



# HAKOL

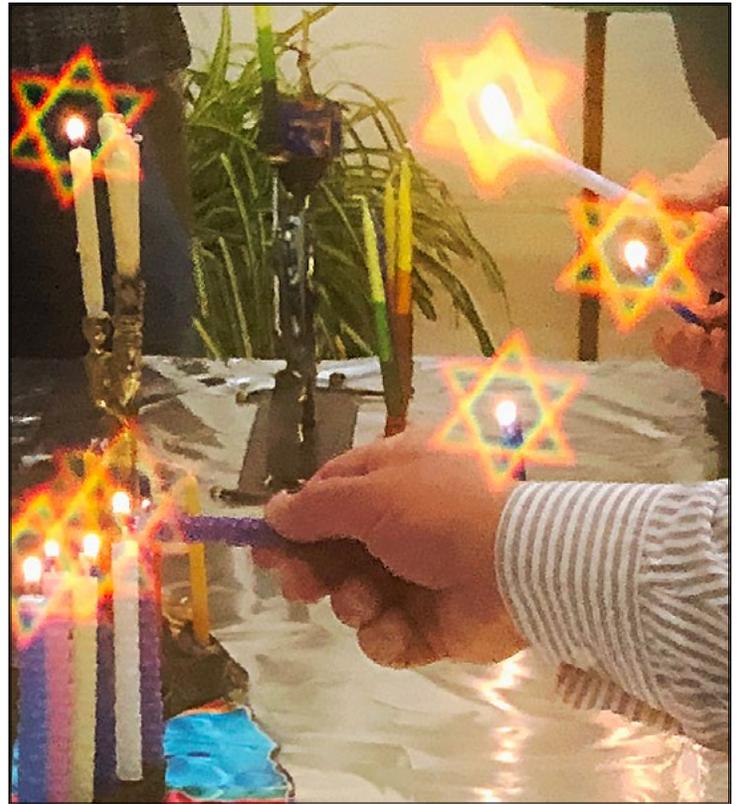
הקול ..... 'The Voice'

**MILLICENT ROGERS MUSEUM COMMUNITY DAY & HOLIDAY FIESTA, Saturday, 12/7, 11:00am - 3:00 pm**  
The TJC Chorus is performing at 11am. TJC volunteers will be staffing the Chanukah Crafts Room. Contact Diane Friedman (dianecda5@gmail.com) to pitch in.

**TJC KABBALAT SHABBAT**, with Rabbi Judith HaLevy  
**Friday, 12/13, 5:30 pm**, potluck, blessings, discussion.  
**Saturday, 12/14, 9:30-10:30 am**, TJC Minyan  
**10:30-noon**, Torah study.

**MEMBER APPRECIATION WINE & CHEESE TASTING**  
**Saturday, December 14th, 4-6 pm @ TJC.**  
Select wines & cheeses from Cid's & The Cellar for your tasting pleasure. Rob Lennick, the new Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of NM, will be speaking about the role of the Jewish Federation in supporting the Jewish organizations in New Mexico.

**TJC CHANUKAH SHABBAT AND A MOVIE**  
**Friday, December 27th, 5:30 pm**, potluck & Chanukah celebration. **Latkes & fixings encouraged!**  
**7:00 pm, *When Jews were Funny***, 89 minutes.  
See p.6 for description.



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**INTERFAITH PEACE CHANUKAH,**  
at St. James Episcopal Church  
208 Camino de Santiago (corner of Gusdorf)  
**Sunday, December 29th, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 pm**



Bring a menorah to light. There'll be candle lighting, prayers, speakers from various faiths & songs for peace. Everyone is welcome. It's free, but please bring nonperishable donations for the Shared Table, the Taos Coalition for Homelessness & the St. James Food Pantry.

***Sponsored by B'nai Shalom Havurah, the Taos Jewish Center & St. James Episcopal Church.***

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### **The Taos Jewish Center**

is dedicated to fostering a positive Jewish identity, by providing programs and services that enrich the lives

of the people it serves in northern New Mexico. The **TJC** is open to all who wish to explore and participate in these experiences that reflect and incorporate Jewish ethics, culture and observances.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Neal Friedman; Gary Atias, *President*
- Lucy Melamed, *Vice President*
- Jay Levine, *Treasurer*
- Barbara Crews, *Secretary*
- Nancy Glaxon-Harris, *Membership*
- Karen Kerschen
- Roxanne Preston
- Bruce Ross
- Michael Stoetzel
- Richard Wallach



**HaKol**, *The Voice*, is a community newsletter published quarterly by the Taos Jewish Center.

- Karen Kerschen, *Editor and Designer*
- Roberta Lerman, *Copy Editor*
- Richard Wallach, *Photographer*
- Jay Levine, *Proofreader*

#### **CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Gary Atias, Neal Friedman, Rabbi Judith HaLevy, Bette Myerson, Karen Kerschen, Marjorie Felser, Beth Levine, Lucy Melamed, Susan Ressler, Richard Rubin.

