



NETIVOT SHALOM

DECEMBER 1999
KISLEV / TEVET 5760

I give up! Yes, I need to write about Y2K. Much as I tried to let the issue lie still, I couldn't. Maybe it's just the influence of the secular world to which we often succumb, or maybe it's because the notion is so captivating and we search for particularly Jewish responses.

A word of caution is in order. When I was discussing the issue with some colleagues, one of them remarked: "What's the big deal? It isn't OUR millennium, it's Shabbat. Im not doing anything different that day than I would on any Shabbat."

Indeed, that is the reaction of many in the Jewish community. While there have been many program booklets published on how to celebrate Shabbat (on Dec. 31 or any Shabbat for that matter), it seems to me that we do need to understand the phenomenon, even though we may wish to ignore it.

In a recent booklet, called "Manual for Managing the Millennium", Dr. Michael J. Cook at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati explores what we need to know about the millennium and why we must know about it. He begins with definitions:

millennium (Latin) - 1000-year period of messianic peace on earth (either after or before Jesus' second coming, but, in any event, preceding the Last Judgement).

millennialists - believers that a kingdom of literally 1,000 years is coming (and that they will live in the last days of history and know not only when but how this world will end.)

rapture - physical lifting of the Christian faithful off earth toward heaven; they will return to earth with Jesus and the heavenly host at second coming

eschatology (Greek) - study of the final dimension of G-d's plan

Last Judgment - the final trial of humanity, when and how all persons will "get what they deserve."

utopia - no place (not a place)

It is conceivable, Cook writes, that between 25%-33% of American Protestants are "end time believers" and believe that the end of history will be preceded by seven years of tumult, called the Tribulation, during which violence and other problems will intensify, the antichrist will extend his rule, and vast armies will move toward a culminating battle at Armageddon (Megiddo - the tradition-

9. Unpreparedness for millennialists' responses when predictions go unfulfilled
10. Inability to discourse knowledgeably about any of these dynamics
11. Propensity to stereotype, unfairly, all Christians for the mind set of some
12. Probable loss of some recent gains in Christian-Jewish dialogue
13. Add your own!!!

Whew! What a list. Where to begin? For starters, click on www.bjesf.org. Click on "community-wide events" and then on "millennialism explained". There, you will find millennialism explained in 1000 words. Researched and created by Rachel Brodie and produced by the Bureau of Jewish Education in San Francisco, this web site contains



RABBI'S COLUMN

WHY 2K

by Rabbi Stuart Kelman

al battle site overlooking the Valley of Jezreel). Millennialists identify and then insert current events into what is actually an archaic belief system, often molding modern occurrences so they appear to fit the system, or vice versa. Persons encountering this genre for the first time may be fascinated - even mesmerized - by what appears an uncanny contemporaneity of the prophecies, their seeming correspondence to what is "actually" happening.

So, what does this have to do with us? Cook lists at least 12 primary Jewish concerns:

1. Annoyance at being integral to outsiders' theological frameworks
2. Umbrage over expectations of a 2/3 decimation of Jewish ranks
3. Exasperation over intensified missionary encroachments
4. Anxiety at the extreme vulnerability of our children to "rapture" fear-mongers
5. Alarm over intensified security problems and risks for peace in the State of Israel
6. Concern over militant anti-Semitism
7. Expectation of potential backlash against ADL and other Jewish defense watch-dogs
8. Worry over anti-Jewish fallout when the Second Coming fails to materialize

answers to the question of what exactly is a millennium, when does it begin, what is the connection between the new millennium and Shabbat, a host of ideas for Shabbat 2000, and a response to the question: Do Jews believe in a millennium? In response to that question, Rachel writes: "Jews do not believe that the Millennium will bring the great changes to the world that many religious Christians anticipate. However, there is an apocalypse followed by peace-on-earth idea expressed in the historical Jewish conception of the messiah. Jewish messianism runs the spectrum from complete skepticism to passionate faith. There are Jews who believe fervently in a personal redeemer who will bring peace, and Jews who think the "messianic age" is a metaphor for a utopian society created through human efforts."

A selected bibliography is the final piece in this wonderful web site. As I write this, on November 1, it is still unclear how and if we at Netivot Shalom will celebrate Shabbat 2000. At the very least, we need to experience our Shabbat - and maybe even think through some of Cook's issues - so that they won't be so surprising when we encounter them in our larger world.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Saturday Shabbat Services & Torah Study

Torah Study – 9:00 am
 Services at 9:45 am
 BRJCC
 1414 Walnut Street, Berkeley

Kabbalat Shabbat

First and third Shabbat of each month
 6:15 p.m. at 1841 Berkeley Way

Wednesday Morning Minyan

7:15 a.m. c

Meditative Minyan*

Third Shabbat of each month at 9:30 a.m. (December 18)

Tot Shabbat (Shabbat B'Yachad]

Second and Fourth Shabbat of each month at 11:00 a.m.

