

Where What When and Why

By Bea Freiheiter

Where does a rainbow come from? Is someone painting the sky?

And that loud clap of thunder, Is someone bowling nearby?

The lightening bolt that cracks and crashes,

Is someone giving signals with its flashes?

The winds that howl and let out a sigh,

Is someone in pain and beginning to cry?

The icy crystals that create a pattern,

Do they resemble Jupiter and Saturn?

The rain drops that gently fall one by one,

Is it a huge river when they are done?

The mist and the dew that appear every day,

Is nature watering the plants in a special way?

What makes the fog so difficult to see?

Is it so that we should drive carefully?

What makes the stars twinkle at night?

Is it to guide the moon on its flight?

All these magical, mystical signals, leave us with many questions,

For us to ponder and think about, and hopefully digest them.



Come and Join Us for

Thinking About Tzedakah:

Getting the Most Out of Your Charitable Giving

Sunday, March 18, 2012

2:00 p.m.

Heller Multi-Purpose Room

Featuring Presentations by:

Anat Becker, Director of Gift Planning, St. Joseph's University, former Executive Director of the Jewish Community Foundation of MetroWest and **Adam M. Grenker**, Esq., Attorney at Law, Fox Rothschild LLP

If you have any questions about the Planned Giving seminar, please contact JCHC CEO Harold Colton-Max by phone at 973-530-3961 or by e-mail at haroldc@jchcorp.org.

Additional information will be posted throughout the building.

THE LESTER SENIOR HOUSING COMMUNITY

903 - 905 ROUTE 10 EAST
WHIPPANY NJ 07981
973-929-2700



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We're on the Web
www.jchcorp.org

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The Lester Chronicle

March 2012

How Lester Celebrates Tu B'Shevat

Jessica Kolton

On February 8th Jews around the world celebrated the holiday of Tu B'Shevat. The holiday is considered to be the new year for trees, a Jewish arbor day, but Tu B'Shevat literally means the 15th of the Jewish month *Shevat*.

Many people make donations to the Jewish National Fund to plant trees as observance of the day, residents of Lester Senior Housing also made a generous contribution. Spearheaded by Frances Goroll and Dolly Moser, our residents contributed donations to plant 20 trees in Israel! Lester's campaigners for this effort were wonderfully inspired by a session of Lester's Life Long Learning Program on the Jewish Calendar and Life Cycle with Chaim Lauer.

Beyond the traditional celebration, Lester had a Tu B'Shevat seder - yes you read correctly a seder! The tradition of a seder for the holiday of Tu B'Shevat began in the 17th century by the Kabbalists, the Jewish mystics of Safed, Israel.

Modeled on the Passover seder, the Tu B'Shevat seder includes drinking four cups of wine (or grape juice) with varying percentages of red and white wine, believed to represent the shifting of yearly seasons. The seder also includes readings on trees and fruit from a range of Jewish literature.

The new form of celebration spread from Safed to Sephardi communities in Turkey, Italy and Greece, and later in Europe, Asia and North Africa. The Tu B'Shevat seder is now becoming a popular part of American festivities.

Residents that participated in the seder declared the program a magnificent event, with the Heller Multi-Purpose room filled with people excited to learn about the Seven Species recognized.

Plates filled with a variety of fruits, nuts, and grains sated appetites as well as hungry Jewish minds.

Did You Know?

Purim is one of the only Jewish holidays not commanded in the Torah?

The holiday can trace its roots to the Talmudic period. The earliest known celebration of Purim was in the 2nd century CE.



Administrator's Corner

March 2012



BIRTHDAYS

- Nanette Giller
- Ruth Lebowitz
- Netka Geldzahler
- Ruth Cohen
- Helen Heller
- Dorothy Delinko
- Meryl Reiter
- Harold Siegel
- Joseph Naples
- Fanya Gonski
- Mildred Spiel
- Dorothy Brickel
- Alice Szylit
- Marcella Weinberg
- Nellie Morris
- Sylvia Zyto

To all of our residents who are celebrating their birthdays this month we would like to wish you peace and blessings, this year and always from the staff at Lester.



