



JULY 2025

TAMMUZ/AV 5785



JRLW

MEGILLAH

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

PRESIDENT: Joel Kristal
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MEGILLAH EDITOR: Bernice Cohen
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JOEL L. KRISTAL

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

"In every generation there arose someone to destroy us." Sound familiar, of course. We say it every year when we read the Haggadah and celebrate our freedom at the Pesach Seder. Is it happening again? The bad news is "yes." We see it on our college campuses. The potential future leaders of the United States are saying "From the River to the Sea" and are showing support for Hamas, a terrorist organization that brutality tortured and murdered men, women and even babies. A future generation being groomed, as well as encouraged now, to murder Jews. What can we do? Again, I always try to avoid politics in my columns, so it makes no difference if you are Democrat, Republican, or Independent. What we can do is write our congressmen and let them know that you support any actions that can help stop the antisemitism on the college campuses and elsewhere. Let them know you support any legislation that will help stop antisemitism. All you need to do is Google each one separately; (Contact

JULY DATES

- 01 Tue – Hadassah Study Group CH I 1:30 pm
- 01 Tue – JRLW Board 7:30 pm
- 02 Wed – Hadassah Board
- 04 Fri – JULY 4th – Happy Birthday America!
- 04 Fri – JRLW Shabbat Service CH II 7:30 pm
- 12 Sat – JRLW Shabbat Service CH II 9:15 am
- 16 Wed – Hadassah Movie CH I 2 pm
- 29 Tue – Rabbi Fink Talk CH II 2 pm

GOOD AND WELFARE

Barbara Eisen has left Leisure World for Modena Reserve at Kensington Assisted Living. We hope she is enjoying her new home. We will miss her.

A very special Happy Birthday to Rhoda Krens who celebrated her 99th birthday in May!

Our wishes for a speedy return to good health go to Sidney Lazar.

Thanks to all those grandparents who bragged about their grandchildren in our June Megillah. The next time we will have our Grandparents Qvelling column will be in December. Please hold your good thoughts until then.

A big THANK YOU to all those who helped out at our Health Expo! You helped make it a success.



President's Message

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Van Hollen; contact Ben Cardin; contact Jamie Raskin) and voice your opinion. It only takes a few minutes. Make your voice heard. We have recently seen Jews murdered on the streets of Washington, DC, and Jews set on fire in Boulder Colorado. Violent antisemitism has increased over the last few years. During my life, I have seen many non-violent protests by Nazi, KKK and other groups but I had not seen such VIOLENT antisemitism occurring in such a short time span as the last few years. For the sake of future Jewish Americans, take action now. How many Jews in Germany thought that it couldn't happen there. We are a civilized county. It's only another pogrom and it will pass?

I often forget that during the summer there is a three-week mourning period for us Jews. This is when we mourn the destruction of the Holy Temple and other disasters which befell our people (us). The period begins on the 17th of Tammuz, (July 13), a fast day that marks the day when the walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans in 69 CE. It reaches its climax and concludes with the fast of the 9th of Av, (August 2-3) the date when both Holy Temples were set aflame. This is the saddest day of the Jewish calendar, and it is also the date that many other tragedies befell our people.

From The Lord Rabbi Sacks (of blessed memory) A few excerpts from his web site the Rabbi Sacks Legacy. I recommend you "Google" and read the entire article, it's brilliant.

The Three Weeks in Our Time

REMEMBER THE PAST, BUT DO NOT BE HELD CAPTIVE BY IT

An excerpt from an article first published by The Times (UK) in July 2004.

Judaism is a religion of memory. The verb *zachor* appears no fewer than 169 times in the Hebrew Bible. "Remember that you were strangers in Egypt" and "Remember the days of old." Memory, for Jews, is a religious obligation. This is particularly so at this time of the year. We call it the "Three Weeks" leading up to the saddest day in the Jewish calendar, Tisha B'Av, the anniversary of the destruction of the two Temples, the first by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon in 586 BCE, the second by Titus in 70 CE.

Jews never forgot those tragedies. To this day, at every wedding we break a glass in their memory. During the Three Weeks, we have no celebrations. On Tisha B'Av itself, we spend the day fasting and sitting on the floor or low stools like mourners, reading the Book of Lamentations. It is a day of profound collective grief.

