

Baytown Jewish Community News

APRIL 2012

In brief

Monthly service moves

Because the first Friday in April falls on the first seder for Passover and also begins the busy Good Friday/Easter holiday weekend, our monthly service has been moved to Friday, April 13, at 7:45 p.m. Joan and Gertrude will serve as hostesses.

Yearbook ad sales to kick off

It's time to start ad sales for the 2012-13 edition of our Hadassah yearbook. We would like to have a fantastic year and have everyone's participation. Yearbook packets will be passed out at the April 18 meeting. This is our major fundraiser, so we would love to have lots of new ads.

Remember Blue Box

Blue Box has not been collected yet. Please bring your pushkes or check to the April 18 Hadassah meeting. Blue Box is the Jewish National Fund, which helps with water projects and conservation and tree planting in Israel. Though independent of Hadassah, the organization always raises funds for this vital part of Israel's existence.

Help celebrate Hadassah's 100th birthday

It's birthday time for Hadassah. And this is a big one.

Everyone involved in our local chapter, including new and associate members, are encouraged to attend our next meeting on Wednesday, April 18, when we will celebrate 100 years of Hadassah.

Help us mark this momentous occasion at 7 p.m. in the community building. Shana and Karen will serve as hostesses.

We also will have a business meeting and election of officers, so plan to attend. And please consider serving as an officer this year.



Ever wonder how Hadassah got its name? Henrietta Szold's original idea for a women's Zionist organization came to her during a trip to Palestine that she took with her mother in 1909. Upon seeing the poor living conditions in Palestine, particularly among women and children, Henrietta's mother Sophie suggested that Henrietta and her study group in New York do something to improve the living conditions they had seen first-hand in Palestine.

On Feb. 24, 1912, during the Purim season, 38 women met at Temple Emanu-El in New York City. Many of these women were members of a Zionist study group, the Hadassah Study Circle. At that first meeting, they decided to name this new organization The Hadassah Chapter of the Daughters of Zion. The name Hadassah was kept because it was the Hebrew name for Queen Esther, the heroine of the Purim story.

Happy Passover — first seder on April 6

This year, Passover begins the evening of Friday, April 6, and ends the evening of Saturday, April 14.



The festival commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. And, by following the rituals of Passover, we have the ability to relive and experience the true freedom that our ancestors gained.

If you're looking for some Passover recipes, there are plenty of ideas online. One good example is www.food.com/recipes/passover. Enjoy!