

To support the Jewish community spiritually, provide opportunities for religious and additional experiences, and encourage social interaction. To nurture respect, understanding and friendship among all residents and faith groups at Ann's Choice.

### February 2024 Shevat/Adar I 5784

- Friday, February 2: Shabbat Services—In the Chapel 4 p. m. Torah Portion: *Yitro* Pastor Kang Na will be delivering the D'var Torah.
- Monday, February 5: Joe Shrager Memorial Torah Study 2 p.m. Liberty Commons Art Room, Class-led discussion
- Tuesday, February 6: Jewish Heritage—Jewish Literacy, a New Discussion Group, Liberty Commons Music Room, 1 p.m.
- Thursday, February 8: General Meeting, PAC 7 p.m. With entertainment by Christy and Pete EVERYONE WELCOME!
- Friday, February 9: Shabbat Services—In the Chapel 4 p. m. Torah Portion: *Mispatim*Michael Kaplan will be delivering the D'var Torah.

  ROSH CHODESH ADAR I

Saturday, February 10: ROSH CHODESH ADAR I

- Sunday, February 11: BINGO, POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- Monday, February 12: Joe Shrager Memorial Torah Study, 2 p.m. Liberty Commons Art Room, Rabbi Shlomo Kohn leading class
- Wednesday, February 14: NO YIDDISH CLUB
- Thursday, February 15: NO HADASSAH MEETING
- Friday, February 16: Shabbat Service—In the Chapel 4 p. m. Torah Portion: *Terumah*, Michael Sultanik will be delivering the D'var Torah.
- Monday, February 19: Joe Shrager Memorial Torah Study, 2 p.m. Liberty Commons Art Room Rabbi Shlomo Kohn leading class

#### PRESIDENTS' DAY

- Friday, February 23: Shabbat Service—In the Chapel 4 p. m. Torah Portion: *Tetzaveh* Linda Pressman will be delivering the D'var Torah.
- Monday, February 26: Joe Shrager Memorial Torah Study 2 p.m. Liberty Commons Art Room, Class-led discussion
- Wednesday, February 28: JRC Lecture Series, in the PAC 2 p.m. Rabbi Shai Cherry from Adath Jeshurun

#### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR VERY GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE JEWISH RESIDENTS' COUNCIL:

BY IN MEMORY OF

Zipporah Segal my beloved grandson, Zachary Todd Segal, who

passed away recently

Max Litz, beloved father Etta Krauss

Manny Stein **Shirley Stein** Elana Stein

Anna and Philip Baker

Joan Winokur Benjamin Gelman, beloved father

Emanual Winokur, beloved husband

Bernice Chast Sarah Salosky Sheila Weiss Walter Berk

Edie Davis Harold Davis, beloved husband Jerry Epstein Shelly Epstein, beloved wife Sheila Johnson Fred Palais, beloved father

René & Morton Stein E. Zachary Stein, brother of Morton Stein

Marvin Block Phyllis and Shelly Forman Rosalyn Katz Marvin Block Rose LaKier Marvin Block

Judith Tashman Irving Tashman, beloved father-in-law Sheri, David and Travis Tarrab my parents, Bobbie & Phil Segal

Marvin Block Barbara and Abe Goll

Gloria Ceaser son-in-law Dr. Robert Friedland Rochelle Wismer Joseph Horn, beloved father

Joan Winokur Ishaya Goldfarb, beloved grandfather

Wilbur Greefield Elinor Pressel

Irene Pressel

**Emily Shonberg** D. Iriving Shonberg, beloved husband

BY IN HONOR OF

Shoshana Gruen a Happy Birthday to Anna Steinhart

the JRC Thelma Blonder

**Beverly Somerson** everything the JRC stands for and does Arthur Fentin being a member of JRC and everything JRC does Sybil Cooper all my friends, neighbors living here at Ann's Choice

Ann Kalmanor Rich Noch for his kindness

Lee & Don Seidel for their Wedding Anniversary Nancy Kane JRC and all programs and events keeping me busy

Mimi Travis my being the JRC Treasurer and taking care of any residents living here. Enjoy talking and seeing most of you at one

time or another.