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To submit brief articles, reviews, poetry, images, recipes, items of interest to our community, contact the Editor directly --

Karen Kerschen  
 Email: kkerschen@gmail.com  
 Tel. 505-583-2180

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## NOTES FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

*A hundred times a day I remind myself that my life depends on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give, in the measure as I have received, and am still receiving.*

*Dr. Albert Einstein*

This passage from one of my favorite role models, helps to sum up my thoughts and emotions as I finish my two-year term as President of the Board of the Taos Jewish Center. The TJC has done extremely well during my tenure, thanks to the hard work of the TJC Board and its active members. We have survived and thrived through a transition of Rabbinical leadership, thanks to the energy, knowledge and skills that Rabbi Judith HaLevy has brought to the TJC. We also had to deal with the death of two of the founders and leaders of the TJC, Ron Kalom and Roger Lerman. They will both be missed, but others have already volunteered to fill the gaps that were left in our community. The interval since the previous issue of *HaKol* illustrates the current health of the TJC. We have continued to grow our membership. The High Holidays this year were extremely well attended and we were able to contract with the Sagebrush Inn for Kol Nidre and the day of Yom Kippur. Our congregants all enjoyed the spacious accommodations at the conference center, the configuration of the room as arranged by Rabbi Judith and particularly Havdalah, followed by a delicious catered break-the-fast with lox and bagels.

Our library is being further enriched by the contributions of the books of Ron Kalom. The library committee is hard at work reorganizing the library and making it more accessible. The Book Club continues to grow and meet monthly for lively and intellectual discussions. The program committee is looking at several interesting future sessions for our intellectual growth. Our final member appreciation session of the year will try a new format with a wine and cheese meeting, thanks to generous contributions from Cid's and the Cellar. We will feature a discussion with the new Executive Director of the New Mexico Jewish Federation, Ron Lennick.

Our next Board President is Gary Atias, well known to our community and a previous Board President, currently serving on the Board. He plans to continue to grow our Jewish Community, however, he cannot do it alone. As a volunteer organization, we should all be doing what Albert Schweitzer recommended:

*Do something for somebody every day for which you do not get paid.*

**Neal Friedman**

## NOTES FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I am happy to be back on the TJC Board of Directors and I'm ready to return as Board President in January. My heartfelt thanks to Neal Friedman and Jude Goldman-Nunez for maintaining the Presidency in fine fashion during the three years I was off the Board. Our membership has increased, our Board is larger and more active, and we found a wonderful leader in Rabbi Judith. We will probably always have challenges but the TJC is in a good place and will stay that way for many years to come.

I have some goals for the future, which I will share with you in the coming months. I look forward to hearing from each of you, because we need your input to be the best organization we can be. I look forward to working with Rabbi Judith, my fellow Board Members and our membership to bring new ideas, events and a heightened spirit of community and caring to the TJC. You are all a part of my extended family and it is an honor to serve you once again.

*Chag Sameach!*  
**Gary Atias**

# RABBI'S COUNSEL

*A row of tall skinny candles burns  
quickly into the night  
air, the shames raised  
over the rest  
for its hard work.*

*Darkness rushes in  
after the sun sinks  
like a bright plug pulled.  
Our eyes drown in night  
thick as ink pudding.*

*When even the moon  
starves to a sliver  
of quicksilver  
the little candles poke  
holes in the blackness.*

Marge Piercy, "The Skinny Candles"

Imagine our ancestor Adam, watching the sun sink below the horizon on the first day of creation.

As recounted in the Talmud,

*When Adam on the day of his creation saw the sun sinking in the sky before him, he said, "Woe is me! Because I acted offensively, the world is about to return to darkness and desolation."*

Adam has no way to know that the dawn will rise, and light will return.

*So he sat down to fast and to weep throughout the night, while Eve wept beside him.* It is only when the sun rises that he understands 'Such is the way of nature,' and proceeds to offer up prayers of thanksgiving. (BT *Avodah Zara 8a*)

Adam, despite taking a bite of the forbidden apple, is not responsible for the rising and setting of the sun. As long as our planet turns, the sun will cross the sky in its appointed

path, and the winter solstice will darken the sky. Much like Shabbat, which returns every seven days whether we celebrate it or not, sun and moon, darkness and light, are on God's timing. We are asked to do no more than have faith through the dark time, and be grateful for the light's return.