DONATION CARD

I/we wish to make a donation. Enclosed is my check payable to:

Congregation Netivot Shalom
 1841 Berkeley Way
 Berkeley, CA 94703

Please honor the following person/event:

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www.jfed.org/ntvt/netivot.htm

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Newsletter deadline is the first of the preceding month. Items may be e-mailed to:
live-mic@majornet.com
 Or submitted in writing at the shul office to Turi Adams, Publicity Chair.
 Submitted photos may not be returned.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

PAULINE MORENO

I have to start by saying "thanks" for all your cards, emails, phone calls, support, love and concern. I had back surgery on October 30th. I believe, at the time of this writing, that the nightmares of my back problems are behind me now (no pun intended).

I want to thank the following people for covering for me during my recovery: To Judy Breakstone, the congregation's Vice President, I extend my sincere appreciation for carrying the ball during this time. To the rest of the Executive Committee: Joe Meresman, Norman Rosenblatt and Ken Schnur, extra thanks for all your help. Likewise my gratitude to Lorraine Rosenblatt who shielded me from the issues that inevitably come up daily. Of course Rabbi Kelman, who endlessly teaches me about friendship and decency, reminds me of why I am so thankful that I (we) have him to see me (us) through times like these.

And I thank G-d for making this situation an opportunity to learn something: how to receive. Debra and I are fortunate enough to be a part of this very giving and caring community. Most of the time we find ourselves on the side of extending help to others. As part of a community, we like to think that we have a responsibility to do so when possible. But recently we have found ourselves in need of help. In some instances, it has even been necessary to ask for it. For me, as for many, it can be difficult to accept help, whether it is a meal, taking our kids for an hour or a night, or simply running errands. But what I learned was that allowing others to help you, is a mitzvah within a mitzvah.

Recently in her drash a Bat Mitzvah reminded us all that there are two kinds of mitzvot. One you can do alone, like keeping kosher, lighting Shabbat candles, or saying the brachah when you see a rainbow. The other type of mitzvah needs an opportunity to enable it to happen. Some of those are, giving of tzedaka, saying Kaddish, and bikhor cholim (visiting the sick).

So what I would like to share is the following: If you find yourself on the receiving side of a mitzvah, before you say, "No, thank you very much", take a moment and remember that your next words or actions can determine if the circle of mitzvot will complete itself or not.

On behalf of Debra and myself we wish you a safe and enjoyable arrival of the new millennium.

Finally, we have been twice blessed. First, Naomi Horowitz has agreed to take the responsibilities of the membership chair. Naomi's first task will be to coordinate a new member brunch. See the announcement elsewhere in the newsletter for details. Second, Mark Priven has accepted the responsibilities of the Social Action Chair. Mark has lots of great ideas that he is interested in putting in motion. Please let these two people, and for that matter, all those who volunteer their time for our community, know that you appreciate what they do.

Today Rabbah,
Pauline Moreno



COMMUNITY BUILDING BRING CHANUKAH HOME!

By
Julie Weissman

Isn't it time to make the holiday celebration more meaningful? This year, we decided to incorporate our on-going Etzleinu program into Netivot Shalom's Chanukah celebration. We will be having local neighborhood parties. These gatherings will take place on either Saturday night, December 4th following *Havdallah*, or on Sunday, December 5th. Each neighborhood host will decide the date. Check the announcements for listings in your neighborhood.

Iris and I have envisioned these gatherings to include candle lighting,

singing, dreidel games, and lots of eating of latkes and sufganiot (donuts)! We are also working with Mark Priven, Social Action Chair, to create a program called "Adopt-a-Family for the Holidays". Guests will be asked to bring unwrapped presents for their "adopted" family's wish list. Participants will wrap gifts and decorate cards for each "adopted" family member. No matter what age, all are welcome! Come shmooze, have fun and do a mitzvah while you're at it! Call me (849-9505) or Iris (524-8548) for more info! Please see ad on back page as well!



