

Park Plaza Post



PARK PLAZA
SENIOR LIVING



April 2026

A Letter from our Director



Passover and baseball each function as quintessential spring traditions, symbolizing renewal, optimism, and the beginning of a new season. Both are deeply rooted in ritual—the Seder guided by the Haggadah and baseball governed by longstanding rules—yet each allows for variation and personal expression. They share a sense of “home,” whether in the context of gathering around the Seder table or crossing home plate to score. Additionally, both experiences are known for their length and pacing, requiring patience and endurance, whether participating in a full Seder or watching an extra-innings game.

Key Connections Between Baseball and Passover

- **Spring Timing & Renewal:** Passover and Opening Day often coincide, marking the close of winter and ushering in a renewed sense of possibility.
- **The Centrality of “Home”:** Passover commemorates the journey from slavery to freedom, celebrated in the home, while baseball’s ultimate objective is returning safely to “home” plate.
- **Ritual & Structure:** Passover follows the ordered steps of the Haggadah, just as baseball adheres to traditional rules, including nine innings and three outs per side.
- **Endurance & Patience:** Both the Seder and a long baseball game can require sustained attention, embodying the familiar idea that “it’s not over until it’s over.”
- **Culinary Traditions:** Each feature distinctive, nostalgic foods—from peanuts and Cracker Jacks at the ballpark to matzah and charoset at the Seder table.
- **A Shared Sense of Aspiration:** The Seder concludes with the hopeful declaration “Next year in Jerusalem,” echoing the anticipation and optimism that accompany the start of every baseball season.

As we begin the observance of the ancient rituals, let us sing a song that combines both observances.

The family of Park Plaza wishes you and your family a Chag Pesach Sameach, Happy Passover.

Hillel

Take Me Out to the Seder (sung to “Take me out to the Ballgame”)

Take me out to the Seder, Take me out with the crowd.

Feed me some matzah and moror, I don't care if I eat all the charoset.

And we'll root, root, root for Elijah! If he won't come, it's a shame.

For it's one, two, three, four, cups of wine, At the old Seder game!

Announcements

April Birthdays

Sarah Rabens	4/02
Michael Weiss	4/08
Deborah Zern	4/08
Angele Schriem	4/10
Esther Cardash	4/10
Bessie Harris	4/11
Carol Mirell	4/11
Sarah Brandes	4/11
Phyllis Kaplan	4/13
Miriam Suss	4/18
Avraham Brandes	4/20
Bennie Weinfeld	4/23
Esther Lichtshein	4/28
Phyllis Brody	4/28

The Flu is going around the building. If you are sick, coughing, or have flu-like symptoms, please stay in your apartment. You will not be charged for room service.

Mazel Tov

- ▶ Esther Cardash and Marvin and Myrna Cohen on the birth of a great grandson.
- ▶ Estelle Frichner on the birth of 2 great granddaughters and 1 great grandson.
- ▶ Shana Rabinowitz on the bas mitzvah of her granddaughter.
- ▶ Esther Lichtshein on the marriage of her great grandson
- ▶ Joe & Helen Eng on the birth of a granddaughter.
- ▶ Seymour Lepp on the bar mitzvah of a great grandson.
- ▶ Devora and Dovid Stern on the birth of a grandson.
- ▶ Myrna and Marvin Cohen on the birth of a great grandson.

Park Plaza's Annual Prom is coming. Make sure you check the schedule to save the date!

Thank you to our wonderful staff for all the hard work they put into making this a very special and great Passover for our community.

From the Rabbi's Desk



We have reached April, and Pesach is upon us. Soon we will sit down for the Seder and delight in the mitzvos and the memories that this uplifting spiritual night affords us. This year, the Seders fall on Wednesday and Thursday night, but many years the Seder coincides with Shabbos. There is an interesting question that may not have occurred to many.

We have a general rule: when Shabbos coincides with a festival, certain mitzvos are suspended to prevent violating the Sabbath. If one of the days of Rosh Hashanah overlaps with Shabbos, we do not blow the Shofar on that day.

