Chai-Lights



January 2011

25 Tevet - 26 Shevat 5771

A Report on Chanukah at KJCC - page 22 KJCC's Poet with the International Rep - page 31 Jewish Leap Year Explained - page 33

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

Marc A. Silverman, MBA, ChFC, CLU CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™



Silverman Financial, Inc.

Helping Build Brighter Retirements for Everyday People

Silverman Financial is a boutique firm specializing in working with people that are retired or getting ready to retire. We help people achieve their financial dreams and goals.

We specialize in investment management, retirement planning, IRA rollovers, and lump sum distributions from company pension plans.

We offer the following services:

•Financial Planning •Retire

•Retirement Planning

•401(K) Rollovers

•Life Insurance Analysis

•In Depth IRA Analysis

•Long Term Care

Silverman Financial, Inc.

9100 South Dadeland Blvd. One Datran Center, Suite 1603 Miami, Florida 33156

Office: (305) 670-7088 Fax: (305) 670-9083 Toll Free: (888) 229-7163

Website: <u>www.brighterretirements.com</u> E-mail: <u>marc@sfinancial.com</u>

Securities offered through Securities America, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC and advisory services offered through Securities America Advisors, Inc. Marc A. Silverman, Representative. Securities America and Silverman Financial are independent firms.

2010 - 2011 Officers and Board

President Alan Beth

Executive Vice President Stuart Sax

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Susan Gordon – Stan Margulies

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Roberta McNew

Directors

Marc Bloom – Joan Boruszak – Steve Friedman Bernie Ginsberg – David Goldfinger Elinor Grossman – Kurt Kluger – Ron Levy Neal Rakov – Steve Smith – Joan Stark Sam Vinicur – Mark Wasser

> Sisterhood Joyce Peckman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor Marty Graham Editor 1987-2007

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly newsletter of the Keys Jewish Community Center

P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message

Alan Beth

Well, it is the end of another year as I write this. I reflect back on the year 2010, as others are. We all ask the question; was this a good year and what resolutions should we make for the coming year?

I am trying to decide what kind of Jew I am. I am not Orthodox. nor Reform. After much consideration I must conclude that I am a Gastronomic Jew! I love our Oneqs and I especially love our Shabbat dinners. It is often said. "feed them and they shall come." Well, we saw that plentifully at our Chanukah celebration a few weeks ago. I know that a lot of people helped make this event such a wonderful success. For this we should thank Sisterhood. It is through the strength of Sisterhood that our synagogue survives.

If we did not have the Onegs, or the wonderful Shabbat dinners, or recently the Chanukah dinner, then the KICC would not be as closeknit as we are. I gave a speech that evening asking for volunteers to help with a specific project. At least six people came up to me after services offering to help: but a special nine-vear-old (Moira Knowles) offered as well. Moira also said: "Alan, I see the web site is out of date. If you give me the user ID and password I can update it for you." How



wonderful is this? Did I mention that she is nine years old?

This made me think about my own Sunday School growing up in England. We called it Cheder class. I honestly do not have fond memories of the torture we had to go through to learn Hebrew and Torah. Today, I see the kids at the KICC, laughing, playing, running around and having a good time. I contrast that to how strict my Cheder classes were. I am 100 percent confident that the kids today will look back (years from now) upon their time at the KICC with fondness and with warmth. They will have memories of good times, fun times, with song, with laughter and with generous praise.

The Chanukah play a few weeks ago was a good example of that. Our kids obviously are not shy to be seen on the *Bima*, nor to come running back afterwards to help with services. The highest praise one can give is due our teachers. Thanks to Yardena and Gloria for all your hard and magical work, and to Susan Gordon, our head of Education.

Wishing all of you a Happy New Year.

Alan

January 2011

25 Tevet - 26 Shevat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Italicized nar	e leaders of Frida nes are Oneg spo obat services ever	nsors. KJCC			1 Blessing of the Fleet, Whale Harbor, 10:30 a.m.
2 Sisterhood Meeting 9:30 a.m.	3	4	5	6	7 Joyce Peckman Roger & Danna Levy	8
9 KJCC Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.	10	11	12	13	14 Alan Beth Potluck Dinner 6:30 p.m. (fleishik)	15
16	17	18 Fashion Show at Braza Lena 11:30 a.m.	19	20 Tu B'Shevat	21 George Swartz & Yardena Kamely	22
23 30	24	25 Upper Keys Concert Series Be- gins—Harry James Orch.	26	27	28 Steve & Carol Steinbock 6:30 Service	29

Nosh

Attention Snowbirds

It's officially (and dramatically) winter up north, so most of you have made your way here by now. It's very important that Alan officially knows you're here so he can tell the database to use your Keys (or south Florida) address when we do mailings, such as for issues of Chai-Lights. Please don't presume that because you think we know your schedule, or we see you here, that things will be adjusted automatically. They won't. Alan likes e-mail best, so contact him at alanlbeth@yahoo.com or (for another month) at president@keysjewishcenter.com.

Care to Host a Havdalah?

No dates have yet been scheduled for January or February *Havdalah* Services, the short, sweet, aromatic ceremony on Saturday night that marks the juncture between the sacred of the Sabbath and the secular of the rest of the week. Anyone who would like to host a low-key but warm and meaningful Saturday evening get-together to say goodbye to Shabbat, please see Gloria or call her at 305-619-0216 to make arrangements.

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of Lillian Skolnick

By Jim and Joan Boruszak

Oneg Sponsors for January 2011

January 7th — Roger & Danna Levy in honor of their safe return to the Keys.

January Birthdays

January Di	
l st	
l st	
l st	Laura Goodman
2nd	
2nd	
4th	
4th	Randi W. Freundlich
5th	Gladdy Roberts
6th	
6th	
8th	
8th	
9th	
9th	
10th	
l l th	
I 2th	
13th	Amy Nobil
l 4th	
15th	
l 5th	
I 5th	
l 5th	• •
16th	
l 6th	
l7th	
I7th	
17th	
18th	
18th	
19th	Benjamin Friedman
19th	Mark Kanarek
19th	
20th	
22nd	
24th	
24th	
26th	
27th	
27th	
28th	
29th	
29th	
30th	
30th	Mark Feinberg

Chai-Lights January 2011 5

The Harry James Orchestra

Tuesday night, January 25th will be the opening night of this year's Upper Keys Concert Series. The attraction will be today's touring version of the Harry James Orchestra. Anyone who enjoys the raucous, joyous, melodic and infectious sounds of Big Band music will want to be there. The performance will be held at the Island Community Church auditorium in Islamorada, MM 83.3 bayside, at 8 p.m. Individual tickets are \$40, but season subscriptions are still available at \$80 for all five concerts. Contact lovce Peckman at 305-240-1000 for tickets or more information. Many KICC people work very hard to make this program a success. Along with Dave Feder's I.C.E., it's an important source of quality entertainment during high season in the Keys.

