

Santa Rosa 5th Annual Walk to End Genocide

SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH AT CST

*Co-Sponsored by Gabe Ferrick and
the Social Action Committee of CST*



Donate or register today for Gabe Ferrick or STaRS teams at www.WalktoEndGenocide.org.

- General check-in/registration is 8:00–8:45 AM
- STaRS check-in/registration is 8:30–9:00 AM
- Walk events begin at 9:00 AM

Ending genocide is a big goal. It's an ambitious goal. Maybe it feels unreachable. Like so many things that are important, it's hard and progress is incremental. But the encouraging thing is — each step you take actually does help.

Why Will You Register to Walk? With each step...

- you will help women and children get a formal education
- you will help build an orphanage for orphaned children
- you will help provide surgery for victims of assaults
- you will support the Solar Cooker project
- you will as Rabbi George says, "Be the hands and feet of God" by supporting those impacted by genocide and human rights abuses.

Celebrating Women On The Bimah

Friday April 12 at 6:15 PM and Saturday April 13 at 10:30 AM

Women's voices have brought new vigor to Jewish life. Join us for a weekend celebration of women in the rabbinate. There are both Friday evening and Saturday morning events. On Friday, Rabbi Patricia Karlin-Neumann, Senior Associate Dean for Religious life at Stanford University, will be our featured speaker at the monthly Rabbi's Tisch. Her topic is "Rereading Judaism in Light of Feminism."



On Saturday, join the women of Shomrei Torah for a powerful Saturday morning experience. Many generations of women will be called to the Torah, lead prayers, sing songs and teach. This creative service honors

and celebrates women's greater inclusion in all areas of Reform Judaism. Following services, there will be a free *kiddush* luncheon sponsored by the Lifelong Learning Committee.

Let's explore and celebrate how far Judaism has come and what's in store for the future!

"Never Again! How Can We Make it So?"

**SSU Dean of Social Sciences Speaks At
Yom HaShoah Service on Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 AM**



Elaine Leeder, the Dean of the School of Social Sciences at Sonoma State and advocate for social justice for 36 years, will be the special guest speaker at Congregation Shomrei Torah's annual *Yom HaShoah* Holocaust Memorial Service on April 7. She was a visiting scholar at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C., and has been awarded the National Endowment of the Humanities Fellowship.

A highlight of the *Yom HaShoah* observance is the Candle Lighting ceremony which

includes six survivors or children of survivors to honor the six million Jews killed in the Holocaust. Candle lighters will also represent the Roma/Gypsy, Gays and Lesbians, Disabled, Political Prisoners, and Righteous Gentiles murdered in the Holocaust. In addition, candles will be lit for other genocides.

Students of the Religious School will light the "Candles for Life." The event falls on the actual national Day of Remembrance. Music will be provided by Mama Loshn, featuring Gale Kissin, Suzanne Shanbaum, and Rhonda Findling. Refreshments will be served. The *Yom HaShoah* service is a project of the Social Action Committee.

HAPPENING THIS MONTH AT CST

New Member Shabbat

Friday • April 5 • 6:15 PM



CONGREGATION
SHOMREI TORAH
שומרי תורה

Did you join Shomrei Torah in 2012 or 2013? If so, Shomrei Torah would like to welcome and honor you at a special New Member Shabbat. This is a family friendly event, so children are welcome. Following the service and a brief welcoming ceremony, we will celebrate your membership with a special *Oneg*, including champagne as well as savory and sweet munchies.

We are so glad you have joined—please mark your calendar and let us recognize and honor you.

Bagel Club on a Roll

Sunday • April 7 • 9:00 AM

A conversation with Mark Travis



Join the Men's Bagel Brunch for lox, bagels and cream cheese topped off by a conversation with Shomrei Torah's new E.D. This will be an opportunity to learn about Mark, how he sees the role of the executive director and how it will contribute to life at Shomrei Torah. Please RSVP to Rick Reisman at rickcath@sonic.net to be sure your bagel and trimmings will be waiting for you. Donation requested is \$7–10.

Babies and Bagels

Sunday • April 14 • 10:30 AM



Do you have a baby? Do you like bagels? If you answered yes to these questions then this group is for you! Join us for a light nosh and some refreshing adult conversation, while you watch your child/children interact and play with others in their age group. Come for the community, stay for the bagels!