ADULT EDUCATION

by Barbara Wezelman

How does someone follow an extravaganza like last year's seven months long scholar in residence series? If you're Alison Jordan and Stephen Tobias, you do it by breaking with the patterns of the past several years, and taking some risks. Alison and Stephen planned and executed a program that, from start to finish, focused on addressing and enhancing Netivot Shalom's sense of community. This year we didn't cosponsor with others and we didn't advertise outside our congregation. We focused on spiritual practice rather than scholarship, and we made the assumption that providing children's programming would improve the environment for adult learning. Based on the attendance at the weekend's events, and the feedback we received from participants and parents, Alison and Stephen made all the right decisions.

Rabbi Debra Orenstein provided an outstanding program that I think will inspire and guide many of us for years to come; Iris Greenbaum coordinated programs (with assistance from Masha Savitz and supervision from the Madrichim) that had all the children fully engaged, and the only complaint I've heard so far is from people who couldn't make the talks and were disappointed that we didn't tape them! Thanks to all those who attended all or part of the weekend; thanks to those who helped with shopping, set up, clean up, registration details, services and the children; thanks to those who hosted Rabbi Orenstein and to those who hosted Shabbat potlucks, and most of all thanks to Stephen and Alison for their hard work, their attention to detail and their vision. ☆

SPECIAL EVENTS

TALMUD TREAT!

Please join the Talmud regulars as they grapple with a particularly challenging piece of text (*sugiyah*) from tractate Bava Metzia with guest teachers Professor Daniel Boyarin (November 30) and Rabbi Eli Finkelman (December 7). When does an overcharge in a commercial transaction constitute fraud, when doesn't it, and why can't the merchants in Lod make up their minds? This passage has intrigued and mystified scholars for centuries. Rabbi Kelman will do his best to sort it all out on December 21 when he sums up the results of the past weeks of study. Meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the synagogue office.

TEFILLAH AND THE SIDDUR

Rabbi Kelman continues with the final two sessions of this in-depth look at selected prayers -- what they say, what they mean, and what they mean to us. A reading knowledge of Hebrew is required. Meets on Sunday mornings, December 5 and 19, from 10 to 11:30 am at the synagogue office. Child care is available. For more information contact Rabbi Kelman.

MILLENNIUM MAVEN EXPLAINS ALL!

Is the Millennium for the Birds? Owls, Roosters, Bugs (and the Jews) What does the year 2000 mark? What does it portend? A brief history of millenarianism, Jewish messianism, and the end of the world as we know it! Taught by Rachel Brodie, a Bay Area Jewish educator and member of Netivot Shalom, this class will meet Monday evening, December 13, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the office.

LEARNER'S MINYAN

Cantor Pamela Rothmann Sawyer leads this introduction to the Shabbat morning service, generally on the fourth Saturday morning of each month, from 9 to 9:45 am at the BRJCC. This continuing class

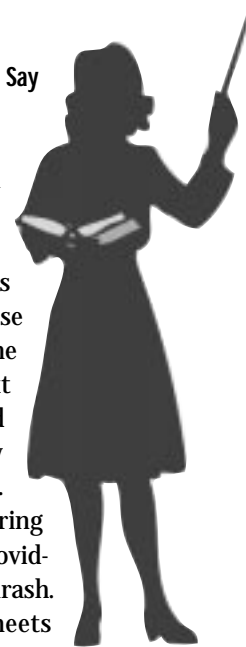
will focus on the Torah service at its December 18 meeting (note that this is the third Saturday of the month). The next minyan will be January 22. No experience or Hebrew knowledge is necessary, just a desire to learn. Child care is available and newcomers are welcome. For further information, please call Eric Strimling at 521-7084.

COMING UP!

How to Stand Up in Front of All Those People and Say Something Insightful

A.K.A. HOW TO GIVE A DRASH

Reserve the evenings of Tuesday January 11th and 25th for this hands-on seminar with Vicky Kelman. The January 11 meeting will focus on topic selection, research techniques and resources. At the end of the class, those who wish to will be able to sign up to give the drash at a future Shabbat. During the next two weeks, class participants are encouraged to begin work on their talk, and to bring any questions or problems to the second meeting. On January 25th, Vicky will focus on answering questions, reviewing progress to date, and providing specific suggestions to help polish each drash. Individual attention guaranteed. Class meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the synagogue office.



INTERESTED IN DELVING DEEPER INTO MEDITATION?

Shalom Spencer would like to hear from you if you are interested in joining a meditation study group. He envisions silent meditation followed by text study (Rebbe Nachman, Duties of the Heart, Tanya, Sfats Emet), and possibly davening. If this sounds like something for you, please give him a call at 548-3321.

ONGOING CLASSES AND STUDY GROUPS

Torah Study, with Nitzhia Shaked and guest teachers, meets every Shabbat at 9:00 a.m. in Room 4 at the JCC. Child care also begins at 9 a.m.

