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THE RABBI'S COLUMN: PERSONALITY TEST

By Mark Sameth

Here's a simple personality test you can take this month at PCS to determine if you're a social, intellectual, emotional, or spiritual type. It's easy and fun to do!

Are you a social type? Come find out! On Friday night, November 12, PCS will be hosting a New Member Shabbat Dinner immediately following the 7:15 pm service. Children and adults who have joined PCS over the past two years are welcome. We're also inviting those members who have volunteered to be part of our Membership Engagement committee's new "Ambassador Program". Enjoy the warmth of this highly social evening. Reservations required.

Are you an intellectual type? Come find out! On Tuesday evening, November 16 at 7:30 pm, Dr. Sarah Tauber – a brilliant Yale- and JTS-educated Jewish lecturer - will be teaching on the competing visions of Ben Gurion and Jabotinsky, two seminal Zionist thinkers. Jabotinsky was a territorial maximalist, whose "Revisionist Zionism" was in direct conflict with Ben Gurion's "Practical Zionism". It's a classic right/left ideological clash which played out in the tension-filled pre-state days. Who are Ben Gurion's and Jabotinsky's ideological heirs today, and how are they influencing decisions being made regarding security and a two-state solution? Enjoy an intellectually stimulating evening.

Are you an emotional type? Come find out! You'll laugh, you'll cry. On Sunday, November 21 at 6:30 pm, PCS plays host to the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. A heart-warming and uplifting evening of words and music, culminating in an interfaith Muslim, Christian, and Jewish band leading a group sing of "This Land is Your Land." Sponsored by the Pleasantville Clergy Association, this will be a night to remember. Muslim, Christian, and Jewish teens will speak on the theme of Thanksgiving. Enjoy an uplifting, emotional evening.

Are you a spiritual type? Come find out! On Saturday morning, November 27 at 9:00 am, PCS holds its monthly Meditation Shabbat. Whether or not you've experienced Jewish meditation before, you'll be guided in the gentle practice of sitting, focusing the mind, and allowing the natural process of relaxed attention to release stress, regain equanimity, restore energy, and deepen compassion for self and other. You don't need any background in meditation or Jewish practice. Jews, non-Jews, members and non-members are all welcome.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our new year is well under way and there is exciting news on a number of different fronts. Our board has met twice so far and we've been able to staff several committees that have been dormant for the last couple of years. Israel Action has already created two events that have been successful and well attended: a film "Ushpizim," and a lecture by Dr. Sarah Tauber on the origins of Zionism. Many of you see the announcements on the Website or in the email blasts that come out weekly, but these announcements cannot convey the depth and excitement that has been generated in the room by these evenings spent together. Sarah's lecture, in particular, has received rave reviews from all of us who attended, and she will be delivering two more in the coming

months. Look for the announcement and run, don't walk, to hear her,

Another committee that is in motion has to do with youth activity. Evan Kingsley has organized a group of teens who will be meeting at his house shortly to brainstorm about what they would like to do. This is something we have not seen in the last three years and the prospects for engaging in a meaningful venture look good. If your post b'nei children have not heard about this, please bring it to their attention and have them contact Evan. Also we are starting an ambassador program to create greater contact among our membership, especially newer families. It is under the guidance of Laurie Hirsch and a group of parents she

has organized.

Something else new that is coming will be a PCS Facebook page. Kiersten Zweibaum, who does this work professionally, is the organizing force to set it up and to update it regularly. Many of you have indicated a preference for communication through this route, as opposed to emails, and we are happily obliging.

Each of these elements, plus others I will write about in the future, give an indication of the vibrancy of our growing community and offer new ways to engage in communal activity. I hope that every member of PCS can find at least one way to become involved.

Peter Schaffer

PLEASANTVILLE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

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Dear Friends,

A small group of congregants has been meeting every Sabbath after services to discuss the weekly Torah portion. 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 Religious Education Committee would like to expand participation. Shouldn't more of us gain insight into the beauty and meaningfulness of our Torah? We also seek lay members to volunteer to lead these discussions.

In a couple of weeks you will receive a schedule with the dates of the Torah Study meetings, the parshas and the topics for the period of January to September 2011.

Come when you can. Consider leading a discussion. Sign up for a parsha that you know and like or one that has some relation to your occupation or one whose topic simply intrigues you.

