



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.

December 2023
Kislev/Tevet 5784

CHANUKAH—DECEMBER 7 THROUGH DECEMBER 15

Friday, December 1: *Shabbat* Services at 4 p. m. in the Chapel or on Channel 976 or 980

Torah Portion: *Vayishlach* Rabbi Robert Lieb of Temple Beth Am will be *davening* with us.

Monday, December 4: JOE SHRAGER MEMORIAL *TORAH* STUDY 2 p.m., Liberty Commons Art Room

Tuesday, December 5: JEWISH HERITAGE—JUDAISM TODAY, Liberty Music Room, 1 p.m.

Thursday, December 7 through Friday, December 15: *CHANUKAH*

Thursday, December 7: OUTDOOR CANDLE LIGHTING OF OUR *CHANUKIAH*, 4:15 p.m. for candle lighting, prayers and singing.

Friday, December 8: *Shabbat* Services at 4 p. m. in the Chapel or on Channel 976 or 980

Torah Portion: *Vayeshev* Jeanne Kushner will be delivering the *D'var Torah*

Monday, December 11: JOE SHRAGER MEMORIAL *TORAH* STUDY 2 p.m., Liberty Commons Art Room

Wednesday, December 13: *ROSH CHODESH TEVET*

Thursday, December 14: COMMUNITY *CHANUKAH* CANDLE LIGHTING AND PARTY

Keystone Multi-Purpose Room, 7 p.m. RSVP required.

Friday, December 15: New Member *Shabbat* Service at 4 p.m. in the Chapel or on Channel 976 or

980 *Torah* Portion: *Miketz* Steve Capin will be delivering the *D'var Torah*

Monday, December 18: JOE SHRAGER MEMORIAL *TORAH* STUDY 2 p.m., Liberty Commons Art Room

Friday, December 22: *Shabbat* Services at 4 p.m. in the Chapel or on Channel 976 or 980

Torah Portion: *Miketz* Barbara Steiner will be delivering the *D'var Torah*

Wednesday, December 27: JRC Lecture Series, Karl Middleman, Fiddlers on the Roof, Part 2

Friday December 29: *Shabbat* Services at 4 p.m. in the Chapel or on Channel 976 or 980

Torah Portion: *Vayechi* David Seltzer will be *davening* with us.

Saturday, December 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE 2024

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

BY

Gloria Bernstein

Betty & Bernard Roseman
Thelma Krefetz
Rhoda Sterling
Sheila Weiss
Janice Pincus

Nina & Belmont Haydel
René & Morton Stein
Shirley Horowitz
Florence Gendler

Joan Winokur

Sandra Berman
Sima Sussman
Rochelle Wismer & Lisa Wismer
Zelda Stern
Maxine Knesbach
Eddie Davis

BY

Lela and Donald Seidel

Laurie and Stephen Capin

Phyllis Halpern

Annette and Allen Herring
Joan Garber
Libby and Benjamin Blank

Annette & Allen Herring
Shoshana Gruen
Jan and Dick Alexander

Sandra Berman
Jacqueline Matlow
Shoshana Gruen
Delcy Weinberg
Ann Kalmanor
Vivian Spector
Joan Winokur

IN MEMORY OF

Edward Bernstein
Morris Kirshen
Martha Pasternack
Dorothy Segal
Bill Pasternack
Isadore Segal
yahrzeit of Eugene Roseman
yahrzeit of Leon Krefetz, beloved husband and father
my brother, Bobby Markowitz; thank you for mentioning his name at services
Sherry Barrish, beloved sister
David Factor
Harvey Factor
Simon Izes, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather
Samson Eisenberg, beloved father
Harold Horowitz, beloved husband
Arthur Gendler, beloved husband
Molly Miller, beloved mother
Sam Gelman, beloved grandfather
Alice Winokur Malove, beloved mother-in-law
Benjamin Gelman, beloved father
Manny Winokur, beloved husband
Anna Winokur, beloved grandmother-in-law
Ferne Sussman
Ferne Sussman
Bryna Spinell wife of Dr. Rick Spinell
Michael Yale Stern
Stanley Knesbach
Bessie Davis