Sisterhood Wants Your Cutlery

As part of its ongoing green drive, KJCC is attempting to cut down on its use of throwaways. But we don't have enough stainless steel knives, forks and spoons for everyone. If you have stainless cutlery and/or serving utensils you'd like to donate to Sisterhood, please contact Erica Garrett at 853-1003 or via e-mail at hippiejap@hotmail.com.

January Anniversaries

Years

lst	Thomas & Leslie Dillon	15
4th	Steve & Amelia Kasinof	30
l 2th	George & Muriel Swartz	31
l7th	Alan & Elaine Schulberg	18
26th	David & Pamela Marmar	26
17th	Alan & Elaine Schulberg	18

We Make it Easy to Donate

There are many ways, and many good reasons, to make donations to your KJCC. As Alan is fond of saying, dues make up less than half of our annual budget. Not only does KJCC benefit, but you can also honor loved ones or special moments in their lives (or your own) in unique ways. Each time a Siddur is opened, for example, or a member or visitor stands before our several sets of plaques in the sanctuary, or someone walks into our beautiful new Meditation Garden and sees the bricks or benches, your loved one is remembered anew. Please contact Carol Steinbock at 852-6152 or 393-1205 for details on wording or payment options.

or ding or payment options.	
Siddur Bookplates:	\$ 25.00
Chair Plates:	300.00
Tree of Life Rock:	1,200.00
Tree of Life plaque:	50.00
Yahrzeit Board plaque:	400.00
Meditation Garden:	
Engraved Bench:	\$ 750.00
Double Brick, 8 x 8:	200.00
Single Brick, 4 x 8:	125.00

The KJCC extends deepest condolences to

Susan Gordon and her family

on the death of Susan's mother

Lillian Skolnick

This Year's Blessing of the Fleet

The annual Upper Keys Blessing of the Fleet ceremony takes place on the first of January every year. This time-honored tradition is steeped in history and meaning. Charter boats and private boats alike line up at the head pin of the Whale Harbor channel just below Windley Key in Islamorada, and then proceed down the channel to the Whale Harbor Bridge where representative clergy await to "bless" the captains, crews, and vessels. Boats start gathering by 10 a.m. The blessing begins at 10:30 a.m. Over the years, Jim, Joel, and George have all blessed the boats of our Jewish captains. Last year was the first time a woman was among the clergy. I will be among the blessers again this year, representing KICC. It is a beautiful way to greet the New Year. All are welcome.

-Gloria

Jewish Definitions

Jewbilation (n.) - Pride in finding out that one's favorite celebrity is Jewish.

Torahfied (n.) - Inability to remember one's lines when called to read from the Torah at one's Bar or Bat Mitzvah. (OR from the Hagadah at Passover)

Matzilation (v.) - Smashing a piece of matzo to bits while trying to butter it.

Bubbegum (n.) - Candy one's mother gives to her grandchildren that she never gave to her own children.

Chutzpapa (n.) - A father who wakes his wife at 4:00 a.m. so she can change the baby's diaper.

Deja Nu (n.) - Having the feeling you've seen the same exasperated look on your mother's face, but not knowing exactly when.

Disoriyenta (n.) - When Aunt Golda gets lost in a department store and strikes up a conversation with everyone she passes.

Hebort (v.) - To forget all the Hebrew one ever learned immediately after one's Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

Jewdo (n.) - A traditional form of self-defense based on talking one's way out of a tight spot.

Mamatzah Balls (n.) - Matzo balls that are as good as your mother used to make.

Mishpochadots (n.) - The assorted lipstick and make-up stains found on one's face and collar after kissing all one's aunts and cousins at a reception.

Our thanks to Bob Auston for sending these in.

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 852-0214.

Picture Postcards - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor – To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 451-0665. **Meditation Garden** – Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 852-6152.

KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim – Call Linda Pollack to arrange your donation, 852-8575.

JNF Trees In Israel - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 852-4353

Chai-Lights Mitzvah - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 852-8575 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack 852-8575 for annual rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or

In Memoriam Sanuary 2011

	Ŭ Ŭ		
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Bernice Bernstein	Laurie Beth	Annette Bitton	
By Paul & Barbara Bernstein ><><><><><>	By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake	By Michel Bitton & Sylvie Coeurjo	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Emma Kohlenbrener	Betty Weinstein	David Cohn	
By Jim & Joan Boruszak ><><><><><>	By Dick & Rita Bromwich	By Nancy L. Cohn <><><><><><><><><><>	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Yetta Hitzig	Henry H. Rubin	Nathan Weisberg	
By Wes & Rita Conklin ><><><><>	By Foster Davidson & Carol Laskin <><><><><><>	By Frank & Gerri Emkey <><><><><><><><><>	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Marcus Weiss	Betty Weinstein	Marvin Greenbaum	
By Janice Gorson ><><><><><>	By Eric Grace & Ruth Schrader-Grace	By Marilyn Greenbaum <><><><><><><><><>	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Judy Lombardi	Henry Gross	Alvin Gross	
By Marilyn Greenbaum ><><><><><>	By Mollie Gross <><><><><>>>>	By David & Patti Gross	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Louis Hartz	Ernest Isenberg	Sylvia Emsig	
By Steven Hartz ><><><><><>	By Henry & Patricia Isenberg	By Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Irving Rosen	Walter Hankin	Goldie Schweitzer	
8			

In Memoriam January 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Harry Stoler

