



## THE RABBI'S COLUMN: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

**By Mark Sameth**

So much good is already coming out of last month's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at PCS. A group of religious studies majors is set to meet with the Pleasantville Clergy Association this month, to learn about our interfaith work. A group of Buddhists are coming to our synagogue's Shabbat Morning Meditation on December 18. And as I was writing this column, Michael Gold, head of our Social Action Committee, informed me that he has been able to arrange an evening with the local Muslim community at PCS on Saturday night, December 11 at the synagogue. Details were still being worked out, but he told me that the idea is just to get the two communities together to break bread and to get to know each other socially.

"There's no agenda here other than bringing together two communities that otherwise might not have an opportunity to meet and mingle," Michael said. "There's so much polarization, fear, and anger. We have to do better, and this is a step; a small step, but a step. We'll have food; we may have some light entertainment, all of that is still being worked out. But I've already gotten a nice response from people who have

heard about this event informally. There'll be no lecture, no speeches; there's no purpose here other than to provide an evening where people can talk."

Everyone is welcome! Indeed, if you asked any of our teens who have taken our Hebrew High School Comparative Religion course at PCS over the past few years, they would likely tell you that one of the highlights of that course was meeting my friend Dr. Mahjabeen Hassan and a group of local Muslim teens.

If you're interested in reading up on Islam before the get-together, a pretty good on-line resource is the Wikipedia entry at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam>.

In the meantime, I wish you all a very Happy Channukah (first night is Wednesday, December 1, and Rabbi Pamela Wax and I will be conducting a Healing Service together to which you and your friends and neighbors are also all welcome). May it be a season of increasing light for us all!

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

These days I am feeling discouraged by the political climate in our country; I cannot remember a time when the possibility for change and progress seemed less likely. Even more, I cannot remember a time when politicians on both sides of the spectrum seemed less inclined to work effectively and harmoniously with one another for our common good. We seem to be preparing ourselves for utter gridlock, just when action is called for. Why?

I don't have any easy answers, and few of us would believe someone who said there were any. What I look for, what I like to explore, are ancient parallels to the situation in which we find ourselves mired. Here's one that we read about recently in Shabbat services—the story of Jacob and

Esau. After cheating his brother Esau out of both his birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob fearfully meets Esau and says he sees the "face of God" in him. Instead of holding on to his fear, instead of building a case against him for being different, his eyes are opened to the beauty in Esau. He recognizes his neshama. This is an aspect of the holiness of Jacob, the ability to step out of his habitual pattern. While we may not be able to see with Jacob's eyes, we too can challenge our habits and see our humanity and of our common heritage in the other. We do follow different pathways; we do have different hopes and dreams; we do disagree. Do we then have to become disagreeable?

Our leaders in Congress have a different agenda: it is to pur-

sue power and to retain it. In many cases it is to follow slavishly an ideology that makes the world understandable to them. Ideologies are dangerous; they get in the way of our seeing the face of the other, let alone God in that face. Back in the sixties there was a popular bumper sticker that said: "If the people lead, the leaders will follow." One function I see our community taking on is just this—to lead, to create new models of leadership. It is my wish that we not only continue to do this, but to reach out to others, both within and outside of our community, to do the same.

Peter Schaffer

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Michael Pfeffer  
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Seth Rutman  
[srutman@shalomPCS.com](mailto:srutman@shalomPCS.com)

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Peter Schaffer  
[pschaffer@shalomPCS.com](mailto:pschaffer@shalomPCS.com)

Oren Cohen  
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Richard Levine  
[rlevine@shalomPCS.com](mailto:rlevine@shalomPCS.com)

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[kzweibaum@shalomPCS.com](mailto:kzweibaum@shalomPCS.com)

Ken Furst  
[kfurst@shalomPCS.com](mailto:kfurst@shalomPCS.com)

Lisa Lipkin  
[llipkin@shalomPCS.com](mailto:llipkin@shalomPCS.com)

Rabbi Mark Sameth  
[pccsyn@mindspring.com](mailto:pccsyn@mindspring.com)

Gary Greenwald  
[ggreenwald@shalomPCS.com](mailto:ggreenwald@shalomPCS.com)

Jerry Neuburger  
[jneuburger@shalomPCS.com](mailto:jneuburger@shalomPCS.com)

Laurie Hirsch Schulz  
[lhirschschulz@gmail.com](mailto:lhirschschulz@gmail.com)

To contact PCS:

Phone (914) 769-2672; Fax (914) 769-1795; Website: [www.shalomPCS.com](http://www.shalomPCS.com)

Marcy Gray, Synagogue Administrator: (914) 769-2672; [marcy.gray@verizon.net](mailto:marcy.gray@verizon.net)

Michal Solomon, Religious School: (914) 773-0043; [Principal@shalomPCS.com](mailto:Principal@shalomPCS.com)

Barbara Doctor, Member Accounts: (914) 747-3017; [Accounts@shalomPCS.com](mailto:Accounts@shalomPCS.com)

# PCS TORAH STUDY

Dear Member of PCS,

A short while ago you received a preliminary announcement about our Torah Study meetings after services every Sabbath. Sometimes Rabbi Mark leads the discussion, but most of the time it is just a conversation among friends attempting to find clues in the Text that help in understanding the world as it is today.