IN HONOR OF

get well to Mark (Buzz) Shapiro for a speedy recovery
a speedy recovery to Ronald Rosenberg
a speedy recovery to Rona Altman
get well wishes to Rona Altman
get well wishes to Ronald Rosenberg
the birth of the great grandchildren of Tamar Adini, Joan Garber,
Mary Ann and Gary Weisser
get well wishes to Ronald Rosenberg
birth of my 30th great grandchild, Noam Amichai Dinerstein
Phyllis Halpern and the JRC Board for your outstanding efforts in providing
Ann's Choice Jewish Community an outstanding Jewish life and
environment!
get well wishes to Rona Altman
Nurit Binenbaum
our great granddaughter Jaclyn's Bat Mitzvah
Sandy Heller on becoming a first-time great grandmother
Phyllis Halpern's grandson's becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Sandy Heller's first great grandchild
being involved and a member of the JRC, a wonderful group
a very happy birthday to Mimi Travis
mazel tov to Sondra Heller and Phyllis Halpern
Roz Katz's return to good health
the mazel tov of Jacob Halpern's bar mitzvah, grandson of Phyllis Halpern
Sandy Heller's new great granddaughter

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Laurie Capin, Joyce B. Cohen, Marlene Rubenstein, Claire Goldstein, Eileen Baskin, Ruth Worms, Sue Ross, Doris Hambro, Gloria Ceaser, Michael Sultanik, Betty Roseman, Nancy Krosskove, Bernie Roseman, Vivian Spector, Barbara Stone, Lester Altman, Florence Ginsburg, Norma Snyder, Steve Binenbaum, Steve Capin, Marilyn Lashen, Stan Ziserman, Phyllis Turek, Phyllis Halpern

I want to wish everyone who is celebrating a birthday in December a **yom hu'ledet sameach**. If your name is not on the list, please let me know your birth date and you will be included next December.

****MISHEBERACH**
WE PRAY FOR HEALING**

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

*****YHRZEITS*****

During the period of **18 Kislev to 19 Tevet**, we remember our friends and family who are no longer with us:

Frances Altshul, David Carmen, Herman Cooperman, Sidney Tellis, Sandra Borocharner, Rose Kaplan, Bernard Miller, B. Meyer Simon, Elizabeth Worms, Jeanette Shapiro, Sara Erlick, Esther Olim, Harvey Steinberg, Evie Brezo, Edward Gelb, Meyer Kessler, Cheryl Beth Silverman, Michael Friedman, Melvin (Mickey) Lipman, Herbert Klein, Abraham Malenbaum, Esther Glickman, David Chary, Walter Berk, Kathryn Kesselman, Morton Katz, James Roth, Max Caroll, Max Litz, Mara Sculler, Hilda Boyer, Elfriede Franke, Louis Kaplan, Geraldine Silver, Louis Hayden, Rose Marcus, Benjamin Cohen, Ted Cooper, Oscar Salem, Sarah Salosky, Gussie Friedman, Irene Pressel, Bruce Kliman, Fannie Roseman, Rose Cohen, Alan Pilzer, Rabbi Daniel Kaplan, Isaac Carmen, Frances Cooper, Gerald Olen, Zachary Stein, Herbert Goldberg, Charles Goldsmith, Sam Grindlinger, Hyman Halpern, Albert Harrison, Ruth Shapiro, Benjamin Gelman, Steve Isaacman, Emanuel Winokur, Karen Roberson, Helen Halpern