By Randy & Eileen Kominsky

In Memory Of

Iohn Evans

Samuel Neubauer

By Jackie LePree ~~~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of

Ann Netzman

By Alan Netzman

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

In Memory Of

Sylvan Oser

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

William Shapiro

By Michael & Arlene Rosenbach

~~~~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of

Sally Sussman

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg 

In Memory Of

Eta Brownstein

By Pauline Roller

~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of

Anna Savage

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Joseph Cohen

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Betty Weinstein

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

In Memory Of

Abraham Raij

By Salomon & Mary Terner

In Memory Of

Morris Estrin

By Ralph & Lillian Tallent In Memory Of

Sydney Zinner

By Donald & Nancy Zinner In Memory Of

Bernard Kaminstein

By Ron Levy & Beth Kaminstein

Mishebeyrach List

For those of you who might not make it to services regularly, each week we read aloud the names of those we know to be ailing so that we may include their names in a special supplication to G-d to heal them. Our printed list is read, and then the leader asks if anyone in the congregation has names to add. If vou can't be at services. and would like someone you care about to be included in the *mishebeyrach* prayer, call or e-mail and let us know. We'll happily include any name (or names) you tell us about. The main KICC number is 852-5235. The website. which accepts e-mail, is keysjewishcenter.com.

YEDA VETORASHA Yardena Kamely



The Carmel Fire In Israel

hile we were busy with our Chanukah celebrations at the KJCC, a terrible fire was raging in northern Israel, on Mount Carmel, near my hometown of Haifa. I was reading the news on my computer: "...The death toll from Israel's worst-fire-ever reached 41 on Friday, as firefighting crews and equipment from around the world began arriving to help the nation battle the devastating blaze. The inferno, which also displaced thousands, is still raging through forests in northern Israel and on the outskirts of the country's thirdlargest city, Haifa. An unprecedented convoy of international assistance poured in after Israel issued a rare cry for help." Israel, of course, is better known for sending its rescue teams and medical personnel to other countries to help in their disaster-relief efforts.

I was shocked, worried, and saddened by each new bit of information received. The fire broke out around midday and quickly spread, fanned by unusually hot and dry conditions. My brother Uri, who got back from a trip to Israel two weeks before the fire broke out, told me that Israel experienced an exceptionally warm summer and has had little rain during the autumn.

Fond childhood memories of lovely places on the Carmel come to my mind. I have a vivid image of the Pines (*Oranim*) in one of Israel's few large forests, made up of natural growth, and planted areas, a favorite spot for camping, hiking, and picnics. Living in Haifa, our favorite place to spend Shabbat was the Carmel forest, going with a whole group of several families and their children, all of them being "my best friends," playing around, collecting natural objects from the ground, using them for decoration in our homes (even today I like to collect pieces of wood or special little stones on my hikes), and having the best picnic I can remember, delicious food prepared by our moms.

I remember *Kibbutz Bet Oren* (House of Pine), and its beautiful wooded area, a place to sit on hot summer days. It saddens me that it suffered significant damage after its residents were evacuated. In the small artist community of *Ein Hod* – another lovely place my childhood friends from Haifa liked to visit – one woman desperately tried to protect her home from the flames with only a garden hose. If my father (Z.L.), whose love was nature and agriculture, would have been in this situation, he would have reacted the same way.

For the Israelis the Carmel fire is a human tragedy. In Israel, there is a strong sense of connection to nature, a special relation between the people and the land. The loss of precious woodland, in a country where only seven percent of the land is forested, is devastating. Tree-planting has an almost mystical quality here: For decades, Jews all over the world have dropped coins into blue-andwhite boxes of the lewish National Fund (INF). which has planted 240 million trees in the Carmel Forest and elsewhere across Israel since its founding in 1901. Though the woodland fire covered an area of only about eight square miles (21 square kilometers) — or some one percent of Israel's forest land the destruction was felt as a deep national loss.

As we teach our students each year on Tu B'Shvat, trees provide valuable habitat for wildlife, they prevent heat sinks from building up in cities, hold water in the earth, and provide a nourishing layer for undergrowth and new plants to grow. They can help revive economies and are the basic foundation of environmental conservation. Israel's national

ter at Israel's University of Haifa, who has been researching the Carmel region since its last big fire in 1989. "We have to let nature take its course," he advises, noting that planting new trees on a large scale at this point would be a mistake. "The forest needs to be left alone to recover, with only minimal human intervention." Izhaki notes that when

organization. the KKL-JNF (Keren Kavemet Le'Israel - lewish National Fund) has made it a national priority to plant trees in Israel. and to look after them. Over the years, Israel's foresters have learned to select drought -hearty species to cope



An aerial view of the Carmel Mountains and kibbutz of Bet Oren, in northern Israel, during the massive forest fire.

isolating the ecological and biological perspectives, fires also have a positive contribution to a forest's growth. He explains: "Following the 1989 fire. we observed the development of flora and fauna in the region and saw that some fifteen

with the arid land in Israel. There is no formal education in forestry in Israel. JNF-KKL firefighters do take some courses in Israel, and most are sent to learn from foresters in the U.S., who are considered the best in the world. They also train with forest fire-fighters from Spain and France, countries with similar environments to Israel.

The Europe-to-Israel flow of knowledge is reversed when it comes to rehabilitating forests after they've been burned. Israel's extensive research and experience has shown that planted forests rehabilitate best on their own, and need only to be monitored and managed. Natural regeneration is healthier and more sustainable - that's a basic environmental rule - say the scientists.

The Mediterranean forest on the Carmel Mountains is naturally adapted to fires. "There are plant species that have developed resilience to fire and those that have developed a dependency on fire," says Professor Ido Izhaki, head of the Carmel Research Cento twenty years after the fire the forest reached a climax in terms of its fauna and vegetation diversity. This indicates that after about this amount of time following a fire, the forest will be home to more species of wildlife and vegetation than there were before the fire." But fires are only beneficial to biological diversity as long as they don't occur too often. Today, due to human factors, the frequency of fires is too high, and therefore the forest's recovery is likely to take longer.