The Spiritual Life Committee would like to expand participation at these meetings so more of us could gain insight into the beauty, meaningfulness and relevance of our Torah.

On pages 16-17 you will find a schedule of weekly Torah Readings between January and September 2011. It provides the weekly parshas and verses, indicates their topic in a word or two and, in some instances, quotes from the sections. We hope you will look over this schedule and come to some of the meetings to participate in our discussions.

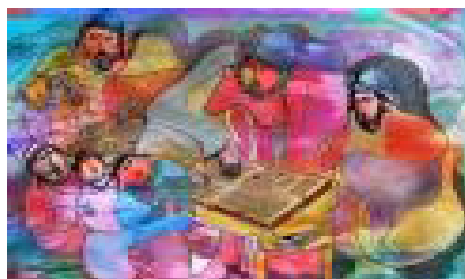
We also hope that you will sign up to lead the discussion of a parsha that you may already know and like, or one that has some relation to your occupation, or one whose topic simply intrigues you.

Pick a date and notify the Torah Study Coordinator, Peter Volgyes, via e-mail (petervolgyes@optonline.net) or telephone (914-747-4396) so we can publish a more complete schedule including the names of the discussion leaders. (First come, first served.)

If you are inclined to lead but uncertain about the date or want to discuss which topic to pick or if you want to make a comment or suggestion about this new program, please also contact Peter.

Shalom,  
The Spiritual Life Committee

**SCHEDULE POSTED ON PAGES 16 AND 17**





# CHANNUKAH CLAY MENORAH PROJECT AT PCS!



**ARTIST AND SCULPTOR JOANNE BRODY DIRECTS THE MENORAH PROJECT**







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## Pleasantville Community Synagogue Mission Statement

Pleasantville Community Synagogue is a transdenominational, inclusive community, a spiritual home deeply rooted in Torah (study), Avodah (prayer), and Gemilut Chasadim (deeds of loving-kindness). We seek to facilitate lifelong spiritual growth by engaging each member wherever that member may be on life's journey, embracing all generations. We encourage Tikkun Middot (repair of the self) and Tikkun Olam (repair of the world) through Jewish education for all ages, social action, Ahavat Yisrael (love of Israel), and a commitment to the understanding and fulfillment of mitzvot. We are a highly participatory community which relies on the commitment of time and energy from all members and which aspires to become an integral part of each member's life and their family's lives.

# ROSH CHODESH PCS MONTHLY WOMEN'S GATHERING

Come and bring Daughters, Mothers, Family, and Women Friends  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7TH - 7:00 pm - Channukah Celebration

Tevet is the month when our desire for light is great, and we search for fullness from the emptiness.

Dr. Judith Schmidt will lead us in a meditation and spiritual enlightenment to celebrate the relighting of our Temple candles.

Bring your menorahs to brighten and share songs and prayers.

We will host beverages and sweets.

RSVP TO ESTELLE: 914 449 6153

eaststar18@optonline.net



**Hannah Teitel-Greene (in this photo, with Michael Safranek) teaching her Sunday morning Sefat Emet class**

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER B'NAI MITZVAH

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**Congratulations to Audrey McGrath on the occasion of her bat mitzvah, to her mother Molly Jacobson-McGrath, and to her sister, Ariana.**

## FALL B'NAI MITZVAH CALENDAR

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Audrey McGrath	December 11	Vayigash
Family Education Shabbat	December 18	

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### PCS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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All the Committees of The Pleasantville Community Synagogue are eager for your participation and suggestions. If you'd like to get more involved in the life of the PCS community, this is the way to begin! Below are the names of the committees, their chairs, and contact information.

#### **Adult Education**

David Felder  
[dfelder@shalomPCS.com](mailto:dfelder@shalomPCS.com)

Emma Reisman  
[ereisman@shalomPCS.com](mailto:ereisman@shalomPCS.com)

#### **B'nei Mitzvah**

Eileen Jagoda  
[ejagoda@shalomPCS.com](mailto:ejagoda@shalomPCS.com)

Phil Paris  
[pparis@shalomPCS.com](mailto:pparis@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Building Committee**

Richard Levine  
[rlevine@shalomPCS.com](mailto:rlevine@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Communications**

Cristina Altieri-Martinez  
[cmartinez@shalomPCS.com](mailto:cmartinez@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Jewish Education**

Michael Safranek  
[msafranek@shalomPCS.com](mailto:msafranek@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Finance**

Oren Cohen  
[Finance@ShalomPCS.com](mailto:Finance@ShalomPCS.com)

#### **Fundraising**

Kenneth Furst  
[kfurst@shalomPCS.com](mailto:kfurst@shalomPCS.com)

#### **High Holidays**

Jerry Neuburger  
[jneuburger@shalomPCS.com](mailto:jneuburger@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Human Resources**

