon**! Rabbi is planning fun Chanukah activities for you. The event will begin at 9:30am. **Ganon Families**, please plan to attend!

On Sunday, December 22, 11:00am, Congregation Torat El will have their annual Chanukah Party. Come one, come all to the annual Chanukah Party! All are welcome to attend, bring your family and friends along to join in the fun! No RSVP necessary - No charge! You can look forward to the Men's Club's famous latkes, DJ, a 50/50 drawing, yummy treats from Sisterhood, and dreidel games.

We wish you and your family a happy and healthy Chanukah!

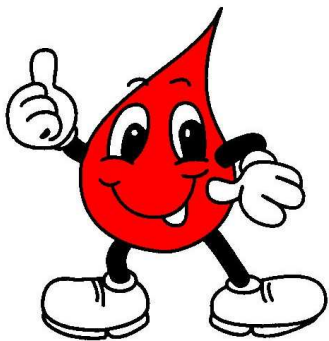
At Religious School, we will be playing dreidel and eating yummy gelt! The students will be learning about the Chanukah story and miracles!

We are on winter break from December 21- January 3. Have a safe winter break and we will see you in 2020!

### Mark Your Calendars:

Sat., Dec. 14	Chanukah Family Education for Ganon
Sun., Dec. 22	CTE Family Chanukah Party
Sat., Dec. 21 – Wed., Jan. 1	No Religious School – Winter Break
Sat., Jan. 4	Religious School Resumes – Welcome Back!

## BLOOD DRIVE



### COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

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**Monday, December 23, 3:00-9:00pm**

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Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health. Most medications will not keep you from donating. People with diabetes and blood pressure controlled by medication can donate. Donors must be between 17 (16 years old with parental consent form) and 76 (76 and over with a doctor's note.) Please eat before you come and bring ID. Bring your donor card if you have one!

***For an appointment please contact Michael Gordon at 732-922-3014 or [gordonwallach@att.net](mailto:gordonwallach@att.net)  
Or visit <http://tinyurl.com/GiveBloodNJBS> -- sponsor code 70307***

**Appointments appreciated. Walk-ins welcome.**

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## Temple Grams

To Bob Isaacson on the loss of his wife Barbara Isaacson from **Nancy Isaacs, Alan & Jackie Rosenheck**

To Rick Isaacson on the loss of his mother Barbara Isaacson from **Beverle & Howard Richelson, Robin & Bob Bauer, Marian & Bill Warshauer, Toby & Martin Sukinik, Eva & Howard Wiener, Alan & Jackie Rosenheck, Janet & David Attner**

To Margo Gelfman in memory of her husband Arnie from **Marian & Bill Warshauer**

To Alan Rosenheck in memory of his mother Syma Rosenheck from **Robin & Bob Bauer, Beverle & Howard Richelson, Marian & Bill Warshauer, Toby & Martin Sukinik, Eva & Howard Wiener, Janet & David Attner**

To Gidget Friedman in memory of her mother Joreen Schoch from **Robin & Bob Bauer, Beverle & Howard Richelson, Marian & Bill Warshauer, Toby & Martin Sukinik, Diane & Steve Resnick**

To Alan Krupnick in memory of his father Sydney Krupnick from **Sandy & Ronnie Rosen**

To Joan Silberman in memory of her husband Arnold Silberman from **Eva & Howard Wiener**

To Shirley & Milton Sabin in memory of their son Stuart from **Beverle & Howard Richelson & Barbara Gorlin, Eva & Howard Wiener**

To Fran Stern in memory of her mother Mary Cannava from **Toby & Martin Sukinik, Eva & Howard Wiener, Alan & Jackie Rosenheck**

To Betty & Marvin Goldin for a very happy anniversary from **Myrna Netkin, Melanie & Mark Engel**

To Marjorie & Stanley Cotler in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Sophia from **Toby & Martin Sukinik**

To Linda & Peter Gurman in honor of the marriage of their son Steven to Augusta from **Toby & Martin Sukinik, Alan & Jackie Rosenheck**

To Elaine Schreiber in honor of her new granddaughter Willow from **Toby & Martin Sukinik**

To Mike Gordon in honor of the marriage of his son Howard to Janet from **Toby & Martin Sukinik, Eva & Howard Wiener**

To Janet & David Attner in honor of their new grandson Ethan from **Toby & Martin Sukinik, Alan & Jackie Rosenheck, Beverle & Howard Richelson**

