# JEWISH COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION OF METROPOLITAN NEW JERSEY

#### **March 2014**

# B'nai B'rith Banner

#### **PURIM March 16, 2014**

Purim is a festive Jewish holiday recounting the deliverance of the Jewish people from extermination plot by Haman the Agagite. It is an annual celebration held every 14th of *Adar*, or *Adar II* in leap years, which is a month in the Hebrew calendar.

Purim is also a day when the Jewish people perform various merry-making activities like plays, pageants and masquerades. Wearing masks and various costumes are popular and some communities even allow cross-dressing, seeing it as in spirit with the jovial theme of the holiday. On Wednesday, March 12 the residents will celebrate the upcoming PURIM holiday with Rabbi Jay, it will be a festive day!

## A message from Bryna

Spring is around the corner on March 20. It has been a long and cold winter. Hopefully the flowers will bloom and the last of the snow will fade away.

Purim starts on the evening of March 15h. As a child it was one of my favorite holidays. We attended a Purim spiel which is a comedic dramatization that told the story of Purim. We loved making noise with the grager whenever Haman's name was said.

I see that we are getting a nice group twice a month for the Congregate lunches. It's a great time to visit with your neighbors and enjoy a great meal. I've heard that the food is delicious.

We send out notices every month with the menu and schedule. If you haven't been able to join us, try and join us for one of the meals and let me know if how it was.

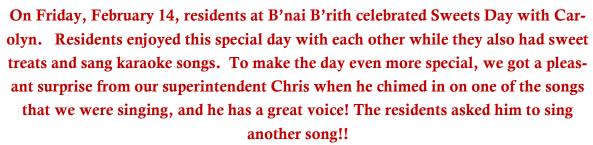
My door is always open or you can call me at 973-530-3950.

Bryna



#### "Sweets Day" at B'nai B'rith







Thanks to all the residents who attended to make this a wonderful day!!!







Resident Service Schedule @ B'nai B'rith

Congregate Brunch served on Sundays @ 11:00 am

Rabbi will be here on Wednesdays @ 1pm

**New Hours:** 

Marnie Kean, Social Worker will be here Thursday 1-3 & Fri. 9-3

Office Hours: M-Thu 9-5 Fri. 9-4

David Nachevnik 03/02

Eula Graham 03/16

Martin Carrigan 03/20

Edward Rybnick 03/25







# A Purim Word Hunt

Find the words listed below hidden in the grid of letters.

(One example is done for you). Words appear horizontally, vertically and diagonally. The leftover letters spell out a sentence.

Adar festival mishloach Ahasuerus gallows manot banquet Mordecai gragger bow Haman Persia plot Hamantaschen charity Purim costume Jew: decree king queen lots Shushan drinking Esther mask spiel Vashti feast Megillah



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#### As we welcome Spring!!! March 20, 2014



"March bustles in on windy feet
And sweeps my doorstep and my street.
She washes and cleans with pounding rains,
Scrubbing the earth of winter stains.
She shakes the grime from carpet green

Till naught but fresh new blades are seen.
Then, house in order, all neat as a pin,
She ushers gentle springtime in."



#### GO RED WEAR RED FOR AMERICAN HEART MONTH

Heart Disease is the No. 1 killer of Women in the United States, claiming more lives than all forms of cancer combined.

On Wednesday, February 26 at 3:00 pm in our Community Room, Ms. Claudia Irmiere, RN, CCRN, APN a clinical nurse specialist from the Heart Center at Saint Barnabas Hospital spoke to us about the importance of recognizing the signs and symptoms of a heart attack especially in women, as women's signs and symptoms are not necessarily the same as a man's. Everyone said it was a very informative presentation.







### MARCH 2014 HAPPENINGS

March 3 JCHC UNIVERSITY presentation at Lester Housing "Update on the Middle East"

March 4,18,25 (Tuesday) grocery shopping
March 10 (Monday) grocery shopping
March 5 Essex Green

**March 6 Super Wal-Mart in Kearny** 

March 7 Current Events/Arts & Crafts in the Community Room

**March 9 Daylight Savings Time** 

March 10 Monday, Grocery Shopping changed from Tuesday

March 11 1 Billion rising for Justice at the West Orange Armory

March 12 Paramus Park Mall/LL Bean

**March 12 Purim Celebration with Rabbi Jay** 

March 14 Newark Museum "Norman Rockwell Exhibit"

**March 17 Livingston Mall** 

March 19 Mr. Chu's Chinese Restaurant

March 20 First Day of Spring

Trip to Plaza to learn how to bake MATZOH

March 21 Current Events/Arts & Crafts

March 24 Trader Joe's Florham Park

March 26 JCC Passover Lunch & Program

March 27 Menlo Park Mall & lunch at Rainforest Cafe

March 28 Current Events/Arts & Crafts

March 31 Essex Green

"O Wind, if winter comes, can spring be far behind?" (Percy Bysshe Shelley) How we all long for spring! It seems that this year the mounds of icy snow are higher and more stubborn, the sidewalks and roads more slippery than ever before! We try to think positively and there have been a few bright spots this month.

We thank our building manager Bryna for getting the big tuck back to scrape the parking lot and move the snow so we could get to our cars, and faithful Chris, our super, who clears and de-ices the walkways on the heels of every storm. Our activities coordinator Carolyn has been busy as always and surprised us with a Sweets Day party on February 14. These bright spots certainly make the winter more bearable. And the longer and longer hours of daylight are most welcome. On March 9th our clocks spring forward one hour to begin daylight savings time. On March 20th we finally welcome spring! So whatever more there is of winter, we know that spring is waiting at the door. There will soon be crocuses eager to start the beautiful transformation of the landscape! We were blessed to have had no power outage and no problems with heating, as so many in our surrounding area have had during this fierce winter.

Though some of our planned trips had to be cancelled or postponed, Carolyn and Bryna have seen to it that we celebrated Super Bowl Sunday, a special day of remembrance for Black History Month, the Sweets Day party and a special speaker, Claudia Irmiere, RN, who spoke to us knowledgeably about heart health. Always we appreciate the access to lots of movies, the good oldies as well as the new.

More and more of us are enjoying the twice-a month congregate meals, which are tasty and satisfying. They've been a big help, particularly since it's been so difficult to get out to shop. Many thanks!

The next meeting of the Residents' Association is scheduled for the third Tuesday, March 18th, at 7:00 pm in the Community Room. See you there? All residents are welcome. There are always refreshments to munch on and it's a good time to get to know your neighbors and make new friends.

Lavinia A. Walker, co-president of the Residents' Association

# Celebrating March

2 Read across America Day

9 Daylight Saving Time Begins

16 Palm Sunday

16 Purim

20 Spring begins

23 Easter

3 JCHC University @ Lester

11 1 Billion Rising for Justice

12 Purim Celebration w/Rabbi Jay

13 Poster Exhibit & lunch

14 Norman Rockwell @ the Newark Museum trip

Remember to turn your clocks Forward 1 hour on Sunday March 9



# A look ahead in April

1 Richard Stillman entertains at the Residents' Association meeting

8 Cherry Blossom time @ Branch Brook park (trip)

14 Passover begins at sundown