



JRLW

# MEGILLAH

PLEASE VISIT THE JRLW WEB SITE - [www.jrlwmd.org](http://www.jrlwmd.org)

**PRESIDENT:** Joel Kristal  
[photosbj@gmail.com](mailto:photosbj@gmail.com)

**MEGILLAH EDITOR:** Bernice Cohen  
[bernicecohen1@gmail.com](mailto:bernicecohen1@gmail.com)



JOEL L. KRISTAL

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Following last month's theme about "freedom" I thought how wonderful Chanukkah was for us in Leisure World. We were free to celebrate Chanukkah however a free people chose to celebrate. We not only had one Hanukkah party; we had three. There was the annual JRLW Chanukkah Program and Celebration with Cantor Mike Kravitz's Music, Singing, and Chanukkah Treats; there was the annual Chabad lighting of a very large Chanukkiah in the Giant parking lot followed by Music, Singing, Dancing and Chanukkah Treats and another smaller JRLW Candle Lighting Ceremony led by Cantor Marge Auerbach with candle lighting and singing. I estimated about 100 brave souls risked the cold weather to attend the Chabad celebration and well beyond that who attended Cantor Kravitz's celebration.

Thinking about "freedom" we all are free to attend our Jewish services here in Leisure World. Invite a friend to join you for either the Reform Service or the Conservative Service, or both. They don't have

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## FEBRUARY DATES

- 04 Tue – Hadassah Study Group CH I 2:00 pm
- 04 Tue – JRLW Board 7:30 pm
- 05 Wed – Hadassah Board
- 07 Fri – Shabbat Service CH II
- 08 Sat – Shabbat Service CH II
- 09 Sun – Zoom talk on Crypto Jews CH II Auditorium 2:00 pm
- 16 Sun – JRLW Brunch CH I 10:00 am
- 19 Tue – Hadassah Program CH I 2:00 pm

## JRLW FEBRUARY BRUNCH

Stan Feinstein

Our next JRLW brunch will be held on Sunday, February 16, beginning at 10 am in the Clubhouse I Crystal Ballroom. Our speaker will be Joe Dennie, an Outreach Specialist from Hero Dogs. Joe, accompanied by a Hero Dog, will speak and demonstrate how Hero Dogs places service dogs with veterans of the U.S. military and first-responders with disabilities and improves the quality of life of recipients with dogs that have received customized training. Hero Dogs is located in nearby Brookville, Maryland. Register now for what promises to be an extremely interesting presentation!!

Tickets will be available at the Clubhouse I Lifestyle Office from January 20 through February 10. The cost of the brunch, **which is open to JRLW members only**, is \$25.00 per person. Tables may be reserved for up to 11 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

to be a member of JRLW to enjoy our services.

On a serious note, as I've often mentioned, I write my column about three weeks before you read it and can only guess at future events. When you read this, you'll know whether or not our Jewish brethren have been released by Hamas. You will know whether or not our brethren will once again know freedom or continue to be held by barbarians. Let's remember to keep them in our prayers.

Jews are known for our questioning. For example, how do we integrate science with our religion. I wouldn't try to answer that question, but I give you some thoughts from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, of blessed memory:

### SCIENCE/SCIENCE & RELIGION

❖ "Science speaks of causes but not purposes. It understands events caused by things in the past, but not acts and decisions motivated by a vision of the future."

❖ "In the beginning people believed in many gods. Monotheism came and reduced them to one. Science came and reduced them to none."

❖ "Science takes things apart to see how they work. Religion puts things together to see what they mean."

❖ "Science is about explanation. Religion is about meaning. Science analyses, religion

integrates. Science breaks things down to their component parts. Religion binds people together in relationships of trust. Science tells us what is. Religion tells us what ought to be. Science describes. Religion beckons, summons, calls. Science sees objects. Religion speaks to us as subjects. Science practices detachment. Religion is the art of attachment, self to self, soul to soul. Science sees the underlying order of the physical world. Religion hears the music beneath the noise. Science is the conquest of ignorance. Religion is the redemption of solitude.

❖ "People have sought in the religious life the kind of certainty that belongs to philosophy and science. But it is not to be found. Between G-d and man there is moral loyalty, not scientific certainty."

Wishing you all a Happy Tree New Year (Tu B'Shvat) February 12th and 13th and looking forward to a Happy Purim.

