



Hillel Lipson
Executive Director

The month of December marks the end of the secular calendar. It is a month of reflection over the past year and enthusiasm for the coming one.

We will also be celebrating the holiday of Chanukah. A holiday that brings family together for eight days and nights. The family of Park Plaza...residents, relatives, and staff will be celebrating each night and day with candle lighting, festive

food, singing, games of dreidel, activities, and most importantly each other; a truly wonderful way to finish 2024.

I look forward to entering 2025 with all of you (and maybe a few more residents), cannot await the challenges, experiences, and special moments, that we will have together.

Let's end 2024 with some smiles and Chanukah humor.

Chag Chanukah Sameach

Am Yisrael Chai – Bring Them Home

Ella goes to the post office to buy stamps (she was hoping for funny stamps) for her Hanukkah cards and she says to the cashier, "Can I have 50 Hanukkah stamps?"

The cashier asks, "What denomination?"

"Oy vey, has it come to this?" Ella asks. "OK, give me three Orthodox, ten Conservative, and twenty Reform."

Shabbat Times

December

Candle Lighting

Havdalah

12/6 - 12/7

3:59 - 4:19 pm

5:06 pm

12/13 - 12/14

3:59 - 4:19 pm

5:07 pm

12/20 - 12/21

4:02 - 4:22 pm

5:10 pm

12/27 - 12/28

4:06 - 4:26 pm

5:14 pm

Announcements

December Birthdays

Simi Shandalov	12/3
Marvin Cohen	12/3
Ruth Shayman	12/8
Bea Wyetzner	12/9
David Nathan	12/9
Sarah Baver	12/9
Roberta Lavi	12/12
Sol Rosen	12/18
Jerome Hershtein	12/25
Sharon Skidelsky	12/27
Bernard Bromberg	12/29











Welcome to Park Plaza

Nancy Lamm
Phyllis Kaplan

Condolences

Bette Anderson and family on the passing of her son-in-law

Mazel Tov

-  Seymour Lepp on the marriage of his great-granddaughter, the engagement of another great-granddaughter, the engagement of his great-grandson, and the marriage of another great-grandson
-  Ethel Silverstein on the engagement of her granddaughter
-  Susan & Lothar Kahn on the birth of a great, granddaughter
-  Esther Cardash on the birth of a great grandson
-  Lee Glickman on the birth of a great grandson
-  Fievel and Carol Rosen on the birth of a granddaughter
-  Mimi Lederman on the birth of a great granddaughter
-  Leona Molotsky on the double engagements of her granddaughters
-  Chava and Walter Richtman on the birth of a great-granddaughter
-  Volunteer Shelly Kleinman and Activities Coordinator Sara Kleinman-Blau on the birth of a grandson/nephew

Happy Chanukah!!

Using Our Voices

Why Sing?

Singing makes us feel good; our mood is elevated, and our body is releasing dopamine and endorphins. Even deeper than that, when we are singing together, we are developing rich connections with one another.

Researchers have established that community singing promotes an “icebreaker” effect. Singing allows groups of people to socially bond faster than any other activity.



Music Director
Lindsey Baer

When we learn a new song cognitively, we are giving our brain a workout, and the result can be very satisfying! If we are singing a song that we already know, it can instantly take us back to a moment in time where we can vividly remember details, people, and even smells. It can stir up emotions of joy and sorrow. Music can touch a part of us that nothing else can reach.

When we sing together, our individual voice is lost in the collective, and we don't have to feel self-conscious: we are part of something greater.

Here at Park Plaza, we offer many different programs to use your voice. Come to the choir to learn about vocal health and learn new music. If you are feeling more nostalgic, come to the sing-along, where we sing all the tunes that stir up memories from our youth. There is also a musical Oneg offered on Friday with Rabbi Allen, where we lift our voices together before Sabbath. Whatever program feels right for you, singing together will always pull us closer.

In music,
Lindsey Baer,
Director of Music



From the Rabbi's Desk



Rabbi
Eitan Allen

At the end of the month, we will celebrate Chanukah. It will be a joyous celebration filled with light, love and laughter. We will reconnect with the spirit of miracles and deepen our faith that Hashem watches over us wherever we may be. It is wondrous to behold the beautiful flames of the candles dancing together as each night the numbers increase. Please join us for our group candle lighting every night after dinner.

The second day, Shabbos, will coincide with Chanukah. Our lighting will be early so we can light the Chanukah candles

before Shabbos is upon us and we can no longer light candles. There is an interesting question Rabbis raise this time of year, suppose someone can only afford to buy one candle. He can either light that candle and fulfill the mitzvah of lighting Chanukah candles or he can use that one candle to light a Shabbos candle, what should he do? Which mitzvah takes precedence? Does the miracle of Chanukah go first or should he favor the sanctity of the Shabbos candle? The great Maimonides rules that Shabbos candles come first because Shabbos represents peace in the home and peace is such an important value that it trumps even the mitzvah of Chanukah. In fact, he says the very foundation of the whole Torah is peace.

