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November 2009

## HIGH HOLIDAY OPEN SEATING POSTSCRIPT

by Steven Mirsky

Dear friends,

We survived our experimental open High Holiday seating arrangement with no major problems and in the convivial atmosphere that so typifies Mishkan Torah. This doesn't mean that everyone was happy with this system; although many members expressed their satisfaction and even delight with open seating, some congregants had issues and reservations about the lack of assigned seating. I am planning to bring the subject of open High Holiday seating up for a vote at the next general membership meeting, which is scheduled for December 13 at 1 p.m. In preparation, here is my analysis of the pros and cons and suggestions for alternatives for our consideration.

### Open Seating Pros and Cons

The *advantages* of open seating are that it allows congregants the freedom to select any available seats and change where they sit during each day of the High Holidays. It fits perfectly into the Mishkan Torah egalitarian spirit. Unlike in the past, rows that may have been assigned to members who did not attend services did not have to remain empty. Open seating rewards earlier attendees with a larger selection of seats, thereby encouraging members to arrive on time. Our system of open seating also includes a provision for aisle seats to be left open for members with special needs.

The *disadvantages* of open seating center on social, psychological, and physical comfort issues. First, some members have been sitting in the exact same row and seat for decades and are

uncomfortable with the change engendered by not knowing if their specific seats will be there for them whenever they arrive. However, it would now be impossible to re-assign each member the exact row and seat number held in previous years because there are fewer rows and seats associated with the new chairs. Second, some congregants feel ill at ease when searching for seats during services. A third issue reflects the physical comfort of members who strongly prefer specific locations or types of seat due to medical problems. A final problem identified with open seating was that large family groups were not always able to sit together. In a few cases, leaving seats for a period of time resulted in their occupation by others.

All the aforementioned concerns and issues, both for and against open seating, are legitimate and should be addressed. The problem will be how to satisfy everyone now that we have let the proverbial "genie out of the bottle" by experiencing High Holiday open seating.

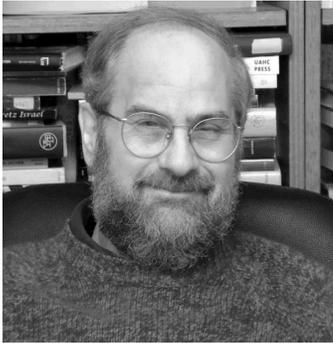
### Path Forward

There are three seating arrangements which Mishkan Torah can use for future High Holiday Services: (1) continue the open seating; (2) return to assigned seats; or (3) some hybrid of open and assigned seating. Continuing the open seating will satisfy all those members who praise or are at least comfortable with it, but will alienate congregants who had problems. Returning to assigned seating will meet the needs of those opposed to open seating, but may alienate members who have become strong

Continued on page 5

## MISTREATMENT OF LABORERS TRACED TO STORY OF LABAN & JACOB

by Rabbi Jonathan Cohen



In a few weeks time, we'll be reading the story of our ancestor Jacob. According to the Torah, Jacob ran away from home, fearful that his twin brother Esau would kill him over the theft

of their father's blessing. He arrived at the home of his uncle Laban, who had two daughters: Rachel and Leah. Jacob fell in love with Rachel at first sight. The midrash elaborates that Jacob served a full month without complaint in his uncle's house before Laban even offered to pay him. When Laban asked him "name your wage," Jacob agreed to work seven years for the hand of Rachel in marriage. But just when Jacob was finally about to collect on this bargain, Laban tricked him, substituting his older and less desirable daughter, Leah. With only mild protest, Jacob accepted Laban's explanation that this was the custom of the place, and proceeded to work yet another seven years before he and Rachel were joined.

This is the first incidence of wage theft in the Torah. In the end, Jacob's story has a happy ending: after all, he got the girl. And, what's more, after fourteen years, and earning no property of his own, Jacob got to negotiate an agreement to earn a portion of Laban's flock. But even here, as Rashi tells us, Laban tried to cheat Jacob by removing the healthy animals from his flock with the intent of leaving Jacob with only the sickly and old ones. But through cunning – or perhaps divine assistance – Jacob was able to select exceptionally desirable sheep and goats, and thus became extraordinarily wealthy. But Jacob never forgot what Laban had tried to do. "Of the twenty years that I spent in your household," Jacob complained at their last meeting, "I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flocks; and you changed my wages time and again. Had not

the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, been with me, you would have sent me away empty-handed."