Celebrate Israel's Birthday

Sunday • April 14 • 2:00–5:00 PM at Congregation Beth Ami



You are all invited to join in as Sonoma County Salutes Israel at 65. Guest speaker will be the great niece of Oskar Schindler, the Reverend Rosemary Schindler. You won't want to miss this exciting event sponsored by Congregation Beth Ami, Congregation Shomrei Torah, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Jewish Community Center of Sonoma County, Schindler's Ark, and the Sonoma County Israel Committee. Beth Ami is located at 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa.

The celebration and party will include cake and ice cream. Admission is free.



sonoma county
TRIBE

Yom Ha'atzmaut BBQ

Saturday • April 13th

Join us as we commemorate Israel's Independence Day! Expect BBQ, snacks, and outdoor fun! Keep your eyes open for our e-mails, details to follow.

Shabbat Dinner

Friday • April 26

It's time for another exciting Sonoma County Tribe Shabbat Dinner. This month we will be making our own pizzas! How does a pesto, goat-cheese, and arugula topping sound? What about mushrooms, bell pepper, and red onion? Whatever your fancy, we shall have it! The festivities will kick-off around 6:30 PM. Please RSVP the office for directions, or call 707/578-5519.

Rosh Chodesh Women's Group

Sunday • April 14 • 7:00–9:00 PM



ROSH CHODESH:
IT'S A GIRL THING!

It is a custom for women to gather for celebration and sisterhood every month at the time of the new moon. The next *Rosh Chodesh* group will be at a congregant's house. Please call for directions (578-5519). We welcome all Shomrei Torah women and hope to see you there!

Ping Pong, Horseshoes, Rabbi George and Dinner, too

Sunday • April 28 • 5:00–8:00 PM



Men of CST—join us for an all men's social event at Rabbi George's home so we can connect, commune and celebrate, then have dinner together! Make new and renew old relationships with the amazing men of Shomrei Torah.

This event is limited to the first 40 to sign up, so you will want to act now. Contact the CST office at 578-5519.

The Shomrei Torah *Voice* is a periodical issued monthly except for the combined June/July issue. It is published by Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404, and is distributed free of charge to members and supporting advertisers. Subscriptions are available for \$30 per year. Please direct inquiries to the Shomrei Torah office, 578-5519; office fax number 578-3967.

JEWISH FOOD FEST

Learn What's Cook'n! KICK-OFF DINNER & Volunteer Sign-Up

Come learn about our exciting 2nd Annual Jewish Food Fest and what's new for 2013 at the April 29 Kick-Off Dinner. Enjoy a delicious, low-cost vegetarian dinner prepared by local culinary students, fabulous tastings from the Food Fest bakery, wine, plus prizes!

Kick-Off Dinner Date: Monday, April 29

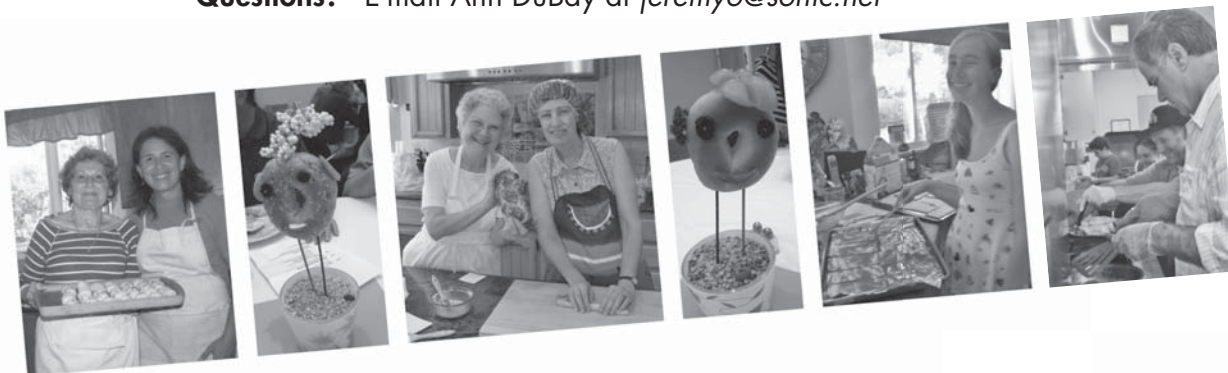
Time: 6–8 p.m.

Location: Congregation Shomrei Torah Sanctuary

Cost: \$10 donation (to El Molino High School Culinary Program)

RSVP Required: By Friday, April 19th (We expect a large crowd.)
Pay online or send check with form below to CST.

Questions? E-mail Ann DuBay at jeremyo@sonic.net



SAVE THE **DATE**
Sunday, August 18, 2013
2nd Annual CST Jewish Food Fest
Open to the entire community!