Joan Krison just moving in to Ann's Choice and the JRC

get well wishes to Sylvia & Ronald Rosenberg Laurie and Stephen Capin

get well wishes to Kate & Burton Korn get well wishes to Barbara Steiner

all to have a Happy and Healthy New Year

being a less than 1 year IL resident and having JRC in our community

having the JRC here at Ann's Choice

being a member of JRC, a wonderful group of men and women

having JRC here at Ann's Choice and being a member

the JRC

the 2024 new year and good health to all the JRC and all we do at Ann's Choice

Helene Malenbaum

Rochelle & Victor Bittman

Susanrae Harrison

Sandra & Mark Bernstein Carol and Arthur Silverman

Philip Kamen Nancy Kane

# THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR VERY GENEROUS DONATIONS TO OUR BELOVED STATE OF ISRAEL

Howard Bishow Evelyn Reles
Edie Davis David Seltzer

Laurel Ginsburgh

#### \*\*HAPPY BIRTHDAY\*\*

Marlene Simons, Thelma Krefetz, Rhoda Simon, Bernie Granor, Abe Goll, Saul Jacobs, Sandy Heller, Barbara Fuchs and Joan Lipman.

If your name is not on the list, please let me know your birth date and you will be included next February.

## \*MISHEBERACH \* WE PRAY FOR HEALING

For all our residents who are ill, in the hospital or in RG or other nursing homes.

#### \*\*YAHRZEITS\*\*

During the months of 22 Shevat to 20 Adar I, we remember our friends and family who are no longer with us:

Rose Feld, Ann Schwartz, Bruce D. Shuter, Sheryl Kae LaKier, Ruth Buchoff, Ruth L Fentin, Irwin Wernick, Norton Borochaner, William Dunaief, Beryl Gottesman, Jacob Honigblum, Theodore Jacobs, Robert Boyer, Brenda Carmen, Sidney Kauffman, Franklin Oberstein, Anne Brann, Edward Shilling, Shari Brodsky, Ida Mazlin, Ira Rosenberg, Norton Ginsburg, Eric Skolnik, Shirlee Jacobson, Netti Salamon, Meyer Heiman, Estelle Goldstein, Freda Sollod, Dorothy Sultanik, Alan Schultz, Beryl Hamerla, Mary Gelb, Mollie Wisotsky, Newton Garber, Marvin Spivack, Anna Cohen, Florence Salem, Abe Lashner, Irvin Cohen, Gerald M. Fisher, Alvin Pearlman, Sara Fauer, Evelyn Greenfield, Freda Molitz, Anna Tellis, Harry Silverman, Elsie Borochaner, Joseph Goldberg, Libbie G. Kern, Bernard Rosenblum, Elsie Silverman, Harry Kaplan, Rose Hill, I. Edward Kapner, Jerry Liebman, Joseph Litt, Jacob Meer, Morton Bernstein, Samuel Katz, Harold Lashner, Kaycee Carmen-Wynn, Ethel Zeidenstein, Rachel Friedman, Elimelech Kofman, Stanley Rosen

If there are errors or additions, please put a note in Phyllis Halpern's cubby--WP 108.

May all their memories be for a loving blessing, and their lives be an inspiration to us all.



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our *Chanukah* party, held on Thursday, December 15, 2023, was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who attended. A **very special thank you** goes to Steve Capin, Joan and Marty Freedman, Harriet Hanges, Sandy Heller, Saul Jacobs, Barbara Josephs, Marge Labman, Judy Maslin, Sandy Sham, Gertie Solkov, René Stein, Mimi Travis, Sheila Weiss, MaryAnn and Gary Weisser, and Sylvia Ziserman. Thank you all for your help and support during the holiday and especially at the party. **Thank you** to Bill Frye for a wonderful evening of entertainment.