Look for this schedule in your e-mail!

Shalom,
The Adult Education Committee



TWO'S COMPANY WAREHOUSE SALE TO BENEFIT WJCS December 3, 4 & 5

Buy some great gifts and help WJCS! Two's Company, a giftware and collectibles company, has selected WJCS to be the beneficiary of its December 3-5 Warehouse Sale at 275 Clearbrook Road, Elmsford.

Thousands of items including fashion accessories, home décor and gifts will be available for 90% off retail. 50% of proceeds will benefit WJCS programs. For more info, go to: <http://www.wjcs.com/clientuploads/WJCS%20Large%20Flyer.pdf>.

PCS CELEBRATES SIMCHAT TORAH!



Emma Reisman and Tali Havazelet resting their arms as they wait for the next Torah bearer to walk under the Tallit.



The Safranek men (father Michael and sons Isaiah, Josh, and Sam) as they prepare to dance around the synagogue carrying the

ASK THE RABBI

Last month Rabbi Mark met with our fourth grade class for a session of Ask the Rabbi (on October 6). It was a wide-ranging discussion. Someone even wanted to know what sort of mitt Rabbi Mark had when he was a boy. (Answer: a Wilson "Trapper" catcher's mitt). Most, but not all, of the kids were in attendance that day. Here is a very short excerpt of the conversation:

Jacob Freiheit: What's your favorite song?

Rabbi Mark: Oh boy, I have so many! But I guess one of my favorite Jewish songs would have to be "Kol Nidre" which is sung on the evening of Yom Kippur. This year we not only heard it sung, but we heard it beautifully played on the violin. And do you know who played it?

Jacob: Yes! My mom!

Isaac Gordin: Why do we dress and undress Torah?

Jenna Pfeffer: Yes, that was my question, too.

Rabbi Mark: Isaac, Jenna, good question! One reason is simply to protect the Torah, the same way that many books have dust jackets, to keep them clean. The other reason is "lichvod ha'Torah," to show respect to the Torah. It's one way we show how important the Torah is to us.

Rosa Hahn: When did you become a rabbi?

Rabbi Mark: I became a rabbi in the spring of 1998.

Hannah Klein: What happened to the Jews in the Holocaust?

Rabbi Mark: How many of you have heard of the Holocaust? Well, it was a terrible time many, many years ago. It happened in Europe, and at first there were many rules put on Jews that made our lives hard. Then we were forced to work as slaves. And then finally, believe it or not, many, many were killed. It happened a long, long time ago – before you were born, before I was born – and the bad people who did it are all gone.

Griffen Rakower: What's your favorite sport?

Rabbi Mark: To watch or to play?

Griffen: Both

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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.

MOVIE NIGHT AT PCS: USHPIZIN



DAVID FELDER, DAVID BENATTAR, PETER SCHAFFER

Members gathered on Tuesday, September 28, despite rainy weather, to celebrate Sukkot by watching the Israeli film "Ushpezin". The story takes place among the Breslov Hassidim in Jerusalem during the holiday of Sukkoth. It focuses on a childless couple who are tested by the arrival of unexpected guests, or "ushpezin", to their Sukkah. Rabbi Mark, who has seen the film three times, led the discussion on the film. He focused on the teachings of Rabbi Nachman of Breslov (such as the practice of "Hitbodedut") which weave through the film. Rabbi Nachman of Breslov lived in the 18th century, but his melodies can still be heard at PCS services today. True to PCS form, participants had a lot to say in response to the film, comments ranging from the political to the personal. Later this year, the Israel Action Committee and the Adult Ed Committee plan to continue the format of film screening and discussion with a film series exploring religious and ethnic diversity in Israel.



SHARON FRIEDMAN, MICHAL SELIGMAN, OFRI FELDER, DAVID FELDER, DAVID BENATTAR

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NOVEMBER B'NEI MITZVAHS

November 13

Aliya Mayers, her parents, Michael Mayers and Leyla Nakisbenda, and brother Aydin and Sister Maia

FALL B'NAI MITZVAH CALENDAR

<u>Aliya Mayers</u>	<u>November 13</u>	<u>Vayetze</u>
<u>Family Education Shabbat</u>	<u>November 27</u>	<u>Miketz</u>
<u>Audrey McGrath</u>	<u>December 11</u>	<u>Vayigash</u>
<u>Family Education Shabbat</u>	<u>December 18</u>	

PCS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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.