Did You Know?

The Book of Esther is the only holy Jewish book that does not ever mention G-d's name?

Connected to the observances and traditions taught in the Megillah of Queen Esther and Mordechai is the Mitzvah of giving a gift to friends.

In that spirit, watch for a "special delivery" to your apartment following services and the reading of the Megillah on Thursday, March 8th.

-A gift from your Lester Congregation

May you enjoy a *Freilechen*, Happy and Meaningful Purim!

(See your monthly calendar for the complete Holiday schedule)

ize this is being done out of concern for fire safety.

As planned, the hot water supply system in the Heller building has been upgraded and replaced late this past month. Once again I thank you for your patience and understanding as we installed this new system. Also, I'm pleased to announce that after a year long hiatus we have resumed the Blood Pressure Screenings – these will take place at 10AM on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Exercise Room on the second floor. These screenings are free of charge and are being offered to you as a convenience and added service.

Lastly, I'm pleased to announce the hire of Barbara Knopf as the new Marketing & Admissions Manger and of Heather Roman as the new Social Worker for the Weston Assisted Living Residence. Please feel free to stop by and introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, comments, compliments and/or concerns. I can be reached at 973-929-2747. You should also feel free to stop by the Administration offices if you would like to meet with me.

See you around the halls,
Alex Gross
Administrator



New Resident Welcomes

- Nanette Giller Apt. 4-A
- Ruth Rosen Apt. 5-M
- Alice & Alfred Szylit Apt. 416
- Sylvia Cherna Apt. 305
- Ray Shapiro Apt. 602

To all of Lester's new residents we would like to wish you a warm welcome, and *Bruchim Ha Ba'im*.

JCHC Tribute Cards are now available!

Send cards to family and friends and support JCHC
Get Well cards /Mazel Tov cards
In Memoriam cards/Blank cards
Cards can be purchased at the Business office or call Marcia at (973) 530-3966

Hurray for Hats

A New L&M Production

Excitement! Another Lester Theatrical Production in Development

Did you find some hats? -- From your current wardrobe? From your wedding going away outfit? The children's (or grandchildren's) Bar and Bat Mitzvah services? Perhaps graduation programs or luncheons, theater shows, back in the days when we *all* wore hats at the time?

Have you looked through the photographs from our younger years and found some "hatted" pictures of you, your parents, even your grandparents? All of these items are vitally needed as the integral parts for our production.

Please bring your precious, clearly identified items to Anne Lipman or Dolly Moser, or leave them at the Heller Concierge Desk as soon as possible, they will be our inspiration!

Lester Congregation

Life Cycle Kiddush

will be on Saturday, March 10th
&
Saturday, March 24th

Kiddushim will be immediately following Shabbat morning services

If you have not already filled out a Yartzeit information form, please contact Estelle Berger, Rae Benet, or Dr. Mervin Eisenberg (for Heller residents), or Bea Freiteiter, Teddy Halpern or Helen Heller (for Weston residents).



Along with JCHC providing weekly shopping trips, let your fingers do the shopping! Below is a list of local options for home delivery of groceries.

Shoprte.com

Delivers to Whippany from the Parsippany Store

No group rates

Delivery fee: \$6.95

Shopping fee: \$10

Peapod.com

Shopping fee: under \$100 is \$9.95

Minimum order: \$60



I Love You

Love is a many splendid thing; it is the what and why.
Love makes the world go round in a breathtaking pace,
even if you're not in a race
Brace yourself because it will catch up with you and you
will be involved
Love is to be loved and to love
Without love you are missing; love is all there is and all
there is, is love
Love is many forms and configurations
Love makes the world go round, and round, and round.

Created by the participants of Talkin' Poetry with Paul on February 3, 2012.