Jacob's story may have had a happy ending, but unfortunately, millions of workers in America today cannot depend on divine intervention to guarantee them a full day's pay for a full day's work. With the current economic crisis, unscrupulous corporations and businesses are cutting corners to reduce costs – often by forcing workers to work "off the clock," or not paying them overtime, or not paying final paychecks or in many cases not paying their workers at all. All too often, they get away with wage theft payoffs because the laws that protect workers are not enforced. Simply put, there are too few cops on the beat. The main federal agency that should be policing wage and hour violators, the U.S. Department of Labor, has been woefully underfunded. Agency staffing levels in 2008 were the equivalent of having one cop on the beat for every 173,000 workers.

The wage theft epidemic particularly hurts those who toil for wages that are too low to begin with. Agriculture, poultry processing, janitorial services, restaurant work, garment manufacturing, long-term care, home healthcare, and retail are some industries with significant cases of wage theft. Wage theft occurs throughout the country, to native born and immigrant workers alike. The United States has approximately 100,000 day laborers. Mostly men, they gather at unofficial hiring sites around the nation every day, from the break of dawn until mid-morning, waiting patiently to be hired.

- 62% of day laborers surveyed reported that, on at least one occasion, they had not been paid for work performed;
- 22% reported receiving a paycheck which was later returned for "insufficient funds";
- 51% of day laborers reported being paid less than their promised hourly wages;
- 75% of day laborers reported working more than forty hours in a week;

continued on page 3

**UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES . . . from page 2**

- 89% reported working more than eight hours in a single day; and
- 39% of day laborers have been forced to pay their employers for a ride from their hiring location to the work site and back.

Of course, these workers and their families, many of whom rely on each paycheck to survive, are deprived of their income. But employers who cut costs by stealing wages also affect the rest of us: They put good businesses at a competitive disadvantage; communities lose revenue as taxes go unpaid; social service agencies are stretched to the breaking point; and those of us who do pay our taxes are forced to pay a larger share to keep government functioning.

As Jews we should have a special concern for wage theft. When our ancestors were slaves in Egypt they were paid nothing for their work. This memory led the Torah to a keen sensitivity for the plight of the day laborer. We read in Deuteronomy, for example that, "You must not exploit a poor and needy wage-earner, be he one of your brothers or a foreigner resident in your community. You must pay him his wages each day, not allowing the sun to set before you do, since he, being poor, needs them badly; otherwise he may appeal to the Eternal against you, and you will incur guilt." I could quote similar

passages from the Talmud. Many Jewish immigrant workers in America in the early 20th century worked in the clothing industry. As a means of cutting costs, many employers paid their workers by the number of physical items produced, and often insisted that this work be done at the employees' premises. Abuses in this "piece-work" system led our grandparents and great-grandparents to organize themselves into the International Ladies' Garment Workers and the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Unions.

Although very few Jews today are the direct victims of wage theft, there are several things that we can do to ensure that others will not be exploited in this way. For example, if you are doing a small home renovation project, or need help with moving or landscaping you can contact Casa de Maryland to hire a day laborer. We can all lobby our elected officials to vigorously enforce the laws that protect workers from abuse. As individuals we can help fight wage theft by volunteering to teach English to day laborers. Those of us with a background in law or social work can help out at the D.C. Employment Justice Center's weekly legal clinic. To get involved in any of these ways, contact Jews United for Justice at (202) 408-1423 (or on the web at [www.jufj.org](http://www.jufj.org)).

**Remember what we told you last month?**

**If you did not do it yet, do it NOW!**

**Mark Your Calendars  
for the super special gala "Cabaret" in January!**

If you miss it, you'll regret it.

**Great food, sensational entertainment, & all your synagogue friends will be there.**

This is the date:

**SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 30, 2010**

## SISTERHOOD SAYS

by Irene Spector

Thirty Sisterhood members of Sisterhood met at the home of Debbie Brenner the evening of October 6 to celebrate in the Brenners' Sukkah with a delicious Pot Luck dinner. We enjoyed a wonderful selection from hors d'oeuvres to home-made pies and cookies. After dining, we gathered in the Sukkah to read from selections that Debbie had assembled. At one point, we arrived at a reading that started some choir members singing "Eitz Chaim Hi" and all joined in. It was such a beautiful interlude. Luckily the rain held off, and we were able to spend a delightful evening in the Sukkah.