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NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



The high holidays are now behind us and we are in the middle of a quiet month, Cheshvan, that allows us to focus on many important subjects such as Shabbat, Tzedakkah, and the book of Bereshit. Last year the students collected tzedakah enthusiastically and we donated to very important causes in Israel and the USA. The money went to easing hunger, for Magen David Adom (the Israeli equivalent of Red Cross) and to Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem. Students will need parents' support and enthusiasm in this endeavor and we are counting on you.

A few of our students went with their families to Israel this summer and shared many of their stories with their classmates and teachers. Below are a few lines Griffen Rakower (4th grader) wrote about his trip.

Shalom,
Michal Solomon

My trip to Israel by Griffen Rakower

This past August, my family went to Israel. We went to Jerudalem, Tiberias, Safed and more. My favorite part was going to the beach in Tel Aviv. I loved going in the Meditarainean Sea. We played in the water for the whole day. We also went to the Western Wall. I put a note in the wall. Israel was fun.

Todah Rabbah (thank you)

- **To Helen Harrison for coordinating the Zayin Shabbaton,**
- **To Cristina Martinez for taking beautiful photographs of our 1st and 2nd graders during the holiday of Sukkot.**

B'NAI MITZVAH PROJECTS



Aliya Mayers - Bat mitzvah

Project Night Night (www.projectnightnight.org) is a non-profit program that provides a bag, blanket, stuffed animal and a book to children in shelters. I met Kendra Robins, who started Project Night Night, through my great aunt and uncle. She started Project Night Night when she realized her son could sleep anywhere because he had his blanket, stuffed animal and a book.

I chose Project Night Night because I have a blanket, Pink Blankie, that I've had since forever. I can't sleep without her and when I do have her, I feel safe. My blankie has come with me everywhere - Colorado, Puerto Rico, France and sleep-away camp. I want every child to have the same feeling I have when I hug my blankie - a feeling of comfort.

OUR FIRST AND SECOND GRADERS CELEBRATE SUKKOT



WITH TEACHERS, MICHAL SOLOMON AND JENNIFER CHERVIN

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

DR. JEFFREY SOLOMON & DR. AUDREY WEINER
MR. DAVID GLICKHOUSE AND DR. KARIN RUBENSTEIN
FRANK STEINDLER
BARRY AND JEANNE HERSH

KIDDUSH

SETH AND JOANNA RUTMAN, IN HONOR OF THEIR DAUGHTER, SOPHIA'S, BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER 2010 YAHRZEITS

Glenda Salyman, Mother of Susan Raab, November 1, 2010
Josef Dick, Father of Gertrude Cohen, November 6, 2010
Mathilde Dick, Mother of Gertrude Cohen, November 6, 2010
Walter Arenwald, Father of Elaine Barella, November 10, 2010
Jill Schehr, Wife of Jeffrey Sacks and Mother of Liza and Alexandra Sacks, November 12, 2010
Martin Rosen, Brother of Estelle Rosen-Kersh, November 13, 2010
Boris Lenoff, Father of Jerome Lenoff, November 15, 2010
Sidney Lasher, Father of April Lasher, November 15, 2010
Samuel Tessler, Uncle of Rhea Wolfthal, November 17, 2010
James Strauch, Father of Helen Harrison, November 18, 2010
Arthur Jackson, Father of Sharon Friedman, November 20, 2010
Tina Gambino, Daughter of Janice and Tony Gambino, and Sister of Isabelle Gambino, November 21, 2010
Howard Needleman, Father of Karen La Porta, November 21, 2010
Ellie Baumwald, Mother of Nancy Krakaur, November 22, 2010



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.

ASK THE RABBI (CONTD)

Rabbi Mark: To play, I'd say tennis. To watch, I'd say football. When I was a boy my father used to take me to watch the New York Giants - back when they played at the old Yankee Stadium. They had a great quarter-back named Y.A. Tittle. The initials stood for "Yelberton Abraham". He wasn't Jewish, but a lot of non-Jews think that Jewish names like Abraham are cool. Hey, I had to bring that in - this is Ask the Rabbi!

