

CHESHVAN/KISLEV 5785

PRESIDENT: Joel Kristal photospbj@gmail.com

JRLW

DECEMBER 2024

MEGILLAH EDITOR: Bernice Cohen bernicecohen1@gmail.com



JOEL L. KRISTAL

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Happy Thanksgiving

You will probably receive this Megillah around Thanksgiving or maybe a little later but my message is the same. During the Thanksgiving season, we should count our blessings. At the beginning of our shacharit service, there is a list of items in which we thank G-d . For example, we thank G-d for making us Jewish. It doesn't say an ultra-orthodox Jew or a secular Jew, Only, thanks for making me a Jew. Here in America, it doesn't matter what level of Judaism you choose to practice, we are free to practice however we wish. Likewise, we can be thankful for the blessings to have a Bill of Rights that further guarantees our freedoms. We recently had an opportunity to exercise a basic right, the right to vote for our elected leaders. You may have approved/disapproved of the outcome, and should be thankful of the blessing of the opportunity to vote. We need to be thankful that we live in a free country. Yes, we see incidents of antisemitism but it is met with disdain by most people, Jews and non-Jews alike. We can be thankful that most

DECEMBER DATES

03 Tue – JRLW Board 7:30 pm

MEGILLAH

PLEASE VISIT THE JRLW WEB SITE - www.jrlwmd.org

- 04 Wed Hadassah Board
- 06 Fri Shabbat Service CH II 7:30 pm
- 09 Mon JRLW/HADASSAH Book & Author discussion
- 12 Thu JRLW Activity 11 am
- 14 Sat Shabbat Service CH II 9:15 am
- 15 Sun JRLW Brunch CH I 10 am
- 15 Sun Roundhouse Theatre 2 pm
- 16 Mon Hadassah Study Group CH I 2 pm
- 18 Wed Hadassah BINGO
- 25 Wed Erev Chanukah
- 26 Thu CHANUKAH Day 1
- 30 Mon JRLW Chanukah Program CH II 2 4 pm

JRLW BRUNCH

Stan Feinstein

Our next JRLW brunch will be held on Sunday, December 15, beginning at 10 am in the Clubhouse I Crystal Ballroom.

Entertainment will be provided by Seth Kibel. Mr. Kibel is one of the mid-Atlantic's premier woodwind specialists. He will be presenting a program that includes klezmer, jazz, swing, Hanukkah songs, and much more. If you enjoyed the Daryl Davis program in September you will certainly enjoy this one as well.

Tickets will be available at the Clubhouse I Lifestyle Office from November 18 through December 9. The cost of the brunch, <u>which is open to JRLW</u> <u>members only</u>, is \$25.00 per person. Tables may be reserved for up to 10 people. Payment is by check only, made out to JRLW. A maximum of 200 tickets will be sold for this event.

President's Message CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Americans are not antisemites.

Contrast this to November 9-10, 1938. The infamous Kristallnacht. We should never forget how the Nazi government sponsored the pogrom and how ordinary German citizens participated. It was a terrible time to be Jewish. We lost over 6 million of our brethren. Nothing to be thankful for that time in our history other than the Nazis were finally defeated.

Again, On October 7, 2023, horror befell the Jewish people. More than 1,200 men, women and children, were slaughtered by Hamas - the largest massacre of Jews since the Holocaust. This time, however, Jews did not have to sit by idly and look for help from other nations, which was ignored. We have the blessing of having a strong Israeli army which would deliver a death blow to the attackers. Sometimes, it is not easy to see our blessings. (Recent events in Amsterdam show antisemitism might be punished. I wonder if any of the perpetrators will be punished. Maybe, by the time this is published we will know. I don't hold my breath.)

As always, a few words from Rabbi lord Jonathan Sacks: Essays on Ethics (Torah portion Eikev 5776) "Though you don't have to be religious to be grateful, there is something about belief in God as creator of the universe, shaper of history and author of the laws of life that directs and facilitates our gratitude.

It is hard to feel grateful to a universe that came into

JRLW OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Joel Kristal ADMIN VP - Fred Springer SECRETARY - Adele Ewing TREASURER – Marsha Bernstein

NOTICE: THE DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY MEGILLAH IS DECEMBER 10. ARTICLES SUBMITTED AFTER THAT DATE WILL APPEAR IN THE FEBRUARY MEGILLAH.

existence for no reason and is blind to us and our fate. It is precisely our faith in a personal God that gives force and focus to our thanks.

It is no coincidence that the United States, founded by Puritans - Calvinists steeped in the Hebrew Bible - should have a day known as Thanksgiving, recognizing the presence of God in American history. On 3rd October 1863, at the height of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln issued a Thanksgiving proclamation, thanking God that though the nation was at war with itself, there were still blessings for which both sides could express gratitude: a fruitful harvest, no foreign invasion, and so on."

Looking forward to Hanukkah where we will be blessed with two community Hanukkah celebrations. One is conducted by our own Cantor Kravitz on December 30 at 2 pm in Clubhouse I, Crystal Ballroom and the other by Chabad Rabbi Wolvovsky in the Giant parking lot. I have not been given a date or time for the latter.

Shalom

RELIGIOUS SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2024

On Friday, December 6, we will have evening Shabbat Service in Clubhouse II at 7:30 pm. These services will be conducted by Rabbi Gary Fink and Cantor Wendy Gonzales.

There will be a Conservative Shabbat Service on Saturday, December 14, in Clubhouse II at 9:15 am. Cantor Mike Kravitz will conduct these services. The Torah portion will be Vayishlach. There will be a Kiddush following services.

We will have a Chanukah program on Monday, December 30 in Clubhouse II from 2-4 pm.



MEGILLAH STAFF

Bernice Cohen – Editor Barbara Cronin Sharon Freedman Marcia Sirulnik Marcia Crystal - Food Editor Sandy Marks- Business Mgr.

