



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

Danville

As I write this, we are coming to an end of the “dog days of August and soon the High Holidays will be upon us. Many of us are in the midst of late summer plans for vacations and travel, one last trip to the beach or celebrating at a family wedding, or other activities. Who else is taking a break right now? The Congress of the United States is officially recessed until after Labor Day.

Why is this noteworthy in a Hadassah message? Because Hadassah has 330,000 supporters, found not only in every state, but in **every Congressional district** in the country. Hadassah advocates on issues that are important to women and to the Jewish community, and you can be a part of that effort, perhaps even meeting with your senator or representative when they are back home. The thought of advocacy with an elected official can be intimidating, but here are some facts to keep in mind:

****Your senators and representative work for you. They work for you whether you voted for them or not. You have every right to let them know what you believe, what you value, what your stand is on a given issue.**

****You don't have to know everything about a problem or concern in order to make your voice heard. You don't have to make a perfect argument for your side of an issue. In fact, speaking from the heart and especially from personal experience can be the most powerful input a senator or representative can hear.**

****Advocacy at its best is not adversarial, but looks for common ground and ways to move forward on an issue or concern.**

Obviously, 330,000 supporters are not going to agree on every issue. However, there is consensus in Hadassah on three main areas of concern: support for Israel and the Jewish community, women's health equity, and gun safety. Here are some of the specific bills for which Hadassah is advocating:

*****H.R. 1911/S. 1292 The Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism Act of 2017, which would raise the special envoy to the rank of ambassador, reporting directly to the Secretary of State, in order to coordinate efforts to monitor and combat anti-Semitism at home and abroad.**

***** H.R. 5942 The Health Equity and Accountability Act, which aims to eliminate health disparities (including the preponderance of male subjects in medical research) and to improve health outcomes for women, children, and families.**

*****H.R. 1832, which would authorize funds to the CDC to conduct research on gun safety and the prevention of gun violence.**

Feel free to contact any one of your senators' or representative's offices in order to provide your opinion or at least to ask for their position on any or all of these issues. Know that you have “the power of women who do” behind you and make your voice heard!

May 5779 be a year of blessings for us all, and L'shanah tovah
Martha Woody, President

Keeping Up with our Members

Mazel Tov to **Mary Brett Koplen** and Adam Masser on the birth of their first child, Elijah Ada Masser-Koplen on August 19th.

Mazel Tov to **Abby Paulson** on her upcoming marriage to David Lesorgen. Their wedding will be in Atlanta on November 10.

Our condolences to **Denise Johnson** on the recent death of her brother Doss. May his memory be a blessing.

Mazel Tov to **Carol Caplan** on the engagement of her son Aaron Robert. He and Kim will be married in 2019.

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

What's Happening with our Danville Projects



We have reached our Donor goal! Thank you to all who participated in this project. This enabled our Danville Chapter to continue to make a difference in so many lives.



New Year Card 5779 - Denise Johnson, chairman, will be mailing out this year's beautiful card at the beginning of September. She thanks all who participated this year.



Angels of Mercy – Yes, it's that time of year again! Ronnie Mand and Jo Ann Howard are busy getting everything prepared to kick off this year's campaign. You will receive your letter in September asking for your support. Thank you to our continued supporters and if you haven't given in the past, this is a perfect time to recognize Danville Hadassah's centennial year! Remember, this is our major annual fundraising project...help us to meet Danville's goal.

What's Happening on Hadassah's National Scene?

Hadassah Hospital's Bone Marrow Transplant Department Receives International Acclaim - In a first for Israel, Hadassah Medical Organization's Bone Marrow Transplantation and Cancer Immunotherapy Department has recently received full accreditation by the Joint Accreditation Committee ISCT-EUROPE & EBMT (JACIE), Europe's only official accreditation body in the field.

JACIE inspectors, who spent a month at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem to inspect the department, included European bone marrow transplant experts and top department heads from the University Hospital of Basel in Switzerland and from the university hospitals in Bristol and London in the United Kingdom. They reviewed all areas of activity in Hadassah's department, including the daily work, exacting protocols, and infrastructure for complex procedures conducted in the department. Hadassah is the first of the large departments in Israel to receive accreditation for the clinical side as well.

Prof. Zeev Rotstein, Director General of Hadassah Medical Organization, said, "The bone marrow transplantation department at Hadassah is considered one of the leading departments in Israel and abroad. Experts from all over the world consult with Prof. Stepensky when treating complex patients and make life-saving decisions with her. Now, the department's abilities and professionalism received accreditation from the official world body, whose representatives did not hide how impressed they were with the department. This is the excellence that we strive toward in every department at Hadassah."

World Hepatitis Day: Hadassah's Contribution to the Global Battle Against this Disease - Hadassah Medical Organization's greatest contributions to the global battle against hepatitis are the vaccines that have been developed here," notes the former director of Hadassah's Liver Unit, Prof. Daniel Shouval. In addition, innovative treatments at Hadassah have aided in the fight against this global burden.

Prof. Shouval currently serves as a hepatitis expert for the World Health Organization (WHO) and on the European Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board. This board is comprised of 10 volunteer physicians who travel the world to advise local doctors and health administrators on best practices.

One of the largest public health threats of our time, viral hepatitis takes the lives of 1.34 million people each year. World Hepatitis Day, observed annually on July 28, aims to bring the world together to raise awareness about hepatitis and to encourage prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Thanks to Hadassah's vaccines and treatments, the lives of millions in Israel and throughout the world have been improved.