LEARN WHAT'S NEW
FOR
2013



Kick-Off Dinner Reservation

FOOD FEST KICK-OFF DINNER, April 29, 2013

Please reserve _____ tickets @\$10 = \$ _____

Name (s) _____

Check (made payable to CST) is enclosed.

Mail to:

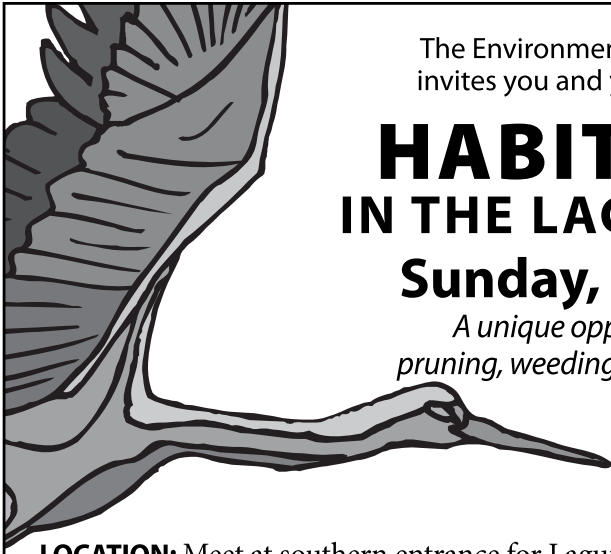
Congregation Shomrei Torah
2600 Bennett Valley Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

The Environmental Action Committee of Congregation Shomrei Torah invites you and your family to our annual community involvement day

HABITAT RESTORATION IN THE LAGUNA WETLANDS PRESERVE

Sunday, May 5, 2013 • 1:00–4:00 PM

A unique opportunity to make new Shomrei Torah friends while pruning, weeding, and repairing the wetlands in the spirit of tikkun olam



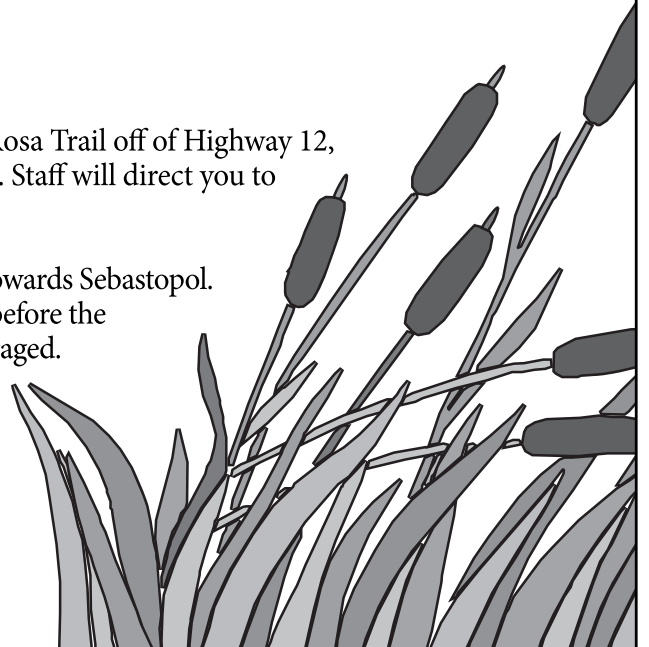
LOCATION: Meet at southern entrance for Laguna de Santa Rosa Trail off of Highway 12, Sebastopol. Park at trailhead or west side of Chevron Station. Staff will direct you to Meadowlark Field.

DIRECTIONS: From downtown Santa Rosa take Highway 12 towards Sebastopol. Drive 10–15 minutes to Laguna de Santa Rosa Trailhead just before the Chevron Station, which is on your right. Carpooling is encouraged.

GEAR: Dress to get dirty! Bring gloves—other tools will be provided. Birders, bring your binoculars!

SNACKS AND WATER WILL BE PROVIDED.

A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT for all ages.



HEAVY RAIN CANCELS THE RESTORATION  **WE WILL WORK IN LIGHT MISTY RAIN**

Questions? Contact Beth Lamb, 322-0744, blamb@jps.net
For more information go to www.shomreitorah.org



Supported by:

The LagunaKeepers

A partnership of citizens, the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation and the City of Santa Rosa

HABITAT RESTORATION RSVP FORM

Yes, I (we) will participate in the May 5th Habitat Restoration!