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## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2025**

On Friday, February 7, 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, February 7, in Clubhouse II at 9:15 am. Cantor Mike Kravitz will conduct these services. The Torah portion will be Beshalach. There will be a Kiddush following services.



### **JRLW OFFICERS**

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

**NOTICE: THE DEADLINE FOR THE  
MARCH MEGILLAH IS FEBRUARY 10.  
ARTICLES SUBMITTED AFTER THAT  
DATE WILL APPEAR IN THE APRIL  
MEGILLAH.**

### **MEGILLAH STAFF**

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

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Suzy Klein

We hope you are staying warm and cozy on these cold winter days. We are thankful that JRLW was able to provide Reform and Conservative Shabbat Services during January and will continue to do so throughout the year.

What an exciting time to be a member of JRLW and be able to enjoy the countless activities that JRLW offers including our brunches, JRLW Book Club, Special Events and movies.

Our next JRLW brunch will be on February 16, 2025, at 10:00 am. Our speaker is Joe Dennie, Outreach Specialist from Hero-Dogs. Joe, accompanied by a Hero Dog, will discuss and demonstrate how his organization places Service Dogs with U.S. Military Veterans and First-Responders with disabilities. Tickets for the February brunch will be on sale from January 20 – February 10 and can be purchased in the Clubhouse | Lifestyle Office. Tickets for our brunches are \$25.00 each and all attendees must have a ticket to gain entry to the event. As a gentle reminder our JRLW brunches are members-only events.

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 1- December 31, 2025. Membership dues for 2025 is \$30.00 for individuals and \$50.00 for couples and must be paid by February 5, 2025, to be in good standing. 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 changes to your 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](http://www.jrlwmd.org).

A full list of our events and activities is published on 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 page please contact Alan Nelson at [apnelson8@yahoo.com](mailto:apnelson8@yahoo.com) or Carol Wendkos at [carolwendkos@gmail.com](mailto:carolwendkos@gmail.com).

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 - [lpnelson3@comcast.net](mailto:lpnelson3@comcast.net)  
301-922-1793

Suzy Klein - [smklein.advocate@gmail.com](mailto:smklein.advocate@gmail.com)  
301-789-9667

Nancy Grossman - [nhgrossman@gmail.com](mailto:nhgrossman@gmail.com)  
301-455-5243

## NOTICE

**Do not leave** Brunch requests in the JRLW box in Clubhouse I; it makes extra work for everyone involved with the logistics of the Brunch. Lastly, please be respectful to the LW personnel who are handling the ticket sales.

## CANTOR'S CORNER

Michael Kravitz



On February 8, synagogues around the world will read Torah portion BESHALLACH, the portion that recounts the parting of the Sea of Reeds. Whenever I think of this portion, I think of the 1956 film. *THE TEN COMMANDMENTS*. Most of you have seen it, so this month's column is a trivia contest about the film. Don't worry if you don't get 100%. Some of these questions are hard.

1. The 1956 version of *THE TEN COMMANDMENTS* was what director's last film?
2. Who played Moses in the film?
3. The actor who played Rameses won an Oscar, but NOT for playing Rameses. Who was that Oscar winning actor?
4. In what other film did this actor win a Best Actor Oscar? if you need a hint, the other film was an adaptation of a Broadway musical for which this actor had won a Tony Award.
5. *THE TEN COMMANDMENTS* was nominated for a number of Oscars but won only one. In what well-deserved category did it win?
6. Actor Carl Switzer played an uncredited slave in *THE TEN COMMANDMENTS*. Earlier in his career, he was a star of *THE LITTLE RASCALS* film series. What role had he played in *THE LITTLE RASCALS*?
7. In the film, he was uncredited as a drummer on Mount Sinai. In the 1960s, he became a household name as the leader of the TIJUANA BRASS. Who was he?
8. He was an uncredited Amalekite herder in the film. He would become famous on the small screen as Private Eye Joe Mannix on *MANNIX*. Who was he?

Here are the answers.

1. Cecil B. DeMille
2. Charlton Heston
3. Yul Brynner

4. THE KING AND I

5. Special Effects

6. Alfalfa

7. Herb Alpert

8. Mike Connors

Hope you had some fun with these and hope to see you at Shabbat morning services on February 8, when we at JRLW will recount the parting of the Sea of Reeds.