Two and a half thousand years is a long time to remember. ...Would not the world be more peaceable if once in a while we forgot? My answer is both yes and no, for it depends on how we remember.

Though the two are often confused, memory is different from history. History is someone else's story. It's about events that occurred long ago to someone else. Memory is my story. It's about where I come from and of what narrative I am a part. History answers the question, "What happened?" Memory answers the question, "Who, then, am I?"

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JRLW OFFICERS

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

**NOTICE: THE DEADLINE FOR THE
AUGUST MEGILLAH IS JULY 10.
ARTICLES SUBMITTED AFTER THAT
DATE WILL APPEAR IN THE SEPTEMBER
MEGILLAH.**

MEGILLAH STAFF

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

President's Message

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

It is about identity and the connection between the generations....

One of the greatest gifts we can give to our children is the knowledge of where we have come from, the things for which we fought, and why. None of the things we value – freedom, human dignity, justice—were achieved without a struggle. None can be sustained without conscious vigilance. A society without memory is like a journey without a map. It's all too easy to get lost. Things remembered do not die. That's as close as we get to immortality on earth."

Back to my thoughts. We cannot be silent. Let our voices be heard. Let your elected officials at all levels know that they must act to stop the growth of antisemitism before it is too late. Watch how they vote, not what they say and act and accordingly, regardless of your party affiliations. Democrat, Republican or Independent, if they don't act to stop antisemitism now than our children may have to add to the disasters which struck the Jewish people on the 9th of Av.

"Shalom" a word with three meanings. Today, I would like to emphasize and pray for PEACE.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Nancy Grossman

The Social Activities Committee recently met to discuss programming for 2025/26 and focused on our next big event, the Meet & Greet Social scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 2-5 pm in the Crystal Ballroom of Clubhouse I. This will be an opportunity for new members to meet each other, as well as seasoned members and to learn more about JRLW committees and programs while enjoying a nosh. Contact Nancy Grossman, 301-455-5243 or nhgrossman@gmail.com to learn more or to suggest ideas for future events.

A new ongoing program is Mah Jongg organized at

all skill levels for new to advanced players. Lessons for new players will be held the first week of August at Clubhouse II. For more details contact Suzy Klein, 301-789-9667 or klein.advocate@gmail.com.

RUACH HADASSAH NEWS

Sandy Stein

Everyone is invited to see the movie ONE LIFE. The screening is on Wednesday, July 16, in Clubhouse I at 2 pm. ONE LIFE tells the incredible, emotional true story of Nicholas 'Nicky' Winston (Johnny Flynn), a young London broker who visits Prague in December 1938. In a race against time, Winton convinces Trevor Chadwick (Alex Sharp) and Doreen Warriner (Romola Garai) of the British Committee for Refugees in Czechoslovakia to rescue hundreds of predominantly Jewish Children before Nazi occupation closes the borders. Fifty years later, Nicky (Anthony Hopkins) is haunted by the fate of the children he was unable to bring to safety in England. It's not until the show "That's Life!" re-introduces him to some of those he helped rescue that he finally begins to come to terms with the guilt and grief he carried-all the while skyrocketing him from anonymity to national hero.

There will be a \$5.00 fee paid at the door with either cash or a check written to Hadassah. Refreshments will be served. Hope you can join us for this exciting movie.

Mark your calendars for Game Day to be held on Wednesday, August 2.

The Judaic Studies Group will meet on Tuesday, July 1, in Club House 1 at 1:30 pm. The topic is The Talmud: What is it and what does it comprise? How did it come about? How does it relate to Torah? Is commentary still being added? The session will be moderated by Peri Schuyler. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Hadassah encourages women of any faith to join as an annual or life member. For membership information contact Linda Epstein at 301-847-9650. Hadassah greeting cards will be available at our program meeting.

KEEPING JUDAISM ALIVE



Cantor Wendy Gonzales

I watched a wonderful documentary on PBS recently about Jewish immigration and learned so much that I had not previously been aware of from my past studies and experience. I think my personal connection from my grandparents' immigration from Russia through Ellis Island had been such a focus for me. I remember the first time I heard Neil Diamond's America that I could literally envision their journey and arrival to the United States. I knew that my grandmother Minnie at 12 years old, who came here with her 14-year-old sister, were so brave and also excited to join their 18-year-old sister, Fannie, who came here first and paved the way for the rest of her family to start a new and less "persecuted" life. My grandmother carried their Shabbat candlesticks, which I have the honor to have in my home today (and I have 6 very jealous cousins who wish they each had these treasured candlesticks). Yes, I was familiar with so many who had to leave at the end of the 19th century and throughout the 20th century.