Another excellent evening for Sisterhood members, families, and friends happened Sunday, October 18, when they attended the Klezmatics program at the Clarice Smith Center at University of Maryland. My special secret source tells me it was a definite highlight of the Fall season. Now we have more exciting events to look forward to:

### Last week of October & First Week of

**November:** Rummage Sale collection. Contact Barbara Shansby to offer your assistance.

**Saturday, November 7** at 7 p.m. – Rummage Sale set-up.

**Sunday, November 8 & Monday, November 9** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Rummage Sale at Mishkan Torah. Call Barbara to volunteer. Come sell and schmooze as you gather points for the June donor event.

**Saturday, November 14** – Bar Mitzvah. Help will be needed. Call Robin or Marla to volunteer

**Sunday, November 22** – Karp Family School Book Fair. Contact Martha Tomecek

**Saturday, December 12** at 6 p.m. – Special Hanukah event with Karp Family School.

**Saturday, January 30** [snow date: February 8] – Come to the Cabaret and be prepared for an exciting program! Don't Miss It!

**Sunday, February 21** at 11 a.m. – Laughter Yoga: A gentle yoga program for all ages and all ability levels.

**Sunday, March 14** at 6 p.m. – Sisterhood Seder. Plan to be here because this promises to be a delicious evening with Fran Hakim in charge!

**Saturday, April 17** at 7:30 p.m. – Senior Theatre: "Groucho Marx One Man Show." This is tentative so keep watching for confirmation and more details.

**Sunday, April 18** at 2 p.m. – Greenbelt Arts Center: Premiere of Nicole Burton's play, *Fred and Frieda*.

**Saturday, May 1** after Shabbat – Jewelry Sale set-up. Contact Eva Choper to offer your assistance.

**Sunday, May 2** – Seventh Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale. Contact Eva to volunteer.

**Thursday, May 27** at 7 p.m. – Ice Cream Social and Elections with a program TBA.

**Sunday, June 6 or 13** – Donor Event: Committee is hard at work on plans.

### Special Reminders

**Mitzvah Cards:** Call Becky Hirsch at 301 474-4223 for speedy, efficient service.

**Catering:** Alyce Strasser at (301) 474-4223 will provide excellent help as you plan your special event.

**Gift Shop:** Call Alyce Strasser (after 10:30 a.m., please) for help at the Gift Shop as you choose from a beautiful selection of jewelry, ceramics, glassware, & ritual objects for any occasion.

### RHYME TIME

Well, now you know, we are not slow;  
We're always working to make things go.  
Get out your calendars, a pencil, or pen  
And jot things down - we've told you when.  
All committees are working  
and planning for you;  
Special things are old - but many will be new.

Irene

**REMEMBER: JANUARY 30, 2010**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THAT SUPER SPECIAL EVENT !!!**

## PRESIDENT EXAMINES OPEN SEATING EXPERIMENT . . . from page 1

proponents of this year's arrangement. Finally, there is the hybrid, which may take many forms, but basically would consist of a special section with only assigned seats with the remainder of the sanctuary as open seating. This special section could consist of one third of the main sanctuary, for example. This solution will not satisfy all the "assigned seater" because they would not all be assigned the same seats as before. It could also introduce a class system at MT in which the "open seater" would know who preferred assigned seats and resentment may result.

I have been told that it would be possible to return to assigned seats with our new chairs. It would require a new seat plan and sufficient advance time for all the necessary preparations. Of course, the open seating this year did reduce the considerable workload that is usually associated with labeling and assigning seats. A hybrid system would also be possible, but would require careful coordination and prompt

responses by members when they receive their High Holiday packets in the summer. I have tried to present the facts as best as I can for your review and evaluation. We want all members and their guests to be comfortable when they come to Mishkan Torah for High Holidays. We are open to new ideas as demonstrated by the membership vote last year to try the new open seating. It is incumbent upon us to make a decision at the winter membership meeting, to give enough time for preparations if any change is decided by the membership. **As a point of information, at the October Board meeting, the Board voted unanimously to support a continuation of High Holidays open seating.**

I suggest that you carefully consider our seating options and your recent experience during the Holidays. If you feel strongly about this subject, please attend the meeting. I feel confident that, in the spirit of Mishkan Torah, we can all agree upon an acceptable solution.