JOE AND PAUL

Bernie Ascher ©

Paul Kofsky owned three men's clothing stores in three different boroughs of New York, beginning in 1912. He named them: "Joe and Paul," even though there was no real partner. Joe was fictitious because Paul thought his customers would believe he would be more trustworthy if he had a partner.

During the glory days of Yiddish radio, Kofsky sought the author of "Bei Mir Bist Du Schon," Sholom Secunda, and asked him to write a jingle to advertise "Joe and Paul." Secunda completed the jingle in 1936, four years after the leading Yiddish newspaper, Forverts (Forward) acquired BEVD. Kofsky broadcast the jingle regularly on the radio station, sometimes singing the lyrics himself live. Outside of New York, however, the jingle (in Yiddish) hardly had been heard.

A comedian, originally named Aaron Chwatt (Red Buttons) produced a parody of the song and WEVD's commercials, which were so numerous they often interrupted each other. Red Button's parody played in Catskill resorts (The Borscht Belt). Hotel staffs memorized the scripts and passed them on to the Barton Brothers, a comedy team. When Buttons entered the army, the Barton Brothers made a record of the song, which (according to a 1949 Billboard article) surprisingly sold over 750,000 records nationwide.

"Yiddish radio reached its apex in the early 1940s and was in near free fall by the mid '50s," according to the Yiddish Radio Project. "Radio's loss of prestige to television was only part of the reason. The Holocaust had forever stemmed the flow of Yiddish speakers to America, while many earlier arrivals turned away from Yiddish culture as they assimilated in the New World. Israel's choice to make Hebrew its official language further marginalized Yiddish as the language of modern Jewish life."

The Project also observed that: "Given the fate of the Yiddish language and the unstable recording materials used in the 1930s to early '50s, it is a miracle that any remnant of the 'golden age' of Yiddish radio has survived to see the present day."

Recordings of "Joe and Paul" (both the Barton

Brothers best-seller and the scratchy Kofsky version) are available now on You Tube.

I LOVE CHANUKAH

Bernice Cohen

I love Chanukah! Of course, I love all of our Jewish holidays and observances. But there is something different about this holiday. You do not have to fast; you do not have to repent your actions of the past year. You do not spend the day in synagogue. It is not a **BIG IMPORTANT** holiday like Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Passover or Shavuot. It is a little holiday. It reminds me of the little old Jewish lady slowly limping along, saying, "Don't bother; I am o.k."

On Chanukah, we get to be happy, really happy. When the children are small, we gather together and light our Chanukah candles. We help the young ones light their own menorahs. My favorite photo is of my four sons, backs to the camera, each lighting his own menorah. Do we decorate? Maybe, if we want to. The important thing is to tell the story of how they tried to hurt us; we fought, we won. So, let's celebrate! Chanukah comes during the dark days of winter and brings us a little happiness, a little *frailach*.

Of course, the presents help. Children (and adults) are always happy to receive gifts. The presents do not have to be BIG. They can be small tchotchkes. We give them one time or one a day for eight days. No rules. And we eat latkes with applesauce and brisket. What's not to like about a holiday when we gather the family to give gifts and eat. We get to play dreidel and explain that the four letters on the sides of the little top stand for, "A Great Miracle Happened Here!" What a clever way to teach our young ones history.

When the children are grown and have small ones of their own, we still love the idea of getting together to celebrate and to light our menorahs, sing *Rock of Ages*, play with the dreidel and eat latkes. Isn't this what life is all about? Family, grandchildren and celebrating. Chag Sameach!



CANTOR'S CORNER

Michael Kravitz



Okay, JEOPARDY! fans, it has been a while since I started a "CANTOR'S CORNER" column with a JEOPARDY! category. I'll fix that with this column. Here is the category. Let's see how well you do.

SONGS BY JEWISH COMPOSERS

The composer of this 1982 Chanukah song said "it expresses what my concept of being Jewish is."

And the question?

What is "LIGHT ONE CANDLE?"

The composer was, of course, Peter Yarrow, and one of the best versions of this song is performed by the trio of Peter, Paul and Mary.

I'm writing this column just after Simchat Torah, 5785, when we celebrated a joyous occasion in our tradition during a difficult time. It has now been just over a year since Hamas killed innocent civilians in Israel and took over 200 hostages. We continue to hope that negotiations can succeed to BRING THE HOSTAGES HOME. In the meantime, preparations are being made to celebrate CHANUKAH, and our annual JRLW Chanukah program will take place in Clubhouse II's Activities Room from 2-4 pm on Monday, December 30. The program will include videos of songs for the holiday, but there will also be many opportunities to raise our voices in song. One of the videos to be included will be Peter, Paul and Mary singing "LIGHT ONE CANDLE" from a PBS holiday special. I will want EVERYONE in attendance to sing the chorus along with Peter, Paul and Mary. That chorus is "Don't let the light go out. It's lasted for so many years. Don't let the light go out. Let it shine through our love and our tears."

Those words are particularly relevant THIS year.

So, please come to the Chanukah celebration on December 30. It is free and refreshments will be served. Bring your family, invite your friends. Let's make this a special celebration to end 2024. HADASSAH NEWS

Sandy Stein

On Wednesday, December 18, the Ruach Chapter of Hadassah will have their annual Holiday Bingo Party in Clubhouse 1 at 2 pm. There will be special refreshments and prizes. Everyone is invited to join us for this fun afternoon. There will be a \$10.00 charge paid at the door either by cash or check, payable to Hadassah. Members who bundled for the year are admitted without additional charge. There is still time to give any additional donations before the end of the year. Your support is much appreciated.

MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Hadassah's annual membership is based on the calendar year, so we invite you to join or renew in January and be our guest at Bingo or the first meeting in January. The annual dues are \$36.00. Life Membership is \$250.00. Your membership includes the award-winning Hadassah magazine. Also think what a wonderful gift this could be for your daughter or granddaughter. It is easy to join with a credit card online, the website is <u>www.</u> <u>Hadassah. Org</u> and click on "Become a Member" on the top bar. Checks made out to Hadassah can be given at any program. Contact Linda Epstein for further information at 301-847-9650.