Be well and stay safe.

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## HADASSAH NEWS

Sandy Stein

### The Spanish Inquisition and the Jews

On Wednesday, February 19, the Ruach Chapter of Hadassah will have Steve Cohen, a Leisure World resident, speak about The Spanish inquisition, and how the Jews who hid their identity. The program will be in Clubhouse I at 2 pm. The discussion, with a power point, will include the many ways the Jews hid their identity, and generations later how these people discovered they were Jewish. There will also be some discussion about whether Columbus was Jewish.

Everyone is invited to join us for this informative program. There will be a \$5.00 fee paid at the door either by cash or check payable to Hadassah. Refreshments will be served. For membership information contact Linda Epstein at 301-847-9650.

The Judaic Studies Group will meet on Tuesday, February 4, at 1:30 pm in Clubhouse I.

The topic will be "Names from Torah" until today. What are the names in Torah, and what do they mean?" Why and how were they changed? Today: How were and are names chosen? When are they given? What different cultural traditions have developed? The moderator will be Naomi Kline. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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

## THE BROAD MEANING OF TU B'SHEVAT



Cantor Wendy Gonzales

This year we celebrate Tu B'Shevat on February 13, 2025. This holiday is referred to as the "New Year of the Trees." It occurs, as the name of the holiday indicates, on the 15th of the Hebrew month Shevat. Frequently referred to as the Jewish Arbor Day, it began as an agricultural festival and announced the arrival of Spring. This season marks the period where the earliest blooming trees in Eretz Yisrael wake up from their "winter sleep" and begin their fruit bearing cycle. Celebrations include planting trees as well as a Tu B'Shevat seder that incorporates wines of different hues, olives, pomegranates, almonds, dates, figs, etc. Many joyous songs are sung to honor this holiday.

In its broader context, Tu B'Shevat is also a celebration of the environment. The value of trees assists with irrigation, shade, an important food source, the life cycle, and strength.

From The Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City's website:

Tu B'Shevat is a time to celebrate and nurture The Children's Tree. The story of this tree is one of connection, blooming, and possibility.

In January 1943, a group of young Jewish children detained in Theresienstadt planted a tree in celebration of Tu B'Shevat with the help of their teacher, Irma Lauscher. The children took care of and nurtured the tree, using a portion of their collective water rations to keep the tree alive. Only two hundred of the 15,000 Jewish children imprisoned in Theresienstadt survived the Holocaust. Those who lived placed a sign on the tree proclaiming, "As the branches of this tree, so the branches of our people!"

Since the end of the war, saplings from the original tree in Theresienstadt are located in cities around the world, including Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, New York City and Jerusalem. These

cities are considered part of the "Global Tree Network." There is a commitment to care for these saplings for generations to come, honoring the children and keeping their memory alive. The concept of a "Tree of Life" is never more empowering than the commitment to honor the children of Theresienstadt and extend their legacy.

Etz cha-yim hi l'ma-cha-zi-kim ba, v'tom che-ha  
m'u-shar.

It is a tree of life to those that hold fast to it and all  
of its supporters are happy.

Shalom!

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## WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marvin & Toby Gittelman  
3431 Island Creek Court, #131B  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Karen Swetlow  
15608 Hackney Lane  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Cheryl Fleming  
3200 N. Leisure World Blvd., #302  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Martin Franks  
3216 Gleneagles Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Gail Nathanson  
3100 N. Leisure World Blvd., #920  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Louis & Marian Apple  
14808 Lindsey Lane  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

***WE HOPE YOU ENJOY EVERYTHING JEWISH  
RESIDENTS OF LEISURE WORLD HAS TO  
OFFER!***

## PROGRAM AND EDUCATION

Becky Siman

**Sunday, February 9, 2 pm, Clubhouse II Auditorium Rabbi – Zoom in with Rabbi Stephen A. Leon, Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation B'nai Zion of El Paso, Texas.**



Rabbi Leon will join JRLW in the Clubhouse I Auditorium at 2 pm via Zoom to discuss his work with **Bnei Anusim**. The Sephardic Bnei Anusim are descendants of Spanish and Portuguese Jews who were forced to convert to Catholicism. For many years, he has counseled people who came to him trying to understand traditions in their families who they did not know were Jewish and helped those interested in returning to their Jewish heritage. There are many people in his El Paso congregation who discovered their Jewish Heritage with him.

