

Village Press

The Newsletter for Village Apartments



Celebrating December

Bingo's Birthday Month

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

Cookie Cutter Week

December 1-7

Miners' Day

December 6

Nobel Prize Day

December 10

Underdog Day

December 16

Hanukkah Begins

December 24

Christmas

December 25

Kwanzaa Begins

December 26

No Interruptions Day

December 30

As Good as Gold

It is said that all that glitters is not gold, and in the case of Hanukkah, the gold that glitters are the gold foil-wrapped chocolate coins known as *gelt*. While gifts of chocolate may delight children, the act of gifting money stems from storied Jewish traditions.

Hanukkah is known as the Festival of Lights for the ritual lighting of the eight-branched menorah. It is written in the Talmud that the Hanukkah lights are sacred reminders of the miracle of the oil and cannot be used for any other purpose. The Talmudic example given is that one cannot count money by its light. Giving out Hanukkah money—and *not* counting it near the menorah—serves as a powerful reminder of this Hanukkah teaching.

Another teaching from the Talmud states the importance of helping the poor buy Hanukkah candles. The custom of giving gelt (not the chocolate kind, of course) enabled the poor to celebrate Hanukkah with dignity.

According to Gina Glasman, professor of Judaic studies, another origin of Hanukkah gelt stems from the end-of-year practice of tipping. Kosher butchers, teachers of Jewish studies, and even the person who knocked on your door to wake you up for prayers all received a little extra during Hanukkah.

Hanukkah, first and foremost, commemorates the victory of the Jewish freedom fighters, the Macabees, against Antiochus, who wanted to convert the Jews to Hellenism. The Macabees fought to both reclaim their temple, which had been desecrated by the Greeks, as well as their culture. The Greeks had impressed upon the Jews the importance of accumulating wealth for status and power. Hanukkah gelt is a reminder that money should not be earned for selfish reasons but instead be used as another means to achieve spiritual ends.

While the giving of chocolate gelt to children may be criticized as an "Americanization" of Hanukkah, the practice still offers many powerful history lessons.



Manager's Corner



**Just a
reminder...**

The Village Apartment's Kosher Lunch Club Program - 12:00 pm

Join our new Lunch Program and enjoy three delicious and nutritious Kosher meals per week. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for a low cost of only \$95.00 per month.



Sign up. Eat. Enjoy!



Happy New Year!

**Warmest Thoughts and Best Wishes for a Wonderful
Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year.**

DECEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Tenant Association Meeting
- Religious Services
- Dealing with Life Transitions: Kathleen Sliver of JFS
- Hirschhorn: Sing-Along with Great Jewish Songwriters by Melissa Schaffer
- Burlington Coat Factory & Pancake House
- JCHC University: Self Defense with Mark Grebenau at Plaza
- Poetry Workshop
- Art with Anna
- Rt 10 Shopping & Farmer's Market
- Liberty Hall Museum
- Walmart & Rt 22 Shopping
- Exercise with Tami
- Trader Joes, Florham Park
- JCC Hanukkah Celebration
- Celebration of Winter with Patricia Walton
- Live Music with Carol Erickson
- Whole Foods & Target
- Lunch at Hobby's
- Tenant Association Holiday Party
- Sands Casino
- Senior TV Movie

Please check your calendar for dates and times of all events.

Happy December Birthday



December 03 – Florence Rothman
December 06 – Elliot Bender
December 12 – Murray Burn
December 12 – Joan Finkelstein
December 18 – Shirley Gordon
December 22 – Esther Netkin
December 25 – Bohuslava Reiss
December 25 – Richard Kestenbaum

Traveling Stage Theatre: The Harry Houdini Experience featured magician Michael Healy.



Roberta Atti presented JCHC University Nutrition & Wellness Q&A.



DECEMBER 2016 VILLAGE Calendar Subject to Change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:15 EXERCISE 10:30 Essex Green 12:00 Congregate Lunch 7:00 Tenant Meeting	2 9:30 Dealing with Life Transitions-JFS 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 1:30 RELIGIOUS SERVICE 7:00 TENANT MEETING	3
4 1:30 MOVIE 7:00 MOVIE	5 10:30 Livingston & Shorthills Mall's 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 2:00 Exercise with Tami	6 9:15 Exercise 10:00 Shopping 12:00 Congregate Lunch 1:00 Bridge 2:30 Floral Design Workshop 5:30 Hirschhorn: Sing-along with Great Jewish Songwriters- Melissa Schaffer 7:00 Movie	7 10:30 Burlington Coat & Pancake House 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 2:00 CURRENT EVENTS 3:00 75 th Anniversary Pearl Harbor Day discussion with resident Richard Bliwise 4:00 KNITTING CLUB	8 8:30 Sand's Casino 9:15 EXERCISE 12:00 Congregate Lunch 7:00 BINGO	9 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 1:30 RELIGIOUS SERVICE	10
11 1:30 MOVIE 7:00 MOVIE	12 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 1:30 JCHC University "Self Defense" with Mark Grebenau @ Plaza 2:00 Exercise with Tami	13 9:15 Exercise 10:00 Shopping 12:00 Congregate Lunch 1:00 Bridge 5:30 Poetry Workshop 7:00 Movie	14 10:30 Rt 10 Shopping & Farmers Market 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 2:00 CURRENT EVENTS 4:00 KNITTING CLUB	15 9:15 EXERCISE 10:30 Liberty Hall Museum in Union 12:00 Congregate Lunch 7:00 BINGO	16 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 1:30 RELIGIOUS SERVICE	17 8:00 Senior TV Movie
18 10:30 Kid's Cookie's n' Concerts: Beth- El Hebrew School 1:30 MOVIE 7:00 MOVIE 8:00 Senior TV Movie	19 10:30 Christmas Tree Shop, Walmart Panera & Rt 22 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 2:00 Exercise with Tami	20 9:15 Exercise 10:00 Shopping 12:00 Congregate Lunch 1:00 Bridge 5:30 Crossword Fun 7:00 Movie	21 10:30 Trader Joe's Florham Park 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 2:00 CURRENT EVENTS 4:00 KNITTING CLUB 5:30 Winter Celebration featuring Patricia Walton	22 9:15 EXERCISE 11:00 JCC Hanukkah Concert 12:00 Congregate Lunch 7:00 BINGO	23 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 1:30 RELIGIOUS SERVICE	24
25 Hanukkah, 1 st Day Christmas Office & Dining Room Closed	26 Hanukkah, 2nd Day Christmas Day Observed Office & Dining Room Closed	27 Hanukkah, 3rd Day 9:15 Exercise 10:00 Shopping 12:00 Congregate Lunch 1:00 Bridge 5:30 Live music with Carol Erickson 7:00 Movie	28 Hanukkah, 4th Day 10:15 Whole Foods & Target in Union 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 2:00 CURRENT EVENTS 4:00 KNITTING CLUB	29 Hanukkah, 5th Day 9:15 EXERCISE 11:15 Lunch at Hobby's in Newark 12:00 Congregate Lunch 8:00 Tenant Association Holiday Party- Roaring 20's Theme	30 Hanukkah, 6th Day 12:00 LUNCH CLUB 1:30 RELIGIOUS SERVICE	31 Hanukkah, 7th Day New Year's Eve 