Lisa Lipkin  
[llipkin@shalomPCS.com](mailto:llipkin@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Membership Inreach**

Laurie Hirsch Schulz  
[lhirschsulz@shalomPCS.com](mailto:lhirschsulz@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Membership Outreach**

April Lasher-Sanders  
[alasher@shalomPCS.com](mailto:alasher@shalomPCS.com)

Laurie Hirsch Schulz  
[lhirschsulz@shalomPCS.com](mailto:lhirschsulz@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Israel Action Committee**

Ofri Felder  
[ofelder@shalomPCS.com](mailto:ofelder@shalomPCS.com)

Seth Rutman  
[srutman@shalomPCS.com](mailto:srutman@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Tikkun Olam**

Michael Gold  
[SocialAction@shalomPCS.com](mailto:SocialAction@shalomPCS.com)

#### **Youth Committee**

Evan Kingsley  
[ekingsley@shalomPCS.com](mailto:ekingsley@shalomPCS.com)





## NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Channukah is around the corner and we are all getting ready for it in song, art, and story. Joanne Brody, our clay artist in residence, has brought back the beautiful channukiot that the students made, and the choir, under the leadership of Cantor Isabel Kopstein, is practicing for the Channukah recital. We are all looking forward to welcoming the parents for candle lighting with the students and of course the parties, with latkes, dreidle games etc. Below you will find some creative writing by two students in Kitah Vav, under the guidance of their teacher, Isabell Kopstein.

Happy Channukah!

Michal Solomon

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### **Miracles Today**

by Isaiah Fleisher

M emories coming back to life  
I ncredible animals with unique qualities  
R ainbows crossing the skies  
A rray of flowers in the springtime  
C ows providing milk  
L eaves changing colors  
E xquisite mountain tops capped with snow  
S eeing whales dive into the ocean

### **Miracles in Our World**

by David Solodukhin

In our modern day world, there are many wonderful miracles to behold. We must always be thankful to God for many of these miracles because without them, we might not be here.

The very first and probably the most important miracle of all is life. It was given to us by God and we must always appreciate it. Without life, there is nothing...no trees, plants, animals or people.

God has allowed man to create technology, and in today's world it is a true miracle. Technology fuels the world and makes it easier for us to live in it. For example, telephones help us to communicate with one another, and medical instruments like the MRI diagnose illnesses faster.

The miracle of technology is truly a gift from God. Of course, there are every day miracles as well. If you take the time to look around, I can assure you that you would probably see a modern day miracle for yourself. Have you seen the sun shining, the birds singing, or the palate of colors which God uses to paint the leaves on the trees in the fall? Appreciate these wondrous gifts, and thank God for all the miracles that has been given to us.

(Cont'd on page 18)



# CONTRIBUTIONS

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We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Pleasantville Community Synagogue by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions.

## **GENERAL FUND**

**JOHN EHRLICH**

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## DECEMBER 2010 YAHR ZEITS

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**Walter Wehrle, Father of Douglas Wehrle December 4**  
**Louis Israelow, Father of Marvin Israelow December 7**  
**Fannie Lenoff, Mother of Jerome Lenoff December 7**  
**Pauline Alt, Grandmother of Audrey Rabinowitz December 9**  
**Andrew Rosenberg, Father of Debbie Rosenberg December 12**  
**Jay Polansky, Father of Debra Schor December 12**  
**Mark Loren, Father of Heather Sabatier December 13**  
**Max Gitelson, Father of Rhea Wolfthal December 17**  
**Ruth Hersh, Mother of Karen Sanders December 18**  
**Joyce Goldman, Mother of Dorian Goldman December 19**  
**Nathan Blackman, Father of Jonathan Blackman December 20**  
**Fanny Goldman, Grandmother of Dorian Goldman December 21**  
**Fay Singer, Mother of Sharon Friedman December 21**  
**Samuel Weiner, Father of Shelley Weiner December 23**  
**Alexander Gordon, Father of Bernard Gordon December 24**  
**Ruth Kloogman, Mother of Helen Kloogman December 30**



To All PCS Members:

If you or another member suffer personal tragedy or loss or are otherwise in need of help, please immediately call Rabbi Mark at 769-2672, and Michael Gold at 238-9219.

**PCS INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE**



**NORA GUTHRIE WITH MATT TURK**



**RABBI MARK, NORA GUTHRIE, LOWRY HAMNER, MATT TURK**



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**EMILY SIMON**



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**PHIL PARIS AND OTHER ATTENDEES**



**MICHAEL MAYERS, ROBERTA ELBERT, MICHAEL GOLD AND OTHER ATTENDEES**



**GARY GREENWALD, DAVID EBERT, AND AYDIN MAYERS (ALL OF THE PCS HOUSE BAND "THE PLEASMATICS") AND VICTOR B. FAMA OF THE MANY BRANCHES SANGHA (BUDDHIST)**

WARMEST THANKS TO EMMA REISMAN FOR THESE WONDERFUL PHOTOS!