## YIDDISH CLUB TO OPEN NEW SEASON

The Yiddish Club will start a new season on Sunday, November 15, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Our goal is to experience Ashkenazic Jewish history and culture through the medium of the Yiddish language. We use a variety of materials such as movies, poems, books, CDs, and magazines to teach us vocabulary and to open a window for us on

our cultural heritage. You don't have to know how to speak or read Yiddish, and you don't have to come to every meeting. All you need is a love of Jewish culture and a desire to learn and have fun.

We hope you will join us. For more information, call Mona Baumgarten at (301)474-4223 or email [mbaumgar@verizon.net](mailto:mbaumgar@verizon.net)

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009**  
**1 PM**

**MISHKAN TORAH**  
**10 RIDGE ROAD**  
**GREENBELT, MARYLAND**

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1	Daylight Savings Time Ends (Move clock <u>back</u> one hour.)	2 a.m.
6	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Family Services	7:30 p.m.
5	<i>Shabbat Vayera</i>	9:30 a.m.
7	Rummage Sale Setup	After Shabbat
8	& 9 Sisterhood Rummage Sale	9 a.m.
10	Rabbi's Study Group Resumes	7:30 p.m.
13	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
14	<i>Bar Mitzvah</i> of Alex Saviet – <i>Shabbat Chayei Sara</i>	9:30 a.m.
15	Yiddish Club Season Opener	10 a.m.
20	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
21	<i>Shabbat Toldot</i>	9:30 a.m.
22	Karp Family School Book Fair	10 a.m.
25	Greenbelt Interfaith Thanksgiving Service	7:30 p.m.
26	Thanksgiving Day	
27	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
28	<i>Shabbat Vayetze</i>	9:30 a.m.



## NOVEMBER YAHRZEITS

### November 6

Ruth M. Meese  
 Samuel Dorfman\*  
 Minnie Choper\*  
 Harry Jenkin\*  
 Golde Epstein  
 Jennie S. Greenbaum\*

### November 13

Ada Levy Barnowsky\*  
 Charles Friedman\*  
 Samuel Richman\*  
 Edythe Berman\*  
 Jacob Levine\*

Anne Winter  
 Cornelia Ungar  
 Dora Friedman\*  
 Rose Gershfield\*  
 Charlotte Broughton\*  
 William B. Karp\*  
 Anna Ellerin\*

### November 20

M. Solomon Kalkstein  
 Caecilie Traub\*  
 Bessie Pomerantz\*  
 Eric Leven  
 Miriam Braverman\*  
 Irving Peckerar\*

Marc J. Spevack\*  
 Elka Bialostocka de Singer\*  
 Sarah Rosenthal\*  
 Anna Greenstein  
 Jennie Pearlman  
 Max Phillips\*

### November 27

Goldie Ellerin\*  
 Rudy Rubin  
 Dorothy Berkowitz  
 Rose Haber\*  
 Max Fuchs  
 David Skolnik\*

## DECEMBER PREVIEW

- 4 *Erev Shabbat* Family Services
- 5 *Shabbat Vayishlach*
- 11 *Erev Shabbat* & First Night of Hanukkah Services
- 12 *Shabbat Vayeshev*
- 12 Karp School & Sisterhood Hanukkah Program
- 13 MEMBERSHIP MEETING**
- 18 *Erev Shabbat* & Eighth Night of Hanukkah Services
- 19 *Shabbat Miketz*



7:30 p.m.  
 9:30 a.m.  
 8 p.m.  
 9:30 a.m.  
 6 p.m.  
**1 P.M.**  
 8 p.m.  
 9:30 a.m.