On December 9, at 2 pm in Clubhouse I, there will be a book review of *"Two Envelopes"* by author Rusty Rosman. This event is co-sponsored with Jewish Residents of Leisure World. See separate article in this Megillah for more information.

The Judaic Studies Group will be taking a holiday break in December. Beginning in January, the meeting day/time will be the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm in Clubhouse I. Please contact any member of the committee if you are interested in moderating a learning session. Committee members are: Marcia Elbrand (216-496-6633), Shari Goldstein (240-293-6442), Naomi Kline (516-668-2187), or Peri Schuyler (perislaptop@aol.com).

Hadassah cards for any occasion are available at all our programs.

Be well. Stay safe.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LIGHT



Cantor Wendy Gonzales

cantorwendyg@gmail.com

With Chanukah beginning unusually late this year (December 25!!), one cannot help but acknowledge the importance

of light in its many different facets! Aesthetically, we feel energized by light. The brightness of the sun, the stars twinkling in the skies, the glow from the candles all bring a sense of hope and joy. And, in our music, we celebrate the light.

Some of the songs we sing at Shabbat, such as Or Chadash, the "new" light that inspires that we each hold a divine spark of light that we contribute to our world; Or Zarua, from Psalm 97:11 means that a "light is sown for the righteous and joy for the upright of heart;" and Yisrael V'oraita where we joyfully sing "Torah ora, hallelujah!" On Chanukah we integrate the joy of the candles into **Oh Chanukah, Chag Ha-or, Light One Candle, Flicker Little Candles** among other fun songs.

Many people worry about Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD); when we have less daylight during the fall and winter and look forward to the spring and summer when the brightness of nature contributes to the brightness of our own being. I would encourage all of us to think how we can bring the "light" into our lives when often things appear visually gloomy. One can play music that is uplifting or plan events, play games, go to fun movies that make us laugh, visit the gym, and/or get together with friends and family to bring joy into our daily routines. The study of Torah also gives light through us and to us! In Psalm 119:105 we read, "What is the lamp of G-d? The Torah, as it says, 'The commandment is a lamp, and the teaching a light' (Proverbs 6:23).

All this to say that we need to bring light into our lives! Whether through routines, activities, study of Torah, music, volunteering, attending services or other events, we have the ability to bring in our own light, even if nature or the season is not providing it for us at the moment!

Do not be afraid to ask for help if you are feeling a negative pull toward the onset of winter. It is essential that we not only look out for ourselves, but assist those around us that may need a little extra support during these times.

As Chanukah, the Festival of Lights (Chag Ha-Urim) approaches, we celebrate the holiday The Importance of Light with the beautiful lights in our menorah, the wonderful songs, the traditions of the dreydl and special foods like sufganiyot and latkes. Our family tradition during each of the eight nights is to light the menorah with the lights of the room off as we step back to see the beautiful effects of the lights burning. The beauty of the candles burning never "gets old!"

Chag Chanukah Sameach!

GOOD AND WELFARE

Thanks to all the grandparents who sent in their quells. Our next quelling column will be in June 2025. See you then.

If your synagogue has an event you would like to share, we can add it on our Bulletin Board.

Mazel Tov to Janet and Sidney Lazar on their 61st Wedding Anniversary!

We send our continuing prayers and good wishes to Cheryl Kravitz.

Our healing wishes go to Fred Shapiro.

The general elections are over. Whether you are elated or devastated, you must remember that we are still one nation. We all must all learn to work and live together for the Good and Welfare of our beloved United States of America.



WE REMEMBER Les Lichter. Carole Ruth Jason. Nathan 'Nate' Sternberg. Maria Tsimmerman. William 'Bill' Stein. Bette S. Siegel.

JRLW MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Suzy Klein

We hope you are enjoying the crisp days of autumn and vibrant leave colors that come out throughout Leisure World during this time of year. We are thankful that JRLW was able to provide Reorm and Conservative Shabbat Services during November and will continue to do so throughout the year.

What an exciting time to be a member of JRLW and to be able to enjoy the countless activities that JRLW has, including our "Mix and Mingle" event, brunches and the JRLW book club and movies.

JRLW held a very successful "Mix and Mingle" event with more than 70 members attending. Many thanks go to Fred Springer and the Social Committee for organizing this fun event.

Our next JRLW brunch will be held December 15, 2024. As a gentle reminder our JRLW brunches are members-only events. Our speaker for the December brunch will be Seth Kibel who will present a musical performance. Tickets for our members-only brunches go on sale the third Monday of the month and can be purchased in the Clubhouse I Lifestyle Office. Tickets for our brunches are \$25.00 each and all attendees must have a ticket to gain entry to the event.

The Jewish Residents of Leisure World welcomes and encourages suggestions and new ideas. We will continue to sponsor interesting activities throughout the year.

Our membership continues to grow month by month. Remember our new membership registration is from January 1st - December 31, 2024. If you have changes to your address and/or phone number, please contact anyone on the Membership Committee to update our records. Membership forms can be found online at <u>www.jrlwmd.org</u>.

You must be a member to join certain activities that JRLW sponsors. If you will be attending memberonly with a significant other, please register "Dual" as noted on the Membership form.

A full list of our events and activities is published on our JRLW website and our private Facebook page.

Our closed group is used to provide a calendar of events, discussion groups, announcements, information about cultural events and Judaic content, as well as, messages between Members. If you want to join our private JRLW Facebook please contact Alan Nelson at <u>apnelson8@yahoo.com</u> or Carol Wendkos at <u>carolwendkos@gmail.com</u>.

Please remember to introduce yourself to those who you do not know when you are attending our Services and Events. Also please encourage those who are not members to join our organization. Thank you for being a member of the Jewish Residents of Leisure World.