# Ask The Rabbi

**Last month Rabbi Mark met with our first grade class for a session of Ask the Rabbi (on November 9). The children all had such wonderful questions. Here's a little bit of the exchange that day between Rabbi Mark and the children**

Jack Klinger: Why do we light candles on Shabbat?

Rabbi Mark: Shabbat candles? It's like a birthday cake for God! Every week on Friday night (and Saturday) we celebrate that the Universe is another week older! Light reminds us of how God created the universe ("God said: Let there be light!"). So I hope that every time your family lights Shabbat candles you think of all the joy and all of the good things that God created in the world.

Max Cohen: How did people write with feathers?

Rabbi Mark: You're right, Max. In the old days - before people invented pens, pencils, markers, or even crayons - people wrote with feathers! Some smart person realized that the end of a feather quill is sharp, and that if we dip it in ink we can write letters. And guess what? When the person who writes a Torah scroll does that today, he or she still writes the Torah with a feather, just like in the old days!

Miranda Miller: How long would it take to read the Torah?

Rabbi Mark: Well, a grownup could start reading it early in the morning, and finish it the same day. But we take a whole year to read it in synagogue, just a little bit each week. Why? Because we love to ask questions about the Torah and to talk about what we think it means to us. So we take our time and read it slowly!

Taylor Primack: How long ago did the dinosaurs live?

Rabbi Mark: The dinosaurs lived until about 65 million years ago. That's a very long time ago! But did you know that there are still some dinosaurs on earth? Really! They're called...birds. That's right, the birds are descended from dinosaurs. Amazing!

Jake Tetenman: How long did the ten plagues last?

Rabbi Mark: Well, after the first plague a week passed before the second plague. But the Torah doesn't tell us how many days were between all the other plagues, so we don't know how long the plagues lasted altogether. Maybe a month? [The ninth plague, darkness, lasted for three days. There was a break of ten days between the ninth and tenth plagues. So altogether a month – perhaps 40 days – is suggested.]

Jake: And how long ago was that?

Rabbi Mark: Much more than 3,000 years ago!

Jake: And did only the bad people have to go through the plagues, or the good people too?

Rabbi Mark: Great question. Some, like darkness, affected everybody. But some only punished the bad people. It's like that today. Sometimes only bad people are punished for what they do wrong. But sometimes – like when we don't take care of the environment, when we make the air or water dirty – it hurts everybody. That's why we all need to take care of the earth together!

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

Wednesday, December 1: Healing Service

Friday, December 3: PCS Children's Choir Celebrates Channukah

Saturday, December 11: PCS Social Action Committee Dinner with the Muslim Community

Saturday, December 18: Monthly Shabbat Morning Meditation; followed by Family Education Shabbat



### B'NAI MITZVAH PROJECTS

#### **Audrey McGrath**



For my Bat Mitzvah community service project, I participated in the Rosenthal JCC "Mitzvah Project." During this activity, I worked in a food shelter. I helped to stack and put labels on the cans there. When I was doing the project, it was good to know that the food I was canning was going to a good cause and I was doing an act of chesed (loving kindness). I also had fun meeting and working with people from other towns like Armonk and Chappaqua. If you are a bnei mitzvah and you are interested in participating in this fun program please contact Allison Langer, Director of Teen Programs at 741-0333 or [allison@rosenthaljcc.org](mailto:allison@rosenthaljcc.org).

Oh, and I also really had fun at the pizza dinner we, bnei mitzvahs, all enjoyed after we got back to the JCC!

## ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The PCS Newsletter is published monthly, online, from September through June. Articles and photos should be submitted by the 15th of the month. They can be e-mailed to Judith Chinitz, Editor, at [judyhope@optonline.net](mailto:judyhope@optonline.net) or dropped off at the newsletter box in the Synagogue office.

Pleasantville Community Synagogue \* 219 Bedford Road \* Pleasantville, NY 10570  
phone (914) 769 - 2672 fax (914) 769 - 1795

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## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Supports various individuals, organizations and/or programs at the discretion of the Rabbi.

## Building Fund

To preserve the beauty and functionality of our physical plant, and to build reserves for future expansion.

## Hebrew School Emergency Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships to children who would like to attend our Hebrew School and may not currently have the financial resources to do so.

## Kiddush Fund

Your donation provides lunch after services on Shabbat morning, eaunganarray of salads, bagels and pastry.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO PLEASANTVILLE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE

Send acknowledgement to: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/  
memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me an acknowledgement of this gift.


Yes

No

PLEASE NOTE: To help our bookkeeper, please issue separate checks for dues or other special events. All donations should be made payable to Pleasantville Community Synagogue (please indicate which fund in the memo section of your check).