We should reflect on the profundity of this statement. We all are gladdened by the Jews' miraculous victory over the Syrian Greek army, but our celebration and fulfillment of Chanukah give way when it comes to the peace of Shabbos. We certainly value the Maccabees' military victory and celebrate the miracle, but the ability to have peace in the home is even more valuable.

There is something special about the peace and quiet of a winter Shabbos. As we light our Shabbat candles throughout December let us reflect on the beauty of peace and the gift God has bestowed upon us in the Shabbos. Let us hold close to friends and family and let us treasure those moments of peace. Let us also pray for peace in Israel and the world and have faith in miracles just as we had during the original Chanukah.

Wishing everyone a wonderful month, a Happy Chanukah, and a Shabbat Shalom!
Rabbi Allen

Please join us for Chanukah Candle Lighting every night of Chanukah at 6:30pm in the Lobby



Veterans Day



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>1 30 Cheshvan</p>	<p>2 1 Kislev</p>	<p>3 2 Kislev Israel Thoughts & Prayers with Rabbi Yaakov Weiner @ 3:45 pm - Activity Room 104</p>	<p>4 Movie Outing in Skokie - the Front Allan Kaye @ 7 pm - Back Dining Room</p>
<p>8 7 Kislev RetroActive Band @ 1:45 pm - Multipurpose Room</p>	<p>9 8 Kislev Shopping at Ross, Dollar Tree & other stores in Skokie @ 1:30 pm</p>	<p>10 9 Kislev</p>	<p>11 Broadway in Juliet - Bus Departure - Sign up at the Front Yan Skladman @ 7 pm - Back Dining Room</p>
<p>15 14 Kislev Katrina Sudman Classical Piano Duo @ 1:45 pm - Multipurpose Room Pre-Chanukah fun with Stevenson High School's Hebrew National Honor Society @ 3:15 pm - 2nd Floor Aviary</p>	<p>16 15 Kislev Beating the Winter Blues Presentation with Julie @ 3pm - Activity Room 104</p>	<p>17 16 Kislev Boutique: Hand Made Crafts with Ronia - 11am - 2pm - Lobby</p>	<p>18 Kosher Taste at Ken's Diner in Skokie Departure for the Front Book Club with the Front - Conference Room</p>
<p>22 21 Kislev Family Chanukah Party - Featuring a variety show with Imagine Circus @ 2 pm - Multipurpose Room</p>	<p>23 22 Kislev Chanukah Card Making with Elise Gould @ 1:15 pm - 2nd Floor Aviary Lecture with Professor Charlie Abrams @ 3 pm - TV Room</p>	<p>24 23 Kislev</p>	<p>25 Maxy Or Or @ 6:45 pm - Dining Room  First Night of Chanukah</p>
<p>29 28 Kislev Park Plaza Chanukah Musical @ 2 pm - Back Dining Room  Ruby Harris @ 6:45 pm - Back Dining Room Fifth Night of Chanukah</p>	<p>30 29 Kislev Ballet Presentation with Adina Stuhlman (Granddaughter of Fayge) and company @ 7 pm - Multipurpose Room  Sixth Night of Chanukah</p>	<p>31 30 Kislev Ring in 2025 toast, music, ball drop and count down @ 11:15 am - Front Lobby  Seventh Night of Chanukah</p>	<p></p>

2024

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

3 Kislev
 Evening: Wicked
 - Sign up at
 Front Desk
 Duo @ 6:45
 Dining Room

5
 4 Kislev

6
 5 Kislev
 CANDLE LIGHTING
 3:59 - 4:19 PM



7
 6 Kislev
 HAVDALAH
 5:06 PM


10 Kislev
 In Chicago: &
 parts: 11:30 am
 the Front Desk
 Duo @ 6:45 pm -
 Dining Room

12
 11 Kislev

13
 12 Kislev
 CANDLE LIGHTING
 3:59 - 4:19 PM



14
 13 Kislev
 HAVDALAH
 5:07 PM


17 Kislev
 City of Chicago:
 in Skokie - Bus
 starts: 12 pm
 with Adina @ 2 pm
 the Room Behind
 Fish

19
 18 Kislev
 December Birthday
 Party @ 1:45 pm - Back
 Dining Room
 Ljam Band @ 6:45 pm -
 Back Dining Room

20
 19 Kislev
 CANDLE LIGHTING
 4:02 - 4:22 PM
 Hillel Torah
 Students @ 11:15
 am - Lobby