There is a darkness, however, that is not part of a natural cycle, but caused by human actions. I sense that we are in a dark time indeed, with rules of civility overturned, and the laws that safeguard our democracy badly shaken. At the time of this writing, darkness appears to shroud the current impeachment hearings, and I hear echoes of the McCarthy hearings of my youth. And then, just when the light of reason seems dim, a spark breaks through. One witness, and then another shares a word of truth, and each spark ignites another as the light grows.

*When even the moon starves to a sliver of quicksilver,  
the little candles poke holes in the blackness.*

It is always in this dark time of the winter solstice that Chanukah returns. Those *little candles* of Chanukah, however, do not light themselves. Unlike Shabbat, which occurs whether or not we light Shabbos candles, Chanukah happens only when we, as human beings, seek out the *tiny cruze of oil* and strike the match that rekindles the light. We are the ones who must have faith, even when the light seems dim. This is the miracle of Chanukah.

Chanukah literally means rededication, in honor of the Maccabees who cleared out the desecrated Holy Temple so long ago. This Chanukah, let us rededicate our selves to the Jewish and American values of civility and respect, as together we *poke holes in the darkness*, restoring the light of liberty and justice for all.

***Rabbi Judith HaLevy***

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## THE ROGER LERMAN TJC LIBRARY

The Taos Jewish Center library has been renamed to honor the man who was the heart of this valuable resource.

Roger Lerman built the shelves, organized their contents, reviewed and catalogued donated books according to the Classification Scheme for Libraries of Judaica, which differs from the Dewey Decimal System of public libraries. He established a Library Committee that is cataloging books and updating our library listing. William Westbury is the Chairman of the Library Committee

We've undertaken a huge task and welcome volunteers to pitch in. First, we clear the room of all non-library paraphernalia and reorganize a check-in and check-out table. The Library Catalog -- a three section (alphabetical, author, subject) printout of all our books, CDs and DVDs -- is on that table and will be updated periodically to include new books.

Ron Kalom's extensive Judaica bequest must be catalogued and integrated. A TJC member is crafting shelving to accommodate the new books. The children's books need organizing.

The existing collection must be culled for wear and tear, with no more than one duplicate for secular texts. For the culled books, we have a few ideas: (1) distributing them to other libraries and (2) holding a Book Fair where the books are given free, but with a donation box in plain sight. Your suggestions are welcome. (We cannot accept more book donations now.)

This is all a *major* project and we welcome help. More hands, sooner results: a library accessible to the community. Our hope is to be open daily, but for now the times are from 1:00 - 4:00 pm Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. To make an appointment to come at another time, call Robyn (707-775-1567), who will arrange to meet you there. We could be open more days if we can get volunteers to cover them. If interested, let us know. Contact us to join in.



## WE NEED A MINYAN

Please show your support and open your heart with song and prayer at the TJC.

**Saturday, Dec 14th, 9:30-10:30 am**

Torah study, 10:30-noon. *V'yisblach* includes the story of Jacob wrestling with the angel and the rape of his daughter Dina

**Saturday, January 11th, 9:30-10:30 am**

Torah study, 10:30-noon. *Vayeichi*.