Linda Nelson - <u>lpnelson@comcast.net</u> 301-922-1793

Suzy Klein - <u>smklein.advocate@gmail.com</u> 301-789-9667

Nancy Grossman - <u>nhgrossman@gmail.com</u> 301-455-5243

ORDER YOUR 2025 MAH JONGG CARD FROM JRLW



JRLW is taking orders for the 2025 Mah Jongg cards. The National Mah Jongg League prices are \$14 for standard (S) size and \$15 for a large (L) size. Lois Schmeidler is coordinating this for JRLW. Orders must be received by January 20, 2025. Use the flyer or send a note to Lois with your order and additional orders. If you are ordering for someone else, be sure to include the address where the card should be sent. Let your friends JRLW is taking orders for the 2025 Mah Jongg cards. The National Mah Jongg League prices are \$14 for standard (S) size and \$15 for a large (L) size. Lois Schmeidler is coordinating this for JRLW. Orders must be received by January 20, 2025. Use the flyer or send a note to Lois with your order and additional orders. If you are ordering for someone else, be sure to include the address where the card should be sent. Let your friends know that JRLW is providing this service. See the Flyer for the form and details.

PROGRAM AND EDUCATION

Becky Siman

Monday, December 9 – Book and Author Discussion with Hadassah for book, Two Envelopes:

<u>What You Want Your Loved Ones To Know When</u> <u>You Die</u> by Rusty Rosman. It is helpful to write down your wishes because, while you think you told everyone what you want, you may not really have told everyone the same thing.

Monday, December 30 – Hannukah Program with Cantor Mike Kravitz, 2 pm, Clubhouse II Activities Room. Come join in with lots of Hanukkah Music and commentary. There will be Hanukkah refreshments following the program.

Coming in January:

Tuesday, January 9 – JRLW/JCC Movie <u>*Call Me*</u> <u>*Dancer*</u>, 1:30 pm, Clubhouse II Auditorium. This uplifting documentary takes us on a magical journey from the streets of Mumbai to the stages of New York. Call Me Dancer is the story of perseverance, rebellion, passion, family, culture, and an unlikely friendship between a street dancer and an Israeli dance master. *Call Me Dancer* is a Billy Elliott style story that will make you want to jump up from your seat and, yes, dance! Price is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets will be on sale in both clubhouses December 10 – January 8. See the flyer. 90 min.

Sunday, January 26, International Holocaust Day Commemoration Program, 2 pm, Clubhouse I, Maryland Room. See the article for more details.

JRLW HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY PROGRAM

Sunday, January 26, 2 pm Clubhouse I Maryland Room

Becky Siman

On Sunday, January 26, 2025, JRLW will present a program to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Jack Tennenbaum is

coordinating this program.

The Holocaust story did not end on May 8, 1945. The story continues with the impact of the horrors of the Holocaust on the children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors. How were they affected by an event that occurred before their births?

We have read and seen the testimonies of those who survived. We have read the many books and watched countless documentaries. We have learned well the history of state sponsored hate and attempted genocide.

The trauma caused by surviving the horror of the Holocaust changed every Jew that survived, their children and generations beyond. There have been numerous studies by many investigators evidencing that trauma and PTSD is genetically transmitted to subsequent generations.

This program focuses on them. We will hear from three children of survivors about growing up as the 2nd and 3rd generations of Holocaust survivors whose parents were in ghettos, concentration camps, in hiding, or fighting with the partisans. They will talk about how growing up as a child or grandchild of survivors affected their childhoods and their adult lives.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dona Deutsch 3480 Chiswick Court Silver Spring, MD 20906

Elaine Ross 3210 N. Leisure World Blvd., #307 Silver Spring, MD 20906

Dallas Valley 3310 N. Leisure World Blvd., #521 Silver Spring, MD 20906

Loris Horwitz 2901 S. Leisure World Blvd., #424 Silver Spring, MD 20906



JRLW MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2025

Last year, JRLW changed our fiscal year to a calendar year which goes from January 1 through December 31. Therefore, it is time to renew your membership for the 2025 calendar year. In order to continue receiving the Megillah and to be able to attend our "member only" events, JRLW is asking that you pay your 2025 dues by February 1, 2025.

JRLW has not raised dues for the last five years, but it necessary to do so this year. Although the cost of religious services, speakers and printing has gone up a bit, the main reason for the rise in our costs is due to security. Leisure World is a very safe place, but, like most religious institutions in this country, it is necessary to provide extra security at our religious services and many of our other programs.

The cost of membership for 2025 will be \$30 for individuals and \$50 for couples. The cost for Life Membership, which has not been raised in over 8 years, will be going up slightly, as well. The prices for Life Membership are listed below.

Please fill out the form below and make your check payable to JRLW. You can either drop the check off in the JRLW mailbox in Clubhouse I or mail it to:

Beverly Masters – JRLW, 3378 Chiswick Ct., #2E, Silver Spring, MD 20906

____ Individual (\$30) ____ Couples (\$50) ____ Life* ____ New Member

Name: ____

If all the information below is the same as last year, just put SAME

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

*LIFE MEMBERSHIP is a way of showing support and commitment to JRLW. It also means you do not have to pay your annual dues in the future.

This chart, based on age, shows the cost of Life Membership

PER PERSON

AGE		COST	AGE	COST
64 & un	der	\$400	75–79	\$250
65-69		\$350	80-84	\$200
70-74		\$300	85 +	\$125

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		Number
		of Cards
		and
		Size S/L
Name		
Address to Soud Card		
Address to Send Card		
Phone Number		
Email Address		
	Checks are payable to <u>JRLW.</u>	
	Mail by January 20, 2025, to:	
	Lois Schmeidler	
	3200 N Leisure World Blvd, #705	
	Silver Spring, MD 20906	
Additional	856 577-0757	
Additional		
Information		



GRANDPARENTS QVELLING

Sandy and Stan Feinstein are extremely proud of their four grandchildren. **Noah** graduated from the University of Michigan's School of Engineering last year and is now working for a local IT company. **Eli** just graduated from Syracuse University with a BFA in Theater Design and Technology and will be working as a Lighting Technician this summer before securing a full-time position. **Tali** is a rising senior in the University of Michigan's School of Education and will be working this summer as the director of a local day camp. **Natan** just graduated from The Park School in Baltimore and in the fall will be a freshman at Tufts University in Boston.