## MISHKAN TORAH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

### Yahrzeits

Jan Bloom & Judy Briskman for Paul Levine  
 Yvette Boldt for Joel Boldt, David & Solica  
 Benharroch & Sagui Greenbaum  
 Joel Cohen & Ethel Harris for Martin P. Harris  
 Melissa Friedland for Anita Schwab  
 Marsha, Alan, Adam, Michael & Leah Goldfine  
 for Hyman Berkowitz  
 Glenda Goodman for Raymond R. Haber  
 Lori Gordon for Frances R. Gordon  
 Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller for Rita Gottlieb  
 David Granite for Herman Granite  
 Max & Ruth Horlick for Florence Eisenberg &  
 Leo D. Rosenstock  
 Selma Klein for Sonia Klein & Henry Gershfield  
 Niki, Gary, & Ari Kohn for Dena Sara Kohn  
 Marcie Lissauer for Leslie Lissauer  
 Alan Orenstein for Barbara Baren Beck  
 Janet & Harold Pincus for Nathan Shinderman  
 Martha Pomerantz for Aaron Dumas  
 Hal Rappaport for Leonard Rappaport  
 Richard & Verna Rosenzweig for Myer Zola  
 Fran Sanders for Jack Sanders  
 Fran Sanders & family for Bessie Gold  
 Bernard Schwab for Anita Schwab  
 Marie Selleh for Max Winter  
 Pearl & Warren Siegel for Bessie Gold  
 Becky Silverstein for Ruth M. Meese  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lester Singer for Nathan Singer  
 Irene & Sid Spector for Jack Ratzkin  
 Alyce & Arnold Strasser for Edith Strasser  
 Laura Lee Strasser for Edith Strasser  
 Susan Stregack for Helen Moldofsky  
 Martha Tomecek, Michel Cavigelli & Katia  
 Cavigelli for James Tomecek  
 Adam & Abigail Tram for Yetta Boldt  
 Muriel Weidenfeld for Ethel & Max Pogarsky

### Sustaining Fund

Janet Davis in honor of the marriage of Naomi  
 Gottlieb-Miller & Bob Ehrman  
 Bret Goldstein & Darelynn Fung in honor of  
 Sam Goldstein's birthday  
 Helen Wilson in memory of Louis Wilson

### High Holiday President's Club

David Granite & Mary Lou Oster-Granite

### High Holiday

Liz Ahmann & Richard Saviet  
 Nicole Burton  
 Lois Darr  
 Shalom Fisher  
 Karen Friedman  
 John Green & Andrea Weiss  
 Joe & Jeannie Gurman  
 Ray Krasnick  
 Chana Mason  
 Robin Olson  
 Seymour Oresky  
 Raphael & Susette Panitz  
 Harise Poland  
 Richard & Verna Rosenzweig  
 Irving & Marsha Salzberg  
 Fran Sanders  
 Michael & Susann Schultz  
 Laurie Siegel  
 Robert Silverman  
 Alan & Sharon Sokal  
 Stephen Solomon & Phyllis Barson  
 Irene & Sid Spector  
 Martha Tomecek & Michel Cavigelli

### Yizkor Donations

Yvette Boldt  
 Arden Bronstein & Beverly Lowenstein  
 Marsha & Joel Goldberger  
 Carol Levy  
 Robin Olson

### MAZEL TOV

To Mel & Judy Morganstein on the birth of their granddaughter, Lila Morganstein Goldstein. The proud parents are Barrie & Matthew. They all live in Charlotte, NC.

To Suzie Parks on the birth of her grandson, Cameron Joseph (CJ, as he will be known), to Kimberly and Brian Beach in Bentonville, Arkansas, where the couple reside.

To Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller on the marriage of their daughter Naomi Gottlieb-Miller to Bob Ehrman. The couple resides up in Silver Spring.

## SOCIAL ACTION IN ACTION

by Andrea Weiss

The Social Action Committee today received its first large donation of winter coats for our second annual children's clothing drive, after a Mishkan Torah member checked a local thrift shop and found some great buys. Our clothing drive aims to collect new and gently used coats, hats, scarves and gloves for the children of Spring Hill Lake Elementary School. A large box has been set up in the coatroom for your donations. Alternatively, members who are too busy to hit the thrift shops and clearance racks may send a check payable to Mishkan Torah, with the words "Social Action" on the memo line, and we will do the shopping for you.

Our fall blood drive will be held on Sunday, December 6, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. To schedule an appointment in advance, call 1-800-GIVELIFE and mention the date and location to the Red Cross representative. Or simply walk in on the sixth.

Our next committee meeting will be on Sunday, November 15 at 10:30 a.m. Please join us as we plan our winter programs.

### YOUTH NEWS

by Darelynn Fung &  
Martha Tomecek

The Youth Group has had several events this month. Many of the teens read *Torah* during the High Holiday services. They also prepared a *d'var Torah* spiel about *Sukkot* for the October family services.

On *Simchat Torah* the teens met with Karp Family School parents and Rabbi Cohen for a study-discussion session before services. Following services the youth group held a sleepover in the synagogue.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

A wilderness walk with a focus on environmentalism with a Jewish perspective which will be led by Rebecca Lemus.