Talmud Study, with Rabbi Kelman, meets every Tuesday evening from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m., at the synagogue office.

B'nai Avraham v'Sarah, a *chavurah* for Jews by choice and their families, meets monthly at various members' homes. For information call Denise Moyes-Schnur at 526-6445.

Judaism Revealed, a group for Jews and their non-Jewish partners, meets monthly. For information call Rose Levinson at 526-1322.



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PROGRAM UPDATES

By Iris Greenbaum

ETZLEINU: IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

ETZLEINU brings together Netivot Shalom members for shared observance of Shabbat, Havdallah and holiday celebrations. This month, you are invited to celebrate Hanukkah in the neighborhood! Festive lights, familiar songs, and tasty treats will highlight our Etzleinu celebrations. We also ask you to remember those in need by participating in our Tzedakah project, "Adopt-a-Family for the Holidays". See Julie Weissman's column for details.

"**ETZLEINU BRAINSTORM & BRUNCH**", hosted by Lisa Harbus, generated ideas for how to most effectively coordinate communication and plan events within our neighborhood groups (shechunot). Some neighborhood groups have been more active than others. Communication was a big factor in effectiveness. We plan to include the Etzleinu neighborhood listings in our general membership directory (soon to be published) and the Kashrut guide for easy reference.

We will be resuming Kabbalat Shabbat services & kosher, pot-luck vegetarian dinners in the neighborhood. Together with the Ritual Committee, we will help coordinate the details of planning for a host family, service leader, date and child care. Please let me know if you are interested in welcoming a small gathering of congregants to your home for Kabbalat Shabbat. I am available to assist with the planning.

Many thanks to Julie Weissman, Ellen Peskin and Ben Donohue for hosting Kabbalat Shabbat dinners for the Scholar-in-Residence weekend. An additional highlight was the children's program developed by Masha Savitz & her team of madrichim. Many thanks to Becky

Moskowitz, Daria Armstrong, Gal Gressel, Rebecca Rudolph-Harris, Tali Weininger, and Zephira Derblich for creating an engaging children's program.

SHABBAT B'YACHAD Netivot Shalom families with young children created Shabbat B'Yachad as a family Shabbat service which meets twice a month. Families have been so enthusiastic about their involvement in Shabbat B'Yachad. At our first planning brunch, parents expressed the desire to see B'Yachad grow in scope to include: holiday celebrations, parent study sessions, monthly brunches & discussions. We are forming a Parents' Planning Committee to coordinate future Shabbat B'Yachad activities. Our Holiday Committee is planning a Hanukkah celebration for families with children under five years of age on Sunday, December 5th from 10 am to 12 noon in room 14 at the JCC. Please call me to RSVP!

Many thanks to each of you involved in Shabbat B'Yachad. Special thanks to Carla Ellern for leading in services, and to Carol Dorf and Elad Ziv for telling Shabbat stories. Thank you to our mini-kiddush sponsors: Shelly Ball and Jeff Burack in honor of Maya Rose and Ari; Melissa Hillman and Ted McClellan in honor of Jonah's first birthday, and Debbie and Jerry Isaak-Shapiro in honor of Naomi's third birthday. Thanks to Shaina Rappaport for leading the children's activities at our planning brunch.

Please contact me with your questions and ideas!



YOUTH EDUCATION NEW SHABBAT CHILD CARE COORDINATOR NEEDED!

Are you the parent of a child under the age of five? If so, perhaps you know about Netivot Shalom's free child care during Shabbat services. If you have used the child care program lately, you're not alone! On a typical Shabbat, approximately twenty five children are registered for child care. That number nearly doubles twice a month when we offer Shabbat B'Yachad, our shul's program for families with children age five and younger. (The surge results from the number of children who are placed in child care for the time before and after Shabbat B'Yachad.)

With the under-five population of our congregation growing, Shabbat child care has never been more utilized and needed. Under the watchful eyes of child care supervisor Jacquie Farber and her teenage assistants, our children play while we daven.

In addition to our caring childcare staff, we are lucky to have Sally Martin, our volunteer Shabbat child care coordinator. Sally recruits and schedules Jacquie's teenage assistants. Due to the number of children and their diverse ages, it is essential that we have at least one assistant who can take older kids out to the play structure or read a story to the toddlers. Sally has been quietly performing her weekly scheduling feats for over a year. Now it is time for another volunteer to take her place.

If you are a parent who uses our (free!) child care service, please consider giving back to the shul by volunteering to schedule child care assistants for the year 2000. If you are interested, contact Alison Cohen at (510) 594-8489. ☆

THE POWER OF RAMAH CAMPING, TESTED FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS, IS COMING TO THE EAST BAY!



