



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017
DANVILLE

The winter holidays are behind us, and as my eternally optimistic mother would remind me, we are getting a minute or two more of daylight every day. However, the long months of winter are still ahead of us and it's hard to think about celebrations when the environment is cold and often dark. Fortunately, Hadassah can come to the rescue!

There are not many observances in January, but it's been designated as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Human trafficking includes both sex and labor trafficking; women and minors are especially vulnerable. Hadassah has been a tireless advocate for human rights and has become a significant partner in the efforts to address human trafficking and the suffering it causes. Due in part to our efforts, Congress passed the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act in 2015, but further legislation is pending. To bring this matter close to home, Atlanta has been identified as a major hub of human trafficking. Hadassah encourages everyone to become more informed about this topic and to encourage both grassroots and legislative action to combat what amounts to involuntary servitude.

February brings Valentine's Day (not a Jewish holiday, but widely celebrated!) and of course, February has been designated as American Heart Month. There has been growing awareness that women experience different cardiac symptoms than men do, but this awareness took too long, because most medical research has been done on men. Health care is not a "one size fits all" endeavor! Hadassah has created the Gender Equity in Medical Research initiative to help ensure that medical research benefits women and men equally. You can join Hadassah in advocating for the Research for All Act, which represents a critical step towards ensuring effective, non-discriminatory medical research.

Finally, Hadassah has long been a partner with the Jewish National Fund. Tu B'Shevat begins Friday evening, February 10th, so please consider buying a tree in Israel as an expression of "practical Zionism." All you have to do is contact Jo Ann Howard at 434-799-3505. Thank you for all you do in support of Danville Hadassah, "the little chapter that could!"

Martha Woody, Chapter President

HAPPENINGS WITH OUR MEMBERS

*Mazel Tov to **Flossie Tavss** on the celebration of her 90th birthday!

* Mazel Tov to our newest Child Life Member, **Eleanor Becker-Cassalotti**, daughter of Adrian Cassolotti and granddaughter and apple of her eye, Martha Woody.

*Mazel Tov to our newest Life Member, **Julie Levey**, daughter-in-law of Lindy Levey.

*Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to **Darcy Amick** on the recent death of her mother-in-law, Faith Amick.

Take out your December 2016 issue of Hadassah Magazine and turn page 1, which is an ad for the American Hebrew Academy. **Joan Fraifeld** was kvelling because her son Sam is the young man in the yellow shirt. Today, of course, he wears an IDF shirt.

Did we miss your news? Be sure to contact Martha Woody, 276-638-4316, and we'll include you in our next newsletter!



We wrapped up our 2016 year on December 12th with a delicious covered dish dinner, an exciting report on our contributions for the year, and a most informative program on the top five women's health issues. Now we're ready for 2017!

THANK YOU TO...

- ✚ Our members, families, friends, and businesses who contributed over **\$13,700** to our Angels of Mercy project!
- ✚ Our members and friends who contributed over **\$1,000** to our Youth Aliyah birthday and anniversary card project!
- ✚ Our members who contributed over **\$1,700** to our Donor project!
- ✚ Our members and friends who contributed over **\$1,600** for the Tower through our Tower of Love project and other donations
- ✚ Our friends who contributed **\$900** in special contributions!
- ✚ Our members and friends who contributed to over **\$600** to our 5777 New Year Card!
- ✚ Our members who contributed over **\$450** to our Candle Lighting project!
- ✚ Our members who have contributed **\$2,360** to Silver Chai Society and Keepers of the Gate!

Yes, we're the little chapter that made a difference in 2016!



CANDLE LIGHTING – A DANVILLE TRADITION

This is an opportunity for every Danville Hadassah member to participate in our beautiful candle lighting tradition! At the end of every meeting members light a Hanukkah menorah and share what is happening with their family and friends. Now, whether you can attend a meeting or not, you can light a menorah for just \$18 and your contribution will be recognized in our next newsletter. Take this opportunity to support Hadassah and at the same time participate in a wonderful tradition!

Send your check, made payable to Hadassah, to Jo Ann Howard, 326 Rosemary Lane, Danville, VA 24541.

From Darcy Amick: In memory of my mother-in-law, Faith Amick, and in honor of and for good health for my parents, David and Cecile Hartman.



You're invited! Watch your mailbox for our **Tower Of Love** "No Show Ball" to support the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower. It was such a hit last year that we're doing it again. It's a wonderful way to support Hadassah without having to dress up for the occasion! Be sure to join the fun and make a difference!



The December 2016 issue of Hadassah Magazine is packed with interesting articles. Be sure to read "Unifying for **Change: Gender Equity in Medicine**", which begins on page 21. This article shows why we must speak up for ourselves when we know our body is telling us that something is wrong. We need to be vocal and show why gender matters!