November family services.

### CHESAPEAKE RECON WANTS YOU TO HOLD THESE DATES!

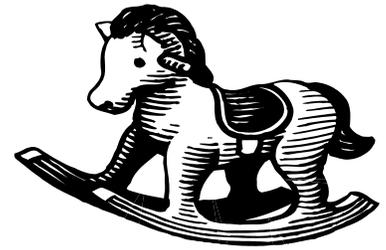
April 16-18, 2010: The local region hopes to sponsor a Traveling Scholar Weekend based on the theme of Israel & the Environment. Watch for more information soon.

The *Trumpet* is published by  
Mishkan Torah Synagogue  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
301-474-4223  
[www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)

Rabbi	Jonathan Cohen
Cantor	Phil Greenfield
Congregation President	Steven Mirsky
Executive Vice President	Mark Shroder
Programs Vice President	Irv Wartell
Financial Secretary	Arlene Gottlieb
Co-Financial Secretary	Diane Rubinstein
Treasurer	Bill Schwartz
Recording Secretary	Janet Davis
Adult Programs Chair	Ronnie Scotkin
Youth Programs Chair	Martha Tomecek
Co-chair	Darelynn Fung
Children's Education Chair	Bret Goldstein
Men's Club President	Dick Rosenzweig
Publicity Committee Chair	Jackie Kling
Co-chair	Hal Rappaport
Religious Committee Chair	Joe Gurman
Co-chair	Yoni Charry
Funeral Practices Chair	Robin Olson
Building Committee Chair	Ed Hickey
Co-Chair	Ron Brooks
Landscape Chair	Becky Hirsch
Building Chair Emeritus	Jordan Choper
Membership Chair	Arden Bronstein
Social Action Committee Chair	Andrea Weiss
Ways & Means Committee Chair	Dan Lowery
Sisterhood President	Diane Tuckman
Gift Shop Manager	Alyce Strasser
Catering Coordinator	Alyce Strasser
<i>Trumpet</i> Editor	Arnold Brodsky

FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO CONTACT ANY MEMBERS OF THE MISHKAN TORAH FAMILY,  
PLEASE PHONE THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE AT 301-474-4223

Please submit articles, pictures, suggestions, and flyers to Arnold Brodsky by the 20th of each month unless announced otherwise.



# Huge RUMMAGE SALE

**Sunday and Monday**

**November 8 & 9**

**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Toys - Books - Small Furniture

Clothes - Housewares - Linens

Sports Equipment - Games - Electronics

Handbags - Luggage - Shoes - Art

**\*\* NEW-TO-YOU SHOPPING \*\***

**DON'T MISS IT  
GREAT PRICES/GREAT FINDS  
Bring your friends and family**

The **SISTERHOOD** of  
**MISHKAN TORAH**  
 Proudly Presents  
**SUPPER CLUB**  
**SHOWCASE**  
 starring



Mark + Becky  
**SILVERSTEIN**  
 Saturday 8PM  
 February 25<sup>th</sup> 1978  
 at  
**MISKAN TORAH**  
 Buffet Supper  
 B.Y.O.B.  
 COVER CHARGE  
 \$ 9.00 Per Person