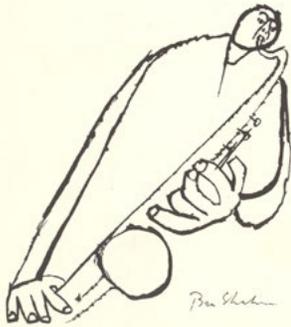
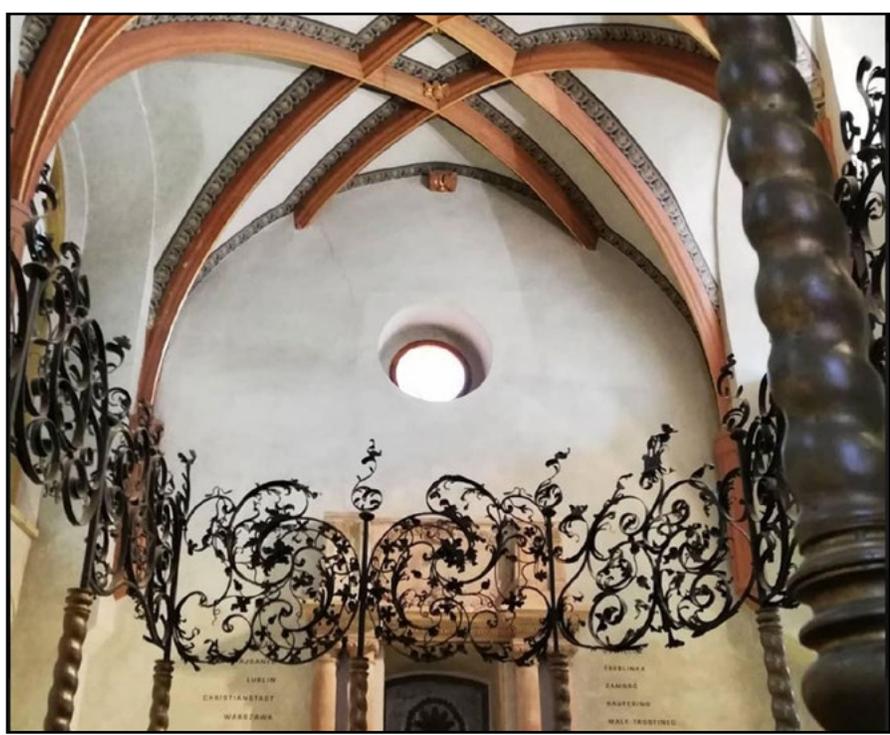
**Saturday, February 8th, 9:30-10:30am**

Torah study, 10:30-noon. *Beshalach*.

**Saturday, March 14th, 9:30-10:30 am**

Torah study, 10:30-noon. *Ki Sisa*.

**Rabbi Judith HaLevy**



Mazal Tov  
to Zeta Krieghoff Schilke  
& your family  
on the occasion of your  
Bat Mitzvah!

2 Nov 2019  
Cheshvan 4, 5780

Drawing commissioned by Edward R. Murrow & Fred W.  
Friendly for the film, *Ambassador Satchmo*, 1956.



### Captions

*Top:* Ironwork bima, Pinkas Synagogue.

*Middle:* Behind the bima, a Memorial Wall to the Victims of the Shoah from the Bohemian Lands. *Bottom:* One of many walls commemorating the Shoah Victims by name.

*Facing page --*

Vintage photograph of Pinkas Synagogue.

Restoration of the original building.

Present-day Pinkas Synagogue as a museum; cemetery visible

Photos © Bette Myerson, 2019



## A VISIT TO THE FIRST HOME OF OUR CZECH TORAH

As you may know, B'nai Shalom Havurah was the beneficiary of a Torah saved from the Holocaust by the Westminster Memorial Scrolls Trust, headquartered in London, in 1983. This Torah came from the Pinkas Synagogue in Prague and was written early in the 19th century. It is #595 of the 1600 Czech Torahs saved from the Nazis by this organization.

The Torah resides in the Taos Jewish Center and is used every year at the High Holidays. Roger Lerman took good care of it over the last several years.

In August of this year I was fortunate enough to go to Prague as a member of the Berkshire Choral International, with whom several of my friends and I have sung over the years.

I mentioned to Roger several months ago that it was my plan while in Prague to go to the Pinkas Synagogue. He said he would like to stay in touch with me about this and wanted to give them a donation.

Sadly, as we all know, Roger passed away before I took my trip to the Czech Republic. I told Roberta that I planned to go there and give a donation in Roger's memory. She insisted on giving the donation herself.

So, on August 7th I was one of ten women from our singing group who had a private tour of the Jewish

Quarter in Prague. I understand that before the Second World War there were 300,000 Jews living in Prague. Today there are 3,000.

There were 13 Synagogues in the Jewish quarter in Prague. Today only 3 function as synagogues. The rest, including the Pinkas Synagogue, are museums. All are organized together under the auspices of the Prague Jewish Community Center (in the same way that the TJC began in 2002 as an "umbrella" for all Jewish organizations and Jewish events in Taos).

The Pinkas Synagogue is now a Holocaust Memorial Museum. On the walls surrounding the one large room are inscribed 80,000 names of Jews who died in the Holocaust. On the second floor are drawings from the children who were going to Terezin, the nearby concentration camp. It is heartbreaking.

I have not visited any of the sites of the former Nazi concentration camps. This was physically the closest I have come to that horrendous event.

The Jewish Community of Prague acknowledged Roberta's donation with a lovely letter, stating that "the money will be used to boost the activities of the Children's Theatre Feigle and other activities which the community organizes for our children."