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all of us who are born in December. What a great month for a birthday! I also want to wish everyone a **HAPPY CHANUKAH**. We will not be having a big celebration with our outdoor Chanukiah this year but it will be lit every night during Chanukah. I hope everyone enjoys our outdoor Chanukiah! Join us Wednesday, December 14, in the Keystone Multipurpose Room at 7 p.m. for a big **COMMUNITY CANDLE LIGHTING FOR CHANUKAH**. Send in your RSVP early so we can plan refreshments for the party. Please join us on December 15 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel for our **CHANUKAH NEW MEMBER SHABBAT** with special treats. I can hardly believe that in just a few weeks it will be 2024! Remember—**DUES** for the coming year, **\$10 per person!**

The year 2024 is shaping up to be an exciting year for the JRC. We have lectures, entertainment, special services, BINGO and many other exciting events planned. Please join us as often as you can. You are in for some great treats!!!!

Thank you to Doris Grossman, who diligently and lovingly provides our refreshments after all of our General Meetings.

The Board wishes a Bright and Healthy Chanukah to All the Shabbat Services Leaders: Steve Capin, René Stein, Barbara Steiner, Gertie Solkov, Mimi Travis, Gary Weisser, Mickey Sultanik, Ed Lashen, and Ellen Newman. **And All** the JRC Residents in Attendance and Watching services on TV, and everyone else.



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
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

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

What's Happening in the JRC



Mazel Tov to Great Grandmother Joan Garber who has been blessed with her 33rd great grandchild! Noam Amichai Dinerstein the is 30th one born in Israel

Mazel Tov to Great Grandparents Gary and Mary Ann Weisser, on the birth of great granddaughter Sophie Paige Feldman.

Mazel Tov to Great Grandmother Tamar Adini on the birth of her great grandson, Jacob Gabriel (*Uziel*, עוזיאל) born in Israel.



is coming
January 25, 2024

**Please volunteer to help with the preparations for the
*Tu Bishvat Seder***

**Call Barbara Steiner or Stephen Capin
if you are interested in helping us**



***BINGO IS BACK!!!
SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 11, 2024***

***We are looking for people who have contacts for prizes for
our Raffle Baskets and Door Prizes.
Let Sylvia Ziserman know if you can help us!***



Rabbi Lance Sussman, of Keneseth Israel, spoke to us in October about Jews and the American Revolution. It was a very interesting lecture with many interesting questions following the presentation. Rabbi Sussman will be back again soon!



Keith Hickman entertained us at our November General Meeting. Thank you, Doris, for the great refreshments.

The Board of Directors has decided to donate \$5000 of the monies collected for Israel to Hadassah in Israel. This is only a portion of the donations. They are still coming in! We will keep you updated on the donations to help support Israel as we make them. Thanks so much for all your support! ***Am Yisrael Chai!!*** A complet list of everyone who has generously donated to helping Israel will be listed in the January newsletter.

WOMEN'S PLACE IN THE DEFENSE OF ISRAEL

By Nina J. Haydel

As we watch the weeks of pain unfold in Israel and Gaza, we see the Israeli Army, both male and female members raise to the occasion. Against the evils of Hamas. The defense of Israel rests in the hands of dedicated soldiers, male and female, from multiple walks of life and age groups. We can't help but identify with parents and grandparents who currently watch their families torn by the need to defend Israel and its citizens.

History of Women in Israeli Military: Since its inception and to this very day, Israel is one of only ten nations that conscripts both males and females, with only Norway and Sweden with equal gender selections. The following have some differences in exemptions and length of service: Israel (women are almost 40% of those drafted yearly), of Myanmar, Eritrea, Libya, Malaysia, North Korea, Peru, Tunisia. Yet all these countries, beyond Israel do not depend so heavily on both genders, as we now see in Israel.

The history of women's conscription dates back before the formal establishment of the country in 1948. The Haganah opened its lines to "Every Jewish male or female who is prepared and trained to fulfill the obligation of national defense." In the 1940s, women filled 30% of military positions in security, weapons transport, and manned anti-aircraft posts. They often traveled from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem with weapons concealed in their clothing. Nine female platoon leaders and female squad commanders distinguished themselves during the winter of 1948.

