



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.

August 2023
Av/Elul 5784

Tuesday, August 1: *Jewish Heritage-Judaism Today*, Liberty Music Room, 1 p.m.

Friday, August 4: *Shabbat Services in the Chapel or on Channel 980 – 4 p. m.* Torah Portion: *Eikev* Norma Segal delivering the *D'var Torah*

Monday, August 7: Joe Shrager Memorial *Torah Study*, Liberty Commons Art Room 2 p.m. Class-led discussion.

Friday, August 11: *Shabbat Services in the Chapel or on Channel 980 – 4 p.m.* Torah Portion: *Re'eh* Barbara Steiner delivering the *D'var Torah*

Monday, August 14: Joe Shrager Memorial *Torah Study*, Liberty Commons Art Room 2 p.m. with Rabbi Shlomo Kohn

Thursday, August 17: *ROSH CHODESH ELUL*

Friday, August 18: Shabbat Services in the Chapel or on Channel 980 – 4 p.m. Torah Portion: *Shoftim* Linda Pressman delivering the *D'var Torah*
ROSH CHODESH ELUL

Monday, August 21: Joe Shrager Memorial *Torah Study*, Liberty Commons Art Room 2 p.m. with Rabbi Shlomo Kohn

Wednesday, August 23: JRC Lecture Series 2 p.m. in the PAC with Asaf Romirowsky, topic: *ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN RELATIONS: WHAT NEXT?*

EVERYONE WELCOME

Friday, August 25: *Shabbat Services in the Chapel or on Channel 980 – 4 p.m.* Torah Portion: *Ki Teitzei* Rabbi Aaron Gaber of Brothers of Israel will be *davening* with us.

Monday, August 28: Joe Shrager Memorial *Torah Study*, Liberty Commons Art Room 2 p.m. Class-led discussion.

Saturday, September 9: *LEIL SELICHOT* at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel with RABBI ERIC WISNIA

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

BY

Gloria Salmansohn

Shoshana Gruen

Barbara and Abe Goll

Ruth Visnov

Thalia Rosen

Eileen Baskin & Mark Whitlock

Inge Booker

Toby Adler

Shirley and Arnold Feinstein

Elinor Pressel

Sylvia Horowitz

Tamar Adini

Dorit and Steve Binenbaum

Shoshana Gruen

Tamar Adini

Judith Tashman

Laurie and Steve Capin

Phyllis and Arthur Geller

Dorothy Kaminsky

Mimi Travis

Annette Flexner

Phyllis Halpern

Gloria Ceaser

Rhoda Sterling

Joan Winokur

Sandy and Mickey Bernstein

IN MEMORY OF

Edward Smiley

Adelheide Benjamin

Eliezer Kofman

Edward Katz, beloved husband of Roslyn Katz

beloved grandson of Zipporah Segal

the Yahrzeits of all my loved ones

Ed Katz

Zipporah Segal's grandson and family

Martin Adler

Zipporah Segal's grandson Zac

Edward Katz

Richard Pressel

Sumner Rotman, dear brother

Doris Schiller

grandson of Zipporah Segal

Avraham Kofman, beloved brother

Zachary Segal, grandson of Zipporah Segal

Zachary Segal, grandson of Zipporah Segal

Peter Tashman

Edward Katz, husband of Roslyn Katz

Doris Schiller

Murray Kaminsky

Fannette Asinofsky

Carole Hoffman, a lovely and nice woman

Fannette Asinofsky

Fannette Asinofsky, dear friend

Morton Ceaser, beloved husband

Sidney Markowitz, beloved father

Benjamin Winokur, beloved father-in-law

Chaya Gelman, beloved grandmother

Chassie Goldfard, beloved grandmother

Edward Berman, beloved father

BY

Claire Goldstein

Tamar Adini

Phyllis Halpern

Barbara Lever

Mimi Travis

Laurie and Steve Capin

Gloria Ceaser

Inge Booker

IN HONOR OF

Barbara Rosenblum's 90th birthday

Shoshana Gruen's birthday

Shoshana Gruen's birthday

Reggie Lever's 80th birthday

Shoshana Gruen's upcoming special birthday

100 years young

get well wishes for Allen Herring

get well wishes for Ronald Rosenberg

get well wishes to Ellen Newman

Shoshana Gruen's 100th birthday

****HAPPY BIRTHDAY****

Don Simon, Mary Carmen, Rose LaKier, Martin Sperber, Rhoda Sterling, Ed Lashen, Sandra Berman, Lou Shapiro, Bernie Randall, Ellen Sperber, Sue Harrison, Elaine Levy, Cheryl Plunkett, Linda Becker, Myra Wolis, Burt Korn, Judy Rosenberg, and Helen Nemerofsky.