***Bette Myerson***

*Postscript: ["Next year's memorial service] we will mention in the synagogue also you, your congregation and donation from you. Also to inform others about Torah from Pinkas synagogue -- that it is in "good hands" although far from Prague." -- Vida Neuwirthova, Pinkas Museum*

## ENVISIONING A TU B'SHVAT SEDER

A seder makes an idea concrete — that ‘because God is the source of all life, every tiny piece of creation is infinitely valuable. It speaks to human responsibility: Nature’s web connects everything to everything else and thus every human action reverberates throughout the universe.’ A seder teaches by engaging us intellectually, emotionally, spiritually and physically with something as small as a raisin or a walnut.’

We open our hearts with music, art, meditations in an environment of beauty.

We bless many different kinds of fruits and nuts — savor their fragrances, textures and tastes — over four cups of wine.

*Birkat p'ri ha'eytz*

*N'vareykhh et eyn bakbayim matzmibat p'ri ha'eytz.*

Blessing over the fruit of the trees

Let us bless the source of life that nurtures the fruit of the tree.

*Birkat Yayin*

*N'vareykhh et eyn bakbayim matzmibat p'ri hagefen.*

Blessing over wine.

Let us bless the source of life that ripens fruit on the vine.

Marcia Falk, from *The Book of Blessings*

**WHEN JEWS WERE FUNNY**, Alan Zweig’s 2013 documentary (featuring Rodney Dangerfield, Shelly Berman, Jackie Mason, Howie Mandel and many other comics), surveys the colorful history of Jewish comedy from the Borscht Belt days to the present, ultimately exploring not just ethnicity in the entertainment industry, but the entire unruly question of what it means to be Jewish.

Surprisingly, veterans of the assimilation years 1940s and 1950s deny, even vehemently, that their humor reflected Jewish culture. Comics now draw material from family members and miss the loss of Yiddish, while arguing for the quintessential Jewish joke.

A funny and heartfelt film.



Funny, you don't look Jewish.

At the soul of Jewish values are Four Worlds, or levels of meaning:

*Assiyah*, the world of Action, Earth, Winter.

Represented by fruits or nuts with an inedible shell (for protection) and edible inner core (for holiness)—pineapple, coconut, citrus, banana, walnut, pecan pistachio.

*Yetzirah*, the world of Emotion, Water, Spring.

Represented by fruits with edible outer flesh and pithy, inedible cores: olive, date, cherry, loquat, apricot, persimmon, peach, plum.

*Briyah*, the world of Thought, Air, Summer.

Represented by fruits edible throughout: strawberry, grape, fig, raspberry, blueberry, carob, quince.

*Atzilut*, the world of Spirit, Fire, Fall. Not represented by fruit because as pure spirit it is intangible. Some use fragrant flowers, incense or spices, or a burning candle.

Four cups of wine or grape juice — white for the winter slumber, red for the vital life force — to symbolize the four seasons: One cup of white wine for winter, then a cup of white with a dash of red for spring; red with a dash of white for summer, then pure red for autumn.

The seder proceeds with blessings, meditations, readings and songs that address our concerns about existence on Earth. At seder’s end, a fuller meal draws from foods named in Deuteronomy 8:8, a land of wheat and barley of vines, figs and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey.

**Karen Kerschen**, from *Trees, Earth, and Torah: A Tu B'Shvat Anthology*



© Karen Kerschen, 2019

## EDITOR'S POV

While traveling in Yucatán recently with a dear friend, I was struck by how our most meaningful experiences were when we found ourselves included as though members of an extended family, where everyone is having a fine time. A Mayan elder blessed us with copal smoke, a scent reminiscent of sage or Havdalah’s spicy fragrances. A bus driver remarked, ‘Here, we’re all Mexicans.’

Our Taos community also knits together in ancient kinship. A tribe, as this issue of HaKol attests. Rabbi Judith illuminates the poetry of our faith. Bette Myerson brings us an intimate view of the Pinkas Synagogue in Prague that was once home to our Holocaust Torah. Richard Rubin describes Tu B'Shvat as ecology. I envision a Tu B'Shvat seder. Enjoy the issue!

**Karen Kerschen**, HaKol Editor



© Susan Ressler, 2019

## AN ECOLOGIST'S TU B'SHVAT COMMENTARY

Contemporary scholars, students, and seekers go beyond content, as in the traditional PARDES system, and consider social context, scientific history and political intent in writings currently labeled as Jewish. These perspectives are particularly important for our current environmental threats.

A holiday recognizing humans' relationship with nature is Tu B'Shvat, next on Sunday, February 9. This "New Year of Trees," the 15th of Shvat, approximates the first budding in the Middle East, usually almonds. Observance of TuB'Shvat is not described in the Torah, so has had various spiritual, religious and secular expressions. Pastoral Hebrew tribes followed natural cycles and celebrated Spring's new growth. The oldest known song, from 1400 BCE, is a Hymn to Nikkal, the Semitic Goddess of Orchards.