# December 2010 - PCS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	29 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	30	1 Healing Service: Rededicating Our Souls 7pm  Chanukah: 1 Candle Hebrew School Chanukah Celebration	2 Chanukah: 2 Candles Hebrew School Chanukah Celebration Hebrew High 6:15-7:30pm	3 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with Tot Shabbat (7 pm), Children's Service & Birthday Blessings and Chanukah Celebration  Chanukah: 3 Candles 4:09pm-4:27pm - Candle...	4 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Chanukah: 4 Candles Parashat Miketz 5:39pm-5:40pm - Havdalah (72 min)
5 Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11 am Chanukah: 5 Candles Hebrew School Chanukah Celebration	6 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am Chanukah: 6 Candles	7 Chanukah: 7 Candles Hebrew School Chanukah Celebration Rosh Chodesh Tevet Chanukah Program at PCS 7pm	8 Chanukah: 8 Candles Rosh Chodesh Tevet Hebrew School Chanukah Celebration Ask the Rabbi 4pm 5th Grade	9 Chanukah: 8th Day "Jew Tube" 6:15-7:30pm	10 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with PCS House Band  4:08pm-4:26pm - Candle lighting	11 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Bat Mitzvah - Audrey McGrath Parashat Vayigash 5:38pm-5:39pm - Havdalah (72 min)
12 Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11 am	13 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	14 Visions of Modern Israel Symposium at PCS (Buber vs Kaplan) at 7:30pm	15 Social Action Committee Meeting 7:30 pm	16 Hebrew High 6:15-7:30pm Board of Trustees Meeting	17 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with PCS House Band and Children's Service and Hay Shabbaton  4:10pm-4:28pm - Candle lighting	18 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Morning Meditation 9 am Family Education 10 am Parashat Vayechi 5:40pm-5:41pm - Havdalah (72 min)
19 Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11 am	20 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	21	22	23 "Jew Tube" 6:15-7:30pm	24 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with PCS House Band 4:13pm-4:31pm - Candle lighting	25 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Shemot 5:43pm-5:44pm - Havdalah (72 min)
26 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	27 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	28 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	29 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	30 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	31 Friday Night Service 7:15pm 4:18pm-4:36pm - Candle lighting	1 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Vaera 5:49pm-5:50pm - Havdalah (72 min)

Note: Times and dates of events may change after the newsletter has come out. To get the latest information on any possible changes, please check the calendar on our website: [www.ShalomPCS.com](http://www.ShalomPCS.com). Future months are also on the website.

# TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE

TORAH READINGS Between Jan.1 and Oct.1, 2011

Note	Date	Parsha	Book	Verses	TOPIC	QUOTES	HAFTORAH
	Jan. 1	Vaera	Ex.	6:2-7:7	The Call of Moses	I have made you Master over Pharaoh. (7:1)	Ez. 28:25 - 29:21
	8	Bo	Ex.	10:1-11:3	Locust, Darkness	I shall never see your face again. (10:29)	Jer. 46:13 - 46:28
	15	Beshalach	Ex.	13:17-15:26	The Departure, The Song	Better to serve Egypt than to die in the Wilderness. (14:12) Who is like You, Adonay? (Mi kamocho?) (15:11)	Judges 4:4 - 5:31
	22	Yitro	Ex.	18:1-18:27	The Appointment of Judges	...teach them the statutes...show them the way...(18:20)	Is. 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 9:6
	29	Mishpatim	Ex.	21:1-22:3	Laws concerning slaves, homicide, wounds, blows	An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth... (21:24)	Jer. 34:8 - 34:22;
a.	Feb. 5	Teruma	Ex.	25:1-25:40	The Sanctuary, The Ark	Build Me a Sanctuary and I shall dwell among them. (25:8)	Isaiah 66:1 - 66:24
	12	Tetzaveh	Ex.	27:20-28:30	The oil and the vestments	Kindle the lamp continually. (27:20)	Ezekiel 43:10 - 43:27
	19	Ki Tisa	Ex.	30:11-31:17	The census, The Sabbath	Observe the Sabbath through all generations. (31:16)	I Kings 18:1 - 18:39
	26	Vayakhel	Ex.	35:1-37:16	Construction of the Tabernacle	Bezalel made the Ark of acacia wood. (37:1)	I Kings 7:40 - 7:50
	Mar. 5	Pekudei	Ex.	38:21-39:21	The accounts of the Tabernacle	A bekah a head, a half a shekel. (38:26)	II Kings 12:1 - 12:17
	12	Vayikra	Lev.	1:1-2:16	Offerings	A sweet savour unto Hashem. (1:9)	Isaiah 43:21 - 44:23
b.	19	Tzav	Lev.	6:1-7:10	Offerings of the Kohens	-----	I Samuel 15:2 - 15:34
c	26	Shmini	Lev.	9:1-10:11	The death of Aron's two sons	Take no wine or strong drink. (10:9)	Ezekiel 36:16 - 36:38
	Apr. 2	Tazria	Lev.	12:1-13:39	Laws of Human Contamination	-----	Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18
d	9	Metzora	Lev.	14:1-14:32	Purification	-----	II Kings 7:3 - 7:20
e	16	Achrei Mot	Lev.	16:1-17:7	Yom Kippur	And the goat shall be set free in the wilderness. (16:22)	Malachi 3:4 - 3:24
P	23	Ki Tisa	Ex.	33:12-34:26	The Encounter on Mt. Sinai	I shall show favor when I choose to show favor and mercy when I choose to show mercy. (33:19)	Ezekiel 37:1-37:14

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## TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE, CONT.