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

***MISHEBERACH*
WE PRAY FOR HEALING**

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

*****Yahrzeits for Av/Elul*****

During the time from **14 Av to 14 Elul** we remember our friends and family who are no longer with us. Please honor them by attending Shabbat Services and saying the *Kaddish*:

Paul Goldstein, James Eppstein, Ruth Katz, Annette Merback, Esther Zicherman, Dorothy Myers, David Eisenhofer, Herman Silverman, Marvin Rubin, Charles Brann, Naomi Chary, Charles Friedenberg, Samuel Sarowitz, Bruce Winokur, Aaron Altshul, Abraham Peitzman, Stanley Zicherman, Alfred E. Greenwald, Ruth Marcus, Richard Sailer, Sylvia Shilling, Louis Goldstein, Esther Gold, Jay Joslin, Harry Molitz, Tillie Wise Carman, Marilyn Boyer, George Lipitz, Herman Segan, Abraham Levine, Becky Horn, Murray Kaminsky, Rose Drobbin, Ruth Katz, Samuel Marks, Gerald Shur, Norman Newman, Raymond Steinhart, George M. Cohen, Katie Carmen, Benjamin Grindlinger, Mark A. Klein, Warren Josephs, Maxwell H. Cohen, Stanley Fingerman, Leon Visnov, Judi C. Altman, Ida Poplow, Rubin Salmansohn, Lillian Simon, Sarah Goldie Shander, Nettie Shemin

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

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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are currently working on getting a new Memorial book for Yom Kippur. When you get the form for the Memorial book, if the information is correct, just return it to me, Phyllis Halpern, JRC President, at your front desk. Please make any corrections, additions or deletions. Also note anyone who passed away from September 2022 to now. The deadline for submissions is August 20, 2023.

Included in this newsletter is a schedule for High Holidays which begins September 9 with *Selichot*. Please send in your donation for the ***Rosh Hashana card***. We hope to include as many members as possible this year.

The ceremony of confirmation—for high school students who have continued their studies and Jewish involvement beyond *b'nei mitzvah*—often is held on or near *Shavuot*. Just as the Jewish people accepted the *Torah* on *Shavuot*, so do confirmands reaffirm their commitment to the covenant and adult Jewish life. Perhaps some of us may want to reaffirm our commitment to Judaism and think about having an adult Confirmation Class here at Ann's Choice—just something to think about.

B'Shalom



WP 108

presidentjrc@yahoo.com

The JRC Board Members

President—Phyllis Halpern, WP 108

Vice-President, **Liberty Commons Rep**—

Barbara Steiner, BC 419

Treasurer, Entertainment—Mimi Travis, MC405

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Publicity Chair—Bernie Roseman, HR 109

Religious Chair—Steve Capin, TC 507

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**If you meet new residents who are interested in joining us, please refer them to
Sandy Sham, Membership Chair.**

The Columbus Conundrum

by Nina Haydel, Ed.D.

Several decades ago, as I sat in Miss Hart's second grade classroom at the Francis Scott Key Elementary School in Philadelphia, I met Christopher Columbus. Immediately a sense of kinship emerged when I discovered that he had used my name, Nina for one of his ships. This endeared to me forever the man who was responsible for my identity, Christopher Columbus.

I studied my history well, learned "all the facts" about my Christopher, and knew "everything" about his life and voyages. Only now, decades later, watching the western world celebrate Columbus Day each year, I wonder who this man really was; in fact, after studying his background and data about the explorer, I now approach Columbus as a mystery.

First, we need to understand the historical background that led up to the times in which he lived. I will share with you two parts, History Lesson #1: the background and Jewish conditions related to the time period in which Columbus lived and History Lesson #2: the contradiction and mysteries surrounding the possibility that Columbus was a Jew.

History Lesson #1:

Jews exiled to Babylonia established their center for learning. In about the year 1000 CE, the center of Jewish education moved to Spain and remained there for over 200 years. This was possible after the Muslims captured the Iberian Peninsula in 756 CE. Muslims, Jews, Christians lived in harmony and prosperity for 400 years. In the 12th Century, Muslim fanatics began to persecute other faiths. During the time of Maimonides, he and his family were forced to flee Cordova because of fanatics.

Outside of the Iberian Peninsula, the Jews had dispersed throughout Europe after Babylonian exile leading up to the Crusades which started in 1095. Crusaders slaughtered Jews on their way to Jerusalem becoming open season on Jews all through Europe. Pope Innocent III (Rome 1215) made laws more severe to punish Jews and Muslims.