While some people are mourning friends and relatives, and others the loss of their homes and businesses. many too are also mourning the loss of the Carmel itself, an area nicknamed Little Switzerland for its thick, green forests and mountainous hills. It will take a couple of decades, but hopefully this area will return to its former glory. This year celebrating *Tu B'Shvat*, *Chag La'llanot* (Birthday of the Trees), will have a special significance for all of us. \Diamond

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

In Memory of

In Honor of

In Memory of

David Levin

In Memory of

Sharon Horen Yvette Oddy

lerry Tabasky

Lillian Skolnick

pray for Susie

Lillian Skolnick

Book Plates lim & Joan Boruszak

General Fund Begam, Delores Tobin. Andrew

General Fund Carlson, Kenneth & Nancy DeLuca, Anthony & Marie Pollack, loel & Linda

INF Certificates Sent By Singer, Mary Lee Graham, Bea & Mayk Families

Meditation Garden Gould, Maryon in memory of Paul & Richard Gould Hayhurst, Karen

Oneg Fund Sponsors In Honor of Gitin. David Gloria Avner's birthday Goldfinger, David & Toby Isenberg, Henry & Patricia Emma Feig's birthday Kasinof, Steve & Amelia Birthdays Peckman, Joyce gratitude for my safe return to the Keys Sachs, Joseph & Susan Anniversary Silverman, Mort & Gene Anniversary **Ulpan Students** In gratitude for Yardena

Williams, Jim & Rita Biskar, Rosie

Kamely's safe return

Arnold Biskar

Sisterhood Beth, Alan and Candy Stanlake Kluger, Kurt & Nancy Wasser, Mark & Sofy

Yartzeit Contributions Coltman, Barney & Ellen Cooper, Murray & Claire Gould, Maryon Krissel, Michael Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna

Yizkor Book Lessner, Howard & Shaloma Olsen, Gerald & Sheila Schocket, Jeffrey & Patty Steinberg, Richard & Sheila

In Memory of Robert Coltman Edward Sandberg **Jeanne Schneider** Deborah Cannon Peter Steinberg Rose Steinberg Esther Gold Willner

Do you know all the amazing things Sisterhood does for KJCC?

Things like The Annual KJCC Fundraiser, Shabbat and holiday dinners, the after-service Onegs, the annual Second Seder...and so much more. They do a great job for the KICC, but they could always use your help! Please consider volunteering. They are experts at matching your skills and talents with the many tasks and events.

> Contact Joyce at 305-451-0665 or at joyce@adoctorsbag.com

Sisterhood Joyce Peckman

With decidedly mixed feelings I write my final Chai-Lights column as President of KJCC Sisterhood. I feel tremendous gratitude to all of you who worked so hard on the fundraisers, dinners and celebrations for which I was congratulated for a job well done. I was proud to represent us at religious services and festive events. I know that I was often the face, but you were the hands and often the heart and brain that made these two years so enjoyable and productive.

A wonderful group of women will make up Sisterhood's new Board of Directors: President Lauren Sax, Vice President Georgia Landau, Treasurer Nancy Kluger and Secretary Carol Steinbock. I look forward to working with them.

Simchas and food go together. Our Hannukah dinner was delicious, and well attended. Pauline Roller told me she made close to 100 latkes. Then on Sunday the children of the religious school invited us to join their party after our meeting, for more latkes and celebration. Thank you, Nettie, for making the gift bags for the kids.

The next potluck dinner will be on Friday evening, January 14th at 6:30. There will be a \$5 donation. This should be a true Shabbat meal, complete with chicken, vegetables and *kugels*. (No dairy, please.) Contact Erica Garrett at 305-853-1003 – or email hippiejap@hotmail.com – for your reservation, and to let her know what covered dish you plan to bring, or to ask for suggestions.

Having these Shabbat dinners is one of the unique joys of being a KJCC member. We truly are a family, of which I am proud to be a member. Thank you to Erica and everyone who participates.

Those who attended Georgia's strudel workshop may have some new ideas for the potluck. Linda Perloff, Roberta McNew, Jane Friedman and Linda Pollack all got a lesson on the fun of phyllo dough and walked away with the delicious results. Bernie Ginsberg came in to purchase Georgia's sample.

Deli Night will be Sunday, February 27th. It will be a night of food and games, so mark your calendars. Still on the subject of dining, Sisterhood now possesses a set of real dishes to enhance special occasions. Candy Stanlake did the shopping and schlepping. She also donated towards the price of the china (actually Corelle), as did Nancy Kluger and Sofy Wasser.

Our fashion show, presented by Angelika, will be held at Braza Lena on Tuesday, January 18th. The focus this year will be on accessorizing the clothes we already own. Stuart and Lauren Sax always make the shows enjoyable, and we walk away with unexpected ideas.

Contact Nancy Kluger or me for your February 6th reservations to "The 25th Annual Putnam Valley Spelling Bee" at the Actors' Playhouse in Miami. This is an enjoyable musical that will leave you smiling for a week. Tickets are \$40. We are also selling \$20 tickets for "Chicago" on March 19th at Coral Shores Performing Arts Center.

I would like to thank Joan Boruszak for all of her hard work organizing and running the Gift Shop. It will take several people to fill her capable shoes. We have lovely items for your gift-giving or personal use, in large part because of how much Joan and Jim did to find and select them.

You should have received a letter from Sisterhood with the Membership Directory. Please fill it out and return with a check to sponsor one or more Onegs in 2011. (There is a minor error in the return address: Tavernier's zip code should be 33070.)

I wish the new Board and all of you a happy, healthy, productive 2011. It was a pleasure working with you. \diamond





World Jewish Report Medina Roy



From Rockets to Roses

Yaron Bob. metal sculptor. blacksmith and part-time computer teacher, has found a way to create beauty from the ashes of Kassam rockets that fired into Israel from Gaza. Over 12,000 have landed in the southern Israeli towns of Sderot and Ofakim in the last eight vears, causing chaos and destruction and traumatizing an entire generation of Israeli children. Bob's idea was to turn the shrapnel and rocket shells into artwork, namely roses. A plaque mounted on the base of every sculpture records the month and year of the landing of each sculpture's particular rocket. A portion of each sale is set aside to help "Operation Life Shield" build bomb shelters in the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon. To view Bob's artwork, visit www.rocketsintoroses.com.

(www.rocketsintoroses.com, 11-30-10)

Probing the Earth's History

(Warning: Biblical literalists should probably skip this item – Ed.) An international team of scientists are drilling deep below the Dead Sea - the lowest place on earth, roughly 1,300 feet below sea level - in an effort to extract material that could provide an unprecedented look at the history of the earth during the past 500,000 years. The project aims to examine layers of sediment over the course of millions of years, seeking clues about Earth's changing environment - shifting weather patterns, seismic activity and climate change. Details about these conditions could even provide insight into human migration in and out of the region. Once extracted, the soil will be studied by scientists from fields ranging from climate science to chemistry. The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities is a partner in the project. (www.telegraph.co.uk, 11-17-10)