Wendy P. Eisenberg qvells: Our granddaughter, **Sylvia Bond Eisenberg**, will graduate from Rochester Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computational Math in December 2024.

Marcia Crystal is proud of granddaughter **Lauren Krens** who received a Maser's Degree in Nursing Leadership and Administration.

Hinda Exler is proud to announce that her granddaughter **Hope Gouterman** took the Law Bar and passed it the first time. Hope is engaged to Scott Fricke. The wedding will take place in March. Hope's brother, **Michael Gouterman** is engaged to Lauren Scultz. Their wedding will be held in April. Granddaughter **Talya Exler** is engaged to Carson Goldborough. No wedding date has been set.

Richard Rothstein is qvelling about his grandchildren. Margaret Dolbin continues in her designing career at Swim USA. She was recently promoted up from junior designer and is now responsible for a line of swimsuit fashion to be sold at Nordstroms. Kyle Dolbin has just returned from his deployment in Somalia with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. When he returns to his home base he wants to pursue a career as a firefighter and EMT. **Rebecca Rothstein Epp** is now in her sophomore year at Bryn Mawr College. She is about to declare a major in the field of neuroscience. She also has an oncampus job at the Haverford Art Gallery. **Cameron Rothstein Epp** is now a senior at Bethesda Chevy Chase High School and is a starter on the varsity basketball team. He plans to pursue a business major in college.

Sue Winakur is very proud of her three wonderful grandchildren. **Skylour S. Winakur** has a new job after his graduation from Wake Forest with a Master's degree in Business Analytics. He has an undergraduate degree in Healthcare Management and Finance from Wash University. He is currently working in Florida for Quest Diagnostics. **Caroline H. Winakur** will be graduating from Duke with a degree in electrical and computer engineering. This summer she will start a job at Blue Origin near Seattle, Washington. She worked at Blue Origin for the past summer. **Jasmine G. Winakur** will be finishing her second year in college.

Susan Yarrow is qvelling about her grandchildren. Emersyn Yarrow is currently a Freshman at the University of South Florida. She is majoring in Marine Biology. Her brother, **Tyler Yarrow**, is a senior in high school and is currently looking at business/ finance schools in the Northeast. He was the goalie of the high school soccer team for the past 4 years. Their cousin, **Kaiya Yarrow**, is a freshman in high school. She was on the school's Tennis Team and was seeded 4th.

Suzy Klein is very proud of her grandsons. **Sammy Nathan Morris** is a 4th Grader at Fallsmead Elementary School. He plays drums and the clarinet. He has been on the Honor Roll every term. **Jared Maxwell Morris** is a senior at Wootton High School. He is a member of the Wootton High School Marching Band and a member of the Maryland Youth Orchestra at Strathmore Hall. He is proficient in 9 percussion Instruments. He has been on the Honor Roll every term since Freshman year.

Congratulation to Bernie Ascher on the marriage of Grandson **David Ascher**, to Bianca. All 4 of Bernie's grandsons are married now.

JEWISH RESIDENTS OF LEISURE WORLD ELECTION OF OFFICERS

For the term of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN YOUR VOTE ON THIS BALLOT BEFORE DECEMBER 4, 2024

Ballots may be sent by email, mail, or dropped off at Clubhouse I

JRLW SLATE OF OFFICERS or WRITE-IN CANDIDATES:

		Vote for	or	Write- in Vote		
President:	Joel Kristal		-			
Admin. Vice President:	Fred Springer		-			
Religious Vice President:	Ellyn Becker Kaufmar	ı	-			
Recording Secretary:	Adele Ewing		-			
Corresponding Secretary:	Steve Cohen		-			
Treasurer:	Marsha Bernstein		-			
Please submit your ballot in one of these 3 ways One per household membership						
E	mail to: Leaheweis	sman@gmail.c	om			

- Mail to: Leah Weisman 3210 N Leisure World Blvd., # 1016 Silver Spring, MD 20906
- Drop off: JRLW Mailbox in Clubhouse I

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 4, 2024

Thank you for being a member of JRLW

BOOK REVIEW

Sandra Stein

HADASSAH AND THE JEWISH RESIDENTS OF LEISURE WORLD PRESENT A BOOK REVIEW

"Two Envelopes" by Rusty Rosman

The Jewish Residents and the Ruach Chapter of Hadassah will host Rusty Rosman the author of "*Two Envelopes*" on Monday, December 9, at 2:00 pm in Clubhouse I. Ms. Rosman will review her book that helps people learn the things they did not know and need to know. She is a teacher, real estate broker and a community volunteer who lives outside of Detroit, Michigan.

Envelope #1—Open immediately after I die. This one contains your legal name, your Hebrew name, any arrangements you have already made such as burial plots, and your thoughts about shiva.

Envelope #2—Open immediately after the funeral. The information your family needs that is not in your will or trust. Your passwords, which credit cards have auto payments, such as medication refills, utility bills and who inherits your personal possessions.

When someone's children live elsewhere from them, they see different ways of doing the same thing. This way, you are making sure things are done the way you want.

"Two Envelopes" is your voice telling your loved ones what you know that they need to know. You decide and write it down. This is no easy subject that people are anxious to talk about, but it is so necessary. This helps take away the chaos that comes with grief over a loved one's death. Everyone is invited to attend. There is no charge, and the book will be available for purchase for \$20.00 by check or cash.

TZEDAKAH, KIDDUSH, TORAH MAINTENANCE AND ONEG DONATIONS

For information about Tzedakah, Oneg or Kiddush donations, please call Sheila Harnik at 240-888-4433. Checks should be made out to JRLW and mailed to Sheila at 15101 Interlachen Drive, Apt. 909, Silver Spring MD 20906.