Jared Rosen: How tall is Mt. Sinai?

Rabbi Mark: You know, I once climbed the mountain in the Sinai desert that many people think might have been the actual Mt. Sinai. But I don't remember how tall it is. Maybe 5,000 feet? Something like that. (Correct answer, according to Wikipedia: 2,285 meters; about 7,500 feet.)

Jordon Sabatier: How long has PCS been here?

Rabbi Mark: The classroom you're sitting in is really old. It was built in the 1950's. But the sanctuary is even older. It was built in 1847 – before Abraham Lincoln was president. At first it was a church, then it was sold to another church, then it was empty for about ten years. Pleasantville Community Synagogue bought the building in the fall of 1996, and the building was dedicated in the spring of 1998.

Michelle Siegel: What was the first holiday?

Isaac Gordin: Shabbat!

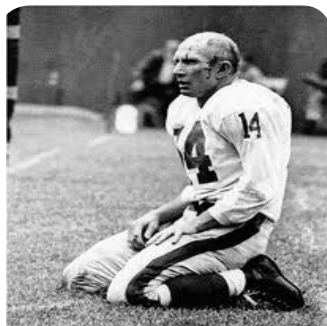
Rabbi Mark: Isaac is right! In the old days, kids had to go to school every day; parents had to go to work every day. There was no such thing as a "weekend". Then the Jews began to keep a holiday once a week called "Shabbat" – the day of rest. That was the first holiday.

Jodi Zizmor: Is there a prayer for brushing teeth?

Rabbi Mark: There should be a prayer for everything! The prayer for washing hands is "Baruch Atta....al netilat yadayim." So the prayer for brushing teeth could be "Baruch Atta...al ha shinaym". It even rhymes!

Jolie Wasserman: How does God talk to people?

Rabbi Mark: What a great question! Well, we know that God is invisible. The rabbis of old taught that God does not have a body (ayno guf). To be fair, if God looked like anybody God would have to look like everybody! Not a boy, and not a girl. So if God has no body, God has no mouth. And if God has no mouth, God doesn't "speak" the way that you and I speak. So I would say that when God "speaks" to us, we hear God as the voice inside our mind, telling us to do the right thing. At least that's how I think of it.



Y A TITTLE

Friday night November 12: New Member Shabbat Dinner immediately following the 7:15 pm service.

Saturday night, November 13: "All You Can Eat Sushi, and More Torah Than Anyone Can Digest" with Rabbi Mark and 29 other rabbis at TIC in White Plains.

Tuesday evening, November 16: PCS Israel Symposium with Dr. Sarah Tauber at 7:30 pm

Saturday evening, November 20: Movie Night at PCS

Sunday, November 21: The annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, 6:30 pm at PCS

Saturday morning, November 27: Meditation Shabbat, 9:00 am

Saturday morning, November 27: Family Education Shabbat, 10 am



**SAVE
THE
DATE:**

PCS/Rosh Chodesh - The festival of the Seasons of the Moon

In the spirit of celebrating the festival of Rosh Chodesh as given to the women of Israel, we have planned fun, interesting, and exciting programs.

A few of the events for our PCS women members and friends: a Museum Visit, Yoga Class, Chanuka Menorah Lighting, Pasta Family Shabbat dinner, Music Workshop, and our new tradition, a Women-led Shabbat service followed by a Special Family shabbat dinner.

We all look forward to our PCS monthly women's gatherings and the chance to share good times, so look for detailed bulletins and emails to follow.



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 Judit Chinitz at judyhope@optonline.net or dropped off at the newsletter box in the Synagogue office.

