

# Hadassah

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## Hadassah's Annual

**Rosh Hashanah – Yom Kippur – Sukkot Flower Sale**

**August 20 – September 13, 2017**

**Erev Rosh Hashanah – Wednesday evening, September 20, 2017**

Note - all deliveries will be made on September 19 & 20 unless another date is requested

**Erev Yom Kippur – Friday, September 29, 2017**

Note – all deliveries will be made on September 28 & 29

**Erev Sukkot – Wednesday, October 4, 2017**

Note – all deliveries will be made on October 3 & 4

**Small arrangement - \$36.00**

**Large arrangement, Orchid or 1 Dozen Roses - \$54.00**

Price includes delivery to all Pinellas County

**Contact: [LindaWeissFL@gmail.com](mailto:LindaWeissFL@gmail.com) or 561-346-8000**

**For payments, please make checks out to Hadassah and mail to:**

**Linda Weiss**

**145 2nd Avenue South #618**

**Saint Petersburg, FL 33701**



# President's Ponderings



Shalom Members,

Hope you have had a wonderful summer whether at home or away. Your board has been busy over the summer. We had a successful Mah Jongg “Fun” Raiser in July. Events that are in the planning stages for the Fall include a Suncoast Hospice Fashion Show, an Art Talk and Art Exchange and Chanukah Party.

Remember every member is a member of the Membership Committee. Tell friends about Hadassah and maybe they would be interested in joining. Then you and your friends can use your talents and interests in helping the chapter. We could also use programming ideas. Tell me what would you like to learn about and we can invite a speaker.

The chapter can use other help as well. The bulletin needs a layout editor. A graphic designer would create more original flyers. A Facebook page master would keep our chapter’s activities current on Facebook.

Although fundraising is an important part of Hadassah, there are other opportunities to participate that don’t take much time. Spend time looking at the National Hadassah website, hadassah.org and learn what the organization does. Check out the latest medical advances at the hospital. Mouse over the Take Action tab. Look at the Advocate column and click on Action Center to email prepared letters to your congressmen and senators. Think of it as doing a mitzvah.

Please contact me if you would like more information or would like to volunteer. No experience is necessary and you might find you have hidden talents.

I thank you and Hadassah thanks you.

Shalom,

Harriet Stein  
harnaomi@gmail.com  
harnaomi@outlook.com  
727-465-4641

✡ *On behalf of your board  
I want to wish you and  
yours a Shana Tovah,  
a Happy and Healthy  
New Year 5778.*

## St. Petersburg Chapter Hadassah Slate of Officers 2017

**President** .....Harriet Stein  
[harnaomi@outlook.com](mailto:harnaomi@outlook.com)

**OVP** .....Wendy R. Levine  
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**Certificates** .....Laurie Reiskind  
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**IT Sec.** .....Diane Litt  
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**Past President Advisor** .....Elaine Miller  
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### COMMITTEES:

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**Strategic Planning** .....Adele Morris  
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**Publicity** .....Wendy R. Levine  
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**Cards** .....Joyce Seder  
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**Trees** .....Robin Post  
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**Flowers** .....Linda Weiss  
[lindaweissfl@gmail.com](mailto:lindaweissfl@gmail.com)

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization, is a non-profit 501©(3) organization. You may obtain a copy of Hadassah's Financial Report by writing to the Hadassah Finance Dept., 40 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005

St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah  
**Hadassah Happenings**  
Printed by Advanced Printing

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To celebrate the profession of nursing, our chapter will be honoring our members who are nurses or in the nursing profession. Please contact Adele Morris at [adelewmorris003@gmail.com](mailto:adelewmorris003@gmail.com) or 727-345-5311 to be included in the celebration to be held in 2018. Thank you.



Women from all walks of life are invited to enjoy an evening of friendship, inspiration, relaxation and pouring/mixing at the  
**3rd Annual Mega Challah Bake**  
 to be held at **6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26**  
 at The Club at Treasure Island,  
 400 Treasure Island Causeway, Treasure Island.