TZEDAKAH DONATIONS

Donation by Dora Levin in memory of Sally Binder and Max Binder, and in gratitude for the honors she was given during the High Holiday Services.

Donation by Susan and Jonas Weiss in memory of Rabbi Mosha Samber.

Donation by Judi Gannon in honor of Cantor Michael Kravitz who truly exemplifies the definition of a leader.

Donation by Judi Gannon in honor of Harold Geetter and Sid Sussan. A hearty Yasher Koach.

Donation by Myra Schnur in honor of her Grandson Ruben's Bar Mitzvah.

Anita & Howard Rosen made a donation thanking the officers and volunteers of JRLW for the great programming throughout the year and a special thanks to Cantor Mike Kravitz for thoughtful and warm Holiday services.

Donation by Susan and Jonas Weiss in memory of Susan's parents, Helen and Sidney Schaffer.





RITUAL COMMITTEE

Ellyn Becker Kaufman

Shalom dear Friends,

Hanukkah is just around the corner - as always, it falls on the eve of the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev. This year, that falls on the 25th day of the Gregorian calendar, in December. I've always thought it was interesting that Hanukkah is known as the Festival of Lights, yet other religions decorate with tons of lights! I remember my sister Arlene, z"I commenting that she knew my house would NOT have lights all around, as did the other homes in my neighborhood, but we *did have* dreidel lights projected onto our home in Annapolis. Oh well......

Do you know why Jewish children play with the dreidel (*s'vivon*) on Hanukkah? The custom is often explained with a legend that, during the time of the Maccabees, when Jewish children were forbidden from studying Torah, they would defy the decree and study anyway. When a Greek official would come nearby, they would put away their books and take out spinning tops, claiming they were just playing games.

The Hebrew word Hanukkah means "dedication," as in dedicating a building or a home. Of course, the foods most known for consumption during this holiday are latkes and "soofganiyot" - all fried in oil.

Please join us on December 30, 2- 4 pm, as we learn about Hanukkah with Cantor Kravitz, enjoy some *soofganiyot* and enjoy being together!

However you choose to celebrate the holiday, may it bring you light, joy, happiness and love.

Kol tuv,

Ellyn Becker Kaufman Chair-Ritual Committee

TORAH and PRAYER BOOK FUNDS

Individuals can be honored and loved ones memorialized with a contribution to the JRLW Torah or Prayer Book Fund for a minimum donation of \$25.00.

PRAYER BOOK FUND

If you would like to make a donation in honor of or in memory of someone in a Reform Prayerbook, Conservative Prayerbook or a Chumash (Bible), please stipulate which one in your request. Please send your requests to donate prayer books to Florence Kasden, 3100 Leisure World Boulevard, #610, Silver Spring MD 20906. Her phone number is 410-251-9382.

Esther Goldstein donated a Conservative Prayerbook in honor of the memory of Les Lichter.



TORAH FUND

For contributions to the Torah Maintenance Fund, send your check, made out to JRLW, to Carol Wendkos,14805 Pennfield Circle, #212, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

Naomi and Steven Kline made a donation in memory of Rabbi Moshe Samber.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE 😃

A woman walks into a pharmacy and asks the pharmacist for some arsenic. He asks, "What for?"

She says, "I want to kill my husband."

He says, "Sorry, I can't do that."

She then reaches into her purse and pulls out a photo of her husband in bed with the pharmacist's wife and hands it to him. He says, "You didn't tell me you had a prescription."

Tuesday, January 9, 2025

JCC/JRLW Movie

Call me Dancer

JRLW/JCC Movie Call Me Dancer 1:30 p.m. Clubhouse II Auditorium



This uplifting documentary takes us on a magical journey from the streets of Mumbai to the stages of New York. Call Me Dancer is the story of perseverance, rebellion, passion, family, culture, and an unlikely friendship between a street dancer and an Israeli dance master. Call Me Dancer is a Billy Elliott style story that will make you want to jump up from your seat and, yes, dance! Price is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets will be on sale in both clubhouses December 10 – January 8.

JRLW Sunday Brunch December 15th at 10:00am

Seth Kibel 55 55 Seth Kibel is one of the mid-Atlantic's premier woodwind specialists. He will entertain us with klezmer, jazz, swing, Hanukkah songs, and much more.

Email Address (Optional):

✓ Please bring this form with you to purchase your tickets.

 Seat assignments will be given out at the reception/check-in tables outside of the Ballroom beginning at 9:30am on Sunday.

RECIPE CORNER

LATKES FOR CHANUKAH

POTATO LATKES

1 1/2 pounds potatoes peeled and grated.

1 large onion, grated.

2 large eggs, lightly beaten.

2 tablespoons matzo meal or flour.

1 1/2 teaspoons salt and freshly ground black pepper.

Vegetable oil for frying.

Make certain that the potatoes are thoroughly drained. Use a clean dish towel to wring them out.) Mix all ingredients together. Drop mixture by spoonfuls into very hot oil. Fry in small batches for about 3 minutes on each side. Drain well on paper towels. Place drained latkes on a rack placed on a cookie sheet. Keep warm in 250° oven until ready to serve.



ZUCCHINI/POTATO LATKES

1 cup grated zucchini.

2 cups grated potato.

2 large eggs, well beaten.

2 tbsp chopped onions.

1/3 cup flour.

1/2 tsp baking powder.

1/2 tsp salt.

1/4 cup oil, as needed.

Blot grated zucchini and potatoes with paper towels to remove moisture. Stir vegetables and eggs in a large bowl and set aside. Mix dry ingredients. Stir into vegetable/egg mixture until batter is just moistened.

Heat oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Drop rounded spoonfuls of batter into hot oil and fry until golden, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Drain pancakes on a paper towel lined plate. Serve warm. Pancakes may be kept warm on cake racks in oven.



CARROT LATKES

4 large carrots, grated.

1/3 cup blanched almonds, finely chopped.

2 eggs.

1/2 cup flour.

1/2 teaspoon vanilla.