It's never too late to pay your dues, **\$10 per person**. If you forgot, just send your name, cubby address and your check made payable to: **Jewish Residents' Council** and put in envelope addressed to Mimi Travis, JRC Treasurer. Bring it to your clubhouse desk. It will be delivered to the Village Clubhouse and put in the JRC secure lockbox.

If you have not sent me your *Yahrzeit* information, you can still do it. Just make sure you include the day, month and **year** of death. I can get the Hebrew date, if you don't know it. Your loved one's *Yahrzeit* will be read at services on the appropriate *Shabbat*.

WP 108

presidentirc@yahoo.com

Thyllis

## **The JRC Board Members**

President—Phyllis Halpern, WP 108
Vice-President, **Liberty Commons Rep**Barbara Steiner, BC 419
Treasurer, Entertainment—Mimi Travis, MC405
Recording Secretary—Sandy Heller, PV 118
Corresponding Secretary—Barbara Josephs, TC 108
Education Chair—Amiram Amitai
At Large—Saul Jacobs, BR 513

Membership—Sandy Sham, HR 403 Music—René Stein, LP 410 Fund Raising Chair, **Keystone Rep**— Sylvia Ziserman, HV 406 Publicity Chair—Bernie Roseman, HR 109 Religious Chair—Steve Capin, TC 507 **Village Reps**—Joan and Marty Freedman, DT 315

#### PLEASE PASS ME THE FORK

By Nina Haydel

As you sit down to dinner, thinking of the brisket you are ready to taste for Shabbat dinner in one of Ann's Choice restaurants, you pick up and unroll the napkin holding instruments for the meal. First, look at the knife: a descendant of hand-axes, the oldest human knife found was used as a tool for survival 2.6 million years ago. Now it attacks your plate. Amid the clanking silverware resides the spoon, originally a simple round indented rock with a protrusion, a handle of sorts, used 1,000 years BC. Anthropologists determined it evolved into a scoop, called *spon* in Anglo-Saxon, means *chip*. The most recent implement, most intriguing of all, we call **the fork.** Unhappily, the fork had an image problem and was first viewed with hostility, as it resembled the Devil's pitchfork, hence the name of the tool.

Ancient history vaguely describes the existence of forks in archeological sites of the Bronze Age - 2400-1900 BC- and during the Shang Dynasty – 1600-1055 BC. One description is that of a stone carving from an Eastern Han tomb in Shaanxi which depicts a three hanging two-pronged forks in a dining scene. Apparently, fingers did a better job than any external implement.

The fork seems to be absent at an ancient Greek table. Although the origin of forks may go back to Ancient Greece, the personal table fork was most probably invented in the Byzantine Empire and appears to be used by the 4<sup>th</sup> Century. A type of tool with prongs was used to pull food out of boiling pots, but not at a dining table. Ancient Egypt's cooking utensils were large forks and the Roman empire's silver and bronze forks are displayed in museums. Bronze forks were made in Persia during the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Centuries. By then, nobility may have used a pronged tool, and by the 10<sup>th</sup> Century, the table fork was common in the Middle East.

But it wasn't until the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, in the Byzantine empire, that forks became table utensils. The Middle Ages found most people eating off "trenchers," rounds of stale bread which transferred vegetables and cooked meat directed to the mouths. All the remaining foods were handled with knives and spoons as well as their not-very-clean hands.

Forks journeyed from the Byzantine Empire to Italy, then arrived in France with Catherine de Medici, when in 1533, she traveled from Italy to marry Henry II. Catherine held many enormous public festivals during the political violence of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, attempting to demonstrate the monarchy's power. She introduced her eating habits along with a new variety of foods that included the artichoke and ice cream. Her table manners became the approved etiquette during the group meals she held throughout France. Historians refer to the steel French forks with mother-of-pearl handles that date back to the late 1500s and early 1600s. In the early 1600s, especially in Italy, forks then were commonly used in Southern Europe and Spain.

During the late 1600s, well-off fork owners had begun to own multiple sets of cutleries. Travelers carried their own eating utensils in leather cases slung over their shoulder or wrapped around their waist as they traveled. This was the time homes began to create separate rooms expressly for dining. In addition, forks began to differentiate based on usage, having 2, 3, and often 4 tongs. Yet, at the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, King Louis XIV forbade his children to eat with forks (Braudel, F). but by the middle of the century, fork use had become normalized and manners of dining became formalized.