Although the Shofar is an important Biblical commandment, we are concerned that someone may violate the Shabbos by carrying the shofar to learn how to blow it, so we refrain from blowing on that day. Similarly, when Shabbos and Sukkos coincide, we do not take the lulav and esrog on that day. In the same vein, we do not read the megillah on Shabbos. Interestingly, although the seder is full of detailed mitzvos that we certainly may seek advice on how to perform, we do not abstain from holding a Seder on Shabbos. Although Shabbos lifts us up spiritually and connects us in a special way to our creator, the once-a-year mitzvah of the seder is unique. At the Seder, we not only connect ourselves to history and hearken back to generations past, but we also reassert our willingness to be the next link in the chain stretching from slavery in Egypt to the end of time. While Shabbos bears witness to Hashem's creation of the world, the seder reminds us that Hashem is involved in our lives in the here and now. Just as Hashem was in the midst of Egypt, making miraculous plagues and wonders, so too is he intimately involved in our lives on a daily basis. The great Kabbalists describe the eating of the Matzah as the partaking of bread of faith. As we consume the crispy Matzah, we are actively strengthening our faith in the creator, just as we do with the entire seder night. Whether you're looking forward to the Matzah, the four cups, or even the matza balls, don't pass up on this night of faith and the spiritual elevation and closeness that can be reached on the night of Pesach. Let the holiness and power of the night of faith sustain you for the whole of Pesach and many months to come.

Wishing everyone and their families a Healthy and Kosher Passover.

Rabbi Allen

Happy Purim!



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wedne

HAPPY PASSOVER

1
CANDLE L
6:56 - 7



5
OUTING: Peggy Notebaert
Nature Museum of the
Chicago Academy of
Sciences @ 12:30 pm
Violinist Elizabeth Chertok
@ 1:45 pm - Back Dining
Room

6
Maxwell Klezmer
Orchestra @ 2:30 pm
- Multi-purpose Room

7
Accordian Player
Marek @ 2:30 pm -
Lobby

CANDLE LIGHTING
6:01 - 6:21 PM



8
Guest
Rabb
Lefton
Room
CANDLE
6:05 -



12
Gus and Friends
Music Trio @ 1:45 pm
- Back Dining Room
Good Deeds Day w/
TOV Volunteers:
Making Spring Door
Signs @ 3 pm

13

14

Yom HaShoah

15
OUTING: CJE
Introduction to
Chinese Medici
Lecture with Ra
1:45
Guitar and Voc
Janis @ 6:45 pm
Room

19
Piano and Vocal Duo
Alan Kaye and John
@ 1:45 pm - Multi-
purpose Room

20

21

Music to Enhance the
Brain with Midwest
Refuah @
3:30 pm - Room 104

Yom Hazikaron

22
Yom Haz
Yom Ha
Event @
Guitar and
Jim Schranz
- Back Din

26
Trombone Quartet @ 1:45 pm -
Multi-purpose Room
Special Lecture by Rebbetzin
Mindy Reiss @ 3 pm
Documentary and discussion
with Sara: A Tree of Life: The
Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting
@ 6:30 pm - Room 104

27

28

29
OUTING: Ko
of Chicago
Smash Burg
11:30
Daniela Bis
6:45 pm
Dining F

Happy Purim!



Happy Purim!



Happy Purim!



Happy Birthday!



March Birthday Party



Volleyball Club

Looking for a fun activity that you can also count as exercise? Join our Volleyball Club that plays every Friday at 10:30 am on the 2nd floor. Don't miss the next time we play, Friday, April 10th!



Fine Art Club

In this new monthly program, Danielle takes you through an artist's life and work, and you get to create your own artwork in that artist's style.

Residents have created their own Monet-style pieces and have learned about the life of still-life painter Clara Peters. Join the next club meeting on Friday, April 24th, at 1:45 pm in Room 104 for Figure Drawing.

Lectures

We are so grateful to the amazing lecturers who take the time to share their knowledge with us. This past month, we had some amazing lectures from Rabbi Matanky and Professor Charlie Abrams.

We look forward to some great and informative lectures in April!



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