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Phone Number (land) _____ (cell) _____

Other Adults _____ Children (include ages) _____

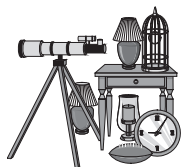
() To carpool, I live in (circle one) NW, NE, SW or SE Santa Rosa or other city _____

There are three easy ways to sign-up:

1. Clip form & mail: CST, Attn: Habitat Restoration, 2600 Bennett Valley Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95404.
2. Email: blamb@jps.net. Please be sure to include all information above.
3. Clip form and fax it to the CST office, (707) 578-3967.

SAVE THE DATE

Second Hand Rose: Collections Start May 17!



THANK YOU for all of last year's donations — we brought in \$2,300! With your help we can make it \$3,000 this time!

New this year! Bring CDs, DVD movies, nice costume jewelry, jewelry racks. Also, bring in gently used: small appliances, art, house décor, sports equipment, purses, unique high-end specialty clothing, and kid's quality toys & games. Please: No books, electronics, everyday clothing, or items over 2½ x 2½ ft.

Please bring items to the CST brown storage box in the lobby starting May 17. There's also a drop off garage in Oakmont. Call

number below for location. We can use more space. Do you live very close to CST and have extra car-size space in your garage you can donate for 3 months?

Questions? Contact the Shomrei Torah office if you need for more information, 707-578-5519.

Connect, Commune and Celebrate CST Men's Retreat October 18–20 at the Enchanted Hills Retreat Center



This a wonderful opportunity to form new relationships as well as foster current friendships among the men of Congregation Shomrei Torah.

The program begins Friday evening and includes wonderfully prepared meals, services

guided by Rabbi George, yoga, sports, wine tasting, educational programs and more.

The cost of the retreat is \$250. Sign up now, as spaces are limited. If interested, please contact the CST office (578-5519). Scholarships are available. For more information and a registration form, go to www.shomreitorah.org. Registration closes Friday, September 27.

A Night of Learning: Tikkun Leil Shavuot Tuesday, May 14



Studying Jewish texts during the first night of *Shavuot* is a Jewish tradition. Join us on the night of May 14. More information to come!

Deadline for *Voice* articles has changed!

To *Voice* Contributors:

Please note the changed deadlines below for contributing articles for *The Voice*.

These new deadlines are firm and we will not be able to accept articles submitted after these dates. This is due to a different arrangement for production of *The Voice*

and the Synagogue will incur financial penalties if we do not submit our materials on time. All articles should continue to be submitted to my email at mtravis@shomreitorah.org.



The deadlines are:

For the May issue: no later than Monday, April 8.

For the June–July issue: no later than Monday, May 6.

For the August issue: no later than Monday, July 8.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

Thanks,

Mark Travis
Executive Director
Congregation Shomrei Torah
707-578-5519

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Shomrei Torah on**

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RABBI KRAMER'S MESSAGE

Memory and the Holocaust



By Rabbi Stephanie Kramer
Assistant Rabbi
and Education Director

When something terrible happens to me, I try to forget it. Isn't that what we all do? People say the wrong thing and hurt someone else's feelings, whether they have had a car accident, are recovering from illness, have been divorced, or other issues. Whenever something tragic happens, I know I try and forget about it. And, in time, God has graced us with the ability to compartmentalize things that happen so that we can move on.

The further the Holocaust recedes in time, the more prominent its memorials, artifacts and museums need to become. As time passes, our survivors are dying and the next generation will not have the opportunity to hear directly from them. The tragedy will become something that is studied in school, encapsulated in a museum, and essentially stamped into a time period.

Soon visitors to Holocaust museums who see videos of survivors speaking about the horrific events that occurred might be distracted by the dated clothing, the accents, and the absolute foreignness of the video. Lewis Mumford argues, "The notion of a modern monument is veritably a contradiction in terms. If it is a monument [or museum] it is not modern, and if it is a modern, it cannot be a monument." Generations to come will not have this first or even second hand knowledge of the

*...we need to carry
the stories, the memories
and the lessons learned
l'dor v'dor, from one
generation to the next.*

Shoah. But we also know that forgetting is not an option! Jean Baudrillard said, "Forgetting the extermination is part of the extermination itself."