This year's Challah Bake will begin with a "new twist," a sushi and wine social. Whether you are a first time or experienced challah baker, this event, which will run in sync with thousands of women WORLDWIDE, is sure to be an unforgettable experience.

With Table Captains assisting the challah making process, this will be a stress-free, hands on baking experience where you will mix and shape the dough and bring it home to bake.

Feedback from the past two years has been positive, with comments like this from Irene: "It was so well organized with the myriad details handled to perfection. I was delighted with the challahs (my first attempt) after they were baked... Thank you for a fabulous, meaningful, fun and educational evening."

Sponsors for the evening include: Chabad Jewish Center of Greater St. Petersburg, Chabad of Pinellas, St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah, St. Pete Wealth Management group of Raymond James – Marcia Person and The Club at Treasure Island.

Early bird registration before September 26th is \$18 and \$25 thereafter. Sponsorships are available.

The past two years have been SOLD OUT, so be sure to make your reservations early. For more information visit [www.MegaChallahFL.com](http://www.MegaChallahFL.com).

**CELEBRATION 2018 FROM PASSION TO ACTION**

**2018 is a banner year at Hadassah**  
 Celebrate 4 major milestone anniversaries with Hadassah!

**MAY  
15-17  
2018**

**OCT  
7-15  
2018**

**HADASSAH HEALTH SUMMIT CONFERENCE** | Washington, DC  
 SAVE THE DATE

- Panels of influentials, experts & stakeholders in the world of health
- Spectacular Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) Gala
- Empowering Day on the Hill - make your voices heard with members of Congress
- Informative update by Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer

**FROM DREAM TO INNOVATION: ISRAEL MILESTONE MISSION**  
~~\$3455~~ \$2500 Early Bird Rate - first 70 registrants  
 Registration opens October 9, 2017 at [hadassah.org/missions](http://hadassah.org/missions)

- Unique evening at Perez Center for Peace with Israeli opinion leaders
- Insiders visit to a medical cannabis farm - Israel's thriving new industry
- VIP HMO visit - hear first hand from world-renowned Hadassah researchers
- March together in the footsteps of our nurses through the streets of Jerusalem
- Special nurses track

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
 Frieda Rosenberg at [frosenberg@hadassah.org](mailto:frosenberg@hadassah.org)  
 Kathy Hershfield at [khershfield@hadassah.org](mailto:khershfield@hadassah.org)

ISRAEL @70 ■ HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION @100 ■ HADASSAH SCHOOL OF NURSING @100 ■ HADASSAH OPHTHALMOLOGY DEPT @100  
**HADASSAH** THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.

**HADASSAH**  
 the power  
 of women  
 who **DO**



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# SAVE THE DATES

## In Your Neighborhood

Come enjoy a nosh, meet new friends and learn more about what Hadassah is currently doing, on **Wednesday, September 13th** at the Oleander Clubhouse at Terrace Park at Five Towns, 6022 80th St., N., St. Petersburg. To RSVP, call Harriet Stein at (727) 465-4641 or email [harnaomi@gmail.com](mailto:harnaomi@gmail.com)



## Art Talk/Exchange – Auction

Come and be inspired and perhaps bring home a new piece of art for your home on Wednesday, **November 15** (place and time TBD) when Tina Solomon Kronenfeld presents “New York! New York! Jewish Artists in the Big Apple (1949 - 2000) - An Overview on how New York became the World’s Center for Art.” Members are invited to bring artwork from their homes that no longer excites them and possibly exchange the old piece for a treasure from another member’s collection during the auction portion of the event.

## Surgery in Womb

Recently, in a risky and delicate procedure performed for the first time in Israel, an interdisciplinary team of Hadassah Medical Center physicians fixed a severe heart defect in a 28-week-old fetus in the womb.

The medical team widened the baby’s aorta using a balloon technique similar to adult catheterization.

“In the process of catheterization, under epidural anesthesia for the mother and anesthesia for the fetus as well — because we do not want him to feel pain — we inserted a very delicate needle through the mother’s abdominal wall, directly to the left ventricle of the fetal heart,” said Dr. Yuval Gielchinsky, head of fetal medicine at Hadassah’s Ein Kerem campus.