Rabbi Leon will speak about how he got started in this quest and may even have a synagogue member join the conversation.

He is the author of the book, **“The Third Commandment and the Return of the Anusim: A Rabbi’s Memoir of an Incredible People.”** The book stands as a testimony of faith and a

symbol of religious tenacity.

You can join the Zoom in the Auditorium or from your computer. If you are using your computer the Zoom details are Meeting ID: 845 5553 8923

Passcode: 044312.

This is early enough in the afternoon so that you will have sufficient time to get to Super Bowl Festivities.

## Coming in March

**Tuesday March 18, 1:30 pm, Clubhouse II, Maryland Room**

Rabbi Daniel Plotkin, Rabbi Educator at Temple Isaiah, Fulton, MD, returns to Leisure World to discuss the ***Jewish Views of the Afterlife.***

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## 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.

Sue Sandler made a donation in memory of Evelyn Dickman.

Stephanie R. Altbie made a donation in memory of Rabbi Moshe Samber (This contribution was accidentally omitted from last month’s donations.)



### 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.

Stephanie R. Altbier made a donation in memory of Rabbi Moshe Samber.



## RITUAL COMMITTEE

Elyn Becker Kaufman

Shalom Dear Friends,

According to our calendar, this month we celebrate the Jewish festival of Tu B'Shevat. The name of this festival is actually its date (like the 4th of July): "Tu" is a pronunciation of the Hebrew letters for the number 15, and it falls in the Hebrew month of Shevat.

Fruit trees were awarded special status in the Torah because of their importance in sustaining life and as a symbol of G-d's divine favor. Even during times of war, G-d warns the Israelites, "When in your war against a city you have to besiege it a long time in order to capture it, you must not destroy its trees... Are trees of the field human to withdraw before you into the besieged city? Only trees that you know do not yield food may be destroyed" (Deuteronomy 20:19-20).

This year, Tu B'Shevat is celebrated on February 12. In modern times, Tu B'Shevat has become a symbol of both Zionist attachment to Israel as well as an example of Jewish sensitivity to the environment. Early Zionist settlers to Israel began planting new trees not only to restore the ecology of ancient Israel, but as a symbol of renewed growth of the Jewish people returning to their ancestral homeland. While relatively few Jews continue to observe the kabbalistic Tu B'Shevat seder, many American and European Jews observe Tu B'Shevat by contributing money to the Jewish National Fund, an organization devoted to reforesting Israel.

For environmentalists, Tu B'Shevat is an ancient and authentic Jewish "Earth Day", or Arbor Day that educates Jews about the Jewish tradition's advocacy of responsible stewardship of G-d's creation as manifested in ecological activism. Among them, contemporary versions of the Tu B'Shevat seder, emphasizing environmentalist concerns, are gaining popularity.

Plant a tree, be ecologically more mindful - let's do what we can to leave the earth better than we found it!

Happy Tu B'Shevat,

Ellyn Becker Kaufman  
Chair, Ritual Committee

### Note from the President of JRLW:

#### HELP WANTED:

JRLW is looking for a volunteer to store two of our Torah Scrolls. They need to be kept in a "controlled environment". Basically, in someone's spare room and not in a basement or attic where they would be subject to high humidity, high temperature or mice. The Scrolls would be kept in wooden boxes with casters to make moving them easier. They would be stored most of the year and removed for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. If you can help JRLW please contact me, Joel Kristal, at [photospbj@gmail.com](mailto:photospbj@gmail.com).

Your support of JRLW is very much appreciated.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Adele Ewing

Coming in March! The next exciting program set up by our social activities committee is a Jewish trivia on Sunday, March 23 at 1:30 pm in the Maryland Room of Clubhouse I. Categories covered will include holidays, food, entertainment, famous Jews and Israel. All are invited and need not be Jewish to attend, so start getting your teams of three together. Checks should be made out to JRLW for \$7 per person and should include the names and phone numbers of all teammates. Cost includes prizes and snacks! Checks should be mailed to Beverly Masters, 3378 Chiswick Court, 2E, Silver Spring, MD 20906. Checks can also be dropped in the JRLW mailbox located in Clubhouse I. Checks must be received by March 7.