Subsequent Kingdoms of Israel and Judea imposed harvest taxes, beginning in a tree's fourth year, on Tu B'Shvat. They recognized that younger trees require root development, rather than fruit production. Medieval Kabbalah Rabbis in European city ghettos created ritual prayer seders celebrating fruits recorded in the Torah. The modern state of Israel actively restored forests clear cut by the Roman and Ottoman empires and associated the practice with Tu B'Shvat. As the Reform Jewish denomination advocates *tikkun olam*, repair of the world, congregations organize tree planting, especially by children. And Reb Zalman, founder of Renewal Judaism,

encouraged ecumenical love for Gaia, the Mother Earth goddess.

Given that trees have been socially and religiously important to us for millennia, how should it be now? In modern terms, ecology is fundamentally about relationships among humans and nature. Recent thinkers address a conceptual split between 'culture' and 'nature' as humans domesticated animals and plants, asserting that our culture was separate from, and privileged over, non-human nature. While Torah and Prophet texts include some statements of our responsibility for nature, these still appear to be ownership practices, rather than recognition of humans as among the community of all things.

Paul Kingsnorth, in his 2017 *Confessions of a Recovering Environmentalist*, offered five personal practices for our ecological crisis: First, preserve non-human life; Second, root oneself in the work of land and place; Third, insist that nature has intrinsic value; Fourth, build refuges where non-human life can flourish; and Fifth, withdraw periodically so you can allow yourself to sit back quietly and feel, intuit, work out what is right for you, and what nature might need from you.

I choose to recognize this advice as another expression of the New Year of Trees, considering what we can do for the trees, as well as recognizing what they profoundly do for us.

**Richard Rubin** 7

# BEING INVOLVED

**TJC MONTHLY SHABBATONS** The second Friday of each month, Rabbi Judith HaLevy conducts Kabbalat Shabbatons at TJC. After a potluck dinner, we light Shabbat candles and the Rabbi conducts a service and discussion.

Shabbat morning *Minyan* and traditional prayer is followed by contemporary Torah Study, led by the Rabbi. (See p.4.)

Check out Rabbi Judith's videos of the *parashat* on the TJC website at [taosjewishcenter.org/sermons](http://taosjewishcenter.org/sermons).

**B'NAI SHALOM SHABBATS** Third Friday of the month, Shabbats are celebrated in people's homes -- *beimische* spirituality, topical discussions and delicious potluck food. Come. Would you like to host a gathering? People help set up and clean up. Contact Annette Rubin (575-776-5426 or [rubin.annette@gmail.com](mailto:rubin.annette@gmail.com))

Scheduled Shabbats: December -- none scheduled.

January -- Need a host.

February 21, 2020 -- Annette and Richard Rubin are hosting. (likely a Tu B'Shvat seder.)

March 21 -- Gary Atias will host.

**B'NAI SHALOM MITZVAH FUND** Make a tax-deductible donation to help someone living among us who is in need. Contact Bette Myerson (575-758-3376 or [bette@taosnet.com](mailto:bette@taosnet.com)).

**TJC WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP** meets the third Monday of the month at 11:30am in the TJC library. Bring a snack or lunch. We shmooze, then start our book discussion at 12:15pm. We're a stimulating and welcoming group, so come even if you haven't read the book. For more information contact Diane Friedman, [dianecda5@gmail.com](mailto:dianecda5@gmail.com).

Here are our upcoming books --

December 16: *Not Our Kind*, by Kitty Zeldis

January 20: Assorted mysteries by Alan Bradley, a Canadian mystery writer known for his Flavia de Luce series. Read any of them to join in the discussion.