What I learned in the documentary was the reason so many had to leave their middle eastern homes in Syria, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, and Egypt. Their firsthand stories were poignant and eye-opening. Many were able to live side by side without intense threats up until the state of Israel was formed. However, once the state of Israel was formed, their lives changed dramatically. They became oppressed outcasts and had to leave their homes once the Jewish people were able to have their homeland. I know I should be embarrassed not to have understood this reality for middle eastern Jewish people as I did for the European Jews, but now I do. And it puts in even clearer perspective the pride and bravery of our people who must keep Judaism alive.

Most importantly, as I continue to provide lessons to my B'nai Mitzvah students, I realize that a required component of their study will go beyond Torah and Pirkei Avot, but MUST include watching these rich and valuable historical documentaries and include discussion so they can fully understand why they must continue our traditions.

Interestingly enough, when I listen to Fiddler on the Roof and the beautiful haunting melody of Schindler's List, it is through these stories and their accompanying music that are the heart and soul of who we are.

Ken y'hi ratzon.

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 prayer book, Conservative Prayer book 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.



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.



WE REMEMBER

Gertrude "Mitzie" Cooper.

Elinor F. Tattar.

Jo Ann Hoffman.

Nancy Mason Scher.



MAY THEIR MEMORY BE AS A BLESSING.

CANTOR'S CORNER



Michael Kravitz

Given that the Fourth of July is coming very soon, I thought I'd start this column with a JEOPARDY! category that is related. Good luck in coming up with the correct question.

PATRIOTIC SONGS

This patriotic song, originally written for a 1918 musical revue called YIP YIP YAPHANK, was featured in the 1943 film THIS IS THE ARMY.

And the question? What is GOD BLESS AMERICA?

Irving Berlin, born Israel Baline, was the son of a cantor. His family came to the U.S. from Russia in 1893 and settled in New York City. His musical skills developed quickly, and he would teach himself to play the piano. Drafted into the U.S. Army during World War I, he was stationed at Camp Yaphank in Upton, New York. While there, Berlin composed a musical revue he called YIP YIP YAPHANK, and one of the songs he composed for it was "God Bless America." Surprisingly, he left "God Bless America" out of the final version because he thought it was "too sticky." The revue would make it to Broadway in 1918 and would earn \$80,000 for the U.S. Army. That amount was equivalent to \$1.7 million in 2024 dollars.

YIP YIP YAPHANK was the basis for a 1942 Broadway show called THIS IS THE ARMY. "God Bless America" wasn't included in this show either. However, "God Bless America" was included in the movie version which made its theatrical debut in August 1943. Kate Smith sang the song in the movie, and one of the co-stars, a captain in the Army Air Forces at the time of the film's release, would later go into politics. He would be elected President of the United States 37 years later. I'm sure that you can figure out who that co-star was.

If you'd like to see Kate Smith do "God Bless America," type into your browser "Kate Smith sings 'God Bless America,' 1943." You'll be taken to the right place. This clip is definitely worth watching.

Let's use this Fourth of July to remember all the great things for which this country stands.

Be well and stay safe.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Randy Horowitz
15401 Bramblewood Drive, #27-C
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Susan Sherman
15115 Interlachen Drive, #1003
Silver Spring MD 20906

Diane Borenstein
3100 N. Leisure World Blvd., #321
Silver Spring MD 20906

Irwin & Brenda Manes
3310 N. Leisure World Blvd., #828
Silver Spring MD 20906

Randy Rosenblum
3330 N. Leisure World Blvd., #926
Silver Spring MD 20906

Roberta Greif
4025 Fulford Street
Olney MD 20832

Sharon Press
3200 N. Leisure World Blvd., #714
Silver Spring MD 20906

Benjamin Simon
15100 Interlachen Drive, #124
Silver Spring MD 20906

Victor & Bethie Granatstein
14527 Kelmscott Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Vivian Kirshenbaum
908 Lamberton Drive
Silver Spring MD 20902

Phil Zlotnick
3005 S. Leisure World Blvd., Apt 216
Silver Spring MD 20906

Arlene Koyner
2900 N. Leisure World Blvd., Apt 410
Silver Spring, MD 20906

We hope that you enjoy everything that Jewish Residents of Leisure has to offer!