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## 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

Ray Lieberman made a donation in memory of Evelyn Dickman.

Susan and Jonas Weiss made a donation to send a Mazel Tov to Mazel Tov to Cheryl and Michael Kravitz on the marriage of their daughter Rachel to Tony Iv.



## RECIPE CORNER

### CHERRY KUGEL FOR GEORGE WASHINGTON

- 1 can cherry pie filling
- 12 ounces wide egg noodles
- 6 large eggs
- 1 cup sour cream
- 8 ounces cottage cheese (1 cup)
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- ½ cup raisins or craisins, if desired

Place a rack in the middle of your oven and preheat to 350 degrees F. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add the noodles to the pot, bring back to a boil, and let them cook until tender (not overly soft), about 5 minutes. Drain.

In a large bowl, mix together the eggs, sour cream, cottage cheese, cream cheese, sugar, vanilla and cinnamon. Add the cooked noodles and stir until well combined. Add can of cherry pie filling and stir until blended.

Spray a 9x13 inch baking dish with nonstick cooking oil. Pour the noodle mixture into the dish. Bake the kugel for about 60 minutes, turning once half-way through cooking, till the center of the kugel is set and the tips of the noodles turn golden brown. Remove from the oven. Let the kugel rest for 15-20 minutes before slicing. Kugel can be served warm or cold.





## Note from the President of JRLW:

Thanks to our Volunteers

During the past month, a group of JRLW members packed 24 boxes of old prayer books to be buried in accordance with Jewish law. It may sound simple but it took several volunteers to pack the boxes then “schlep” them from the basement to the parking lot. From there the boxes were taken to the Sagel Bloomfield Danzansky & Goldberg Funeral Care, Inc. to be buried.

We wish to thank them for enabling JRLW to perform this Mitzvah of burying sacred texts.

In addition, we appreciate the employees of Sagel Bloomfield Danzansky & Goldberg Funeral Care, Inc who helped move all the books from the cars into the Chapel and then to the cemetery.

## WE GET LETTERS!

My mother, Evelyn Lea Perlmutter, passed away on December 1, at 5:45 am. She lived in her Leisure World condo for 30 years. She was 99 years old.

Evelyn remained vibrant and active in the community and loved going to our Mutual 14 picnics and ladies’ lunches as well as JRLW programs. She played mahjong every other week. She volunteered for the literacy council and tutored 2nd graders with Bernice Cohen.

She was sharp and remained vibrant until the end. I will miss her so very much. Rest in peace, Mom.

Diane Reynolds



## WE REMEMBER

Bernard Jay Fixell.

Ellen Sirkis.

Jacob Rothmel.

**MAY THEIR MEMORY  
BE AS A BLESSING.**



## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE 😊

I heard Netflix and Yahoo are merging. They are moving their headquarters to Jerusalem and calling it Net ‘n’ Yahoo.

## 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, you need to pay your dues by FEBRUARY 5, 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

<u>AGE</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>COST</u>
64 & under ...	\$400	75 – 79 .....	\$250
65-69 .....	\$350	80-84 .....	\$200
70-74 .....	\$300	85 + .....	\$125

## JIMMY CARTER

Bernie Ascher

“It has been 2,000 years since there has been peace between Egypt and a free Jewish nation,” President Jimmy Carter told a joint session of Congress on September 18, 1978 as he presented them with the Camp David Accords.”

He noted that each of the three negotiators were of different religions.

“The world prayed for success of this effort and I am glad to announce that our prayers have been answered.”

Menachem Begin, President of Israel, stated that the agreements should not be known as the Camp David Accords, but as the Jimmy Carter Accords. All three negotiators revealed that they had each worked almost all day and all night during their talks. Begin drew laughter with his comment that the Jews worked harder on the Accords than their forefathers did in building the pyramids.

Egypt President Anwar Sadat and Begin won the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating the Accords. Carter won the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize for his lifelong efforts to improve conditions of human life. For the past 40 years, Egypt and Israel have been living with peaceful relations.

Let this be our tribute to former President Jimmy Carter, who died a few weeks ago at age 100.



## TU B'SHAVAT

The holiday Tu B'shavat (ט"ו בשבט) is an arboreal celebration also known as Rosh Hashanah La'llanot, literally “New Year of the Trees.” In contemporary Israel, the day is recognized as an ecological awareness day, and trees are planted in celebration. It is a reminder of our interdependence with nature and our responsibility to be active stewards of our Earth. What was historically considered a minor holiday, the message of Tu B'shavat has garnered greater significance as the crisis of climate change shapes the world.