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November 2010 - PCS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	2	3	4 "Jew Tube" 6:15-7:30pm	5 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with Tot Shabbat (7 pm), Children's Service & Birthday Blessings 5:29pm-5:47pm - Candle lighting	6 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Toldot 6:58pm-6:59pm - Havdalah (72 min)
7 Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11am Rosh Chodesh Kislev	8 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am Rosh Chodesh Kislev	9 Ask the Rabbi 4 pm 1st Grade	10	11 NO HEBREW SCHOOL Hebrew High 6:15-7:30pm Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30pm	12 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with PCS House Band, Children's Service & New Members Shabbat Dinner 4:22pm-4:40pm - Candle lighting	13 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Bat Mitzvah - Aliya Mayers Chevruta: First Annual Night of Learning at TIC/White Plains 7 PM Parashat Vayetzei 5:51pm-5:52pm - Havdalah (72 min)
14 Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11am PCS Board Retreat	15 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	16 Visions of Modern Israel Symposium at PCS (Ben-Gurion vs Jabotinsky) 7:30pm	17 Social Action Committee Meeting 7:30 pm Rosh Chodesh Kislev Mother/Daughter Shabbat Program 7pm	18 "Jew Tube" 6:15-7:30pm	19 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with Aleph Shabbaton, PCS House Band and Children's Service 4:16pm-4:34pm - Candle lighting	20 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Vayishlach 5:45pm-5:46pm - Havdalah (72 min)
21 Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11am Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at PCS 6:30pm	22 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	23	24 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	25 NO HEBREW SCHOOL Thanksgiving	26 Friday Night Service 7:15pm 4:11pm-4:29pm - Candle lighting	27 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Morning Meditation 9 am Family Education 10 am Parashat Vayeshev 5:41pm-5:42pm - Havdalah (72 min)
28 NO HEBREW SCHOOL	29 Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am	30	1 Chanukah: 1 Candle	2 Chanukah: 2 Candles Hebrew High 6:15-7:30pm	3 Friday Night Service 7:15pm with Tot Shabbat (7 pm), Children's Service & Birthday Blessings Chanukah: 3 Candles 4:09pm-4:27pm - Candle lighting	4 Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Miketz Chanukah: 4 Candles 5:39pm-5:40pm - Havdalah (72 min)

Printed on 10/27/2010

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. Future months are also on the website.

Wednesday, November 17th: ROSH CHODESH KISLEV

Join us for a special mother- daughter Rosh Chodesh to consider the wonders of Shabbat. Mothers and daughters of all ages from the elementary years through the empty nest and beyond are invited to share and learn new ideas about how to bring Shabbat traditions to your family and into your home. We will nosh, chat and create art project treasures for the Friday night meal and the Saturday evening Havdallah. Join Laurie Hirsch Schulz, Merrie Teitel-Greene and their daughters as we explore together how to connect and celebrate through Shabbat.

PCS - 7:00 PM – RSVP TO Laurie Hirsch-Schulz: lhirschschulz@gmail.com



Don't Miss The First Annual Westchester-wide "CHEVRUTA:NIGHT OF JEWISH LEARNING AND CELEBRATION"

Saturday night, November 13

Temple Israel Center, White Plains, 7:30 PM

Sponsored by the Westchester Board of Rabbis and the Council

Over Thirty Rabbis throughout Westchester will present the class they always wanted to teach followed by a Kosher Chinese and Sushi Buffet featuring the live band The Moody Jews

Only \$20/person in advance by November 5; \$25/person at the door

Join us at the Annual Westchester Diversity Breakfast
co-sponsored with the American Jewish Committee and the Duchesne Center of Manhattanville College,
Purchase

Thursday, November 18, 8:00 AM; \$18/person

Last call for ads in the 2011-2012 Westchester Jewish Directory Please contact DIRECTORY@WJCouncil.org if interested

SAVE THE DATE: Westchester Jewish Council 35th Annual Gala
Saturday, February 12, Congregation Kol Ami, White Plains

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

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

General Fund

Finances any need of the synagogue considered necessary by the Board of Trustees. All unspecified gifts are credited to the General Fund.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

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

Building Fund

To preserve the beauty and func-

tionality 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).



WJCS Offering Free Workshops to Women Looking for Jobs

With funding from the Leir Charitable Foundations, WJCS has launched Women-Helping-Women, a series of free workshops for women who are seeking jobs. Registration is required. Please contact W-H-W Project Director Lenore Rosenbaum at 761-0600, X308 or Irosenbaum@wjcs.com.

The following free, non-sectarian workshops will be held at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Avenue, Tarrytown, NY. For directions go to <http://www.tba-ny.org/aboutus/directions/>

Thursday, October 14

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Thriving While Unemployed – Although scary, being out of work can also be an opportunity to stop and look at your work life – where you’ve been and where you want to go.