The pregnant mother had approached Dr. Azaria Rein, director of Hadassah’s pediatric cardiology department, after tests showed her baby’s heart defect.

“The diagnosis was a critical narrowing of the aortic valve, which is also accompanied by severe damage to the function of the left ventricle, which was barely able to contract and perform its function,” said Rein.

Gielchinsky said this specific complex surgery is performed in only a few medical centers around the world but had never been done in Israel before.

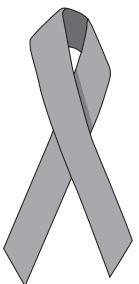
The full success of the surgery can be assessed only after the baby is born, but the doctors were pleased with initial results. Fetal echocardiography shows that the function of the left ventricle in the baby’s heart has improved significantly.

## Jill Stenzler-Engelman Fund Featured in the new National Hadassah Breast Cancer Facilitator’s Guide

The Jill Stenzler-Engelman Fund has been incorporated into the updated National Hadassah Breast Cancer Programming Facilitator’s Guide, and will be the source of grants for Women’s Health Awareness programs both here in Florida and across the country.

We can be very proud of the life-saving education that will be done in memory of Jill Stenzler Engelman.

The St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah is very proud of Greg Engelman and Robin Post (Jill’s sister) for all they have done to make this a reality.



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# Every simcha and special occasion needs Hadassah

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The question of what is the ‘perfect gift’ for a simcha or a special occasion is as vexing today as it ever was.

There are only so many i-tune or amazon vouchers that a 13-year old boy or girl can use, and we have all had trouble finding a meaningful gift for someone who “already has everything.” The resulting gift dilemma has always been a challenging experience and fertile ground for useless gifts.

What is the best way to mark special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries, or to honor a loved one?

For those of us who are passionate about Israel and its remarkable health and medical outreach, there is a gift that we believe transcends all others. Happily, it costs as much as the donor is able to give. But the recipient – whether a hospital such as Hadassah or the person receiving the gift - will benefit irrespective of the price paid. And the pleasure will continue well after the ink has faded.

Hadassah Hospital is not only the oldest fully-fledged medical service in Israel, but one of its most lauded. A gift that provides practical support to the Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) will ensure that Israelis, particularly those in Jerusalem and surrounding areas, will continue to receive world-first health care. A gift to support Hadassah’s remarkable research into so many of the diseases that plague our lives today (Cancer, ALS, MS, Alzheimer’s, diabetes, macular degeneration, heart disease and melanoma, to name a few) will benefit the world! It is truly Research in Service to Humanity.

But Hadassah is so much more than a hospital. Its history, dating back to Henrietta Szold and her pioneering efforts at the turn of last century, reveals an organization rich in outreach. The guiding philosophy of Ms. Szold continues to this day. It is Ms Szold’s values of outreach, contribution and commitment to community that inform Hadassah in the US and the Hadassah Medical Organization to this day, and which lie at the heart of Hadassah’s mission to make a difference, both in Israel and around the world.

I have personally chosen Hadassah as my way to make a meaningful gift to honor the memory of my father. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the death of my beloved father, Ronnie Russon. He died of a sudden heart attack at the age of 55, before Hadassah’s groundbreaking research in clot busting drugs made heart attacks survivable. Since then Hadassah has continued to do remarkable research in Heart disease, and if you live near Jerusalem, your chances of surviving a heart attack are better than any other place in the world! The average time from the moment you call for an ambulance to surgery in the Hadassah Cath lab to open the blockage to the heart is 35 minutes, which is better than any hospital in the US!

Hadassah moved the Cardiology Department into the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower earlier this year. In memory of my Father, I have chosen to give a “Lighting the Way” recognition gift in the new Cardiology Department so that his memory will continue to light the way for generations to come.

Please join me and make your gift a meaningful one. As you can see, there is a gift that is a win-win for all.

