

President's Perspective. . .

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SPRING IS HERE – LET'S HAVE A GOOD TIME

Truth be told, I really wanted this installment of my column to be an April Fool joke. One of my headlines would be “Shul Purchases Prestonwood Baptist Property – Move Imminent.” Or maybe the headline “Shul Pays Off Debt -- Millions of Dollars Donated to Endowment – No Dues next Year!” -- complete with discussion on how we found a huge oil and gas reserve or other precious minerals on our property. Well, my creative juices and time commitments just did not carry me very far from the headlines. Anyway, oil and gas process cratered, fracking is not all that popular, and some of you may have actually taken me seriously! Also, given our track record with the March Kol Emet, you may not be receiving this on April 1. So, maybe I'll do it next year when I am on my way out as president.

But Spring is here with all of the thoughts of digging out of ice and snow (I know, some of you from the Northeast think we are a bunch of wimps for complaining of 3 inches of snow and a tenth of an inch of ice), rebirth of nature, flowers, longer days, looking forward to the summer; and in the Jewish world, Passover and Shavuot. I'll leave it to our rabbis to bring depth and meaning to these festivals, but I can tell you from the perspective of your lay shul leadership, we are excited about our two huge Spring events – The Dream Event (April 19) and Spring Fair of West Plano (April 26). Yes, there is a major fundraising component to both of them, but they are also opportunities to celebrate our successes as a community outside the confines of our beautiful sanctuary.

I urge all of you to participate in both activities. The Dream Event is a testament to our growth and a thank you to Janet and Robert Behringer who have been instrumental to our congregation's success. And the music, dinner and drink won't be too shabby either. So, please consider going and raising a L'Chaim to the theme of our evening – there is really “NO PLACE LIKE (OUR) HOME.”

The Spring Fair of West Plano supports our number one goal as Jewish parents and grandparents – educating our youth. Our Religious School and Preschool are microcosms of our shul – vibrant, exciting, and overcrowded at times, and in need of financial support over and above tuition and fees. Moreover, with this fair we are seeking to create an annual staple in Plano that will draw a wide range of artists, vendors, residents and visitors from the area. Let's hope for good weather.

Whatever you do this Spring, be safe and have fun. And, from my family to yours, Chag Pesach Sameach.

Howard Rubin