Although women served as instructors, nurses, clerks, and telephone operators, they were occasionally trained and flew air transport missions in the 1950s. Then, rapidly growing need required greater dependency on females. During the 1973 Arab-Israeli War, women filled the field positions. In 1986, Amira Dotan became the first female Brigadier General, and ICF female captain Or, Na'aman ordered the Patriot Missile battery against Syria's drones. In 2001, Roni Zuckerman was the first female Israeli fighter pilot, leading to full-fledged body of women fighter pilots and combat soldiers by 2006 Lebanon War.

The year 2011 provided many changes and openings for Israeli female warriors. Two women were elevated to positions on the General Staff and in 2014, several other changes occurred: Oshrat Bacher received the appointment as Israel's first female combat-battalion commander; the first female doctor was appointed to an elite unit; female *kashrut* supervisors worked in kitchens on military basis. The Caracal Battalion, in which 70% of the troops were women combatants, reached prominence in battle, and women serve as tank crews in Israel border defense until today, along Egypt and Jordan borders.

Service Requirements: In the event you are interested in joining the IDF, the following are the standards which you must follow: Mandatory service for Jewish-Israeli women is 24 months, but certain specific roles require 30 months. Females who arrive in Israel at or after age 17 are generally exempt from conscription, but they may volunteer. In 2013, a transgender woman served in the military as a female soldier. In 2020, 55% of eligible women were drafted into Israel Defense Forces (IDF); 35% were exempted for religious (Orthodox) reasons.

Exemption Requirements: Religious exemptions are available for those who feel they cannot participate: Marriage, pregnancy, motherhood, maintaining laws of *Kashrut*, no travel on *Shabbat*. Today, women in Israel have the option of applying for those previous listed exemptions when

called into service. Initially, those who have valid reasons are directed into a service called *Sherut Leumi*, a combat support alternative that is particularly popular with Arab women citizens. As of 2022, IDF had 169,500 active troops and was the 28th largest military in the world. It also has 465,000 reserve personnel who are added to the force in times of need, like today!

The Caracal Battalion (33rd Battalion): This famous coed infantry battalion in the Israel Defense Forces is part of the Sagi Regional Brigade in the Southern Command. The battalion badge bears the Caracal cat and a sickle and sword to symbolize the connection between the two groups. It is comprised of one-third men and two-thirds women. As of 2021, the battalion has drawn volunteer female soldiers from Los Angeles, New York in North America and Montreal and Ottawa in Canada. Their uniform includes a light green beret and red boots.

One of the many questions in the battle-hardened, male-dominated military that creep into a conversation about women warriors is whether men fully trust women with their lives. Israel has examined the work of the Caracal Battalion and concluded that the women have performed in an outstanding fashion. In fact, nearly 50% of current Israeli lieutenants and captains are women. According to Captain Yaron Eyal, "I really, really trust them...to watch my back...."

Today's Military: Today, although nearly 50% of the IDF's lieutenants and captains are women, males still dominate the upper echelons of the military. The highest-ranking female officer in 2023 is a major general in charge of personnel. But it seems to be understood that chief of staff will always be a man. According to Miri Eisen, retired colonel, after 20 years in the military: "We won't have a female chief of staff. The glass ceiling is there for a variety of reasons," Eisen says. "The military is a boys' club. I think every military is a boy's club. It's still a majority of men who are going to choose that way of life."

So, folks, join me with prayers and appreciation for the women and, of course, the men who are dedicated to destroying Hamas and all those who perpetrate hate and destruction in Israel.



Sgt. Leora Prince (left) said switching to the Caracal battalion and taking on a more hands-on combat position was the best decision she'd ever made. She is shown here with her commanding officer, Capt. Yaron Eyal, near Eilat, along Israel's border with Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. *Larry Abramson/NP*