The table fork became almost universal among the merchant and upper classes. The fork was not adopted in Northern Europe as easily. Not until the 18<sup>th</sup> Century was it part of dining, as it was previously considered unmanly in Italy and excessive in Great Britain. Yet, they had been used in Sweden and France since the early 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

Most forks were two pronged, some strong enough to hold a large cut of meat, while others were delicate for piercing the sweets that rounded off the sumptuous meals. They were frequently used in the royal household, but seldom in the public domain, as they continued to represent sinister, devilish behavior. In many circles, as late as 1897, British sailors considered the use of forks effeminate, theatrical, and unnecessary and preferred not to use them (Young).

Most utensils in elegant homes were first created in pure silver because silver reacts the least with food (Brillat-Savarin). By the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the French table enjoyed by the newly established Bourgeoisie class included silver-plated utensils, a more economical compound for the consumer market. The upper-class French table was the center of social activity for the average family, not just the aristocracy. The French became pre-occupied with a "culture of dining," where eating became a social activity governed by the "rules of the table."

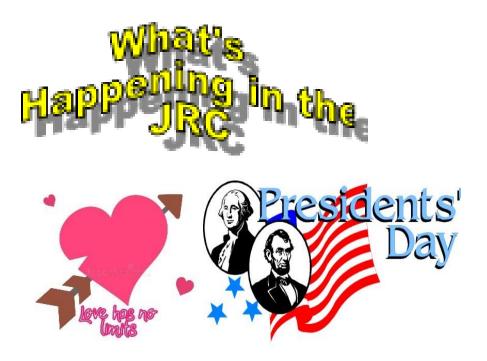
- 1. Room temperature: 60-68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 2. "Dinner without cheese is like a woman with only one eye." British concept
- 3. Utensils made out of silver, eventually silver-plate. Today, metal and plastic forks
- 4. Appropriate fork for food: bread forks, oyster forks, lobster forks, salad forks, berry forks, lettuce forks, sardine forks, pickle forks, fish forks, pastry forks, dessert forks, relish forks, cold-cuts forks, main serving fork, etc. What do you have in your kitchen drawer?

In the North America, the fork did not become popular until the time of the Revolutionary War and the four-pronged style became standard in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Alas, the spread of etiquette regarding the fork caused multiple decision for the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> Century diner. Flatware, (the name encompassing all silverware as we know it), became the gift of choice for a newly married couple. Patterns from late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> Century offered so many types and sizes of forks that overwhelmed the public, thus in 1926, the Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover and the Sterling Silver Manufacturers Assoc. limited the number of separate pieces to 55 for any silverware pattern (Brillat-Savarin). According to silverware designer Brunno Munari, the only alternative to alleviate the problem of styles and shapes of flatware is to resort to using chopsticks.

So, what is the future of the fork? The anti-fork movement has reached several suggestions. In the Chicago restaurant Alinea, Chef Grant Achatz has devised a new utensil, "the **antenna**, which supports a single morsal of mackerel and **the bow**, which allows one slice of bacon to hang freely so an eater can **hands-free** capture the food in his or her mouth"; this eliminates the trusty fork we all know so well.

We can only surmise the direction the fork will take within the next few centuries. With the advent of AI and the possibilities of a technical future, we might anticipate a mechanical fork that can feed us as we work or drive, perhaps even sleep. Share my imagination and enjoy your dinner tonight!



## **IN MEMORIAM**



In appreciation of thanking everyone in the community who so generously donated in memory of my beloved grandson, Zachary Todd Segal, who passed away recently. I also am so grateful for the ongoing support from my friends at Ann's Choice as my family and I grieve for this special young man.

Thank you. Zipporah Segal



Kim and Tim performed at the January General Membership Meeting. They were delightful and very entertaining. Everyone enjoyed all of their musical selections.