In order to make the giving experience simple, you can go to [www.hadassah.org/donate](http://www.hadassah.org/donate) or you can contact me and we can work together to honor your loved one in a way that will make you feel good in the knowledge that you are really doing Tikun Olam.

Please contact me at [plevinson@hadassah.org](mailto:plevinson@hadassah.org)

I look forward to hearing from you,

*Patricia Levinson*

Major Gift Fundraising Chair, St. Petersburg Chapter  
of Hadassah and Florida Central Region

## *Credit For Flower Sales*



When sending flowers for special occasions, please remember that the St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah has an arrangement with Hamiltons Florist to receive a portion of the sales on all orders except for Valentine’s Day and Mother’s Day! Please support Hadassah and this is the florist who does our beautiful arrangements for the High Holidays and Sukkot.



# Mystery of Devastating Pediatric Disease Solved by Hadassah Team

A genetic mutation causing a rare and devastating pediatric neurological disease that has puzzled medical centers around the world has been identified at the Hadassah Medical Organization by Prof. Orly Elpeleg, head of Hadassah's Department of Genetics and Metabolic Diseases.

Still unnamed, the disease is the result of a mutation in a single gene, which subverts normal cellular protein synthesis through a malfunction of the ribosomal RNA. This RNA is responsible for the translation and production of cell proteins and its malfunction results in an excess of ribosomal RNA, so that the child's cells are flooded with and poisoned by it. A previously healthy child, between the ages of three and seven, begins to experience a small motor problem. Suddenly, the child experiences rapid motor and cognitive decline. By the time the child is a teenager, he or she usually needs an aide around-the-clock.

Prof. Elpeleg recounts the path to this discovery: "Five years ago, there was a case of a three-year-old girl who was healthy until she suddenly developed a slight limp. She soon lost her ability to speak along with her cognitive abilities. She was seen at a number of medical centers in Israel, but they were stumped. At the same time, Hadassah received our cutting-edge deep-sequencing technology—which our physicians were among the first in the world to use in clinical practice."

Hadassah has amassed the largest genetic mapping database in Israel, with about 2400 patients. Using the new sequencing technology, Hadassah's geneticists searched their data base for defects similar to the one found in the girl's genetic mapping. Hers matched with a nine-year-old boy who had been treated at Hadassah, but now lives in Russia. Hadassah Pediatric Neurologist Dr. Simon Edvardson flew to Russia, examined the boy, and took

genetic samples, confirming that the illness was identical to the one suffered by this Israeli girl.

"At this point we realized that we had identified a new disease that didn't appear in any medical texts or articles," Prof. Elpeleg says.

Comparing their data in a program called Gene Matcher, the researchers found several more children around the world who shared an identical genetic defect and the same course of disease. To understand the mechanism of the newly identified disease, the researchers collaborated with Dr. George-Lucian Moldovan at Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. Dr. Moldovan confirmed the disease mechanism: the production of excess RNA, which probably causes brain cells to be flooded and poisoned.

Hadassah and Hebrew University researchers collaborated with a multinational team led by Prof. Elpeleg to identify and study the children from Canada, France, Israel, Russia, and the United States who suffer from the disorder. The researchers found an identical, spontaneously occurring error in the same gene in all the patients tested, representing a difference of one letter among the roughly three billion letters that make up human DNA. By finding the identical change in children who suffer from the identical clinical disease, the researchers determined that the altered gene is indeed the cause of the disease.

"Our study links neuronal degeneration in childhood with altered rDNA chromatin status and rRNA metabolism," explains Prof. Elpeleg. "It's the first time that an excess of ribosomal RNA has been linked to a disease in humans."

The discovery is highlighted in the August 3, 2017 issue of *The American Journal of Human Genetics*.

## PLEASE REMEMBER THAT HADASSAH HAS CERTIFICATES

ranging in donation amounts beginning with just \$5. It is a thoughtful way to recognize a special event, celebration, and birthday or acknowledge a death. Our chapter also sells beautiful certificates which can be sent in honor of a new pet or in memory of a pet that has passed away. These can be purchased for a minimum donation of \$5. In order to ensure Hadassah receives the full amount of your donation we ask that each member pay for the postage to mail the certificate.