## Contribution Cards

To Susan Herzog in honor of her new granddaughter Maddison Pearl from **Beverle & Howard Richelson**

To Lauren & Aaron Carr in honor of their new baby girl Maddison Pearl from **Beverle & Howard Richelson**

To Lauren & Aaron Carr in honor of their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary from **Beverle & Howard Richelson**

To Bob Isaacson in memory of his wife Barbara Isaacson from **Linda & Jeff Pickelny, Joyce & Martin Luria**

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To Rick Isaacson in memory of his mother Barbara Isaacson from **Michelle & Steven Winters, Diane & Steve Resnick**

To Jeff Donner in memory of his mother Bette Donner from **Michelle & Steve Winters**

To Shirley & Milton Sabin in memory of their son Stuart from **Ina & Paul Gluck**

To Alan Rosenheck in memory of his mother Syma Rosenheck from **the Barofsky Family**

We have a wonderful collection of Chanukah books available in the Library and we urge you to come in, browse around and select some to share with your family. The following three books are sure to be winners:



Celebrate Hanukkah with Light, Latkes, and Dreidels by Deborah Heiligman (JHe) is part of the National Geographic "Holidays Around the World" series, and comes highly recommended by our Hebrew School student, Sarah Katcher. The book is loaded with information, recipes, games and beautiful photos all relating to this special holiday. Great resource for children as well as adults. Enjoy!

Meet the Latkes by Alan Silberberg (JSi) tells the story of Chanukah by the Latke Family. However, new characters are added to the story: bees, Judah Mega-bee, a dog named Applesauce and alien potatoes! Come celebrate Chanukah in a delightful new way with great illustrations.

All-of-a Kind Family Hanukkah (JJe) by Emily Jenkins and Paul O. Zelinsky illustrates how a family lovingly prepares to celebrate Hanukkah when the five sisters help mom make latkes. Family gathers together soon after to celebrate and light the first candle. Delightful book!

~ Happy Chanukah from the Library Committee

# DONATIONS

## Congregation Torat El General Fund

### **In Honor of:**

Betty & Marvin Goldin's 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by **Sandi Friedman & Sam Kaye**

Dorothy & Steve Secol's 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by **Harriet Haddad & Morton Eidelberg**

Ben Laskowitz by **the Lissauer Family**

Elaine Schreiber's granddaughter Willow by **Susan Sferas**

Steve & Ethel Wekstein's continued good health by **Janice Shevell**

### **In Memory of:**

Mary Cannava – mother of Fran Stern by **Jerry & Rosalie Sorgento**

Joseph Shalom – father of Alyce Isaacson by **Sheila & Al Kasson**

Bette Donner – mother of Jeff Donner by **Sheila & Al Kasson, Barbara & Joe Hollander, Linda Maltzman, Renee & Bernie Karasic, Robert Isaacson, Heidi Drazin Andrews & Family, Harriet Haddad & Morton Eidelberg, Fran & Alan Stern**

Syma Rosenheck – mother of Alan Rosenheck by **Zelda & Neil Becourtney, Bunny Gitomer, Lesli & David Poznak & Family, Susan Sferas, Joan & Irving Edelsberg, Fran & Alan Stern, Alissa & Gregg Taffet**

Joreen Schoch – mother of Gidget Friedman by **Susan Sferas, Fran & Alan Stern**

Arnold Gelfman – husband of Margo Gelfman by **Fran & Alan Stern**

Everett Garey – father of Kathleen Schneider by **Penny & Larry Turtel**

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Dr. Walter Gutstein by **Robert Isaacson**

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Arlene Haiken by **Jane & Garry Grabelle**

Gisela Barabas by **Fran & Alan Stern**

## Rabbi Schonbrun's Discretionary Fund

### **In Memory of:**

Bette Donner – mother of Jeff Donner by **Honey Karasic, Michael Sanow**

Barbara Isaacson – wife of Robert Isaacson, mother of Richard & James Isaacson by **Honey Karasic**

## Library Fund

### **In Honor of:**

The Bar Mitzvah of Sandy & Carl Koreen's grandson Ezra by **Bobbie Newman**

Betty & Marvin Goldin's 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by **Sandy & Carl Koreen**

### **In Memory of:**

Barbara Isaacson – wife of Robert Isaacson, mother of Richard & James Isaacson by **Madeline & Joel Schulman, Sandy & Carl Koreen**