PROGRAM AND EDUCATION

Becky Siman

Tuesday, July 29, 2 pm. Clubhouse II Auditorium

Rabbi Gary Fink to present a program - Good Grief: The Myth of 5 Stages.

On Tuesday, July 29, at 2 pm, JRLW is sponsoring a presentation by Rabbi Gary Fink on different ways that people grieve after a significant loss.

In 1969, Elizabeth Kubler-Ross theorized that people experience 5 stages of grief when a loved one dies or when we face our own mortality. In the last 50 years, research has shown that grief is not so simple -- one size does not fit all. Many people experience grief differently than Kubler-Ross' orderly 5 stages.

Rabbi Fink will use examples from Jewish tradition to describe various trajectories of grief, explain factors that influence how we respond to loss, and suggest ways that people cope when their world turns upside down.

Rabbi Fink will use examples from Jewish tradition to describe various trajectories of grief, explain factors that influence how we respond to loss, and suggest ways that people cope when their world turns upside down.

Rabbi Fink has a pastoral counseling practice specializing in life-limiting illness and bereavement. Currently, he teaches a bereavement counseling course for the University of Maryland (Baltimore) School of Graduate Studies, and previously taught in the Thanatology Graduate Program at Hood College. Rabbi Fink worked at Montgomery Hospice for almost twenty years, serving as Senior VP of Counseling and Family Support and Director of Spiritual Care. He entered the field of hospice and palliative care after serving twenty-five years at Oseh Shalom Congregation in Laurel, during which time he earned a doctorate focusing on end-of-life

care and counseling. See the flyer in this issue.

All are welcome, no fee or registration needed.

HOLD THE DATE: Thursday, August 7, 2 pm, Clubhouse II Auditorium – Cantor Caron Dale to Discuss Socially Conscious Songs of the 20th Century.

On Thursday August 7, at 2 pm in Clubhouse II Auditorium, join singer-songwriter, Cantor Caron Dale for an entertaining and informative program shining a spotlight on Socially Conscious Songs of the 20th Century with a Jewish Connection. The program will include a sing-a-long. Come and explore the history behind iconic songs that fueled movements for civil rights, peace and equality. From folk anthems to protest ballads, hear how artists around the Jewish world used their voices and lyrics to spark change and empower communities with messages that live forever.

Caron will play the guitar and lead a sing-along of some timeless classics like Blowin' in the Wind, Dance Me to the End of Love, The Partisan's Song, Salaam and more. Whether you are a music lover, a history enthusiast, or someone who wants to be part of these songs' enduring legacy, this promises to be a moving, uplifting, and enriching experience. Lyrics to the songs will be shown on a screen. with a Jewish Connection. The program will include a sing-a-long.

Cantor Dale has performed and led workshops internationally as well as performing at Presidential events and festivals around the country. She is currently a Cantor at Hevrat Shalom Congregation in Rockville.

Cost to attend is \$12 with a check made out to JRLW. Tickets will be on sale from June 24 until August 7 at both Clubhouses. See the flyer in this issue.

HEBREW NAMES

Bernie Ascher ©

Immigrants in Israel commonly change their surnames to Hebrew, especially those who work for the government. When he was Foreign Minister, for example, Moshe Sharett (originally Shertok) required all foreign service personnel to adopt a Hebrew last name.

Golda Meir was elected to the Knesset in 1949 and served as Labor Minister until 1956, when Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion appointed her Foreign Minister and asked her to change her name. Before she married Morris Myerson, her name was Goldie Mabovitch. As Zionists, they emigrated to British Mandate Palestine in 1921. She was born in Ukraine (Kiev) in 1898 and arrived in the U.S. (Milwaukee) in 1906. She became Prime Minister of Israel in 1969.

David Ben-Gurion (originally Grun) also adopted a Hebrew surname. He was born in Plonk, Poland in 1886, when it was part of the Russian Empire, and emigrated to British Palestine in 1906, when it was part of the Ottoman Empire. He changed his name to Ben-Gurion in 1909. As Israel's first Prime Minister, he served from 1948-53 and often was called father of the country. He was only 5 feet tall, but that never detracted him from his many accomplishments.