February 17: *Gateway to the Moon*, by Mary Morris

March 16: *Women Rowing North*, by Mary Pipher

April 20: *Furious Hours*, by Casey Cep

May 18: *When We Were the Kennedys: A Memoir from Mexico, Maine*, by Monica Wood



## CHANUKAH CANDLELIGHTING

Sunday, 12/22 -- First candles

Monday, 12/23 -- Two candles

Tuesday, 12/24 -- Three candles

Wednesday, 12/25 -- Four candles

Thursday, 12/26 -- Five candles

Friday, 12/27 -- Six candles

Saturday, 12/28 -- Seven candles

Sunday, 12/29 -- Eight candles



## SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING

When	Torah	Havdalah
12/6/19, 4:29 pm	Vayeitzel	12/7/19, 5:29 pm
12/13/19, 4:30 pm	Vayishlach	12/14/19, 5:30 pm
12/20/19, 4:32 pm	Vayeishev	12/21/19, 5:33 pm
12/27/19, 4:36 pm	Mikeitz	12/28/19, 5:37 pm
1/3/2020, 4:41 pm	Vayigash	1/4/2020, 5:42 pm
1/10/20, 4:47 pm	Vayechi	1/11/20, 5:48 pm
1/17/20, 4:54 pm	Shemot	1/18/20, 5:55 pm
1/24/20, 5:02 pm	Va'eira	1/25/20, 6:01 pm
1/31/20, 5:09 pm	Bo	2/1/20, 6:08 pm
2/7/20, 5:17 pm	Beshalach	2/8/20, 6:15 pm
2/14/20, 5:24 pm	Yitro	2/15/20, 6:22 pm
2/21/20, 5:31 pm	Mishpatim Shekalim	2/22/20, 6:29 pm
2/28/20, 5:38 pm	Terumah	2/29/20, 6:35 pm
3/6/20, 5:44 pm	Tetzaveh Zachor	3/7/20, 6:41 pm
3/13/20, 6:51 pm	Ki Tisa Parah	3/14/20, 7:54 pm

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE** Volunteer and lend a hand . It's fun! AV help would be greatly appreciated. Contact Lucy Melamed at [lucymmel@hotmail.com](mailto:lucymmel@hotmail.com) or Beth Levine at [beth@bethlevine.com](mailto:beth@bethlevine.com).

**CHAVERIM OF TJC** Chaverim (*Hebrew for Friends or Volunteers*) can provide assistance and support to members of our congregation, such as rides to appointments, picking up groceries, prescriptions, or borrowing library books. Send your request to [tjc@newmex.com](mailto:tjc@newmex.com), with *Chaverim* in the subject line or call the TJC at 575-758-8615.

**MEALS FOR THE MEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER** Meals distributed every 3rd Thursday. Food is collected at the TJC. Please be part of this important community mitzvah. Contact Roberta at [rlerman57@gmail.com](mailto:rlerman57@gmail.com).

**TAOS ELDERS AND NEIGHBORS TOGETHER** ([TaosElders.org](http://TaosElders.org)) is a non-denominational community membership organization to provide transportation, caregiver relief and minor home repairs, to enable elders to maintain independence at home. The TJC has received a grant from the Jewish Federation of New Mexico to offer funding to those in need, who cannot afford the membership fee. If you or someone you know might benefit from this, contact Bette Myerson, at [bette@taosnet.com](mailto:bette@taosnet.com).



**ERETZ SHALOM CEMETERY**, owned and dedicated in 1993 by Havurah B'nai Shalom, has affordable plots available on a pre-need or as-needed basis. It is located on Llano Mesa, south of town. Your family would appreciate having your arrangements already made. Contact cemetery administrators Steve Natelson (575-758-1094), Bruce Ross (575-758-8258) or Bruce Grossman (575-741-0888).

**YARTZEIT RECORDS** To add or correct a Yartzeit record, please contact Bruce Grossman at [grossman@taosnet.com](mailto:grossman@taosnet.com).



The TJC Board and Ritual Committee would appreciate your input about the quality of your experience of recent High Holiday services. We invite comments to [tjc@newmex.com](mailto:tjc@newmex.com)

## UPCOMING DATES

Saturday, 12/7/19, 11 am - 3 pm, Millicent Rogers Museum Community Day and Holiday Fiesta.

Friday, 12/13, 5:30 pm, TJC Kabbalat Shabbat, with Rabbi Judith HaLevy.

Saturday, 12/14, 9:30 am, TJC Minyan and 10:30 am, Torah study.

Saturday, 12/14, 4-6pm, TJC Membership Appreciation Wine and Cheese Tasting. Guest speaker, Rob Lennick, JFNM Executive Director.

Friday, 12/27, 5:30 pm, TJC Chanukah Shabbat and a Movie, *When Jews were Funny*.

Sunday, 12/29, 5:30 - 7:30pm, Interfaith Peace Chanukah at St. James Episcopal Church.

Friday, 1/10/20, 5:30 pm, TJC Kabbalat Shabbat, with Rabbi Judith HaLevy.

Saturday, 1/11, 9:30 am, TJC Minyan and 10:30 am, Torah study.

Friday, 2/7, 5:30 pm, TJC Kabbalat Shabbat, with Rabbi Judith HaLevy.

Saturday, 2/8, 9:30 am, TJC Minyan and 10:30 am, Torah study.