Ramah Camp of the East Bay, for children entering grades k-5 will be held in two sessions:

June 26 through July 21; and
July 24 through August 11, 2000.

Based in the East Bay Regional Parks, transportation will be provided from Congregation B'nai Shalom, Temple Beth Abraham, and Congregation Netivot Shalom. The program will include sports, nature, arts and crafts, swimming, music and dance, daily *t'filot* (prayer), and inspired Jewish study. There will also be family programming and, above all, friendships and fun.

Ramah Day Camp will be directed by Dan Alter, MA, who brings seventeen years of experience working with Jewish young people, with a staff of committed and caring Jewish young adults and teachers.

A joint project of the Conservative Congregations of the East Bay, the camp will be under the religious and educational supervision of the National Ramah Commission. For an application or more information, call the synagogue office or send your name, address and phone along with the names and ages of your children to the Netivot Shalom office, attention Ramah Day Camp.

MIDRASHA NEWS

In truth, my favorite day of the Midrasha year is graduation. (Come next May and you'll see why.) But running a very close second is the Midrasha Brunch. This year was no exception. To see a couple of hundred parents and their children, with a smattering of community friends of Midrasha and grandparents, all studying together, was a real treat.

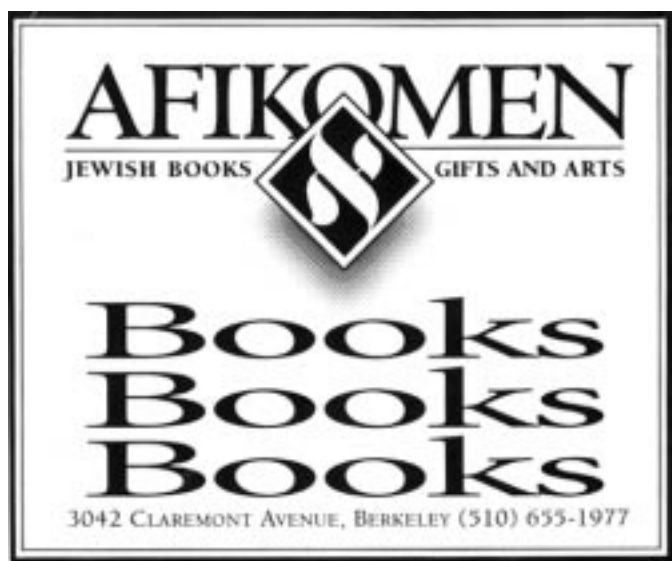
People made artistic tributes to Rabin, discussed fine points of Talmud, confronted their racism, learned how to parent their pierced children, made amulets, looked ahead to what the millennium cults will mean for Israel, and, because the brunch happened on Halloween, we learned about the Golem. And those were just a few of the sessions!

The day was also enhanced by great brunch food and by a silent auction, the proceeds of which go to help scholarships at Midrasha. Thanks so much to the following donors: Brunch food by Viola Juice (Gary Boland), SemiFreddiis (Michael Rose) and Peets Coffee. Restaurant gift certificates were donated by: Bette's Oceanview Dinner, Rick and Anne's, Shai's, Venezia, and Yanksing. Tickets, passes, and accommodations came from: Berkeley Repertory Theater, Berkeley Symphony, Blue and Gold Fleet, CAL Performances, California Shakespeare Festival, Disneyland, Great America, Oakland As, Oakland Museum, Oakland Zoo, Knut and Laura Grossman, Renaissance Rialto Theaters, Sea Ranch, San Francisco

Zoo, Danielle Ruymaker, Barbara and Ted Cohn, and United Artists.

Gift certificates were given by: Afikomen, Andronico's, Capezio Dance Theatre Shop, Focal Point (Leah Kaizer), Monterey Fish, Nabalom Bakery, The Natural Grocery Company, and See's Candy. Books from: Barrie Rokeach, EKS (Claudia Valas), Anne Bernstein, Claude Fischer and Ann Swidler. Great items from: Deborah Lesser, Tama Goodman, Allison Bernstein, Alexander Mosalov, Kay Blonz, Trader Joe's, Paula Gerstenblatt, Turning Leaf, Denise Resnikoff, SemiFreddiis, and Hanging By A Thread. Wine donated by the Turak/Davis, Hudes, Lehman, and Liss/Burt families. Services from: Julie Tarshish, Berkeley Moving Arts (Ruth Botchan), Miriam Petruck, Judith Damowic, Laurie Cohn at The Opulent Hair, Debra Levinsky, Amy Rothberg, Dan Fingerman, Jane Brenner Graphic Design, Larry Walter, Shoshana Socher, Betsy Buchalter-Adler, Lisa Harbus Massage, Chaya Gusfield, Leah Statman, Brian Reich, Denise Resnikoff, Janet Weil, and David Brown. Thank you everyone.