So as the years go on, we need to carry the stories, the memories and the lessons learned *l'dor v'dor*, from one generation to the next. James E. Young, a professor at Amherst, argues in his book *The Texture*

of Memory that the further away from the Holocaust, the more important memorials become. He notes that, "Depending on where and by whom these memorials are constructed, these sites remember the past according to a variety of national myths, ideals, and political needs." For instance there is a huge difference between a memorial that represents the resistance movement and one that represents the mass murder of millions. In Germany, for example, memorials to this time recall Jews by their absence, German victims by their political resistance. In Poland, countless memorials, in former death camps and across the countryside, commemorate the whole of Polish destruction through its murdered Jewish part. In Israel, martyrs and heroes are remembered side by side, both redeemed by the birth of the state. As the shape of Holocaust memory in Europe and Israel is determined by political, aesthetic, and religious coordinates, in America it is guided by distinctly American ideals and experiences — such as liberty, pluralism, and immigration. It is up to us to make sure that this knowledge is passed down. It is up to us to make sure the Shoah, a terrible, horrible genocide, is not forgotten.

B'shalom,
Rabbi Kramer

The Purpose of This Congregation:

- To worship God in accordance with the beliefs and teachings of Reform Judaism.
- To cultivate and nurture in ourselves and our children a love and understanding of Jewish heritage.
- To develop a sensitive, caring and supportive congregational community where all are welcome and included.
- To act with responsibility and compassion in our community.
- To support the principles of equality, freedom and shalom among all peoples.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So Where Were You?



By Bruce Falstein
CST President

In case you missed it, here are a few things that happened at Shomrei Torah last month.

- Rabbi George led a Friday night tisch on the intersection of Judaism and Reggae music. Lots of good music, inspired teaching, and fascinating back-and-forth after a simple but satisfying dinner.
- The Social Action Committee presented a film about an Israeli woman's personal odyssey after a family tragedy, set against the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- We planted a pomegranate tree in loving memory of Rabbi Michael Robinson.
- Rabbi Kramer led an impromptu *kaddish* on a Sunday morning with a grieving member family and a group of religious school parents she herded together to form a *minyan*.
- Israel's Consul General appeared before a crowd of more than 100 to talk geopolitics and answer questions about Israel's recent elections.
- A group of Shomrei Torah women known as *Rosh Chodesh* gathered for fellowship beneath the full moon.
- Dr. Jehon Grist lectured on biblical history, using the Dead Sea Scrolls as a primary reference.
- A number of babies gummed bagels while their parents got better acquainted.
- A group of grown men (and a few ladies) devoured lox and bagels, and a lot of good conversation, at the Men's Bagel Club.
- We hosted a pair of Passover seders, one for members and a second one for

non-affiliated Jews looking to connect with a Jewish community.

- Two of our kids became *b'nei mitzvah*, and made a whole lot of grownups very proud.
- A few dozen teenagers sat in a circle and talked about the challenges they face and strategies to overcome them.
- Volunteers continued to plan the second annual Food Fest.
- Our 5th graders went on a trip to a funeral home and learned about the Jewish rituals concerning the end of life.

That's just a fraction of what went on here last month. Even more is in store for April. For a complete list of what's going on this month, visit www.shomreitorah.org/calendar.

B'shalom,
Bruce

Post a response to this message at www.shomreitorah.org/author/brucefalstein/.

Scenes from the Rabbi Michael Robinson Tree Planting

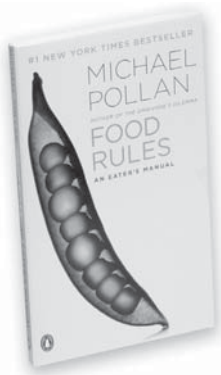


TEMPLE NEWS

Environmental Action Committee

Tip-of-the-Month

I give you every seed-bearing
plant on the face of the
whole earth and every tree
that has fruit with seed in it.
They will be yours for food.
Genesis 1:29-31



Just a few of food writer Michael Pollan's simple rules for healthy eating...

- "Don't eat anything your great-grandmother wouldn't recognize as food."
- "Don't eat anything that won't eventually rot" (with a few exceptions, like honey).
- "Don't buy food where you buy your gasoline."
- "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants."
- "Eat all the junk food you want as long as you cook it yourself."
- "When chickens get to live like chickens, they'll taste like chickens, too."

Read more Michael Pollan—

*In Defense of Food:
An Eater's Manifesto*

The Omnivore's Dilemma

Food Rules: An Eater's Manual

Conversation Leading to Action



Community in Conversation and North Bay Sponsoring Committee are starting to make positive changes happen in our community. On January 27, Shomrei Torah hosted an illuminating Immigration workshop for 150+ community members, where we heard sad and heroic stories, debunked common misperceptions, and built relationships with people different than ourselves.

On February 9, NBSC Research Action Teams met to share info, strategies and early successes in areas of focus: Jobs, Education, Mental health services, and Immigration / Police-Community relations. NBSC team members are now meeting with many public and private officials and agencies with a role in addressing these issues.