Friday, 2/21, B'nai Shalom Shabbat, hosted by Annette and Richard Rubin.

Tuesday, 2/25, 11am, B'nai Shalom is hosting the Taos Interfaith Group at TJC.

Friday, 3/13, 5:30 pm, TJC Kabbalat Shabbat,, with Rabbi Judith HaLevy.

Saturday, 3/14, 9:30 am, TJC Minyan and 10:30 am, Torah study.

Friday, 3/20, B'nai Shalom Shabbat, hosted by Gary Atias.

PLEASE SUPPORT our Business Sponsors, the TJC & HaKol.



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## HEBREW

Planning to a trip to Israel?  
In need of Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation?  
Want to improve your Hebrew literacy?  
Call TJC member and experienced Hebrew tutor,  
Judah Botzer (a native speaker) – 575 / 751-0779

# TJC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

5780 (2019-2020)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *Renewing* \_\_\_\_\_ *New Membership*            *Individual* \_\_\_\_\_ *Family* \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Child's Last name</i>	<i>First name</i>	<i>Birth date</i>	<i>Child's age and grade in Sept.</i>

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address \_\_\_\_\_

Land line \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

## VAHRZEITS

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

A new budget item -- **SECURITY**  
necessitates increased membership rates.  
*Please be generous.*

Sustaining -- \$ 1854 and above \_\_\_\_\_

Platinum -- \$ 1440 \_\_\_\_\_

Contributing -- \$ 720 \_\_\_\_\_

Family -- \$375 \_\_\_\_\_ Individual -- \$ 200 \_\_\_\_\_

Student -- \$ 90 \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please call us at (575) 758-8615 to discuss what you can afford.)*

## ONGOING COMMUNITY SUPPORT -- ALWAYS APPRECIATED!

Rabbi Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Torah Fund \_\_\_\_\_

High Holy Days Pledge \_\_\_\_\_

*I pledge to pay in Full* \_\_\_\_\_ *Monthly* \_\_\_\_\_ *Quarterly* \_\_\_\_\_

*By Check* \_\_\_\_\_ *By PayPal* (taosjewishcenter.org) \_\_\_\_\_

*If by Credit Card* \_\_\_\_\_, *phone number* \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: A 3% service charge will be added to all Credit Card payments.**

*To pay by credit card, call 575 / 758 - 8615 and leave a message.*

*Someone from TJC will call you back to make the transaction.*

*Mail form and check to Taos Jewish Center, 1335 Gusdorf Road, Suite R, Taos NM 87571.*

THE TAOS JEWISH CENTER, a faith-based non-profit 501c3 organization,  
is a beneficiary agency of the JEWISH FEDERATION OF NEW MEXICO.

***All donations are tax deductible & greatly appreciated.***

The Taos Jewish Center is located at 1335 Gusdorf Road, Suite R, Taos, NM 87571.

Visit our website at taosjewishcenter.org. Email us at tjc@newmex.com. Call us at (575)-758-8615.



**TAOS JEWISH CENTER**  
 1335 Gusdorf Road, Suite R  
 Taos, NM 87571  
 (575) 758-8615  
 EMAIL: [tjc@newmex.com](mailto:tjc@newmex.com)  
 WEBSITE: [taosjewishcenter.org](http://taosjewishcenter.org)

## SUPPORT THE TAOS JEWISH CENTER (TJC)

Membership at any level includes participation at all High Holy Days services, as well as community gatherings and events throughout the year.

**No family or individual is turned away for lack of funds.**



**TORAH FUND**

Add your name with a donation that remembers a lifetime.  
*A book of the Torah-- \$ 1800 - \$ 7200*  
*A Favorite Parasha-- \$ 180 - \$ 1800*

**RABBI FUND**

Your generous donation supports the TJC's festive, stimulating monthly Shabbaton weekends with Rabbi Judith HaLevy.

Friday night potluck dinner & Kabbalat Shabbat.  
Saturday morning Shabbat service & Torah study

*Sponsor -- \$ 600.*  
*Co-Sponsor -- \$ 300.*  
*Associate Sponsor -- \$ 150.*  
*Chai -- \$ 18.00 - \$ 180.*

## BUILD THE TAOS JEWISH CENTER LEGACY

Your charitable contributions sustain our growing Jewish community and provide a home for Jews in Taos for generations to come. Consider contributing through planned-giving vehicles.

**BEQUESTS** -- Include the TJC in your will or living trust.

**LIFE INSURANCE** -- Name the TJC as a beneficiary.

**GIFTS OF STOCK OR SECURITIES** -- Donate and get a significant tax deduction.