Adm. by RESERVATIONS ONLY!

~~~~~ 1978 ~~~~~  
 THEN

**THIS IS IT!!!**

THIS IS WHAT WE'RE TALKIN' ABOUT!!  
 IF YOU HAVE EVER SEEN MARK & BECKY PERFORM,  
**YOU KNOW THIS SHOW IS NOT TO BE MISSED!**

IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THEM PERFORM, THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE!

**DON'T LET THIS OPPORTUNITY PASS YOU BY!**

USE THE TEAR FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE  
**& PLACE YOUR ORDER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**



# The Mishkan Torah Sisterhood

*very proudly presents*

## Come to Our Cabaret

**Saturday, January 30, 2010**

*(snow date February 6)*

**7 p.m.**

**10 Ridge Road  
Greenbelt, Maryland**

*starring*

# Mark & Becky Silverstein



*. . . and NOW*



**RESERVATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2010**

*Make checks payable to Mishkan Torah Sisterhood*

*Mail to Mishkan Torah, 10 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770 Attn: CABARET*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults at \$36.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$36 = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children under 13 years at \$25.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

## A MOVIE EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!

by Irv Wartell

Showing on Mishkan Torah's 52-inch screen, starting November 16th and continuing every other Monday, will be the award-winning made-for-TV mini-series

*Holocaust* starring Meryl Streep, James Woods, and Michael Moriarty. This lavish seven and one half hour, three-part epic, from my private collection, chronicles the nightmare covering the decade 1935 to 1945.

The series won eight Emmy awards when it was first presented in 1978 and rave



reviews from every major entertainment critic. The movie follows two families living in Nazi Germany struggling to survive the chaos and horror of war. One family, the Weiss household, is torn apart and scattered across the war-torn country; the other family, the Dorfs, choose a different path and join the German war effort. It's a powerful story of the total devastation of war—and the compelling power of the human spirit.

The *New York Post* said, "Every American family should see *Holocaust*." Shows will begin at 7 p.m. on the designated nights. Admission is free. Refreshments will be available.

## RABBI'S STUDY GROUP RESUMES

by Rabbi Cohen

Rabbi Cohen's Tuesday evening study group will resume on Tuesday, November 10 at 7:30.

This year we will be looking at biblical poetry. What makes a poem? How does the poetry of ancient Israel differ from English and American poetry?

Many of the Hebrew Bible's best poems make up part of the synagogue service. What

does this mean for our spiritual lives?

Whether you resonate to the timeless words of the psalms or to the timeless majesty of the prophets, please join us for stimulating and friendly discussions, learning and laughter.

Come as you are. We'll read the poems in English. No prior knowledge of the Bible or of Judaism is required.

## SOCIAL ACTION CLOTHING DRIVE



Please donate new and gently used children's coats, hats, scarves, and gloves



Collection box in the coatroom!

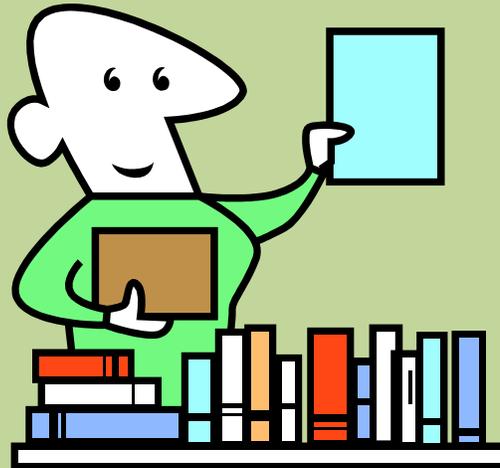


Or send a donation check payable to Mishkan Torah With "Social Action" on the memo line, and we will purchase the clothing for you.



Donations will be given to the children of Spring Hill Lake Elementary School.

# KARP FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL BOOK FAIR



Sunday, November 22  
10 am – 2 pm

**BUY BOOKS FOR ALL AGES AND SUPPORT JEWISH EDUCATION!**

**COME FOR THE 10:30 AUTHOR PANEL DISCUSSION FEATURING:**

**NICOLE BURTON**

*Swimming Up the Sun: A Memoir of  
Adoption*

**SOLVEIG EGGERZ**

*Seal Woman*

**DEBORAH DA COSTA**

*Hanukkah Moon, Snow in Jerusalem*

**FRANK JOSEPH**

*To Love Mercy*

**DANIEL STRICKMAN**

*Prevention of Bug Bites, Stings, and Disease*

**LAURIE DIETZEL, PHD**

*Late, Lost and Unprepared: A Parents' Guide  
to Helping  
Children with Executive Functioning*

**COFFEE KLATCH WILL BE OPEN**

## MISHKAN TORAH CELEBRATES SIMCHAT TORAH BY 'DANCING IN THE STREET'



Carrying an array of white-cloaked Torah scrolls, Mishkan Torah members and friends once again took to the local street to celebrate the festival of Simchat Torah in a tradition that goes back decades. Among those pictured are folks of all ages parading in front of the shul. L to R below: Yoni Charry and Ben Greenfield holding Torah scrolls; and Dick Rosenzweig and Ed Hickey carrying the American and Israeli flags, respectively.

Pictures by Steve Mirsky

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6**  