If you are interested in learning more and/or being involved in this alliance of good-hearted people who want to help their community, please contact the Shomrei Torah office for more information.

Social Action Committee Online

The Social Action Committee (SAC) encourages members to check out our SAC webpage! We describe upcoming Social Action events and identify ways to "Take Action Now" on important local, state, and national issues. There is also a link to the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism (RAC), a valuable resource with non-partisan advocacy information on more than 70 different issues, presented with a Jewish perspective on social justice.

We are a large, lively, active committee, but there is always room for more. We meet on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in participating or just want to get a flavor of what we do, check out the SAC webpage: from the CST website, follow the link to Community, and select Social Action: www.shomreitorah.org/community/social-action/.

New Chavurah/Study Group Forming

Mussar, a Jewish ethical, educational and cultural movement that began and developed in the 19th century will be the focus of a new group forming at CST. The Hebrew word "musar" is from the Book of Proverbs, and has the meaning of moral conduct, instruction or discipline.

The term was used by the Mussar movement, founded by Rabbi Yisrael Salanter, to refer to efforts to understand and practice ethical behavior. It is a path of contemplative practices and exercises that have evolved over the past thousand years to help individuals identify and then break down barriers to the inner light of the soul. Through study, discussion, meditations, chants and other spiritual exercise, positive change emerges at the very root of our nature.

If you find this appealing/intriguing, leave your contact information with Denise in the CST office at 578-5519. With sufficient interest, a date and time will be planned for a first meeting soon.

TEMPLE NEWS

Legacy Circle

Meet Legacy Circle Member Sherry Fink



Sherry joined Congregation Shomrei Torah in the fall of 2006, when the congregation was still located at the

Church on Yulupa in Santa Rosa. She enjoyed the fun of being part of the move to the new location on Bennett Valley Road.

Sherry values the spiritual leadership of Rabbi George and the fellowship and community support of the Congregation. Another aspect of great enjoyment for her has been the CST music program. In 2008, Sherry joined the choir and enjoys singing at High Holy Day services and occasionally at Shabbat services. Sherry feels her family has benefitted greatly by her membership. She called upon Rabbi George in 2007, when her mom passed away and notes

that he helped her family deal with their grief. She says, "Rabbi George showed me that I could be there for others who faced the same grief."

After she retired from teaching high school math at Casa Grande High School in Petaluma, Sherry has taught the 7th grade *B'nai Mitzvah* class and the Madrichim class for the past three years. Sherry herself was part of the adult *B'nai Mitzvah* program, under the guidance of Judith Goleman, in 2008. She relates this created a close relationship with the others in her group, who studied together for eighteen months before their special day.

In February 2009, Sherry and her husband went to Israel with Rabbi George and twenty three other congregants. For her that was a life changing experience and they have created a life-long bonding with the others who were in this travel group. Sherry has also been a member of the Membership

and the Social Action Committees.

Sherry made her decision to make a "planned" gift to the synagogue, because she wants CST to be there for future generations. She wishes her donation to be used in any way necessary to keep Judaism strong in Sonoma County. Sherry hopes that Shomrei Torah continues to grow and, eventually, builds more classrooms to educate and involve more young people in Judaism.

Her husband, Jeff, is not Jewish, but he enjoys joining Sherry in Friday night services and bringing in the Shabbat, after a long and hectic week. She loves bringing her twenty two month old grandson, Jacob, to events like the *Purimshpiel*, and embracing the connection to Judaism.



Don't Throw it away... Save It for Second Hand Rose!

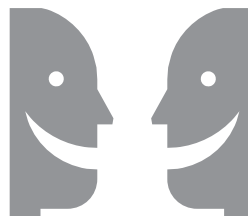


- ▶ Too many White Elephant items cluttering your closets and garage?
- ▶ Hoping to Spring Clean in a few months?
- ▶ Promised yourself you'll toss stuff before you buy anything new?

Save all your items—we'll be collecting again in May!

Cancer Resource Team At Your Service

If you were recently diagnosed with cancer, there are other members of the congregation who have experienced similar challenges and want to help. Would you like someone to talk with you and/or members of your family? We are here to listen, answer your questions and hold your hand. Contact the CST office to be paired up with a member of the team.



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TEMPLE NEWS

STARS

Dear Stars Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful spring break and Passover holiday. There is nothing more beautiful than the weather we have been experiencing. Our Stars/Tots Passover Seder went really well. The kids really were well behaved as we jumped like frogs and enjoyed chocolate covered matzah. It was wonderful to be able

to celebrate with everyone!