The holiday occurs annually on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat.

Tu B'shavat is not mentioned in the Torah. Scholars believe the holiday was originally an agricultural festival, corresponding to the beginning of spring in Israel. But after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E. and the exile that followed, many of the exiled Jews felt a need to bind themselves symbolically to their former homeland. Tu B'shavat served, in part, to fill that spiritual need — a sort of physical association with the land.

In the 16th century, the Kabbalists (mystics) of Tzfat (the city of Safed) created a new ritual to celebrate Tu B'shavat called the Feast of Fruits. Modeled on the Passover seder, participants would read selections from the Hebrew Bible and Rabbinic literature, and would eat fruits and nuts traditionally associated with the land of Israel: wheat, grapes, barley, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates.

Other than plant trees and eat fruit, there are symbolic ways to observe the holiday, such as picking fresh fruits and vegetables at a local farm, starting an herb garden, building a birdhouse to hang in a tree, and even organizing a park clean-up to collect litter.



# JRLW Sunday Brunch

February 16th at 10:00am

**Joe Dennie**

**Outreach Specialist from Hero Dogs**



Joe, accompanied by a Hero Dog, will speak and demonstrate how Hero Dogs places service dogs with U.S. military veterans and first-responders with disabilities

**Crystal Ballroom, Clubhouse I**

**Includes Full Sunday Brunch Buffet**

**Price is \$25.00 per person (MEMBERS ONLY!!)**

✓ **Make checks payable to JRLW**

*Pay by check only at the Clubhouse / Lifestyle Office*

**Tickets are available for purchase**

**January 20 – February 10 at Clubhouse I**

- ✓ We will place you at a reserved table. If there are other JRLW members with whom you would like to sit (tables of up to 10), please list them.
- ✓ All seats must be paid for at the time of purchase to reserve a table or partial table. Only checks accepted for payment. No refunds on tickets. No tickets will be sold after the cutoff date.

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

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## EYEING A BRIGHTER RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE? FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS.



### INDEPENDENCE

Brightview's award-winning communities engage residents while supporting their changing needs. Safety enhancements, wellness programs, and personal care services empower residents to live full, rewarding lives with confidence.



### CHOICE

What will you do today? At Brightview, it's entirely up to you! Pursue your creative passions, socialize at happy hour, enjoy an outing, rejuvenate in our salon, take in a concert, or simply relax in your apartment home. Whatever you want to do, you can do it with Brightview.



### POSSIBILITIES

Our associates have two words for you: *why not?* Each day, residents explore new interests and embark on new adventures. Want to try a new cuisine? Take up a new hobby? Cross "zip-lining" off your list? *Why not?*

Learn more at [BrightviewSeniorLiving.com](http://BrightviewSeniorLiving.com).



#### ROCKVILLE

Brightview Fallsgrove | 240.569.5683  
Brightview West End | 301.781.7985

#### BETHESDA

Brightview Grosvenor | 301.615.0119  
Brightview Woodmont | 240.222.5151





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**HOSPICE**



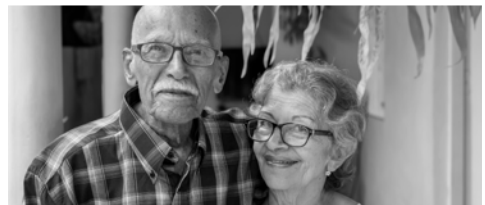
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....a time to be born, and a time to die...." - Ecclesiastes*



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# FEBRUARY

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hadassah Study CH I Group 2 pm</li> <li>•JRLW Board Meeting 7:30 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hadassah Board</li> </ul>			Shabbat Service CH II Activities Room 7:30 pm	Shabbat Service CH II 9:15 am
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Zoom talk in Crypto Jews – CH II Auditorium 2 pm					Light Candles 5:17	Beshalach
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
JRLW BRUNCH CH I 10 am			Hadassah Program CH I 2:00 PM		Light Candles 5:25	Yatro
23	24	25	26	27	28	
					Light Candles 5:32	Mishpatim
					Light Candles 5:40	

2025



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