Nature Will Fix It

The raging wildfire that devastated the Carmel Forest near Haifa, the worst fire in Israel's history, killed 43 people, consumed close to 10,000 acres of forest, and required the evacuation of 17,000 residents. Close to four million trees were destroyed. Experts at the University of Haifa insist that although it will take years, nature will restore itself. Professor Ido Izhaki, head of the Carmel Research Center, said that the dominant tree species in the forest is the Jerusalem (Aleppo) pine, which is "very suited to fires. When the temperatures rise as with a fire, the pine cones open and shoot out their seeds. Warm temperatures promote germination, and if good - but not excessive - rains follow, in the spring there will be a carpet of sprouts." He and other ecologists oppose the planting of young trees, saying that not only would this be unnecessary but it could also very likely interfere with natural restoration. (Jerusalem Post, 12-6-10)

New Hope for the Paralyzed

When Israeli entrepreneur Amit Goffer was paralyzed in a car accident in 1997, he was disturbed knowing that the wheelchair seemed to be the only way to get around. With that in mind, he invented a type of robotic "pants" that use sensors and motors to allow paralyzed patients to stand, walk and even climb stairs. He founded a company, Argo Medical Technologies. After several years of clinical trials in both Israel and the United States, Argo's units will go on sale this month to rehabilitation centers around the world. Called *ReWalk*, the 35-pound device, worn over clothing, consists of leg braces containing motion sensors and motorized joints that respond to subtle changes in upper-body movement and shifts in balance. A harness around the patient's waist and shoulders keeps the suit in place, and a backpack holds the computer and rechargeable 3 ½ hour battery. He said regular use of the device, which costs about \$100,000, would prevent complications that often arise in people who can't walk, such as pressure sores and urinary, digestive, circulatory and cardiovascular problems.

(www.washingtonpost.com, 12-2-10)

Top Rating Once Again

For the fifth consecutive year, Charity Navigator, America's leading independent charity evaluator, has conferred its four-star rating on the Jewish National Fund (JNF) for the organization's sound fiscal management. Only five percent of the more than 5,400 charities rated have received this coveted evaluation five years in a row. JNF was recently named to The Chronicle of Philanthropy's annual "Philanthropy 400" list of the nation's biggest charities. Of the 22 lewish charities that made the list, JNF was one of only four lewish organizations that saw a boost in fundraising totals, this at a time when so many organizations have seen a decrease in giving. The JNF began in 1901, collecting coins in little blue metal boxes, to purchase land and return the Jewish people to their homeland. In over 107 years, JNF has evolved into a global environmental leader. (www.inf.org, 11-10-10)

An Award Well Deserved

Gerda Weissman Klein, a Holocaust survivor who teachers children the value of citizenship, is among those who will be honored by President Obama with a Medal of Freedom. Klein, who survived the notorious death march at the end of the war, recently founded *Citizenship Counts,* an organization that teaches students to "cherish the value of their American citizenship." The Medal of Freedom is the highest U.S. civilian honor, "presented to individuals who have made especially meri-

torious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors." The recipients will receive their medals in a ceremony early in 2011. Klein's memoir, "All But My Life," was made into an HBO special, "One Survivor Remembers," which received both an Emmy and an Academy Award (for best short documentary) in 1995. (The film is in the KJCC Library's audio-visual collection.) (www.jta.org, 11-18-10)

R.I.P. Harry Potter

The grave of Harry Potter, not the literary character but a British soldier killed in Israel in 1939, has been drawing record numbers of tourists to the British military cemetery (the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery) in the Israeli town of Ramle, a working-class town in central Israel. Pvt. Harry Potter joined the British military in 1938. He arrived in British mandate Palestine later that year and was killed in battle in 1939. Potter was 18 years old. (The tombstone incorrectly lists his age as 19, Potter having lied about his age when he enlisted). The municipality said people began inquiring about the grave about five years ago and the city listed it, one of the cemetery's 4,500 graves, on its tourism website in early 2010. Thousands of tourists visit Ramle in large part because of its many archaeological ruins.

(The Associated Press, 11-16-10)

An Official Apology

Ben Girod, Bishop of the Amish community in Idaho, led a delegation of fifty Amish Christians from the U.S. and Switzerland on a visit to Israel. The reason: to officially apologize to the Jewish people for having rejected Israel and the Jews. The Amish have had a history of anti-Semitism, believing that Jews have been "replaced" by Christians and even that Hitler was G-d's agent in punishing the Jews for their rejection of Jesus. "We are here to say we are sorry," said Girod. "We no longer want to reject you or look at you as not being G-d's people. You were G-d's people long before we were." A declaration of apology and commitment, beautifully printed on parchment, was presented to Western Wall Rabbi Shmuel Rabinovitch on behalf of the entire Amish community. In the declaration, the Amish ask Israel's forgiveness "for our collective sin of pride and selfishness by ignoring the plight of the Jewish people and the nation of Israel." The document states that the Amish will, from now on, speak out strongly in support of the Jews and the Jewish state. The Amish shun modern technology and normally do not ride in automobiles or fly in airplanes. They waived this restriction in order to travel to Israel for their public apology. (www.*israelnational news.com, 12-2-10*)

Update

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations has rejected Iran's bid for a seat on the Executive Board of the new U.N. agency to promote equality for women (U.N. Women). The story of Iran's mind-boggling bid was first noted in *World Jewish Report* in the June/July 2010 issue of Chai-Lights. We thought you'd like to know that their bid failed. (*World Jewish Congress*, 11-10-10)

The Bus Police

An unusual type of student protest has emerged in Israel. Israelis are not known for being very polite, and some students are just disgusted with the crude behavior of passengers on Israeli buses. Students from the College of Administration in Tel Aviv decided to establish some order; they've created a project they named Mishtarbus (a combination of the Hebrew word mishtara, which means "police," plus the English word "bus." Together the word translates to mean the "Good Manners Bus Police.") The group is seeking to eliminate such nuisances as loud ringtones, chattering across seats and ignoring senior citizens who are forced to stand. "Many bus travelers take over public space and treat it as their own," one of the students said. "They listen to music without earphones, talk very loudly on their cell phones and put their feet on the seats, and this affects the travel experience for every one of