Finally, thanks to Jane Brenner Graphic Design and Richard Engel at Solstice Press for their great work on designing and printing our annual fundraising appeal and to all of you early birds who have already sent in your contributions. We are very appreciative to all of you who in many ways support teenage Jewish education. ☆




DECEMBER 1999

KISLEV 5760

saturday

sunday **monday** **tuesday** **wednesday** **thursday** **friday**



<p>5</p> <p>Young Judea Activity</p> <p>10 am Tefillah Workshop</p> <p>10 am</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30 pm Maimonides Workshop</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:30 pm Torah Trope</p> <p>7:30 pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:15 am Minyan</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:30 pm Building Committee Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Kabbalat Shabbat and Chanukah Celebration at the Bell's home</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study</p> <p>9:45 am Shabbat Services <i>Parasha Miketz</i></p>
<p>1</p> <p>7:15 am Minyan</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Candle Lighting Time: 4:33 pm</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study</p> <p>9:45 am Shabbat Services <i>Parasha Vayeshev</i></p> <p>Eitzleinu: Haydallah & Chanukah Celebration</p>			

<p>Third night</p> <p>Brunch; Etzleinu: Chanukah celebration</p> <p>26 Kislev</p>	<p>Fourth night</p> <p>27 Kislev</p>	<p>Fifth night</p> <p>28 Kislev</p>	<p>Sixth night</p> <p>29 Kislev</p>	<p>Seventh night</p> <p>30 Kislev</p>	<p>Shabbat B'Yachad</p> <p>2 Tevet</p>
<p>10 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Pre-School/K1 Shabbat B'Yachad Brunch <p>4 pm</p> <p>Family Room</p> <p>7 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Ed Committee Meeting Executive Committee Meeting <p>3 Tevet</p>	<p>7:30 pm Maimonides Workshop</p> <p>4 Tevet</p>	<p>7:30 pm Torah Trope</p> <p>7:30 pm Talmud Shiur</p> <p>7:30 pm Social Action Committee Meeting</p> <p>5 Tevet</p>	<p>7:15 am Minyan</p> <p>6 Tevet</p>	<p>7:30 am Minyan</p> <p>7 Tevet</p>	<p>9:00 am Torah Study</p> <p>9:30 am Meditative Minyan</p> <p>9:45 am Shabbat Services <i>Parasha Vayigash</i></p> <p>9 Tevet</p>
<p>Young Judea Activity</p> <p>10:00 am</p> <p>Tefillah Workshop</p> <p>7 pm</p> <p>Board Meeting</p> <p>10 Tevet</p>	<p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TODAY</p> <p>11 Tevet</p>	<p>7:30 pm Torah Trope</p> <p>7:30 pm Talmud Shiur</p> <p>12 Tevet</p>	<p>7:15 am Minyan</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TODAY</p> <p>13 Tevet</p>	<p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p> <p>14 Tevet</p>	<p>9:00 am Torah Study</p> <p>9:00 am Learner's Minyan</p> <p>9:45 am Shabbat Services <i>Parasha Vayehi</i></p> <p>11:00 am</p> <p>Shabbat B'Yachad</p> <p>16 Tevet</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p>	<p>28</p> <p>NO AMITIM</p> <p>7:30 pm Torah Trope</p>	<p>29</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p> <p>7:15 am Minyan</p>	<p>30</p> <p>NO AMITIM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Candle Lighting Time: 4:33 pm</p> <p>1 Tevet</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TODAY</p>	<p>21</p> <p>NO AMITIM</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:15 am Minyan</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TODAY</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>17 Tevet</p>	<p>18 Tevet</p>	<p>19 Tevet</p>	<p>20 Tevet</p>	<p>21 Tevet</p>	<p>22 Tevet</p>
					<p>24</p> <p>Candle Lighting time: 4:34 pm</p> <p>8 Tevet</p>
					<p>25</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p>
					<p>31</p> <p>Candle Lighting time: 4:38 pm</p> <p>15 Tevet</p>

BY JUNE SAFRAN

CUBA NEWS

Here is a report of travel from Ted Ginzberg who once thought it would be great to fly little airplanes full of supplies to the Jewish community of Cuba as a B'nai Brith project in Florida. This being too complicated to work, he went the normal way and reports his experience. His guide was Julio Cesar Mora, my usual guide.