TORAH READINGS Between Jan.1 and Oct.1, 2011

Note	Date	Parsha	Book	Verses	TOPIC	QUOTES	HAFTORAH
f	30	Kedoshim	Lev.	19:1-19:37	The human road to holiness	Do not favor the poor or honor the great. (19:15)	Amos 9:7 - 9:15
	May 7	Emor	Lev.	21:1-22:16	Contamination of the Kohens	-----	Ezekiel 44:15 - 44:31
	14	Behar	Lev.	25:1-25:38	The Sabbatical / Jubilee Year	Proclaim freedom throughout the land. (25:10)	Jeremiah 32:6 - 32:27
	21	Bechukotai	Lev.	26:3-27:15	Rewards and Punishments	I have broken your yoke and led you erect. (26:13)	Jer. 16:19 - 17:14
	28	Bamidbar	Num.	1:1-1:54	Census	Take a census...by number of the names. (1:2)	Hosea 2:1 - 2:22
	June 4	Nasso	Num.	4:21-5:10	Duties of the Levites. Restitution	Pay full value...and add to it its fifth. (5:7)	Judges 13:2 - 13:25
	11	Beha'alotcha	Num.	8:1-9:14	The Levites. The Passover	There shall be one law for stranger and native alike. (9:14)	Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7
	18	Sh'lach	Num.	13:1-14:7	The spies	It flows with milk and honey.(13:27) ...we felt like grasshoppers. (13:33)	Joshua 2:1 - 2:24
	25	Korach	Num.	16:1-17:15	Rebellion in the desert	...the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them. (16:32)	I Sam. 11:14 - 12:22
	July 2	Chukat	Num.	19:1-20:13	The red cow The striking of the rock	...you will not bring this people to the Land... (20:12)	Isaiah 66:1 - 66:24
	9	Balak	Num.	22:2-22:38	The parable of the she-donkey	Am I not your ass you have ridden all your life? (22:30)	Micah 5:6 - 6:8
	16	Pinchas	Num.	25:10-26:51	Census	-----	I Kings 18:46 - 19:21
	23	Matot	Num.	30:2-31:54	Vows. The taking of Midian	A thousand from a tribe, a thousand from a tribe. (31:4)	Jeremiah 1:1 - 2:3
	30	Masei	Num.	33:1-33:49	Summary of the Wanderings	-----	Jeremiah 2:4 - 28; 3:4
	Aug. 6	Devarim	Deu.	1:1-2:1	Moses begins his memoir	I cannot carry you alone. (1:9)	Isaiah 1:1 - 1:27
	13	Vaetchanan	Deu.	3:23-5:18	The Ten Commandments	Add nothing and take nothing away. (4:2)	Isaiah 40:1 - 40:26
	20	Eikev	Deu.	7:12-9:3	Hashem is the Provider	...man does not live by bread alone... (8:3)	Isaiah 49:14 - 51:3

TORAH READINGS Between Jan.1 and Oct.1, 2011

Note	Date	Parsha	Book	Verses	TOPIC	QUOTES	HAFTORAH
	27	Re'eh	Deu.	11:26-12:28	Laws for after the crossing	...you shall obliterate their names... (12:3)	Isaiah 54:11 - 55:5
	Sept. 3	Shovtim	Deu.	16:18-18:5	Judges. The king of Israel	He shall not have too many horses (17:16), ...wives...silver and gold (17:17)	Isaiah 51:12 - 52:12
	10	Ki Teitzei	Deu.	21:10-23:7	Of marriages, sons, property.	You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together. (22:10)	Isaiah 54:1 - 54:10
	17	Ki Tavo	Deu.	26:1-27:10	The new commitment	Of whole stones shall you build the altar. (27:6)	Isaiah 60:1 - 60:22
	24	Nitzavim	Deu.	29:9-30:14	The renewal of the Covenant	What is secret is Hashem's, what is known is ours.(29:28)	Isaiah 61:10 - 63:9
	Oct. 1	Hazinu	Deu.	32:1-32:52	The Song of Moses	I shall render vengence upon My enemies and upon those who hate Me I shall bring retribution (32:41)	Hosea 14:2-10 Micah 7:18-20 Joel 2:15-27
Notes: P Passover. Bnei Mitzvahs: a.Abbe Furst b.Robert Levine c. The Dosters d.Benjamin Yampolsky e.Sophie Epstein f.Ilana Cohen							



## **A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL (Cont'd from page 8)**

**Todah Rabbah (thank you):**

- to Joanne Brody, for once again leading a wonderful Channukiot workshop for our students
- to Emma Reisman for taking photographs of the Channukiot workshop
- to Sandee Martensen, representing the Pinwheel organization, for making a presentation on community service to Kitah Zayin. A special thanks to Liam Gorman who participated in Sandee's presentation and shared his own experiences with the class, and to Emma Reisman who coordinated and facilitated this presentation
- to Vikki Simon for coordinating the Channukah recital for the childrens' chorus
- to Helen Harrison for helping to make wonderful latkes with the first and second graders
- to Jennifer Yamuder for bringing the latkes all the way from her father's kosher deli on Long Island
- to Barrie Kerper for the donation of the Random House books presented as Channukah gifts to the Hebrew School staff
- and all the class mothers and parents who helped with the Channukah parties, we can't do it without you!

