

THANK YOU RUTHY...

JACK, RUTHY, COMMISSIONER HEYMAN,
COMMISSIONER MOSS, FRIENDS...

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU ON THIS
SUNDAY MORNING.

AS WE'VE JUST HEARD, THERE IS A LONG
STANDING JEWISH TRADITION OF PLANTING
TREES.

THEY EQUATE TO NEW LIFE, AND TO NEW HOPE.

OUR SHARED SACRED SCRIPTURE IS FULL OF
MENTIONS OF TREES, AND EVEN ADMONISHES
AGAINST THEIR DESTRUCTION.

IN FACT, THE FIRST LIVING THINGS OUR CREATOR
PLACED ON THE EARTH WERE SEED BEARING AND
FRUIT TREES.

WE ARE ALSO TOLD THAT "EVERY MAN SHOULD
PLANT A TREE, HAVE A CHILD, AND WRITE A
BOOK...."

THESE ALL LIVE ON AFTER US, INSURING A
MEASURE OF IMMORTALITY."

THESE ARE THE THINGS WE LEAVE BEHIND, HOW WE ARE REMEMBERED.

WHEN WE LOOK AROUND, WE ENJOY THE TREES PLANTED BY THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US...

AND FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE TREES WE PLANT HERE TODAY.

TREES ARE ALSO GOOD FOR US!

WE JUST HAD A RECENT REPORT PUBLISHED BY OUR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS...

IT STATES THAT PARKS, GARDENS AND GREEN SPACES IN URBAN AREAS CAN IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF PEOPLE LIVING THERE.

IT ALSO STATES THAT 94% OF PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUTDOOR "GREEN" ACTIVITIES SAID THEY HAD A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

SO IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT THROUGHOUT HISTORY, THE PLANTING OF TREES CARRIES SUCH SIGNIFICANCE.

AS WE HONOR THIS DAY...

LET ME ESPECIALLY CONGRATULATE THE YOUNG LADIES WHO ARE HERE IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR BAT MITZVAH.

THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING THIS IMPORTANT TRADITION.

AND TO JACK, RUTHY, ALL THE MEMBERS OF WIZO, AND ALL OF YOU...

LET US CELEBRATE A NEW YEAR BY BRINGING NEW LIFE TO THE PLANET.

AND THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY A MORE BEAUTIFUL PLACE.