June,
Just returned from a most interesting and enjoyable trip. The people were quite friendly and valued our presence (as well as our presents). There were ten in our party... had Julio as a guide for the entire week. We saw the three congregations in Havana plus Santa

Clara and Cienfuegos. We also went to Pinar del Rio, Trinidad, and by our special request, the Bay of Pigs. Put on over 700 miles. I was most interested in the fact that as bad as things were, there was no subversive talk. All were looking for better days, but by their own efforts. In Beth Shalom [Patronato] met Shimon and Joyce, also Isaac, Adela, and Dr. Miller.

Many thanks for all your help. Our original plan for the small planes would not have been good, even if we got permission. Overnighting is just a tease. You need a week at least to get the feel of the country and people. ☆

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Please mail to: Netivot Shalom Scrip Program
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Your account will be charged on about the 20th of each month and the scrip will be mailed a few days later. Thank you!



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CELEBRATE ROSH CHODESH

THE NETIVOT SHALOM ROSH CHODESH GROUP INVITES YOU TO
WELCOME THE NEW MOON!

We are a diverse group, open to all women in our congregation, that meets in each others homes on *Rosh Chodesh*. Through study, singing, discussion, art, holiday celebration, *teffilah*, meditation, and ritual, we replenish ourselves spritually at the beginning of each busy month.

For a schedule of this year's monthly meetings, topics, and locations, please call Carla Cassler at 232-3036.



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Dear Friends,

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It is legitimate and takes a second to do. I have set it up as my home page on my Internet browser, so each morning when I turn on the computer I feed someone. I urge you all to do the same.

Love, Shirah Bell

What can I do to help our community?

The Volunteer Action Center

has the answer. Call (510) 839-2900, ext. 261.

Everyone can take part in *tikkun olam*--healing the world--by volunteering. There are opportunities to help right in your community, like:

- Serve meals at a homeless shelter
- Tutor young school children
- Visit homebound people
- Serve on the board of a Jewish agency

The Volunteer Action Center

Placing volunteers in places they are needed.



A program of the
Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay
401 Grand Avenue, Suite 500, Oakland, CA 94610
<http://www.jfed.org/volun.html>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We invite you to gather with other new members for the third night of Chanukah:

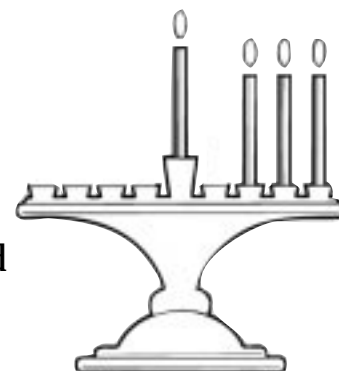
Sunday, December 5, at 5:00 p.m.

at the home of David Levine and Joanna Weinberg

40 Oakvale Avenue, Berkeley

An opportunity to meet Rabbi Kelman and members of the Netivot Shalom board, ask questions about the congregation, plus play dreidel and kindle the Chanukah lights.

RSVP to Naomi Horowitz at (510) 663-3558 or horowitzn@aol.com



SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

"Deeds of kindness weigh as much as all the commandments." - Talmud

Are you interested in helping out with our Social Action Committee?
Do you have ideas of ways that we can reach out and help our communities?

Contact Mark Priven (559-8393 or privwest@pacbell.net) and/or join us for a committee meeting on Tuesday 12/14 @7:30 in the shul offices.

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH WITH NETIVOT SHALOM'S YOUNG JUDAEA



Sunday, December 5 from 1 - 3 p.m.

Come for fun, games, and more! Bring a friend or make a new one.

All 3rd through 12th graders are invited to join one of our three clubs: Ofarim for grades 3-6, Tsofim 7th-8th grade, or Bogrim 9th-12th grade.

High-school students also have the chance to get away the weekend of Dec. 10-12. Young Judaea's Winter Bogrim Convention is a great opportunity to meet other Jewish teens. This first of two conventions will be at Camp Loma Mar in Loma Mar, CA.

Cost is \$150.