## **WJCS WORKING TO GRANT WISHES AGAIN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

For its annual Have-a-Heart for the Holidays Gift Drive WJCS is collecting toys, CDs, gift cards and clothing to be distributed to consumers of the agency's more than 70 programs throughout Westchester. Last year, more than 1,000 wishes were fulfilled.

The agency's goal this year is to reach out to even more of its consumers. Anyone interested in providing a gift, gift card or monetary donation to the WJCS Gift Drive can contact Meryl Lewis at 761-0600, ext. 222. Gifts must be received by December 6.

Donations can also be made on line at [www.wjcs.com](http://www.wjcs.com).



## **ADOPTION: NEW PRE- and POST- ADOPTIVE PARENT GROUP IN WESTCHESTER**

Being a parent is probably the most challenging and all-encompassing commitment in your life. Add adoption to the mix and things get a bit more complex.

This group is for singles and couples, before during and after the adoption process. Learn, laugh, and socialize without worrying someone will say something insensitive about adoption or your family. Find out how others have handled "sticky" situations and found support in their communities. Join others who "walk the walk" and "talk the talk," as you share the daily joys and challenges of parenting through adoption.

Parent's groups led by Ametz staff social worker, Marci Schwartz-Ruff. Coffee and dessert will be served. Donation \$5 a person per group.

Pleasantville Community Synagogue  
219 Bedford Road,  
Pleasantville, New York

This group will be held monthly. For more information or to register, go to: [jccany.org/pleasantville-group](http://jccany.org/pleasantville-group) or call Marci Schwartz-Ruff at 914-273-2304.

Kathy Brodsky, LCSW Director, Ametz Adoption Program/JCCA 120 Wall Street, NYC, NY 10005 212-558-9949 [www.jccany.org](http://www.jccany.org)  
New York (authorized) and New Jersey (approved) Adoption Agency Hague Accreditation received through 2013



### **WJCS TO HOST CHANUKAH CELEBRATION FOR DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED PERSONS**

The WJCS Havorah Program and Westchester Reform Temple will co-host a Chanukah Celebration for Persons with Developmental Disabilities on Wednesday, December 8 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at Westchester Reform Temple at 255 Mamaroneck Road in Scarsdale. There will be music, crafts, refreshments and fun. All are welcome and admission is free. RSVP to Gail Oliver at 914-761-0600

X107



**The Kalserman JCC of Philadelphia**

**August 14 - 19, 2011**

**[www.jccmaccabigames.org](http://www.jccmaccabigames.org)**

*Jewish teens from Northern Westchester ages 13 to 18 (as of July 31, 2011) – join us for camaraderie and competition at the largest Jewish teen event in the world!*

**TRYOUT SCHEDULE:**

**Girls U16 Soccer**

- Sunday, Jan. 30, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 6, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Mar. 6, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**Boys U16 Soccer**

- Sunday, Jan. 30, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 6, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Mar. 6, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

**Boys U16 Basketball**

- Sunday, Jan. 30, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Mar. 6, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**Boys or Girls Tennis**

\* By appointment

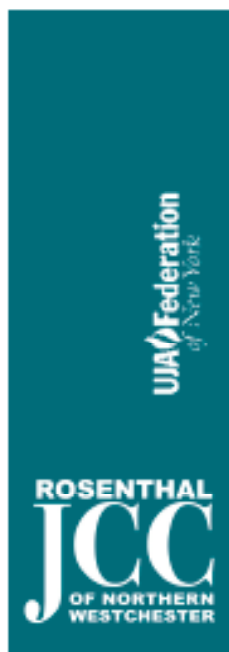
\*\*\* All tryouts take place at the Rosenthal JCC gym at 600 Bear Ridge Road in Pleasantville.

Please arrive 15 minutes early to register.

\*\*\* Attendance at multiple tryout dates is strongly encouraged.

\*\*\* Parent Information meetings will take place during tryouts.

*The JCC Maccabi Games® is an Olympic-style sporting event that offers Jewish teens the opportunity to compete in one of 14 team/individual sports, participate in Days of Caring & Sharing community service projects, enjoy fun evening social events, make friends and create memories that will last a lifetime.*



**RSVP is required! Contact Lisa Roberts at (914) 741-0333 x24 or [Lisa@rosenthaljcc.org](mailto:Lisa@rosenthaljcc.org)**



the jcc maccabi  
experience  
**ISRAEL**  
**2011**



**An unparalleled social, recreational and Jewish learning experience for Jewish teens!**



In the summer of 2011, the JCC Maccabi Games® and JCC Maccabi ArtsFest® will take place in Israel for the first time! Hosted by Games partner, Maccabi World Union, this landmark 12-day experience will include: five days of competition in team and individual sports, a Day of Caring and Sharing project, a weekend home hospitality experience, and five days of touring the Jewish homeland.

