



B'NAI BRITH
Banner
March, 2011

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Our Mission

Our mission is simple Be nice, Be professional, Be attentive, Be creative, Show appreciation and when you have a chance be a Hero.

Darlene's Corner



I am excited to begin my job at B'nai Brith as your new activities coordinator. I look forward to getting to know all of you and finding out what your interests are.

For those who have not yet met me I will be working in the building on Tuesday's from 9:30-2:30. Please feel free to leave a message for me at the office if you need to reach me on a different day.

In the past I have enjoyed working with the young as well as the young at heart. I truly look forward to getting to know all of you so I can better understand the needs and wants of the B'nai Brith Community.

Please know my door is always open. My wish is that this be the start of our wonderful adventure together!

A MESSAGE FROM BRYNA

Spring is around the corner, March 20 is the first day, hooray! It has been a long snowy and cold winter. Hopefully spring flowers will start to bloom as the remainder of the snow keeps melting.

The Jewish **Purim** holiday of Purim also starts on March 20. As a child it was one of my favorite holidays. We attended a Purim spiel, which is a comedic dramatization that tells the story of Purim. We loved making noise with the grager, which is a noise maker, whenever Haman's name was said.

The story of Purim is told in the Biblical book of Esther. The heroes of the story are Esther, a beautiful young Jewish woman living in Persia, and her cousin Mordecai, who raised her as if she were his daughter. Esther was taken to the house of Ahasuerus, King of Persia, to become part of his harem. King Ahasuerus loved Esther more than his other women and made Esther queen, but the king did not know that Esther was a Jew, because Mordecai told her not to reveal her identity.

The villain of the story is Haman, an arrogant, egotistical advisor to the king. Haman hated Mordecai because Mordecai refused to bow down to Haman, so Haman plotted to destroy the Jewish people. In a speech that is all too familiar to con't on pg. 4 **PURIM**



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March is Women's History Month



In March we celebrate women's history. We remember important women such as Sandra Day O'Connor, Amelia Earhart, Sally Ride and a great deal of other important women who have made a difference in the world in which we live. But this article is going to celebrate the unsung female heroes. The women who share their time and talent with others on a daily basis. Women who we refer to as Mom, Mother, or Mamma.

From the moment a woman becomes a mother she gives everything to her children. Her love, her laughter, her tears and her joy. She will nurse the wounds of her child with band aides, kisses, and home-made cookies. Her 40 year old son will never be too old to learn a lesson that his mother needs to teach, and he will always be her baby.

So as we celebrate Women's History Month let us remember all of the unsung heroes who have made a difference in the lives of their children, and the world around them. Please take this opportunity to thank any Mom you may know for making the world a better place

March Happenings

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-  **March 1** :Bob Gold's Presentation of Bennny Goodman Films 
-  **March 7** :Trip to Sharey Tefilo-Israel 
-  **March 10** :Trip to Morristown Museum to explore the Teapot Exhibit 
-  **March 17** :Judith Ebright Presents a discussion of Late Renoir from the Philadelphia Museum 
-  **March 31** : Film Festival will be held at JCC in West Orange 
-  In April Passover will be celebrated please contact Darlene for information about 
-  special events that will be held . 
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Case Management Services

On the calendar:

Tuesday March 2 at 3:30pm
MetroWest Housecalls Program
“Coping with Diversity in a
Community “

Will be presented by
Marnie Kean, our Social Worker

Wed. Feb. 23 at 3:30
Debbie Lesser, CSW, Case Manager with Jewish Family Service, will be coming to B'nai Brith once a week to help you with entitlements, including energy bills, medication, homecare, etc. She will have her first meeting with the tenants on **Wed. Feb. 23 at 3:30** please come to meet and greet her!