For either event, please R.S.V.P. or call for more information: 549-0260.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANK YOU'S

TORAH STUDY

Gloria Goldberg in memory of
 Ilse Feiger and Belle Lipsett
 Hugh and Sanne DeWitt in honor of
 Nitzhia Shaked
 David Bradford

Wolf Concus

Armand and Deborah Gordon and
 Celia Concus in memory of Jacob and
 Sarah Gordon
 Bracha and Percy Tannenbaum in memory
 of Sandy Schneider

THANK YOU'S TO:

Jerry Derblich for his donation of one hundred Machzorim; Ethelyn Simon for her donation towards the purchase of new Machzorim; Drs. Hilda and Seymour Kessler Janet Schneider for her donation of books and tapes

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Diane and Edward Bernbaum in memory of
 Lynn Holmes
 Ethel Murphy
 Ernst Valfer in memory of
 Herman and Frieda Valfer
 Pauline Moreno and Debra Lobel
 Gwynn Simon

GENERAL FUND

Peter Dale Scott and Ronna Kabatznick
 in memory of Jeffrey Kabatznick
 Charles and Susan Salkin in honor of the
 Bat Mitzvah of Leah Whitman-Salkin

MAZEL TOV TO:

Nan Strauss for being honored for her work with MidPeninsula Pathways Hospice Foundation; Doug Arnold and Julie Katz on their marriage; Walter Frank on his marriage; Sharon Freidman on her marriage; Rabbi and Vicky Kelman on the marriage of their son, Ari, to Amie Dorman

CAMP AZARIM SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF BILLY LEVINE

Steve Kron

DINNERS FOR THE HOMELESS

Melissa Hillman McClellan and
 Tom McClellan
 Gwynn Simon

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Flo Pripstein on the death of her father, Issie Sherman

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 Celia Concus in memory of Flora and

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Melissa Hillman McClellan and
 Tom McClellan in honor of Jonah Hillman
 McClellan's first birthday

GREETINGS FROM THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Thanks to all who brought donations for the Alameda County Food Bank to the Shul office during the High Holy Days. Don't forget, the donation bin is there year-round.

And now, an update on the amazing Chai-Walker, Nathan Martin, who COMPLETED his 2650 mile Pacific Crest Trail hike from Mexico to Canada on September 24th, 1999 (just in time for Sukkoth!) You can read the full story in his on-line journal, at: <http://www.znet.com/~martin/>

Nathan undertook this epic hike in part as a fund-raising project for the Sierra Club Inner City Outings program. As the name suggests, this program gives kids who've never seen real wilderness a chance to discover hiking and backpacking. Please consider a donation to the local ICO program: The Sierra Club Foundation, Inner City Outings San Francisco Bay Chapter, Monte Meyers, Treasurer, 2320 Oak Street Berkeley, CA 94708.

I had the privilege of hiking with Nathan at the end of May, on a 50 mile stretch from Walker Pass to Kennedy Meadows in the southern Sierra Nevada. The trail first traversed the ridges overlooking China Lake Naval Weapons Station (we awoke after our first night to watch a jet fly over the ridge just a mile or two from our campsite). The trail then turned west, climbing over two more ridges at 7500 feet on day two and then 8000 feet on day three (the hard part was descending to about 5000 feet elevation in between! -- neces-

sary because water was unavailable higher up). We covered sixteen miles the second day, seventeen miles the third day, and I discovered that it's possible to hike on blisters. Nathan's organization, good humor, and energy were amazing. I got used to the site of the Chai Walker disappearing up the trail ahead of me (he would wait patiently for an hour or two at the top of each pass until I came plodding up). At 6 PM on the third day I knew Nathan would be waiting for me at our campsite, four and a half miles ahead, and I set off down the treacherous, rocky path with a new burst of speed, singing Hebrew songs in anticipation of making camp before it got dark. ha Shem was with me on this hike, as I did NOT break my neck and rejoined Nathan by 7:30 PM, in time to pitch my tent and prepare dinner before we lit candles to welcome Shabbat. Our campsite was bathed in moonlight and we were lulled by the stream flowing past. The next morning we davened Shachrit and then set off for Kennedy Meadows Campground. Nathan was determined to maintain his record for punctuality at this rendezvous, while I followed at a slower pace through the high desert to the Kern river (where my lunch break was interrupted by a dog and a rattlesnake) and then over one last, easy pass. After losing my way, I finally climbed up to the road that crosses Kennedy Meadows, where Nathan and his visiting friends came to the rescue. That night we feasted with a crowd of friends and PCT hikers, and I wondered at their enthusiasm for the months of hiking to come, while I was quite satisfied to have made it that far, my sights now set home and a chance to report our adventures. Nathan will laugh when he sees how long it took me to write this story!

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- Dec. 4 Nitzhia Shaked
- Dec. 11 Open
- Dec. 18 Nitzhia Shaked
- Dec. 25 Jonathan Heinstein

JANUARY

- Jan. 2 Nitzhia Shaked
- Jan. 9 Open
- Jan. 16 Nitzhia Shaked
- Jan. 23 Michael Cohen



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