In the 12th to the 14th Centuries, Jewish population was expelled from England, France, and most of Germany. But Spain held forth a better environment, although Christians and Muslims were busy fighting over land. Jews, not landowners, performed functions in Spanish related to administration and culture. Probably Christians thought if tolerant to them, the Jews would eventually convert. When this did not happen, tolerance shown to Jews disappeared.

Conditions of Jews in Iberian Peninsula deteriorated: Jews were forced to identify themselves by wearing round yellow patch over the heart. (Nazi took idea and perpetuated it through World War II) Savage pogroms started in Seville, spread through Jewish quarters of Toledo, Valencia, Barcelona, and Seville. Thousands of Jews were slaughtered. Many to save themselves converted to Christianity (voluntarily??). New Christians were called CONVERSOS, also known as Marranos. These new Christians were always suspect. Conversion made conditions worse instead of eliminating persecution. Numerous laws degrading Jews: in 1412, laws deprived Jews and Muslims the right to hold office, bear arms, drink or eat with Christians, or change residences. Jews were required to wear hair and beards long. Initially, Conversos (Marranos) prospered, achieved high positions in court, in the church, married into important families. They converted not because of change of belief, but for physical survival while practicing secretly- keeping Kosher, observed Sabbath, Jewish holidays. Irony: Those who converted had greater hardships and persecution than Jews who remained faithful to Judaism.

They became a greater threat than Jews who never converted. After 1449, the laws extended to Conversos were worse than before; they were even forbidden to testify in court against Christians. They were considered guilty of satanic deeds (known as *blood liable*) which precipitated the 1473 riots against both the remaining practicing Jews and the conversos. The Inquisition was restored in Castile and Aragon in 1478 by Queen Isabella. Hence, witch hunts fostered searches; all citizens were required to report anyone suspected of heresy. Successful Conversos were arrested –reported anonymously. (Hitler learned well.) In 1483, Torquemada was appointed Chief Inquisitor. More than 700 Jews were burned at the stake, 5,000 received lesser punishments in the first 3 years of Inquisition, 13,000 condemned over 12 years, and all property was divided between Pope and King. This led to the **Edict of Expulsion- (Alhambra Decree): March 31, 1492:** Every Jew in Spain was forced to choose: conversion to Christianity or leaving Spain without any possessions. Deadline was August 2, 1492 (9th of Av); 150,000 Jews left Spain for Portugal but were expelled from there; went to Ottoman Empire; July 31, 1492: (7th of Av) last Jew left Spain (date unclear); perhaps August 2, 1492 (7th of Av) contradiction in dates.

Such was the world when Columbus, a man of mystery and contradictions appears next month: **History Lesson #2: A Man of Mystery: Christopher Columbus, Perhaps a Jew?**

What's
Happening in the
JRC

Rosh
Chodesh
Elul

IS COMING

REFLECT
AND
RENEW

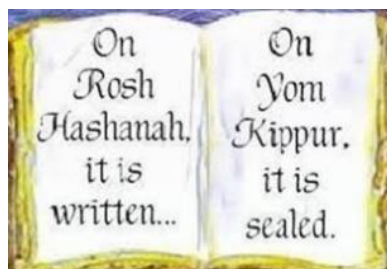
ROSH HASHANA IS COMING

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

5784 — 2023

IN THE CHAPEL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9	LEIL SELICHOT 7:30 P.M. WITH RABBI ERIC WISNIA
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15	EREV ROSH HASHANA NO SERVICES
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16	ROSH HASHANA 5784 2 P.M WITH NEIL GOLDSTEIN
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17	ROSH HASHANA II NO SERVICES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	TASHLICH 2 P.M. WITH RABBI AARON GABER
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	ROSH HASHANA DINNER IN THE KEYSTONE MULLTIPURPOSE ROOM BEGINNING 5:15 P.M.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22	SHABBAT SHUVA SERVICES, 4 P.M.— Leslie Kreithen delivering Dvar Torah
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24	EREV YOM KIPPUR KOL NIDRE 7 P.M. WITH NEIL GOLDSTEIN
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25	YOM KIPPUR, YIZKOR 2 P.M. WITH NEIL GOLDSTEIN
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29	EREV SUKKOT SERVCES 4 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL
SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 7	SUKKOT VISIT OUR SUKKUAH
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7	SHEMINI ATZERET YIZKOR SERVICES 2 P.M.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8	SIMCHAT TORAH NO SERVICES





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This year, 5783, the Board of Directors the Jewish Residents' Council would like to send wishes for a sweet, healthy, happy year to all our members from each of you. For a donation of \$5, you can be included in the list of well-wishers. Send your check for \$5 payable to JRC to Mimi Travis, JRC Treasurer and your name(s) will be listed on our New Year Card.

Please send your donation no later than August 20, 2023, to be included.

B'Shalom
Phyllis Halpern, President and the Entire Board



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