In 1949, Benjamin Netanyahu was born in Tel-Aviv with a Hebrew name. The name means "Given by God" or "Gift of God." His father, Benzion, had changed the name from Mileikowsky when he emigrated to British Palestine in 1920. Benzion was born in Warsaw in the Russian-controlled section of partitioned Poland. Benzion's father, Nathan, born in Lithuania, was a Rabbi.

During his studies in Palestine, Benzion met Tzila Segal of Petach Tikva, Palestine, and married her in 1944. Benjamin was one of their three sons. Benzion, a historian specializing in the Jewish golden age in Spain, served as a professor at Cornell University from 1971 to 1975. He lived to the age of 102.

Benjamin, under the name Ben Nitay, earned a bachelor's and master's degree from MIT Sloan School of Management in 1975 and 1976. He served in the Israel Defense Force during several wars. In three separate terms (including the present), he has served longer than any other Prime Minister, a total of 17 years.

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 Sylvia Proger in memory of her husband Jerry Proger, her daughter Barbara Proger Bernstein, her parents Diana and Irving Agin, her sister Estelle Agin Henenberg and her sister Jean Agin Campion



RELIGIOUS SERVICES FOR JUNE, 2025

On Friday, July 4, we will have an evening Shabbat Service in Clubhouse II at 7:30 pm. These Services will be conducted by Rabbi Gary Fink and Cantor Wendy Gonzales. Shir Delight will provide their beautiful voices. An Oneg will follow the Service.

There will be a Conservative Shabbat Service on Saturday, July 12, in Clubhouse II at 9:15 am. Cantor Mike Kravitz will conduct the Service. There will be a Kiddush following the Service.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Suzie Klein

Summertime in Leisure World has been spectacular with sunny skies, warm temperatures and blooming flowers.

We are thankful that JRLW was able to provide Reform, Conservative Shabbat Services, in addition to, a celebration of Shavous for our members and their guests in June. We will continue to do so in July and throughout the year.

What a wonderful time to be a Member of JRLW and enjoy the countless social, athletic and religious/cultural activities our organization offers. JRLW is the largest organization in Leisure World. Members-only Brunches, the JRLW Book Club, Winery Tours, Movie Nights and Cultural Events are examples of what our members can participate in. We encourage you to save the dates for two upcoming events. The Annual JRLW Meet & Greet will be held on September 4, 2025, in the Crystal Ballroom of Clubhouse I and the JRLW Second Annual Golf Tournament will take place on September 10, 2025, for members and friends, chaired by Alan Nelson. We welcome ideas and suggestions for new activities.

Our membership continues to grow month by month. New membership registration is from January 1 through December 31, 2025. Membership dues are \$30.00 for individuals and \$50.00 for couples. 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. If you have a change of address and/or phone number, please contact anyone on the Membership Committee to update our records. Membership forms can be found in the Megillah and online at www.jrlwmd.org.

A full list of our events and activities is published in the pages of the Megillah, online on our website and on our closed Facebook page. Our closed Facebook page is used to provide a calendar of events, discussion groups, information on cultural events and Judaic content, as well as, messages between members.

If you want to join our closed Facebook page please

contact Alan Nelson at apnelson8@yahoo.com or Carol Wendkos at carolwendkos@gmail.com.

Remember to introduce yourself to those who you do not know when you are attending JRLW Events and Services. 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 - lpnelson3@comcast.net
301-922-1793

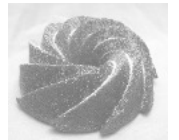
•Suzy Klein - smklein.advocate@gmail.com
301-789-9667

•Nancy Grossman - nhgrossman@gmail.com
301-455-5243

RECIPE CORNER

PINEAPPLE ANGEL FOOD CAKE

Marcia Crystal



Ingredients:

1 box Duncan Hines white angel food cake mix

1 20-0z can crushed pineapple in juice, undrained

Preheat oven to 350°

Remove upper rack from oven. Put other rack in lowest position while baking cake. Put cake mix and crushed pineapple with juice in large bowl. Mix with mixer on low setting for 30 seconds, then on medium for 1 minute. Pour batter into ungreased 10-inch bundt pan. Bake 40-45 minutes until top is golden brown. Cool completely on a heat-resistant bottle, about 2 hours. Run knife around edges. Turn cake onto a servig platter. Use a serrated knife to cut into slices.