us." At the end of the semester, the students will be graded on their project. (www.haaretz.com, 11-18-10)

Tourist #3,000,001

Israel honored its 3,000,001st tourist since the beginning of 2010 – a pastor leading a group of 120 evangelical pilgrims from Brazil – in one of Israel's biggest tourism years in recent history. Pastor Jomber Araujo Vladislav was welcomed at Ben-Gurion International airport on November 22nd by Tourism Minister Stas Misezhnikov and other state officials in a special ceremony. Misezhnikov said that the fact that a tourist from Brazil is the three millionth (+1) visitor this year seems fitting, as incoming tourism from that country has increased 82 percent in 2010. Pastor Vladislav won a future six-day trip to Israel. (www.haaretz.com, 11-22-10)

Did You Know...

• Leo Apotheker, Hewlett-Packard's new CEO, studied in Israel, loves hummus and speaks fluent Hebrew (as well as four other languages). (www.ynetnews.com, 10-8-10)

• Elizabeth Emanuel, the Jewish fashion designer who, along with her husband David, designed Princess Diana's wedding dress, may be selected to design the gown in which Kate Middleton, the future queen of England, will walk down the aisle when she weds Prince William in April. (www.thejc.com, 11-17-10)

• Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio is looking to build a house in Israel so that he can have a base in which to stay during his visits with his girlfriend, Israeli supermodel Bar Refaeli. (www.haaretz.com, 11-16-10)

• The Daily Beast ranked the thirty most-Jewish cities in America, using three *per capita* criteria: Jewish population, number of synagogues and kosher restaurants. Not surprisingly, New York City claimed the top spot, with a Jewish population of 9.6 percent, four synagogues per capita and 504 kosher restaurants. Miami, Philadelphia, Boston and the Washington, D.C / Baltimore area followed. (*The Forward, 12-7-10*) We'd guess that L.A. and Chicago will ask for a recount—Ed. \diamond



Photo Gallery



The top three photos are from the Pollack family Chanukah at son Roy and Vippi's house near Austin, Texas. In the photo top left



are Maddy, Roy, Linda, Vippi and Will. Top right, Joel and Linda are joined by nephew David. The inset Chanukiyah was hand-made by Will.

Joyce Peckman rented a condo in Orlando and flew son Dan and his three children there for Chanukah. Which explains the two large smiling rodents in the picture above, along with Joyce, Dan, and grandchildren Michal, Eliana and Yosef. At right, lighting Chanukiyot with the children on the eighth night.



Some photos of the developing KJCC Meditation Garden, to show you its progress. Steve has begun to lay in the paths, which eventually will become brick. The Silver Buttonwoods along its outer borders are thriving. The path you see will culminate in a pergola to be sponsored and built by Alan and Candy.







The three photos at left were taken at the December 18th Havdalah at Joyce Peckman's house in Key Largo. A lot is going on in the center shot:



Gloria is saying the blessing and about to pass around the sweet spice for everyone to savor, while Medina holds up her cell phone so her mom Bianka in Miami Beach can participate in the service.

The photo top right of Rene and Maryon was taken by Mary Lee at the Christmas party given by Voices for Florida Children on December 4th in Islamorada.





Georgia Landau often brings an apple strudel to potluck dinners that everyone raves about. So Sisterhood prevailed upon her to conduct a class at KJCC to teach others how to make it. Not being the hoarding sort, Georgia agreed, and the class took place on Sunday, December 12th at KJCC.

That's Georgia at the head of the table, explaining the fine points of wrapping the prepared apples. And what, you ask, was Bernie doing there? Did he take the class? No, he'd arranged with Georgia to buy the strudel she was making, but he did stay to kibbitz and expertly supervise the baking.



Pleas

GET OUTTA TOWN

A fundraiser for the Keys Jewish Community Center

Tickets \$100 each

Only 100 tickets will be sold. Where else can you fly to an exciting weekend destination for \$100?

Rules are simple. Buy a raffle ticket and when you win, you choose your destination from one of these four exciting weekend packages.

New York Long Weekend

Includes 3 nights at the Hilton New York, dinner at one of three premier restaurants, and a Broadway experience for two.

Sonoma, CA VIP Wine Experience

Includes lodging at the Fairmont Sonoma Inn & Spa and limousine service to a privately hosted tour of the Jacuzzi Family Winery.

New Orleans Jazz & Dining Package

Includes 3 nights at the Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel, VIP seats at Preservation Hall, and five-course dinner for two at Commander's Palace Restaurant.

Ultimate Sports Fan Getaway

Príority seats at your favorite MLB, NBA, NFL, NHL, PGA, or College Bowl Game. Deluxe accommodations with breakfast included.

> All packages are for two and include air travel and lodging. Travel times and itineraries are flexible.

Winner to be drawn February 13, 2011

Call Stuart Sax @ 305-852-2353 or email <u>SLIISAX@aol.com</u>

A KJCC Welcome to Taní

Dear Family and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that we share with you the news that our very first grandchild/grandson — Matanel Naim ben Doron David and Liati Natanya Mayk-Hai — having been born on the first day of

Chanukah (at 7 lbs. 14 oz.), had his brit on the 8th day at the Jewish Theological Seminary Women's League Sanctuary in Manhattan.

Israel had the great honor and pleasure of being his sandak, and Nissan was the kvatter. Great Grandma Bea and Aunt Shyella opened the ceremony by lighting two candles to bring the baby's light (soul/neshama) into harmony with the light in the world. As Nissan walked into the sanctuary carrying Tani on a pillow, all the gathered family and friends sang "hee-nay ma-tov." During

the actual "cutting," we all sang "eli-yahu ha-navi" as Israel sat high upon the carved Elijah HaNavi chair and the baby rested on a pillow in his lap. Doron and

Liati spoke beautifully (following the brit and

prayers) about the history and meaning of their son's name and the achievements of the people he was named after: Saba Marty and Saba Naim. After the mishabeirach for Liati and the baby, the mohel covered the new family (mom, dad and baby) in Doron's wedding tallit and recited the priestly blessing. We all said "she-he-cheyanu" together and danced around the room as Liati and Doron left to take care of Tani. All are doing well except that Liati and Doron are both exhausted!

Love, Israel and Nissan







СНАЛИКАН, ОН СНАЛИКАН...

A reprise in text and photos of the December 3rd celebration at KJCC, from dinner to the children's play to services

by Gloria Avner

here are many miracles that take place on Chanukah at the KJCC, first of which is the production of a delicious, aesthetically beautiful dinner and the



wondrous community turnout of members and friends young and old to enjoy it.

We all offer much gratitude to Linda and Joel Pollack for another year of generously sponsoring this event, to Erica Garrett for organizing it, and to all

who decorated and cooked for this happy holidav feast. With so many faces returning from summers away. our Chanukah party feels like the beginning of "the season."