3 tablespoons sugar.

Oil for frying.

Powdered sugar for serving.

In a large bowl, mix all the ingredients. Heat oil in skillet. Drop mixture by spoonfuls into the oil. Flatten latke in the pan. Cook until golden and flip to other side. Continue cooking for about 12 minutes. Drain on paper towels. Sprinkle with powdered sugar for serving.



ALMOND/CARROT LATKES

4 large carrots, grated

/2 cup blanched almonds, finely grated

2 eggs

1/2 cup flour

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

3 tablespoons sugar

vegetable oil for frying

powdered sugar for serving

In a large bowl, mix all the ingredients. Heat vegetable oil in a skillet over medium flame. Scoop out a tablespoon of the mixture and drop into the oil. Flatten the patty in the pan. Cook until golden and flip to the other side. Continue cooking until both sides are brown, approximately 12 minutes. Drain on paper towels. Sprinkle with powdered sugar for serving.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Fred Springer

I hope you made it to the last event. The Marvelous Mix and Mingle Soirée in October was a hit! Over seventy people brought tasty hors d'oeuvres to share as people engaged socially. Attendees enjoyed a glass or two of wine as they listened to the guitar music by Alex.

Our next social event is a simpler one. Take some time to socialize. Join us on Thursday, December 12, for lunch in the Terrace Room in Clubhouse I at noon. We have reserved a table but space is limited. You need to call me, Fred, at 301-213-5482, to reserve a spot. Lunches will be paid for individually.

We have another special for you. Sue Sandler has arranged for half price tickets to the Round House Theatre in Bethesda on Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 pm. The show is A Hanukkah Carol or Gelt Trip. See the article by Sue in this megillah. Bring your family and friends. Tickets are limited. Give Sue a call.

And there is one more exciting event now in the works. Save the date! Sunday, March 23, at 1 pm for a rousing Jewish trivia game! Get your teams together now. More information to follow.



ROUNDHOUSE THEATRE

Sue Sandler

Tickets are available for **A Chanukah Carol or Gelt Trip**, The musical.

Sunday, December 15, at 2:00 pm at Roundhouse theatre in Bethesda, Maryland.

The price is \$45.00 and priority seating is available to JRLW residents.

Please call or text Sue Sandler for more information at suecsandler@comcast.net or call 301-219-4449.



CHANUKAH

Chanukah the Maccabean commemorates (Hasmonean) victories over the forces of the Seleucid king Antiochus IV Epiphanes (reigned 175-164 bce) and the rededication of the Temple on Kislev 25, 164 bce. Led by Mattathias and his son Judas Maccabeus (died c. 161 bce), the Maccabees were the first Jews who fought to defend their religious beliefs rather than their lives. Antiochus had invaded Judaea, tried to Hellenize the Jews, and desecrated the Second Temple in Jerusalem. Following the Jewish victory in a three-year struggle against Antiochus, Judas ordered the cleansing and restoration of the Temple. After it was purified, a new altar was installed and dedicated on Kislev 25. Judas then proclaimed that the dedication of the restored Temple should be celebrated every year for eight days beginning on that date. Chanukah emerged as a celebration of the dedication, as the word itself suggests.

Although the traditional practice of lighting candles at Chanukah was not established in the books of the Maccabees, the custom most likely started relatively early. The practice is enshrined in the Talmud which describes the miracle of the oil in the Temple. According to the Talmud, when Judas Maccabeus entered the Temple, he found only a small jar of oil that had not been defiled by Antiochus. The jar contained only enough oil to burn for one day, but miraculously the oil burned for eight days until new consecrated oil could be found, establishing the precedent that the festival should last eight days. The early date for this story or at least the practice of lighting eight candles is confirmed by the debate of the 1st-century scholars Hillel and Shammai. Hillel and his school taught that one candle should be lit on the first night of Chanukah and one more each night of the festival. Shammai held that all eight candles should be lit the first night, with the number decreasing by one each night thereafter.

The most important of all Chanukah traditions is the lighting of the menorah each evening. Also known as the Chanukah lamp, the menorah recalls the Temple lampstand and is a simple or elaborate candelabra with eight branches plus a holder for the shammash ("servant") candle that is used to light the other eight candles. One candle is lit on the first evening, and an additional candle is lit on each subsequent evening until eight candles are burning on the last evening. Olive oil was traditionally used for lighting the menorah, but it was replaced by candles, which are inserted in the menorah incrementally each night of the festival from right to left but are lit from left to right. A blessing is also offered while the candles are lit each night. The menorah was originally kindled outside the home, but it was brought inside in ancient times to guard against offending neighbors.

I HAVE A LITTLE DREIDEL

I have a little dreidel I made it out of clay And when it's dry and ready Then, dreidel I shall play Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel I made it out of clay And when it's dry and ready Then, dreidel I will play It has a lovely body With legs so short and thin And when it gets all tired It drops and I will win Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel I made it out of clay And when it's dry and ready Then, dreidel I will play My dreidel is so playful It loves to dance and spin A happy game of dreidel Come play now, let's begin Oh, dreidel, dreidel, dreidel I made it out of clay And when it's dry and ready Then, dreidel I will play



THE FLAME OF FAITH THAT HAS SURVIVED ALL TYRANNY

Rabbi Lod Jonathan Sacks, December 19, 2008

Chanukah, the Jewish festival of lights, begins tomorrow night. And as I light the candles, I will carry with me an indelible memory of something that happened a few weeks ago, a kind of Chanukah in our time.

We had gathered, 274 Rabbis from across Europe, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the "night of broken glass". That night, 9 November 1938, Nazi fury broke out against Jews throughout Germany and Austria - 92 were killed. Thirty thousand were seized and sent to concentration camps; 7,500 Jewish businesses were set on fire and destroyed.

It was the most ominous sign of what was to come. But it had another dimension no less terrifying: 267 synagogues were burnt. Thousands of Torah scrolls, Judaism's most sacred objects, were desecrated and thrown into the flames. Suddenly it became clear that the Nazis were intent not only on killing Jews. They sought to kill Judaism itself.

