



Volume LXXXI
Bulletin No. 6

Temple Israel Bulletin

***Presidents' Day is February 21st**



February 2022
Shevat/Adar-I 5782

Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings!

Despite the error in the Reminder Links Email that I sent out on Jan. 13, which said both that you could enter the building for in-person worship services and that the building is closed (sorry for any confusion), in fact the board decided at its Jan. 11 meeting, in the best interests of our community, to close the building to entry for the next few weeks, due to the rapidly increasing caseload locally from Covid-19.

Please note: this means that at this time there is no entry to the building, other than for essential personnel, until further notice. The board will continue to monitor and evaluate the situation and make appropriate announcements to keep you informed.

This is a strange moment. We were hit with two significant snow storms, at the end of December and the start of January, and as I write this on Jan. 14, another large storm is predicted. This is making it a bit hard to plan, to say the least, but I hope that you will stay warm, safe, and comfortable, no matter what the weather. We will do our best to provide worship services and other events online, as long as there is power and internet service! Please watch your email for any notices about postponements or cancellations due to weather.

Despite the blast of cold and snow, nonetheless we observed the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shevat, a celebration of revival, renewal, and rebirth. Tu B'Shevat was chosen as the time when it is thought that the sap is beginning to rise in the almond trees in Israel, the first tree to blossom –

so this marks the start of the new growing season and the first movement toward the arrival of spring. May we all look forward to the return of lovely warm weather and beautiful flowers and leaves.

Looking further ahead, the Ritual Committee is returning attention to selection of a Haggadah for Passover, with the idea that we can be ready in case it becomes possible to hold a Seder this year, come mid-April. Halevai, as is said – may it be so!

Notes and announcements

During January, the following took place:

Ongoing regular events: Zoom Check-ins on Monday mornings; Torah Classes on Tuesday mornings; Talmud Classes on Thursday mornings; A Bissell Torah on Thursday afternoons; Temple Israel Shabbat services each Friday evening (except Jan. 7, when we had a very heavy snow).

Periodic events: Temple Israel Torah study; the funeral for Albert Reinfeld; the Temple board of trustees meeting; Pulpit Exchange on Jan. 14 & 15; Temple Sisterhood board and general membership

meeting; the unveiling for Terrie Rosenfeld; Two Charleston Rabbis discussion; Jewish Literature class; Charleston Death Café; Rabbis Urecki and Blair taught a WVU OLLI Course on Midrash beginning Jan. 25 that will continue on Feb. 1, 8 & 15. We acknowledged "Reproductive Rights Shabbat" at the service on Jan. 28.

February Calendar Highlights

February holds a few calendar items of its own: Rosh Chodesh (new month) of Adar-I on Feb. 1-2; Temple Israel Torah study on Saturday, Feb. 5; "Evolution Shabbat" Feb. 11-12; Purim Katan ("Minor Purim," which occurs one month before Purim itself is celebrated in the month of Adar-II) on Feb. 15; Shabbat Shekalim Feb. 25-26.

February will feature many of our regular events. Please see the "At a Glance" section for a full listing of events.

Prayerbooks

Please note: you are able to borrow prayer books for our regular Shabbat

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A brief history of Presidents' Presidents President's Day*

Presidents' Day, officially Washington's Birthday, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February to honor all persons who served in the office of president of the United States. The federal holiday specifically honors George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, presided

at the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and was the first president of the United States.

The day is a state holiday in most states, with official names including Washington's Birthday, Presidents' Day, President's Day, Presidents Day, and Washington's and Lincoln's Birthday.

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February worship services & Torah study

Services are online only. Saturday morning Torah study is Zoom-only. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about Zoom sessions, please let him know. Shabbat services are scheduled every Friday at 5:30 PM. Pre-service Shabbat online social begins at 5 PM.

At press time, the Temple board was scheduled, on Feb. 8, to revisit in-person services. The congregation will be notified of the board's decision via email. Please review guidelines for reopening at www.templeisraelwv.org

Friday, Feb. 4 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Saturday, Feb. 5 at 10:30 AM Torah study, Ex. 25:1—27:19

Friday, Feb. 11 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service "Evolution Shabbat"

Friday, Feb. 18 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Friday, Feb. 25 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Next month

Friday, March 4 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service. Torah Parashah Pekudei

Saturday, March 5 at 10:30 AM Torah study, Ex. 38:21-40:38

Contacting the Rabbi

If you feel you would like to talk, have any pastoral concerns, know of someone who needs pastoral support, have a suggestion to improve or a concern about our community, or just want to chat, please feel free to call me (the rabbi) at (304) 989-4014, or email me at

RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

I am available Sunday through Thursday most of the day, and Friday until 3 PM. I am in the building for at least part of most days and I read email and texts quite regularly (Shabbat and holidays excepted, when I try to avoid using devices that require me to type). In an emergency, please phone me, and if you leave a message, please express the urgent nature of the call.

Rabbi Blair

A message from the Temple president

This letter was originally sent via email on Jan. 13, 2022.

Dear Members of the Temple Israel Community,

Due to the high Covid numbers as reported last Saturday by our Temple's Security Committee Co-Chairs, the Temple Board of Trustees voted last night to suspend in-person worship until the next Temple Board Meeting, scheduled for Feb. 8. That gives us four weeks to monitor the high rate of infection in our community. The Temple Board will announce when we will re-open for in-person worship.

The Temple will continue to provide services virtually on Zoom and also on Facebook. Please note that our Shabbat Service, scheduled for this Friday, Jan. 14 at 5:30 PM will only be virtual on Zoom and on Facebook.

Our utmost concern is to keep our congregants and our staff safe and healthy during these challenging times. While the Temple is closed for in-person activities, if you have a need and must go to the Temple, for example, to pick-up or drop off something, I have enclosed the Temple's Rules and Procedures applicable to anyone who enters the building during the pandemic.

Any questions or concerns, please contact me or our Vice President, Gayle Twigger-Shaw .

Francine Thalheimer
Temple president



www.templeisraelwv.org

**Visit the Temple website
for updates and links to
online resources**

If you move, change your email address or change your phone number, please let the Temple office know about it, so that we are always able to stay in touch. Thank you.

TEMPLE ISRAEL
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www.templeisraelwv.org
templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Francine Thalheimer, *President*
Joseph M. Blair, *Rabbi*

Rabbis Emeriti
Rabbi James D. Cohn, Z"L
Israel B. Koller, Z"L

February yahrzeits

Names are read the Friday evening prior to the yahrzeit date, which is in parentheses.

February 4th

Ruth Teichman (5)
John Warren (5)
Myron "Mike" Greenwald (6)
Leonard Ingraham (6)
Mary Weisberg (6)
Nat Jurin (7)
Harry Silverstein (7)
Louise Herzog Sclove (8)
Morris Siegler (8)
Bernard L. Wasserman (8)
Joseph Weisberg (8)
Barbara Reinfeld (10)
Lorene Adler (11)
Irving Badner (11)
Helaine Rotgin (11)

February 11th

Garald F. "Gary" Allen (13)
Sylvia G. Goldman (13)
Alan A. Greenspon (14)
Roselind Case (15)
Norma Cohn (15)
Dr. Morris I. Mendeloff Sr. (15)
Clara Warner Schwabe (15)

Jacob Kandel (16)
Jerome Warner Schwabe (16)
Clara Price (17)
Isadore J. Berman (18)
Doris Mack (18)
Newton Margolis (18)
Miriam Mayer (18)

February 18th

Aaron Cohen (19)
Fannie Galperin (20)
Philip Frankenberger (21)
Howard Michael Levinson (21)
Helen Tweddle (21)
Pauline Reinfeld (22)
Irma Rose (22)
June Warhoftig (22)
Betsy Gooding (23)
Sylvia Berman (24)
Sadie W. Levin (24)
Hazel Westen (25)

February 25th

Annette Cohen Hark (26)
Anne Shore Levinson (27)



Photo by Greg Proctor

Condolences are on p. 5

Rebecca Taub Godfrey (28)
Laura Loeb Small (28)
Marcus "Bill" Thalheimer (28)
Frances Sokolovsky (March 1)
Fred A. Bloomberg (March 2)
Natalie Melman (March 2)
Frank A. Baer Sr. (March 3)
Benjamin Machanoff (March 3)
Erwin Mayer (March 3)
Adele Lehman Metzel (March 3)
Melvin H. Hager (March 4)
Esther Pincus (March 4)

February at a Glance

Services are online-only, on Zoom and Facebook, unless or until the Temple board changes the policy. All meetings, classes, programs, and events are virtual unless otherwise noted, via Zoom until further notice. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about these sessions, please let him know.*

Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 10 AM – Torah Class
Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 1 PM – WVU OLLI Class: Encounter with Midrash
Thursday, Feb. 3 at 10 AM – Talmud Class
Thursday, Feb. 3 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah
Friday, Feb. 4, 12-12:15 PM – *CEIC Unity Service, St. Marks UMC, outdoors

Friday, Feb. 4 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service with Torah, Parashah Terumah
Saturday, Feb. 5 at 10:30 AM – Temple Israel Torah Study, Ex. 25:1-27:19
Sunday, Feb. 6 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature
Monday, Feb. 7 at 10 AM – ZOOM Check-in
Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 10 AM – Torah Class
Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 1 PM – WVU OLLI Class: Encounter with Midrash
Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 5:30 PM – Temple Israel board of trustees meeting
Thursday, Feb. 10 at 10 AM – Talmud Class
Thursday, Feb. 10 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah
Friday, Feb. 11 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat

service, "Evolution Shabbat"
Sunday, Feb. 13 at 10:30 AM – Temple Israel Sisterhood board meeting
Monday, Feb. 14 at 10 AM – ZOOM Check-in
Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 10 AM – Torah Class
Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 1 PM – WVU OLLI Class: Encounter with Midrash
Wednesday, Feb. 16 (time and meeting format TBA) – Leora May Book Club meeting
Thursday, Feb. 17 at 10 AM – Talmud Class
Thursday, Feb. 17 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah

(Continued on page 4)



In the Congregation & Community

[This includes only those who have approved having their name included.]

Refuah Shelemah/Mi Sheberach

(Healing & Wholeness/Blessings) to those who have been included in recent Mi Sheberach lists at services, and wishes for continued good health for those who are on the mend or have returned to full health. This list includes those on our list from the end of December to the time of writing this bulletin article:

Melissa Cadle
George Castelle
Patricia Cohen Coniglio
Jonathan Freedman
Lynn Gattlieb & Family
Ed Goldberg
Arnie Hartstein
Richard Holicker
Margie Hutt
Mel Hutt
Dorothy Kurland
Ann Kushner
David Kushner
Roberta Lee Levine
Laura Malloy
Gary Markham
Caroline Ostand & family
Hedy Poppelsdorf
Mary Ellen Reilly
Linda Rubin
Ellie Schaul
The Sergot family
Barbara Braun Tweddle
Natalie Winowich
Nick Winowich
Beth Steinberg Winter
All who are impacted by the Pandemic or other illnesses
All affected by natural or man-made disasters or violence
All others in need of prayers for healing and wholeness

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

[Please tell us about these events so

we can acknowledge them as appropriate.]

To those who reached or will reach milestones in the past month or this one, and to all who had any birthday or anniversary or other life event worth celebrating! Among those we know who are/were to be acknowledged we include:

January: Russell Emrick, Jennifer Slotnick, Kristin Clendinning, Caroline Ostand, Roselyn Baum, Barry Diznoff, Ken Silverstein, Elizabeth Kantor-Bright, David Kushner, Betty Diznoff, Sherri Reveal, Ken Rubin, Jerry Abshire, Sugar Rubin, Martin Pushkin, Nancy Boulianne, Rafe Godfrey, Frona Colker, Dorothy Kurland, David Winowich (MILESTONE), Ellyn Goldberg (MILESTONE), Miki Bloom, Ben Cohen, Tammy Nearman, Raya Redmond, Alvin Preiser, Ann Pushkin, Carol Kim, Betty Caplan, Doug Simunic, Norman Marks, Richard Holicker, Sharon Rubin, Shelly Kanner, Cindy Armstrong Persily, Tiana Hall, Hedy Poppelsdorf, Richard Gottlieb, David Shapiro, Nancy Newfeld, Arnie Hartstein, Beth Steinberg Winter (MILESTONE), Bryan Selbe

February: Shirley M. Hoodin, Steve Kravitz, Lita Bender, Barrie & Tod Kaufman, Phyllis Preiser Sherman, Ronni Cohen Spudich, Harriet Craig, Mike Pushkin, Carole Bloom, Julie Adams & Josh Barrett (MILESTONE), Judy Isacoff, Evelyn Ettleman, N. David Stern (MILESTONE), Ariela Alpert, Bob Aaron (MILESTONE), Sandy Edison, Gail Carter, Randy Selbe, Harold Newman, Ray Max, Susie Muck, Justin Cohen, Stacie Pushkin, Janie Stutzman, Louis Lashinsky, Harold Blumenthal, Richard Masinter, Deena Grablow, Hal Selinger, Margot Jogwick, Elliot Urecki, Barrie Baer Kaufman, Jim Doria, Mindy Landau

March: Rachel Dash, Amy & David Shapiro, Marsha Albert, Art Rubin, Dinah Lovitch, Shelly & David Winowich, Gary Markham, Henry Nearman, Bob Kimball, Bob Rubenstein, Eugenia & David Feibelman, Glenn Goldfarb, Valarie Bloom

(Continued on page 5)



Photo by Greg Proctor

February at a Glance, continued

(Continued from page 3)

Thursday, Feb. 17 at 6 PM – Two
Charleston Rabbis
Friday, Feb. 18 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat
service
Sunday, Feb. 20 at 4 PM – Jewish
Literature
Sunday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 PM – Charleston
Death Café
Monday, Feb. 21 at 10 AM – ZOOM
Check-in
Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 10 AM – Torah Class
Thursday, Feb. 24 at 10 AM – Talmud
Class
Thursday, Feb. 24 at 4 PM – A Bissell
Torah
Friday, Feb. 25 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat
service
Monday, Feb. 28 at 10 am – ZOOM Check
-in

Next Month

Friday, March 4 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat
service with Torah Parashah
Pekudei
Saturday, March 5 at 10:30 AM – Temple
Israel Torah study, Ex. 38:21-
40:38

In the Congregation & Community, continued

(Continued from page 4)

If you have a milestone event of any kind, or any birthday, anniversary, or life event that is worthy of celebration, please let us acknowledge and celebrate it with you! Tell the Rabbi about it.

Mazal tov to Jared Kushner, grandson of Ann Kushner, for being recognized for distinguished accomplishments in his educational endeavors.

If you have a milestone event of any kind, or any birthday, anniversary, or life event that is worthy of celebration, please let us acknowledge and celebrate it with you! Tell the Rabbi about it.

Baruch Ha Bah (Welcome)

Welcome to our returning member, Andrew Schneider, and to new members Ellyn and Ed Goldberg.

Baruch Dayan Haemet (Condolences):

Temple Israel extends condolences to Caroline Ostand and family, including the Sergot family, on the recent death of her niece, Olivia Sergot. May the memory be a blessing, and those who mourn be comforted from heaven.

Temple Israel extends condolences to Lynn Gattlieb and family on the recent death of her uncle, Sanford "Sandy" Darling. May the memory be a blessing, and may all those who mourn be comforted from heaven.

Temple Israel extends condolences to the family of Albert Reinfeld, who died Jan. 1 in Nashville, Tenn. The private funeral was held graveside at the Temple cemetery on Jan. 9. The family has suggested that donations in his memory be made to the Jewish Family Service of Nashville, 801 Percy Warner Blvd., Suite 103, Nashville, TN 37205.

Rabbi's Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

services, if you wish. Again, contact the rabbi or Greg, and arrange to pick one up. The Siddur for Sabbath and Holidays is also available from the CCAR through a link on the Temple website.

Temple projects and upgrades

It is very exciting – the kitchen is starting to come together, and other projects are moving along! The various committees have been very busy, and a lot has been accomplished. Our building is getting much TLC to keep it beautiful and a comfortable and welcoming home for the congregation.

Services: Opening the Zoom session and entry to the building

Services: Opening of the Zoom sessions and ongoing restricted access to the building

The online Zoom session of services will continue to be opened for social time thirty minutes prior to services starting.

For a regular Shabbat or special evening service, the online Zoom session will open at 5 PM for a social time, and the service will commence at 5:30.

Until the Temple board determines otherwise, all events, worship services, programs, classes, and meetings will be online (not in-person in the building). Any events that would be held at other locations may have different policies applied.

For information on how to access online events, please see the twice weekly Reminder Links Email for how to connect via Zoom.

Support

As always, we want to serve you in as many ways and as well as it is possible. Please be in touch with me (the rabbi), the office (Greg), the house coordinator (David McAfee), members of the board, or committee members if you have any needs, suggestions, concerns, or questions. We are here for you.

Blessings and salutations

As the next snow storm approaches, it is my hope and prayer that all of us will remain safe, warm, and comfortable, and that anyone affected adversely by the weather or consequences of it will be speedily assisted and restored to well-being. I am feeling particularly grateful at this moment for health – my own and that of those I love and care about; may all of us be well and remain so, and be aware of and celebrate the blessings in our lives. Ken yehi ratzon – may it be the will of Hashem! I look forward to seeing you.

I look forward to seeing you, online or in-person.

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace),

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair

RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

Temple office email address

templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Tzedakah (Charity)

Please continue to be generous in your giving – needs continue to run especially high in light of the Corona Virus Pandemic effects, natural and man-made disasters, and the effects of war, oppression, and violence. Note the many Tzedakah opportunities that we have supported over the years: Manna Meal, Covenant House, Sojourner's Shelter, RCCR, Mazon, AJWS, HIAS, Jewish Federated Charities of Charleston, JNF, and all the other worthy causes in our community and beyond, new and old. **You may be hearing about an initiative to support congregations in Kentucky that were devastated by the Tornadoes recently – please consider supporting that cause as well.**

Rabbi Joe Blair



Our Thoughtful Contributors

Donations received after the Bulletin deadline will be acknowledged in the next issue.

If you would like to make a donation to a Temple or Sisterhood fund, please mail your check to Temple Israel and tell us to whom you would like a card to be sent.

Donations to a Sisterhood fund (Care Committee, Floral Fund or Y.E.S. Fund): checks should be made payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood, noting which fund on the memo line.

Donations to the Temple Israel Social Action Fund should be made payable to that fund.

Donations to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund should be made payable to that fund. Donations are used to help Temple members in financial distress.

Unrestricted donations or those to the library should be made payable to Temple Israel.

Please write separate checks when making contributions to more than one fund or when paying membership dues.

Assuring religious pluralism

George Washington's famous letter to the Touro Synagogue in Rhode Island

On Aug. 17, 1790, the day that President George Washington visited Newport, the Touro Synagogue's warden, Moses Seixas, wrote to Washington, expressing the support of the Congregation for Washington's administration and good wishes for him.

Washington sent a letter on Aug. 21 in response, which read in part:

... [T]he Government of the United States ... gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance. ... May the children of the Stock of Abraham, who dwell in this land, continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other Inhabitants; while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid. May the father of all mercies scatter light and not darkness in our paths, and make us all in our several vocations useful here, and in his own due time and way everlastingly happy.

— *Letter of George Washington to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island*

The Touro congregation annually reads President Washington's letter on religious pluralism and celebrates the occasion with invited speakers, including Supreme Court justices (the late) Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Elena Kagan.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Touro_Synagogue#Annual_recitation_of_the_Washington%E2%80%93Seixas_letter_on_religious_pluralism



George Washington – Lansdowne portrait by Gilbert Stuart

(Photo & graphics) Credit where it's due

- George Washington – Lansdowne portrait by Gilbert Stuart (back cover)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lansdowne_portrait

- George Washington – Williamstown portrait by Gilbert Stuart (front cover)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Gilbert_Stuart_Williamstown_Portrait_of_George_Washington.jpg

- "Hon. Abraham Lincoln, Republican candidate for the presidency, 1860" - Lithograph by Leopold Grozelier, et al, showing the young Abraham Lincoln, before he grew his iconic beard. According to the Library of Congress, "Thomas Hicks painted a portrait of Lincoln at his office in Springfield specifically for this lithograph." This painting is in the collections of the Chicago Historical Society. (Front cover)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln%27s_Birthday#/media/File:Thomas_Hicks_-_Leopold_Grozelier_-_Presidential_Candidate_Abraham_Lincoln_1860_-_cropped_to_lithographic_plate.jpg

- Decorative "Bunting" based on the design of the U.S. flag (front cover)

Author User: Garrimou

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:American_banner_fans.jpg

- Los Angeles streetcar decorated for Washington's Birthday, c. 1892 (p. 7)

By Unknown photographer -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidents%27_Day#/media/File:Los_Angeles_Consolidated_Electric_at_Pico_Heights._Decorated_for_Washington's_Birthday.jpg

*Sisterhood Message***The complex history of the Hanukkah latke**

Dear Sisters of Temple Israel Sisterhood:

The fried potato latkes we've come to know and love and heavily associate with Hanukkah wasn't always the norm.

Before potato, Latkes were made from cheese or grains.

Beginning in the 14th century, a Hanukkah tradition of eating fried ricotta cheese pancakes, the original latkes, gained popularity among Jews living in Italy. The tradition sprang from the Hebrew story of Judith, a fearless woman who saved her fellow Israelites by plying an invading Assyrian general with cheese and wine, only to behead him with his own sword once he fell into a gluttonous sleep. Since Judith used cheese to help get the job done, eating dairy products at Hanukkah became the thing to do.

Somehow, in the late Middle Ages, the story of Judith got mixed up with the true reason to celebrate Hanukkah, which was the victory in 165 BCE of the Jewish Maccabees over the Syrian Greeks. Following their win, the Jews rededicated the temple in Jerusalem and, thanks to a miracle, were able to make a days-worth of sacred oil in the Temple Menorah last for eight days. Because of this, foods cooked in oil became a big part of the Hanukkah celebrations. It only follows that a cheese latke fried in olive oil is a nice representation of two of the holiday's symbolic foods.

Fast-forward a couple hundred years: Eastern Europeans have devel-

oped their own Hanukkah tradition of making latkes from either buckwheat or rye. Until a series of devastating grain crop failures due to bad weather and bad farming practices in the 1840s, that is. People started planting potatoes to supplement their diets – they are easy to grow and nutritious (high in vitamin C and potassium). As the vegetable gained popularity, the Ashkenazi Jews living under tsarist rule in what is today Poland, Ukraine, and the Pale of Settlement (an area in western Russia where many Jews were forced to live) adapted their cuisine to include the tuber. Among these adaptations was a new latke recipe using potato instead of the traditional grains.

The fact that the potato gained such popularity is somewhat surprising given its history in Europe. They weren't exactly well-received when they first arrived via the Spanish conquistadors returning from South America in the mid-16th century. While European nobility tried hard to get their subjects to grow and eat potatoes, believing they would be a good back up if wheat and the like failed (they were right!), it was a tough sell. The peasantry didn't trust the strange looking bland vegetables for much more than animal feed. Eventually, however, the potato caught on and would become a hugely important food source and take pride of place and many European cuisines by the end of the 19th century.

The continued popularity of the potato latkes in the United States can be traced

back to the influx of Ashkenazi Jews that started arriving in the 1880s. During the 40 years of heaviest immigration (1880s to 1920s) more than two million Eastern European Jews came to America, bringing with them their potato latkes. With such large numbers, their traditions soon became the norm for American Judaism. The delicious fried potato latke was here to stay.

Telling you a story about Hanukkah and potato latkes in January is somewhat strange, but I came across this story, shared with me from a magazine called "Food and Drink," and thought you would like to know what I have been able to learn.

As we begin to welcome the new year with its trials and tribulations concerning COVID-19 and the variants, please listen to the news, pay attention to wearing face-masks and of course being certain that you are vaccinated.

There are several Sisterhood events that we will keep you apprised of as they occur.

Smiling behind my face mask,

Millie Snyder,

Sisterhood President

Sunday, Feb. 13 at 10:30 AM — Sisterhood board meeting.

A brief history of Presidents' Presidents President's Day, continued

(Continued from page 1)

The various states use 15 different names. Depending upon the specific law, the state holiday may officially celebrate Washington alone, Washington and Lincoln, or some other combination of U.S. presidents (such as Washington and Thomas Jefferson, who was born in April).

Washington's Birthday was celebrated on Feb. 22 from 1879 until 1971, when the Uniform Monday Holiday Act moved it to the third Monday in February, which can occur Feb. 15 to 21. The day eventually also became known as Presidents' Day (*though the placement of the apostrophe, if

any, varies) and is most often an occasion to remember all U.S. presidents, or to honor Abraham Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays together.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidents%27_Day



Los Angeles streetcar decorated for Washington's Birthday, c. 1892.