The second miracle was the rebirth of the ShabbaTones, our adult chorus, which sang *Maoz Tsur* and *Mi Yimalel* better than ever (especially the



third night of Chanukah, was the performance of our youngsters. With energy, humor, and enthusiasm they blessed candles, sang songs, told the



second time).

Many thanks to

Jules Seder for

patience and

pitch pipe.

last, on this Shabbat Eve and

his organization,

Third but not

story of the Maccabees (in a version inspired by and dedicated to the memory of recently departed Harriet Feder, mother of our own music man David Feder), and twirled like the dreidels they were (until some adults among us were a wee bit dizzy). Mikhaela Bitton, Lili and Natalie Werthamer, and Moira Knowles



never stopped smiling, even when they eventually needed to sit down. Moira and Max Schrader-Grace made wonderful narrators, and we could not have asked for a more charismatic Judah, the "Boy who said NO," than Zach SchraderGrace. Harry Friedman, Noah Bitton, and Joshua Bernstein did a great job playing multiple roles from soldiers to King to brothers of Judah.

Most important, our young students (and

toms while we re-tell our stories. We instruct our young and pass on our values of *Tzedakah* and repairing the world – *Tikkun Olam*. Teachers Gloria Avner and Yardena Kamely led the service after the play, calling

Max the tutor) made a coherent presentation, not one child absent, while having fun, proving that Antiochus and all other would-be destrovers of the Jewish faith have not been successful. lews have not assimilated. We still study Torah. We observe Shabbat. We relish our culture and our cus-



on our students time and again to come up to the *bimah* and join in song. Even the youngest ran eagerly up the steps to take part. Both Bernie and Alan made wise and much appreciated observations in their talks from the bimah that night. Long story short (always a





good thing), as long as the sound of excited young people enjoying themselves while observing centuries-old customs and ceremonies fills our sanctuary, as long as they read Hebrew and sing songs and shout out "NAYS GADOL HAYAH SHAM (A Great Miracle Happened There)," Judaism is alive and well in the Florida Keys. This is the real miracle. "NAYS GADOL HAYAH PO." (A Great Miracle Happened *Here!*) ◊





Chai-Lights sends its appreciation to Mary Lee Singer, who shot many of the Chanukah photos.



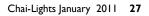




School held its own Chanukah celebration. Teachers, parents and guests all participated in perhaps the most important mitzvah of all — to teach our children.







Stained Glass of KJCC Part five of our closer look at the story behind the art.

We have three stained-glass sanctuary windows left to explore. The first one, closest to the sanctuary entrance, and directly across

from the sword of Simeon, is the window of the Tribe of Levi.

At first glance the window's image seems strangely plain, a white rectangle with glazed panes amid the stark rays of nature's blue and green that also form the background of Simeon's window. But look carefully. It is not one white rectangle



into slavery.

But the true importance of Levi, both in the Bible and in Jewish history, was as an ancestor.

Descendants of his changed, well, every-thing.

According to the Bible and masoretic texts, Levi had three sons: Gershon, Kohath and Merari. (Some texts speak of daughters, too, but bloodlines were then patrilinear, so only males typically get full mention. Ironically, though Judaism has long-since begun tracing lineage through its mothers.

KJCC's stained glass window of the Tribe of Levi.

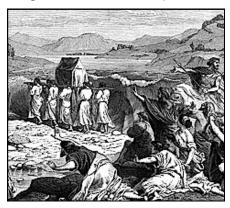
with dividers, but a set of twelve joined together as one, as if tiles set in a mosaic. From each side at the top extends a large-linked, golden chain. The image seemingly is designed to hang from something. It was. According to the Midrash, the Tribe of Levi adopted this replica of the Breastplate of Judgment, worn by the priests over their ephods, as their symbol. The only thing missing from our window are the twelve gemstones representing each of the twelve tribes.

Levi himself, the progenitor of the tribe, was the third son, after Reuben and Simeon, of Jacob with his first wife, Leah. (The Torah eventually got around to banning the marriage of one man to two sisters at the same time.) Like Simeon, to whom he is often linked, Levi is prominent in only two Torah stories. It was Levi who joined Simeon in blood-soaked revenge against Shechem, who they accused of defiling their sister Dinah. And, like Simeon, Levi was also said to have been an active plotter in the attempt to first kill and then later sell their brother Joseph the lines of Kohanes and Levites, to this day, are traced through the father.) Kohath had four sons, one of whom, Amram, had three children of his own (some sources say with Jochebed, his father's sister). Those children were, in order, Miriam, Aaron and Moses. So Moses and Aaron, the Bible says, were both Levites, and the great-grandsons of Levi. (This doesn't seem to match up well with the four hundred years that elapsed between the time Joseph went to Egypt and Moses led them out, but let's not quibble. The Torah's about ideas, not math.)

After descending from Sinai with the first set of Ten Commandment tablets, a furious Moses discovers the existence of the golden calf and demands to know who among his people has shunned the idol and remained loyal to the God who delivered them from Egypt. It is his own tribe, the Levites, who gather before him. At Moses' instruction the Levites raise their swords to the idol worshippers, slaying some three thousand. From this moment forth they are separated from the other tribes.

The priesthood had once been envisioned as

drawing representatives from each of the tribes. But after Sinai only Levites are to be entrusted with the highest offices and the various duties surrounding them. Aaron and his sons, and their sons, will become the *Kohanim*, the priesthood, while other Levites will attend them and perform other, varied duties related to the service of God now considered too holy for other tribes to be entrusted with. It was the Levites who carried the Tabernacle throughout the remaining years in the desert, and were responsible for setting it up and taking it down, and guarding it. To assure that only men in their physi-



cal prime would handle the precious cargo. no Levite could assume their sacred dutv until they were at least

Levites carrying the Mishkan.

thirty years old. The job required not only reverence but also great focus and care: the penalty for mishandling any of the sacred components was death.

Levites were said to have been the builders of Solomon's Temple. Only they were allowed to sing the sacred music inside it, and play musical instruments there. They were also the Temple's gatekeepers, and its maintenance crew. They assisted the *Kohanim* during the performance of all priestly duties.

Levites were the only tribe to receive no territorial allotment in the land of Canaan. (They were also exempt from military service, and played no part in the conquest.) They were dispersed in forty-two cities – including the Cities of Refuge – scattered throughout all the other tribes' territories, inhabiting familiar names like Hebron, and Shechem, and