JRLW BRUNCH

Our next JRLW brunch season starts in September. We all look forward to interesting programs, good food and seeing old and new friends. See you in September!



JULY 4TH

What is the meaning behind the 4th of July?

The 4th of July, known as Independence Day, commemorates the official adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This document declared the thirteen original colonies of Great Britain to be free and independent states. It marks the birth of the United States of America as a nation, symbolizing the colonists' desire for self-governance and freedom from British rule.

The Declaration of Independence, written primarily by Thomas Jefferson, articulated the philosophical reasons for the colonists' desire to separate from Great Britain. It outlined principles of liberty, equality, and self-governance, and declared the colonies' right to govern themselves.

The 4th of July marks the day the Continental Congress voted to formally break ties with Great Britain, signifying the .

The American colonists sought independence from

Britain due to a combination of factors, including unfair taxation, a lack of representation in the British government, and a desire for self-governance. Colonists felt that British policies, particularly those imposed after the French and Indian War, infringed upon their rights as Englishmen and colonists. colonies' transition from a dependent status to a sovereign nation. Indian War, infringed upon their rights as Englishmen and colonists.

The holiday serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by the Founding Fathers and the pursuit of freedom and self-determination. It is a time for Americans to reflect on their nation's history and to celebrate their values of freedom and independence.

Modern 4th of July celebrations often include parades, barbecues, fireworks, and other patriotic displays, showcasing the nation's pride and commitment to the ideals of freedom and liberty.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

I DIDN'T MAKE IT TO THE GYM TODAY. THAT MAKES FIVE YEARS IN A ROW.

I DECIDED TO STOP CALLING THE BATHROOM "JOHN" AND RENAMED IT THE "JIM." I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER SAYING I WENT TO THE JIM THIS MORNING.

IF GOD WANTED ME TO TOUCH MY TOES, HE WOULD'VE PUT THEM ON MY KNEES.



In My Opinion: WHAT HAPPENED?

A few short weeks ago, we all were outraged. Guns were killing innocents here in our America! People attending concerts were killed. Children attending school were killed. All across our Country, people rose up. In every major city in the United States, people protested the use of automatic weapons. NO MORE GUNS! Even politicians chimed in; no more automatic weapons; better background checks.

What happened? How about those students who appeared in marches and on television talk shows? Nothing happened. Why? I think the safety of our young people is too important to let this thing die. We know that the money of NRA is buying the votes of some legislators. What was of paramount concern two weeks ago is easily overshadowed by the current scandal. Last week's tragedy is overcome by this week's television star's on-air slurs. This issue is too important to be owned or ignored by either of our major political parties.

The issue of gun violence is too important. How can we residents of Leisure World make a real difference? We are mostly retired individuals.

Perhaps as individuals, not much can be done. However, as a group we can do something. We can write letters. We can write either as individuals or in groups. Although our own legislators may be in favor of gun control, our letters showing support for their anti-gun stance can help bolster them. If you own or rent a vacation home in another state, write the Congressman of that state. Your money spent in their state carries weight. If you have grandchildren in school in another state, write that state's legislator. Let the legislator know of your concern for the safety of your grandchild. You can even write to the White House. Your letter may not be read by the person currently occupying the White House; but you can be sure that a volunteer working at the White House will read and record your opinion. Public opinion is a powerful thing.

Let's make a difference!



RITUAL COMMITTEE

Ellyn Becker Kaufman

Shalom Dear Friends,

Most months, my topic for the Megillah is somewhat understood, meaning having to do with a Jewish holiday or something relatively Jewish. But for the month of July, I could not think of anything. So, after quite a bit of thought, I decided to share, phonetically, some of my favorite Hebrew expressions. Feel free to skip to another article if you'd like!

Many of us know the expression from Passover, "Mah nishtana?" "Why is this (day or night) different from the rest?" This is said sarcastically to imply so what's new?

When referring to the third day of the week, Tuesday, we say it is good luck because "Pa'amayim ki tov" - it was twice as good. The third day of the week, when G-d was creating the world as we know it, after creating and saying "it was good", G-d continued creating more and said a second time that it was good, hence the expression it was twice "good".

A phrase heard frequently in Israel is "savlanut" which means patience. It seems many Israelis are in a hurry to get things done, and to do them quickly, so they are often reminded to slow down and to use savlanut!