This month we have a lot going on. Every weekend is packed! Please read carefully. I hope to see everyone for the last few weeks of school.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Kramer

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

K–3rd Grade — Sundays • 9:00–11:15 AM
4–7th Grade — Sundays • 11:00 AM–1:00 PM
4–6th Grade — Wednesdays • 4:00–6:00 PM

Saturday • April 6 • 6th Grade Service • 10:15 AM–Noon
Participating in our Shabbat Morning Service provides an opportunity to lead the congregation in prayers. Parents are encouraged to come.

Sunday • April 7 • Yom HaShoa • 10:30 AM There is no Religious School on this day. *Yom HaShoa* is the day we remember the Holocaust. There will be a service at 10:30 AM in the sanctuary. 6th and 7th graders are asked to attend. Any children present at services will be invited up to light candles of hope.

Sunday • April 14 • 8:30 AM • Jewish World Watch Walk All grades will participate in the 5th Annual Walk to End Genocide. Parents are requested to also participate! The 3-mile walk will begin and end at Shomrei Torah but will also be technically off campus. If are unable to attend and walk with your child, Rabbi Kramer must have a signed Field Trip form in order for your child to leave campus.

Monday • April 19 • 5:15 PM • Kindergarten and First Grade

Shabbat Kindergarten and First graders are invited for Shabbat dinner prior to services that begin promptly at 6:15 PM. During this service Kindergarten will receive their mini Torahs and first graders will help with the service. Please RSVP to vrutherford@shomreitorah.org.

Saturday • April 21 • 11:00 AM • Mitzvah Mall The seventh graders will display pictures and information about their *Mitzvah* projects. All of our other grades will go through and learn about the different projects. They will have the opportunity to ask questions and decide where their *tzedakah* from the year will be donated. Parents of all children are welcome to come take a look at the amazing things our *b'nei mitzvah* students are doing.

Sunday • April 21 • 11:00 AM–2:00 PM • Tallit Workshop

We will culminate this years studies in a really significant way. Each family will have the opportunity to create a *tallit* together. The *tallit* is made of silk and will be totally appropriate for your child (or another member of the family) to wear on their special day. Please RSVP to vrutherford@shomreitorah.org so we have enough food for you!



Hi Everyone,

March was a fabulous Tot Shabbat Month. It was so cute to watch all the little ones participate in the seder. They really did enjoy the food. It was nice to see so many of you there.

Our next Tot Shabbat is on Saturday, April 13, 9:30–11:00 AM when we will be Exploring Israel. Come and enjoy a fun service, songs, and story and art activity.

I hope to see you all there.

Happy Spring,
Tot Shabbat Lauren

TOT SHABBAT CALENDAR • APRIL 2013–JUNE 2013

Saturday, April 13, 2013.....9:30–11:00 AM..... Exploring Israel
Friday, May 10, 2013.....5:00 PM..... Temple Scavenger Hunt
Saturday, June 1, 20139:30–11:00 AM..... *Tikkun Olam* Planting

TEMPLE NEWS

Chaverim Notes

As Chaverim, our Synagogue and JCC sponsored teen program, looks to its final few months this year, there are some special events to share:

- Chaverim Dinner Discussions and Events continue through May. Updates and events can be found on our website www.jccsoco.org.
- A special invitation is extended to any Jewish teen in Sonoma County to join us for dinner and discussion as a guest, to participate and get a peek at our program. If you have not been involved, we want to extend this invite and encourage you to reconnect! Be our guest! Bring a Jewish friend. The nights to visit are:

8TH GRADE

Monday, April 29

6:30–8:30 PM at Beth Ami

9TH GRADE

Thursday April 18

6:30–8:30 PM at Shomrei Torah

10TH GRADE

Monday May 6

6:30–8:30 PM at Shomrei Torah

11TH / 12TH GRADES

Thursday, April (date)

6:30–8:30 PM at Beth Ami

If you would like your teen to get a personal call invite, let Rick Concoff, Program Director know at 823-3916.

- Camp Chai is just around the corner, for children ages 5–14 the last two weeks in June. For details go to our website at www.jccsoco.org.
- Please take the night off, leave your children with our great teen leaders and counselors, led by Assistant Director Aaron Selya. The next event is Saturday, April 27 at Shomrei Torah. Call Aaron for more details at the 495-0792.