Hitler, in Mein Kampf, had called conscience a Jewish invention. Throughout the Holocaust the Nazis performed acts intended to destroy Jewish faith. They chose Judaism's holiest days for their most savage acts. The Warsaw ghetto was sealed on Yom Kippur 1940. It was scheduled for destruction in 1943, on the first day of Pesach, the Jewish festival of freedom. At Auschwitz the notorious doctor Joseph Mengele joked that there he, not God, decided who would live and who would die.

Prague was the one important centre where synagogues were not destroyed. The reason was that the Nazis intended, when all the Jews of Europe were murdered, to turn them into a museum of a dead civilisation. So they still stand today. One of them, the Altneushul, "the old-new synagogue", is the oldest extant Jewish place of worship, dating from the 13th century.

And there we gathered, 70 years later, to say the evening prayer. What made it so moving was that many, perhaps most, of the Rabbis crowded into that little synagogue could tell a story of resurrection, of Jewish life brought back from death. Some came from lands in which most of the Jewish population had been deported and killed. Others from Eastern Europe came from places where the Soviet authorities had ruthlessly suppressed the practice of Judaism. Since glasnost, Jewish life has slowly revived. Synagogues have been restored or rebuilt. Jewish schools have been established. A new generation is learning about the faith that the two great 20th-century tyrannies tried to obliterate.

Never in all the centuries through which the Altneushul survived had so many Rabbis gathered in its narrow space to pray, and never was there a more unlikely story to tell, and thank God for, than this journey from death to new life.

For me, this was our European Chanukah. The original festival was founded more than 2,000 years ago, when the Seleucid Greeks, under Antiochus IV, tried forcibly to hellenise the Jewish population of Israel, banning the most important Jewish practices, defiling the Temple and setting up a statue of Zeus in its precincts. A small group, the Maccabees, loyal to the faith, fought back and eventually regained control of Jerusalem and restored religious freedom. Their most symbolic act was to relight the Menorah, the candelabrum that used to burn in the Temple. According to Jewish tradition, they found a single cruse of oil, its seal intact, that miraculously burnt for eight days while they reconsecrated the holy place. It became a symbol of Jewish hope, which is why we still light a menorah in our homes for eight days on the anniversary of that victory.

Something survives the worst tragedy, allowing us to rekindle the flame of faith. That is the message of Chanukah, and it is what I felt that night in the ancient synagogue of Prague. The two greatest tyrannies of the 20th century, Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia, were thought by their followers to be invulnerable. The Third Reich would last 1,000 years. The Soviet Union would transform the very terms of history itself.

Today they have gone. The Jewish people, tiny, vulnerable, lacerated, having stood face to face with the angel of death, still survives, and prays, and gives thanks to God. Somehow faith outlives every attempt to destroy it. Its symbol is not the fierce fire that burns synagogues and sacred scrolls and murdered lives. It is the fragile flame we, together with our children and grandchildren, light in our homes, singing God's story, sustained by our hope.

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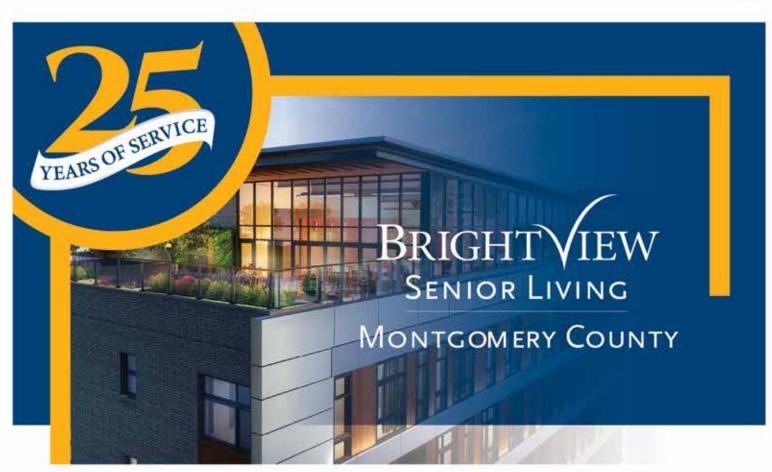
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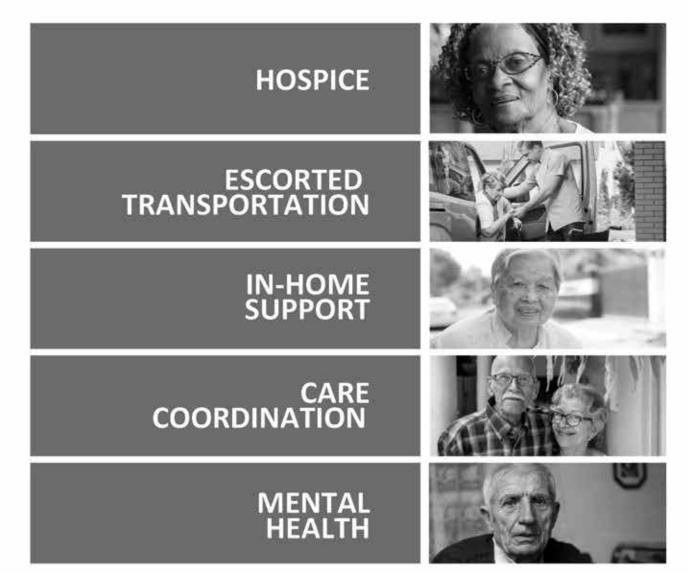
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ER	Mon	2	9 JRLW/Hadassah Book Review	16 Hadassah Study CH I Group 2 pm	33	30 Chanukah Chanukah Program CH II 2 – 4 pm 6 candles	
DECEMBER	Sun	~	ω	15 •JRLW Brunch CH I 10 am •Roundhouse Theatre 2 pm- A Hannukah Carol	52	29 Chanukah 5 candles	



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