**from 12 noon to 4 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, call **1-800-GIVELIFE** and mention Mishkan Torah along with the date, or just walk in.

**Sponsored by the Social Action Committee.**

## 'COME TO OUR CABARET' ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

In 1978, on a lovely February evening, a young couple took center stage at Mishkan Torah and filled the crowded room with song and laughter. It was a memorable evening.

Now, 32 years later, as time grows near for this talented twosome to leave Mishkan Torah for warmer climes, we have asked them to entertain us one more time. On Saturday, January 30, Mishkan Torah Sisterhood will proudly present "Cabaret" – an evening with Becky and Mark Silverstein.

We have all been exposed to their beautiful voices during Shabbat and holiday services, and at the many shows put on at Mishkan Torah over the years. Now we present you with an evening filled with those voices in another venue. They will be doing an eclectic mix of their favorite genre – Broadway, '60's and '70's, Folk-Rock, Beatles, Country & Western, and one of Becky's favorites, operatic arias – with musical accompaniment.

When the idea of doing a farewell performance was first introduced, the reaction was something like "will anyone still want to hear us perform?"

Here is our opportunity to show them how many would.

We have planned an exciting evening: Two musical sets on either side of one of our famous and stupendous dairy Italian dinners.

Now it's up to you. Let's fill the room and show Becky and Mark that Mishkan Torah members and friends appreciate talent when they see and hear it.

Reservations will be accepted through Sunday, January 17. Checks must accompany reservations. Sorry, there will be no walk-ins at this event. Those without paid reservations will be turned away at the door.

**Make your New Year's resolution now –  
Come to Our Cabaret!**

Complete and return the Reservation Form found elsewhere in this issue of the *Trumpet*, write your check, and return both of them in

by Alyce Strasser

an envelope marked "CABARET" to the Mishkan Torah office at 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Remember, the last date reservations will be accepted is January 17, 2010.

## ANNUAL BOOK FAIR WILL FEATURE SIX-AUTHOR PANEL

By Debbie Levenson

Please save Sunday, November 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to attend the Karp Family Hebrew School's book fair and literary event featuring six local authors who will discuss and sign their books at the synagogue. The sale features fiction, children's books, cookbooks, and other books about history, current events, religion, philosophy, and family life.

The book discussion begins at 10:30. Participating authors and their books are as follows:

- ✧ Nicole Burton, *Swimming Up the Sun: A Memoir of Adoption*;
- ✧ Solveig Eggerz, *Seal Woman* (fiction);
- ✧ Deborah da Costa, author of *Hanukkah Moon, Snow in Jerusalem*;
- ✧ Frank Joseph, *To Love Mercy* (young adult fiction);
- ✧ Laurie Dietzel, PhD, *Late, Lost, and Unprepared: A Parents' Guide to Helping Children with Executive Functioning* (nonfiction/family life);
- ✧ Daniel Strickman, *Prevention of Bug Bites, Stings, and Disease* (nonfiction/practical science).

Proceeds of sales will benefit the Hebrew school. For more information, call Debbie Levenson at (301) 474-4223.

### MISHKAN TORAH TO HOST THANKSGIVING

This year's Greenbelt Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held Thanksgiving Eve, November 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Mishkan Torah.

## WAYS & MEANS ANNOUNCES RETURN OF COFFEE KLATCH

Have you missed your Sunday morning bagel and coffee? Has your pre-Redskins game not been complete without your made-to-order omelet? Have you recently wanted to catch-up on the busy lives of your Mishkan Torah friends at a more social occasion? Ways & Means is proud to announce the return of the Coffee Klatch on November 9 [Sisterhood Rummage Sale] and November 22 [KFS Book Fair]. Come support this uniquely Mishkan Torah fundraiser!

We are planning some really great Ways and Means events for 2010. The largest event will be an April 25 dinner honoring Mishkan Torah's past presidents. You won't want to



by Dan Lowery  
miss this one!  
Whether you're  
a recent  
member or a  
longtime  
member, come  
learn or  
reminisce

about our common Mishkan Torah history and honor those who have led our congregation. Please save the date and watch the *Trumpet* for details.

*Entertainment 2010* books are now available. Call Frank Pearlman to claim your copy today!

**DON'T FORGET THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING  
DECEMBER 13  
1 P.M.  
AT MISHKAN TORAH**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 301-474-4223

### **SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP**

ALWAYS READY TO HELP  
YOU SELECT EXACTLY  
THE RIGHT ITEM  
JUST CALL ALYCE  
(AFTER 10:30 A.M., PLEASE)  
TO ARRANGE A VISIT.  
301-474-4223

**MISHKAN TORAH SYNAGOGUE  
10 RIDGE ROAD  
GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20770**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED