

Women's News

Message from the President of Hadassah

Dear Community members,

The story you are about to read starts approximately 1,300 years ago and with the help of Hadassah and other supports will be a legacy for future generations.

On November 24, 2011, a ceremony was held on Daniel Fischel and Sylvia Neil Kibbutz Ketura to plant the Family Sustainable Agriculture



Hadas Kasher

famous date palm "Methuselah." The ceremony was attended by distinguished guests from Israel and abroad, including Lord David Wolfson and Marcie Natan, the National President of Hadassah. The tree was planted in the Arava Institute's

and Renewable Energy Research and Visitors' Park.

During Yigal Yadin's excavations of Masada in the mid-1960s, ancient date seeds (*Phoenix dactylifera L.*) were discovered beneath rubble at the Northern Palace approach. The Judean Date, prized in antiquity for its taste, size and medicinal properties had been extinct for centuries.

In 2005, in a unique experiment to reintroduce extinct medicinal plants and trees once found in ancient Israel, Dr. Sarah Sallon, Director and Founder of Hadassah's Natural Medicine Research Center, and Dr. Elaine Solowey, Director of the Center for Sustainable Agriculture at the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies succeeded in germinating one of these ancient date seeds. Radiocarbon dating indicates that the seed was at least 2,000 years



L-R: Dr. Sarah Sallon, Dr. Elaine Solowey, National President Marcie Natan

at the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, to protect it from possible infection from modern plants. This year, the tree was determined healthy, strong and ready to be moved to a permanent place in the Research and Visitors' Park, where it can be viewed by the public.

The name Kibbutz Ketura sounds familiar? Maybe it is because you are one of many Young Judea supporters.

Kibbutz Ketura was founded in 1973 at the close of the Yom Kippur War by graduates of the Young Judea Year-In-Israel Course sponsored by Hadassah.

Thank you all Hadassah supporters. It is you who make it possible to carry our legacy to the future.

B'Shalom,
Hadas Kasher

old. So far as has been determined, this is the oldest seed that has been successfully germinated, surpassing a 1,300 year old sacred lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*) seed.

This remarkable achievement created great interest world-wide, and the experiment was written up in the prestigious journal, *Science* in 2008. For the past years, "Methuselah" has been kept in a quarantine site by Dr. Solowey's Center for Sustainable Agriculture

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Bams 'n' Brunch

What: Hadassah and the LJCC's 7th annual Mah Jongg Marathon

Something New: You can enter as a group of four and play only with your friends, or enter as a single and move to different tables. The rules and prizes remain the same, no matter what.

Where: Gorelick Hall, Levine Jewish Community Center

When: January 15, 2012

Time: 12 noon-4:30 PM

Cost: \$20 for Hadassah members; \$25 for non members. Your check (sent with the coupon) is your reservation and must be received by Monday, January 1. Please send it to: Madeline Aron, 4940 Hardison Road, Charlotte, 28226, or you may leave it at the J in the Hadassah mailbox, with Mah Jongg Marathon written on the envelope. ☆



Yes! I want to play in the Mah Jongg Marathon on January 15, 2012

Name

Phone

E-Mail

Level of Play (Please check one)

Experienced (timed): Novice (untimed): Learner (untimed):

Group of four. Please seat me with:

.....

Check Enclosed: \$20 (Hadassah member)/\$25 (non-member) payable to Hadassah

..... I promise to bring my 2011 mah jongg card (extras will not be available)

..... I will bring my mah jongg set labeled with my name (you will stay at the table with your set)

..... I have ___1___ 2 ___3 card tables Hadassah can borrow. I will label them with my name before Hadassah picks them up.

Any questions, please call Sandy Hoagland, 704-543-6338. Once again, Mary Gordan will be there selling mah jongg cards.

2012 Hadassah Health Night

Ask the Doctor: Optimizing Your Health

February 16
7-9 pm, Temple Israel
Dr. Michael Duffy: Greenapple Sports & Wellness

Dr. Susie Esther: Director - Charlotte Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Associates Sleep Medicine Center

Dr. Marshall Silverman: Signature Healthcare