## Paul Morris Liturgical Music Fund

### **In Memory of:**

Paul Morris – father of Alan Morris by **Alan & Meryl Morris**

## JNF Trees

To the Isaacson Family in memory of Barbara Isaacson from **Marlene & Matt Schiff**

## Garden Fund

### **In Memory of:**

Joreen Schoch – mother of Gidget Friedman by **Sandi Friedman & Sam Kaye**

Syma Rosenheck – mother of Alan Rosenheck by **Gale Mark & Marc Schnabolk, Andrea & Jeff Fishbein**

Barbara Isaacson – wife of Robert Isaacson, mother of Richard & James Isaacson by **Andrea & Jeff Fishbein**

## Kiddush Fund

### **In Honor of:**

Betty & Marvin Goldin's 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by **Sheila Morris**

### **In Memory of:**

Barbara Isaacson – wife of Robert Isaacson, mother of Richard & James Isaacson by **Sandy Lehrer**

## Helayne Berger Fund

### **In Honor of:**

Babe Slifkin's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday by **Harriet & Herb Popok**

### **In Memory of:**

Barbara Isaacson – wife of Robert Isaacson, mother of Richard & James Isaacson by **Paula & Bob Cohen**

## Susan Samuel Memorial Fund

### **In Memory of:**

Esther Miller – mother of Ellen Samuel by **Ellen & Myron Samuel**

Roz Fisher – sister of Myron Samuel by **Ellen & Myron Samuel**

Barbara Isaacson – wife of Robert Isaacson, mother of Richard & James Isaacson by **Ellen & Myron Samuel**

## David & Tessie Krivins Memorial Fund

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Thelma Krivins – mother-in-law of Marc Comer by **Marc, Brad & Julia Comer**

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Mordehai Neuman by **Abby Scheer & Family**

Jay – brother of Jan Greenspan by **Abby Scheer & Family**

## Adie Gordon Fund

### **In Honor of:**

The marriage of Michael Gordon's son Howard to Janet by **Alan & Meryl Morris**

### **In Memory of:**

Irene Gordon – mother of Michael Gordon by **Michael Gordon**

## Tree of Life

A leaf has been hung in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of William Lissauer by **the Lissauer Family**

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## Temple Beth El Cemetery

To all the people who sent contributions to help us defray the cost of power-washing and sealing the markers and monuments in the Temple Beth El Cemetery, we offer our sincere thanks. The generosity of both our temple members, as well as families from afar, has allowed us to successfully meet our goal.

We invite you all to see the significant difference. Our efforts to respectfully maintain the cemetery are ongoing.

~ Temple Beth El Cemetery Committee



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Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
732-531-4410  
www.torat-el.org

DATED MATERIAL PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

**NON PROFIT**  
**US POSTAGE PAID**  
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**RED BANK, NJ**  
**07701**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## December 2019

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 Adult Ed/Jewish Genealogy 7:30pm	3 Board of Trustees Mtg 7:30pm	4 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Adult Ed w/Rabbi 7:30pm	5 Sisterhood Mtg 7:30pm	6 Candle Lighting 4:12pm Shabbat Service 7:15pm	7 Shabbat Service 9:00am Sponsored Kiddush Lunch
8 Meet the Author 11:00am	9 Adult Ed/Jewish Genealogy 7:30pm	10 Ritual Mtg 7:30pm	11 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Adult Ed w/Rabbi 7:30pm	12 AIPAC Program 7:00pm	13 Candle Lighting 4:12pm Shabbat Service 7:15pm	14 Shabbat Service 9:00am
15 Hazak Movie & Chinese Dinner 3:00pm	16 Adult Ed/Jewish Genealogy 7:30pm	17 Executive Board Mtg 7:00pm Men's Club Mtg 7:30pm	18 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Adult Ed w/Rabbi 7:30pm	19 Sisterhood Torah Fund Program 7:15pm	20 Candle Lighting 4:14pm Shabbat Service 7:15pm	21 Shabbat Service 9:00am
22 Latke Making w/ Men's Club 7:15am Congregation Chanukah Party 11:00am	23 Blood Drive 3:00pm	24	25 Temple Office Closed No Religious School	26	27 Candle Lighting 4:18pm Shabbat Service 7:15pm	28 Shabbat Service 9:00am No Shabbat School
29	30	31				