Please contact Laurie Reiskind  
Lauriesr@tampabay.rr.com  
727-521-0918



## Any changes to your contact information?

Please send any changes of name, address, phone or email to Harriet Stein.

Her email is  
harnaomi@gmail.com or  
harnaomi@outlook.com  
and her phone number  
is 727-465-4641.

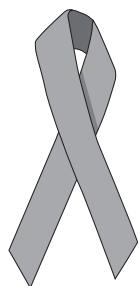
*Thank you.*

## Hadassah/CBI



**Meet at CBI library (300 58th St N.) at 10:30  
on the third Wednesday of the month.**

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|----------|--|
| 8/16/17  | <b><u>A Replacement Life</u></b> by Boris Fishman; facilitator Ann Haendel       |
| 9/13/17  | <b><u>Heartwood</u></b> by Belva Plain; facilitator Dorothy Feinberg             |
| 10/18/17 | <b><u>Good on Paper</u></b> by Rachel Cantor; facilitator Leslie Kirsner         |
| 11/15/17 | <b><u>Invisible City</u></b> by Julia Dahl; facilitator Jane Silverberg          |
| 12/20/17 | <b><u>Conviction</u></b> by Julia Dahl; facilitator Ruth Mauer                   |
| 1/17/18  | <b><u>Goldberg Variation</u></b> by Susan Isaacs; facilitator Carolyn Isakson    |
| 2/21/18  | <i>to be announced</i>   |
| 3/21/18  | <b><u>By a Spider's Thread</u></b> by Laura Lippman; facilitator Mary Ann Marger |
| 4/18/18  | <b><u>Stone Kiss</u></b> by Faye Kellerman; facilitator Ruth Lebowitz            |
| 5/16/18  | <i>to be announced</i>   |



**An international team led by Hadassah Hospital Oncologist Dr. Amir Sonnenblick reveals that giving metformin to diabetic women with a particularly aggressive form of breast cancer may prevent its recurrence.**

This HER2-positive breast cancer tends to grow faster, is more likely to spread, and is more likely to come back, as compared with HER2-negative breast cancers. When insulin is given to HER2-positive patients, the treatment doubles their risk of cancer recurrence.

Previous studies have suggested that administering metformin, an anti-diabetic drug that primarily suppresses glucose production by the liver, may prevent or delay recurrence of breast cancer. Dr. Sonnenblick's study, which was based on a very large database from a Phase III clinical trial, involved over 8,381 breast cancer patients from around the world. While 7,935 of the patients (94.7 percent) had no history of diabetes at diagnosis of their breast cancer, 186 (2.2 percent) had diabetes and were not being treated with metformin and 260 (3.1 percent) were diabetic and had been treated with metformin.

The researchers found that metformin may improve the worse prognosis that is associated with diabetes, mainly in patients with primary HER2-positive and hormone receptor-positive breast cancer.

"We believe that for patients with diabetes and HER2-positive and hormone receptor positive disease," explains Dr. Sonnenblick, "it is reasonable to recommend metformin treatment if patients have not already received treatment and to avoid insulin use as much as possible. From a prognostic point of view, patients with diabetes and HER2-positive as well as hormone receptor-positive disease who are treated with insulin should be considered at higher risk for recurrence."

## MATCHING FUNDS

Do you or your spouse work for a company that matches charitable giving contributions for a 501(c)3? If so, please remember Hadassah when writing out your check. This is an easy way to make money for a worthy cause.



## Nominations Please

Would you be interested in helping select the slate of officers for 2018? If so, please contact Harriet Stein at (727) 465-4641 or [harnaomi@outlook.com](mailto:harnaomi@outlook.com)



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Largo, Florida 33774-5105

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A decorative border with a repeating geometric pattern of interlocking squares and diamonds, framing the central text.

*Save the Date*

**February 11, 2018**

***Annual Giving  
Event***