Tuesday, October 19

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Navigating Your Career: Adapting Your Skills to the Current Market Trends – Learn strategies to effectively market the skills you want to transfer.

Wednesday, October 27

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Persuasive Communication – Learn how to put your best foot forward, when you interview for a job or network.

Thursday, November 4

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Getting Yourself Organized & Staying Organized – Get insights, tips and suggestions for managing your job search and the steps you need to take to land your new job.

Tuesday, November 9

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Landing Your Next Job via Networking – Learn why networking is the most effective way to secure your next job and how to have a breakthrough in your ability to create and leverage your own network.

VISIONS OF MODERN ISRAEL SYMPOSIUM

Sarah Tauber, in a presentation described by Rabbi Mark and other participants as brilliant, engaged members from PCS, Temple Beth El, Bet Torah, and CSI in an exploration entitled “Visions of Modern Israel”. The October 19 symposium, the first of a series of three, told the story of two very different Jewish visionaries and activists: Theodore Herzl and A’had Ha’Am. Participants came away with a deeper understanding of the amazing personal trajectories and the revolutionary ideas of these two men, whose paths crossed at the turn of the 20th century. While Herzl responded to the crisis of the Jews, A’had Ha’Am responded to the crisis of Judaism; and while Herzl foresaw the looming threat to Jewish survival in Europe at a time of still relative calm, A’had Ha’am foresaw the danger to a Jewish state that does not recognize Arab will, aspirations, and hostility. One was the father of political Zionism, the other of cultural Zionism.

Participants in the symposium were challenged to consider how these men would have viewed Jewish Nationhood, Peoplehood, and Statehood today.

Next in this series: Tuesday, November 16 -- Ben-Gurion vs Jabotinsky; Tuesday, December 14 -- Buber vs Kaplan. This exciting series is sponsored by the Israel Action Committee and the Adult Education Committee. It is open to all.



JOIN US FOR ONE OR MORE OF THE PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY THE WJCS JEWISH SPIRITUAL HEALING CENTER!

Starting Wednesday, December 8 - 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
At WJCS, 845 N. Broadway, N. White Plains, \$72

Tuesday, December 7 - Bringing Light into the Darkness: A Chanukah Bereavement Program

Celebrate Chanukah with other bereaved Jews. Food, songs, storytelling, and candle-lighting. For those with any kind of loss at any stage of the grieving process.

Co-facilitated by Jane Slevin, MFT, and Rabbi Pamela Wax
Tuesday, December 7, 7:00 PM

SPIRITUAL JOURNEYING GROUPS

Starting Wednesday, October 27 (changed start date)- Ritual-Craft: Sanctifying the Thresholds of our Lives

Each of us has rituals in our lives. They ground us and help us feel safe. In this workshop, we will learn about the art and craft of rituals, discern what needs sanctifying in our own lives, and create a meaningful ritual or ceremony for that occasion: a special anniversary, a healing ritual for loss or illness, or a way to mark or honor a significant transition.

Co-facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax and Robin Friedman, MA, Jewish Education

Wednesday, October 27 and Monday, January 10, 6:30-8:30 PM at Temple Israel Center, 280 Old Mamaroneck Road, White Plains, plus a private session scheduled in between. Robin is the Mikveh Coordinator at Temple Israel Center; including mikveh is an option for your personal ceremony. (\$54)

Starting Wednesday, November 3 (changed start date) - 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
At WJCS, 845 N. Broadway, N. White Plains, \$36

Starting Wednesday, November 10 (changed start date) - 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
3 Wednesdays, 12-1:30 PM, November 10, December 8, January 12
At WJCS, 845 N. Broadway, N. White Plains, \$36

Wednesday, December 1 - Light the Lamp of Your Soul: A Chanukah Healing Service

Join Rabbis Mark Sameth and Pamela Wax for a Chanukah celebration incorporating song, storytelling, and meditation to ease your mind and touch your soul.

Pleasantville Community Synagogue, 219 Bedford Road, Pleasantville (Note: Please park on Clark Street)
Wednesday, December 1, 7:00 PM

Contact Rabbi Pamela Wax with questions or to register
pwax@wjcs.com

Partial funding provided by UJA Federation of NY

**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 or at 914.773.7663 ext.424.

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