B'nei Mitzvah



SASCHA CORY

April 20, 2013

10 Iyar 5773

Join us in celebration as our son, Sascha, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah followed by a Kiddish luncheon and party. —Chris and Saraj Cory



OLIVIA MCGAHAN

April 27, 2013

17 Iyar 5773

We have missed our Shomrei Torah community so we hope that you can join us for the service, and will stay for lunch and fun afterward. —Leira and Carl

NFTY/SHORTY

CST members Julian Cohen and Jake Matalon proudly represented SHOrTY at the NFTY convention in Los Angeles. At the convention they participated in the largest gathering of Jewish teens in all of North America. We are looking forward to seeing them put the leadership skills they have learned at this transformative experience into action.

Mark Your Calendars: Spring Conclave is the final regional event of the year for SHOrTY on May 17–19 at Camp Newman. More information on how to register will be coming soon.

Sincerely,

Aaron Selya, SHOrTY Advisor

The SC Tribe Tinkers in the Garden





SPONSORSHIP FORM

Yes! We would like to SPONSOR the Jewish Food Fest 2013.

- ☐ **\$5,000 Champion Sponsor** ☐ **\$2,500 Premier Sponsor** ☐ **\$1,000 Major Sponsor**
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www.shomreitorah.org | Congregation Shomrei Torah Tax ID #501(3)(c) 94-2261436

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Future of Holocaust Memory Sonoma County's

Yom HaShoah Observance

Sunday • April 7 • 2:00–4:00 PM



Co-sponsored by Shomrei Torah, this commemoration will take place at the Friedman Center, 4676 Mayette Ave., Santa Rosa.

The guest speaker will be Jack Weinstein, San Francisco Bay Area Director of Facing History and Ourselves, a world-wide organization that combats racism, anti-Semitism, and prejudice and nurtures democracy through education. The program will include a panel of respondents from three generations sharing their personal perspectives on the role and responsibility of their generation in ensuring Holocaust memory.

The event is free and open to the public. For information, visit www.jccsoco.org.

Simcha Sunday Jewish Cultural Festival

Sunday • April 21 • 12:00–4:00 PM

Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building
1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa



Sonoma County's Jewish Cultural Fair, Simcha Sunday,

brought to you by the Jewish Community Center, is designed to bring together and showcase the rich and varied aspects of Jewish life in Sonoma County.

There will be something for everyone: information and resource tables, an action-packed kids' area, live music, ethnic food, artists, vendors and lots of schmooze time at this community celebration! Look for hourly drawings for free door prizes donated

by our vendors; shop for Judaica art and gifts, jewelry and more.

And thanks to a grant from the Koret Foundation, attendance is FREE! For more information or if you're interested in being a vendor or volunteer, please contact Karen Gould, 528-4222 or kareng@jccsoco.org.

Nature and Chant: A Torah Trek Retreat Thursday • April 25



Join Rabbis Shefa Gold and Mike Comins in sacred chant and Jewish spiritual practice in the redwood forest of Hendy Woods State Park.

Choose a 6 day retreat or a 3 day weekend option and receive the time, space and tools to explore your connections with spiritual practice. Full information is available at www.TorahTrek.org.

Harvest for the Hungry Annual Plant Sale

Saturday • April 27 • 9:00 AM–2:00 PM

Christ Church United Methodist
1717 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa



Harvest for the Hungry Garden is an all-volunteer garden that grows and donates 20,000 pounds of food annually to several

local food programs. This yearly plant sale is their only fundraiser of the year.

This is a one of a kind plant sale with many varieties of heirloom tomatoes, hot and sweet peppers plus eggplant, squash and cucumbers, as well as flowering plants.

The sale also features a plethora of wonderful gardening supplies and native plants. Come early for the best selection! Check out their website at www.harvestgarden.org

Fighting for Equality: American Jewery During the Civil War

Sunday • May 19 • 2:00–4:00 PM

At Congregation Beth Ami

4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa



Historian Dr. Mark Shapiro brings a Jewish perspective to the Civil War.

As our nation roiled amidst the turbulent years of the Civil War,

the Jewish communities of the Union and Confederacy faced not only the struggles facing their regions, but also a rising threat of anti-Semitism. Preceding the Civil War, the American Jewish population exploded in size with many immigrants fleeing failed European revolutions. In a dynamic decade 150 years ago, American Jews were able to lay a new foundation for themselves in a nation undergoing a new birth of freedom.

Sponsored by the Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County. A \$10 donation at the door would be appreciated. RSVP to caryns@jccsoco.org or 707/528-4222, x306.

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The Community Gathers for Shomrei Torah's Passover Seders