Often phrases used daily in Israel are actually Arabic. I'll share one of those, "Ya'ala Habibi", which loosely translated means 'let's go, my friend'.

And now, I will say, until next time, "lehitraot". See you soon!

Kol tuv, (all the best),

Ellyn Becker Kaufman

Chair - Ritual committee

The 20th century French Jewish writer Edmond Fleg returned to and re-embraced his Judaism in response to the anti-Semitism he experienced. In an essay he wrote in the 1920's he captured the ideals of our faith when he wrote:

I AM A JEW

I am a Jew because, born of Israel and having lost her, I have felt her live again in me, more living than myself.

I am a Jew because, born of Israel and having regained her, I wish her to live after me, more living than in myself.

I am a Jew because the faith of Israel demands of me no abdication of the mind.

I am a Jew because the faith of Israel requires of me all the devotion of my heart.

I am a Jew because in every place where suffering weeps, the Jew weeps.

I am a Jew because at every time when despair cries out, the Jew hopes.

I am a Jew because the word of Israel is the oldest and the newest.

I am a Jew because the promise of Israel is the universal promise.

I am a Jew because, for Israel, the world is not yet completed; men are completing it.

I am a Jew because, above the nations and Israel, Israel places Man and his Unity.

I am a Jew because above Man, image of the divine Unity, Israel places the divine Unity, and its divinity."





Tuesday, July 29, 2025
2 p.m. in Clubhouse II Auditorium

Good Grief: The Myth of 5 Stages with Rabbi Gary Fink



Rabbi Gary Fink will discuss the different ways that people grieve after a significant loss that do not necessarily follow the five linear states of grief that Eliazbeth Kubler-Ross described 50 years ago.

He will use examples from Jewish tradition to describe various trajectories of grief, explain factors that influence how we respond to loss, and suggest ways that people cope when their world turns upside down.

Rabbi Fink has a pastoral counseling practice specializing in life-limiting illness and bereavement. Currently, he teaches a bereavement counseling course for the University of Maryland (Baltimore) School of Graduate Studies, and previously taught in the Thanatology Graduate Program at Hood College.

Rabbi Fink worked at Montgomery Hospice for almost twenty years, serving as Senior VP of Counseling and Family Support and Director of Spiritual Care.

He entered the field of hospice and palliative care after serving twenty-five years at Oseh Shalom Congregation in Laurel, during which time he earned a doctorate focusing on end-of-life care and counseling. He also leads Shabbat Services in Leisure World on the first Friday of the month.

All are welcome, no fee or registration needed.



**Thursday,
August 7, 2025
2 p.m. in Clubhouse II Auditorium**

**Protest Songs of the 20th Century with a Jewish Connection
Lecture and Sing-Along
With Cantor Caron Dale**



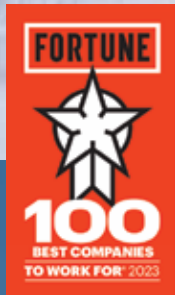
Explore the history behind iconic songs that fueled movements for civil rights, peace and equality. From folk anthems to protest ballads, hear how artists around the Jewish world used their voices and lyrics to spark change and empower communities with messages that live forever.

We'll sing some timeless classics like Blowin' in the Wind, Dance Me to the End of Love, The Partisan's Song, Salaam. Whether you're a music lover, a history enthusiast, or someone who wants to be part of these songs' enduring legacy, this promises to be a moving, uplifting and enriching experience.

Cantor Dale has performed and led workshops internationally as well as performing at Presidential events and festivals around the country. She is currently a Cantor at Hevrat Shalom Congregation in Rockville.

Tickets are \$12 and available at both Clubhouses June 24 – August 7. Pay by check made out to JRLW.

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Shown above: "Abraham" is one of many art works created by artist P. Ratner for Judean

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<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 Hadassah Study Group CH I 1:30 pm JRLW Board Meeting 7:30 pm	2 Hadassah Board	3	4 Shabbat Service CH II Activities Room 7:30 pm HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA! Light Candles 8:17	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Light Candles 8:15	12 Shabbat Service CH II 9:15 am
13	14	15 Hadassah movie CH I 2 pm	16	17	18 Light Candles 8:11	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Rabbi Fink Talk CH II 2 pm	30	31	Light Candles 8:05	

2025



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