Women’s History Quiz

1. Which of these women aviators disappeared while attempting to fly around the world

- A. *Amelia Earhart*
- B. *Anne Marrolas Lindbergh*
- C. *Beryle Markham*

2. Who was the first woman Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court

- A. *Ruth Bader Ginsburg*
- B. *Sandra Day OConnor*
- C. *Eleanor Roosevelt*

3. What prestigious university named its first woman president in 2007?

- A. *Harvard*
- B. *Yale*
- C. *Princeton*

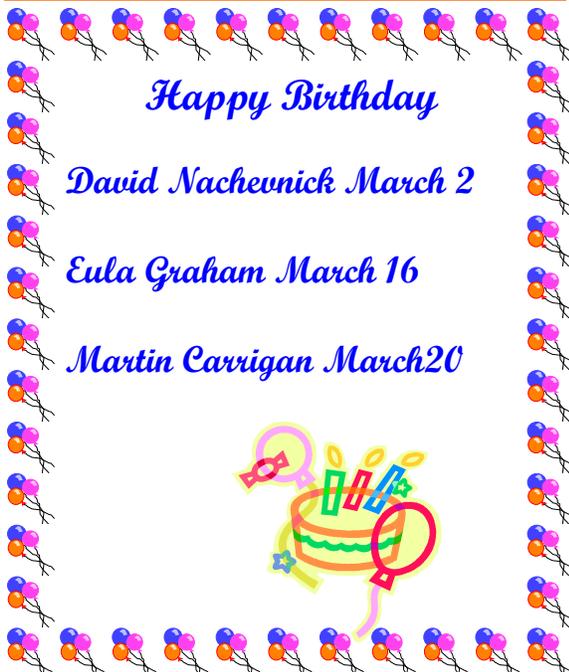
4. Who was the first American woman in space?

- A. *Mae Jamison*
- B. *Sally Ride*
- C. *Eileen Collins*

5. This singer was known as Empress of the Blues.

- A. *Betty Carter*
- B. *Billie Holiday*
- C. *Mildred Bailey*

See answers in the April Newsletter



Happy Birthday

David Nachevnick March 2

Eula Graham March 16

Martin Carrigan March 20



Purim



Jews, Haman told the king. "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your realm. Their laws are different from those of every other people's, and they do not observe the king's laws; therefore, it is not befitting the king to tolerate them" Esther 3:8 . The king gave the fate of the Jewish people to Haman, to do as he pleased to them. Haman planned to exterminate all of the Jews. Mordecai persuaded Esther to speak to the king on behalf of the Jewish people. This was a dangerous thing for Esther to do, because anyone who came into the king's presence without being summoned could be put to death, and she had not been summoned. Esther fasted for three days to prepare herself, then went into the king. He welcomed her. Later, she told him of Haman's plot against her people. The Jewish people were saved, and Haman and his ten sons were hanged on the gallows that had been prepared for Mordecai.

The book of Esther is unusual in that it is the only book of the Bible that does not contain the name of G-d. In fact, it includes virtually no reference to G-d. Mordecai makes a vague reference to the fact that the Jews will be saved by someone else, if not by Esther, but that is the closest the book comes to mentioning G-d. Thus, one important message that can be gained from the story of G-d often works in ways that are not apparent, in ways that

appear to be chance, coincidence or ordinary good luck.

The word "Purim" means "lots" and refers to the lottery that Haman used to choose the date for the massacre. The Purim holiday is preceded by a minor fast, the Fast of Esther, which commemorates Esther's three days of fasting in preparation for her meeting with the king. The primary commandment related to Purim is to hear the reading of the book of Esther. The book of Esther is commonly known as the Megillah, which means scroll. This is the one people usually mean when they speak of The Megillah. It is customary to boo, hiss, stamp feet and rattle gragers whenever the name of Haman is mentioned in the service. The purpose of this custom is to "blot out the name of Haman". We are also commanded to eat, drink, and be merry. In addition, we are commanded to send out gifts of food or drink, and to make gifts to charity. The sending of gifts of food and drink is referred to as shalach manos (lit. sending out portions). Among Ashkenazic Jews, a common treat at this time of year is hamantaschen (lit. Haman's pockets). These triangular fruit-filled cookies are supposed to represent Haman's three-cornered hat.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone Happy Purim. Carolyn, Darlene, & Lincoln also wish you the same.



Bryna



Welcome Darlene

Darlene is our new Activities Coordinator. We had a Greet and Meet on February 7, Darlene got to meet quite a few residents. Darlene was very happy that she got the opportunity to spend some time talking with the residents about the activities that they enjoy. Darlene will be planning many new activities as well as the old tried and true ones. We all wish Darlene many happy years at B'nai Brith.