21
 20 Kislev
 HAVDALAH
 5:10 PM

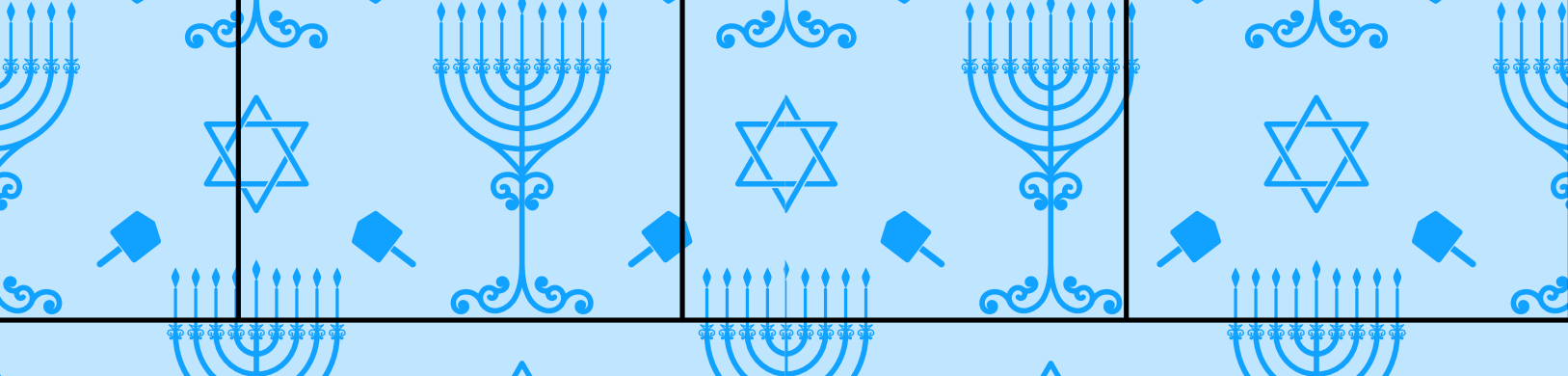

24 Kislev
 Maxwell Klezmer
 Orchestra @
 7:45 pm - Back
 Dining Room
 Night of Chanukah

26
 25 Kislev
 Bar Mitzvah Bingo with
 Izzy Singer @ 6:45 pm -
 2nd Floor
 Aviary Lounge


27
 26 Kislev
 CANDLE LIGHTING
 4:06 - 4:26 PM



28
 27 Kislev
 HAVDALAH
 5:14 PM

Kristallnacht Commemoration



Drumming with Sara



Gardening Club



Shabbat Oneg



Birthday Party



Art & Crafts

























Happy Birthday!



Birthday Party



-  **Wednesday, December 4th**
Movie Outing: Wicked, based on the Tony Award-winning musical - Bus Departs: 12:15 pm - Sign up at the Front Desk
-  **Wednesday, December 4th**
Allan Kaye Duo @ 6:45 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Sunday, December 8th**
RetroActive Band @ 1:45 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Monday, December 9th**
Shopping at Ross, Dollar Tree, and other stores @ 1:30 pm - Sign up at the Front Desk
-  **Wednesday, December 11th**
Broadway in Chicago Presents: & Juliet - Bus Departs: 11:30 am - Cadillac Palace Theater- Sign up at the Front Desk
-  **Wednesday, December 11th**
Yan Skladman @ 6:45 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Sunday, December 15th**
Katrina Sudman Classical Piano Duo @ 1:45 pm - Multipurpose Room
-  **Sunday, December 15th**
Pre-Chanukah Fun with Stevenson High School's Hebrew National Honor Society @ 3:15 pm - 2nd Floor Aviary
-  **Monday, December 16th**
Beating the Winter Blues Crystal Home Health Presentation with Julie @ 3 pm - Activity Room 104
-  **Tuesday, December 17th**
Boutique: Handmade Crafts with Ronia - 11am - 2pm - Lobby
-  **Wednesday, December 18th**
Kosher Taste of Chicago: Ken's Diner - Bus Departs: 12 pm - Sign up at the Front Desk
-  **Wednesday, December 18th**
Book Club with Adina @ 2 pm - Conference Room Behind the Fish
-  **Thursday, December 19th**
Ljam Band @ 6:45 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Friday, December 20th**
Hillel Torah Students visit to spread some Chanukah Cheer @ 11:15 pm - Lobby
-  **Sunday, December 22nd**
Chanukah Family Party with Imagine Circus Variety Show @ 2 pm - Multipurpose Room
-  **Monday, December 23rd**
Chanukah Card Making with Elise Gould @ 1:15 pm - 2nd Floor Aviary Lounge
-  **Monday, December 23rd**
Lecture with Professor Charlie Abrams - What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)? @ 3 pm - TV Room
-  **Wednesday, December 25th**
Maxwell Klezmer Orchestra @ 6:45 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Thursday, December 26th**
Bar Mitzvah Bingo with Izzy Singer @ 6:45 pm - 2nd Floor Aviary Lounge
-  **Sunday, December 29th**
Park Plaza Chanukah Musical @ 2 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Sunday, December 29th**
Performer Ruby Harris @ 6:45 pm - Back Dining Room
-  **Monday, December 30th**
Ballet Presentation with Adina Stuhlman (Granddaughter of Fayge) and Company @ 7 pm - Multipurpose Room



Thursday, December 19th
December Birthday Party with a Mini Magic Show
@ 1:45 pm - Back Dining Room

Park Plaza
a Jewish senior living community
 6840 N. Sacramento Ave.
 Chicago, IL 60645
 (773) 465-6700
 Info@park-plaza.org
 www.park-plaza.org