**Program Information**

10 nights/11 days on land (not just any land, the Holy Land)

To Israel: Depart NYC Sunday, July 24, land Monday, July 25

To USA: Depart Tel Aviv Thursday, late night/early Friday, August 4/5, land Friday, August 5

4 nights in the Galilee for the JCC Maccabi Games

2 nights home hospitality

3 nights in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem (Kotel, Yad Vashem, Masada, Dead Sea, etc.)

1 night in the Negev (Sde Boker and Mitzpe Ramon)

Final night closing at Kfar Maccabiah and dispatch to Ben Gurion Airport

**Ages**

14-17 years old (as of July 31, 2010)

**Sports Competitions**

Basketball (boys and girls 15 and under, 17 and under) • Bowling • Soccer/7 v 7 (boys and girls 15 and under, 17 and under) • Swimming • Table Tennis • Tennis • Volleyball (girls 17 and under)

**Arts Specialties**

Acting/Improv • Broadcast Journalism • Culinary Arts • Dance • Jazz • Photography • Rock Music • Visual Arts



מרכזים יוניברסליים תורמים בעמון אמריקני

JCCs of North America

The three JCCs in Westchester are joining together to send a combined delegation to JCC Maccabi Games® and JCC Maccabi ArtsFest® in Israel.

- For tryout information about the Maccabi Games in Israel, contact Steve Weisbrot at (914) 472-3300 x 362.
- For tryout information about Maccabi ArtsFest in Israel, contact Lisa Feinman at (914) 366-7898.
- For information about participating in the Maccabi Games in Philadelphia, contact Lisa Roberts at (914) 741-0333.



## **Writing Our Lives: A Spiritual Memoir Group**

Writing about life events can imbue them with new meaning and clarity. Through structured exercises eliciting spiritual memories and connections, we will create a body of work that reveals the sacred in our lives.

No writing experience necessary.

3 Wednesdays, 12-1:30 PM, November 3, December 1, January 5

\$36 donation to the WJCS Jewish Healing Center

## **Shema: Jewish Group Spiritual Direction**

Designed for those already in conversation with the Divine as well as for those on a serious journey to enhance their prayer lives, these sessions will combine God-talk, chanting, prayer, silence, and deep listening, as means to access spiritual wholeness and connection.

Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax

2 Wednesdays, 12-1:30 PM, November 10, December 8

\$18 donation to the WJCS Jewish Healing Center

## **When a Get is Not Enough: For Separated and Divorcing Individuals**

Discuss issues such as mourning the loss of your relationship, rebuilding self-esteem, navigating family complications, and dating again.

Co-facilitated by Jennifer Spitz, LCSW, and Rabbi Pamela Wax

6 Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM, December 8, 15, January 5, 12, 19, 26

\$72 donation to the WJCS Jewish Healing Center

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For more information or to register, contact:

Rabbi Pamela Wax  
Spiritual Care Coordinator  
Westchester Jewish Community Services  
845 North Broadway  
North White Plains, NY 10603  
914-761-0600 x149  
fax 914-949-6778  
www.wjcs.com

With funding from UJA Federation of New York



## **JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER ANNOUNCES DATES FOR WESTCHESTER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2011**

Community Night Planned

The Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville has announced the dates for the annual Westchester Jewish Film Festival and will once again hold a Community Night as part of the Festival programming. The festival will run from March 24 – April 14, 2011 and is sponsored by the American Jewish Committee, Westchester. Films, speaker events, and receptions are in the planning stage and the complete schedule of events will be announced toward the end of the year. Community Night is a Sunday program which includes a film, speaker and a reception. Many synagogues use this night as a fundraiser. For questions, additional information and to register for group sales, please contact Abby Popper at [apopper@burnsfilmcenter.org](mailto:apopper@burnsfilmcenter.org) or at 914.773.7663 ext.424.

Contact: Abby Popper ([apopper@burnsfilmcenter.org](mailto:apopper@burnsfilmcenter.org))  
914.773.7663, ext. 424



## **The Westchester Jewish Council wishes all of you a Happy Channukah!**

\*\*\*\*\*

SAVE THE DATE! The 35th Annual Westchester Jewish Council Gala  
Saturday, February 12, 7 PM, honoring  
Stuart Kolbert, Susan Baer, and Sheila Friedland  
Featuring the comedy of Elon Gold

For more information call the Westchester Jewish Council (914) 328-7001  
[info@wjcouncil.org](mailto:info@wjcouncil.org) visit us at [www.wjcouncil.org](http://www.wjcouncil.org)  
(Formerly the Westchester Jewish Conference)  
A proud beneficiary of UJA-Federation of New York