Gezer, and Golan, to serve as spiritual teachers until a central sanctuary could be constructed. (It can be a little confusing that, even though the tribe of Levi had no land. there are still twelve tribes shown on maps in the land assigned them by Joshua. The answer is that two of the names that appear, those of Manasseh and Ephraim, were sons of Joseph, who himself is



Chagall's stained glass Levite window in Jerusalem.

not listed.) Since they had no land of their own, the Levites were economically dependent on the other tribes, who were all expected to tithe local harvests – the *Maaser Rishon* – to support them and enable them to concentrate on their spiritual duties.

There is ongoing scholarly debate as to whether a tribe of Levi existed at all. Some, following the "J" documents, say the Levites did exist as a tribe. Others, following the "E" documents and texts, believe that "Levi" was but a general term for a priest, and that Moses and Aaron were of one of the tribes of Joseph.

What is not disputed is that, with the destruction of the Temple in 70 C.E., the Levites – the priests and their less exalted attendants –

ceased to have a function, and with the rise of Rabbinic Iudaism their positions and status quickly disappeared. What remains today are many variations of names stemming from Kohane or Levi. and a few ingrained synagogue courtesies such as calling Kohanes first for *aliyot* and on special occasions asking them to confer a priestly blessing, even though it has been nearly two millennia since there actually were Jewish priests. ◊



The Banner of Levi, with the twelve gems inset.

SHOP ISRAEL

Check your KJCC Gift Shop and buy Israel.



Magnificent crystal mezuzahs designed by the artist Udi from the Blue and White gallery in the Cardo in the Old City of Jerusalem - Wonderful wedding gifts!

> Also: Silver star necklaces with multi colored stones and hand made parchment note paper from Zickran Yaakov.



Beautiful talit and kepahs from Jaffa



Multi-colored over-the-shoulder fabric purses and challah covers from Rifkas in the Old City of Jerusalem



May there be light, joy, peace and friendship in this house, with an abundance of blessing in every room.

Blessing for the Bome

Individual orders can be accommodated.

-This Month in Jewish History-

January

49 B.C.E. – Julius Caesar crosses the Rubicon, signaling the start of civil war against fellow triumvirate member Pompey, who had defiled the Holy of Holies, mocked the Jewish religion and shipped thousands of Jewish slaves to Rome. Once Caesar wins the war, he allows the walls of Jerusalem to be rebuilt, institutes a taxation system that takes the sabbatical year into consideration and makes it possible for Jews living in the Italian peninsula to form into communities. Romans of the time note the unusual grief displayed by Jews when Caesar is assassinated.

1180 – Philip Augustus, the new king of France, arrests large numbers of Jews while his father, Louis VII, a sometime protector of the Jews, is still alive. All Jews found in synagogue on the Sabbath are arrested. Philip agrees to free them, however, for 15,000 silver marks.

1232 - In London, The *Domus Conversorum* known in English as the House of the Converts, is founded by order of Henry III - a weak and extravagant grandson of the Lion Himself, Henry II, and son to King John of Robin Hood fame - to provide a home and free maintenance for Jews converting to Christianity.

1301 – Andrew III of Hungary dies, ending the Arpad dynasty in Hungary. As king, Andrew reverses the anti-Jewish practices of his predecessor, insists that Jews in Posonium (Bratislava) should enjoy all the liberties of citizens. Things go downhill for the Jews of Hungary after Andrew's death. They are expelled from the kingdom in 1349 under the belief (not restricted to Hungary) that Jews were responsible for the Black Death that wiped out a third of Europe. their synagogue after their move into the ghetto. The occasion is actually celebrated as a "Purim" until the 1789 French Revolution, since many feel that the ghetto provides some protection, and since in an unusual move the keys of the ghetto are given to the Jewish leaders.

1606 – The Governor of Puerto Rico reports that one-fifth of the white population of the island is Portuguese. Many of these "white" Portuguese are most likely *conversos*.

1625 – John Milton, author of "Paradise Lost," is admitted to Christ's College, Cambridge, at the age of 16. During Milton's lifetime, Jews are still officially not allowed to settle in the British Isles. But like many Puritans living in the England of Oliver Cromwell, Milton sees a connection between his brand of Christianity and the Israelites. Until his eyes weaken, he reads the Hebrew Bible on a daily basis and expresses a positive view of Mosaic Law. Milton also serves as a secretary to Oliver Cromwell and, according to one of his biographers, is part of the group who negotiates for the return of the Jews to England.

1706 - Benjamin Franklin - printer, publisher, scientist, author, statesmen and vital American - is born in Boston. Franklin sees the American Revolution as a replaying of the story of the Jewish Exodus from Egypt, and suggests that the Great Seal of America depict Moses standing on the shore of the Red Sea, while Pharaoh drowns in his chariot in its midst. When the Jewish community in Philadelphia builds their synagogue, "Mikveh Israel," Franklin contributes to the building fund. On July 4, 1788, too sick and weak to get out of bed, Franklin instructs that the Independence Day parade in Philadelphia include the clergy of different Christian denominations, "with the rabbi of the lews." Chai-Lights lanuary 2011 31

1600 - The 400 Jews of Verona complete

walking arm in arm.

1788 - Georgia becomes the fourth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. A year later it becomes the third state to ban religious discrimination. The first Jewish families had arrived in Georgia in July of 1733. Two years before the ratification vote, the Jewish community of Savannah feels stable enough to reorganize Congregation Mikve Israel, elect officers and rent a house to be used as a synagogue.

1815 - General Andrew Jackson defeats the British at the Battle of New Orleans. At his side fight two Jews famous for very different reasons: Pirate Jean Lafitte, whose mother's Separdic family had fled the Inquisition, and Judah Touro, scion of the famed New England Touro family (the Touro Synagogue).

1836 – Mendele Mocher Sforim, "Mendele the bookseller," the pseudonym of Sholem Yakov Abramovich, Jewish author and one of the founders of modern Yiddish and Modern Hebrew literature, is born to a poor family in Kopyl, near Minsk. His first article, "Letter on Education", appears in a Hebrew newspaper, *Hamagid*, in 1857. Initially writing in Hebrew, coining many words in that language, he ultimately switches to Yiddish in order to expand his audience. Like Sholom Aleichem, he uses a pseudonym because of the perception at the time that as a ghetto vernacular, Yiddish is not suited to serious literary work. It is an idea he will do much to dispel.

1852 - Mt. Sinai Hospital is incorporated in New York City by Sampson Simson and eight associates. It is the first Jewish hospital in the United States.

1858 – Eliëzer Ben-Yehuda, the father of modern Hebrew, is born in Lithuania as Eliezer Yitzhak Perelman. His plan to restore Hebrew as a spoken language of Jews in Palestine is three-pronged: "Hebrew in the Home," "Hebrew in the School," and "Words, Words, Words." By the time of his death in 1922, Ben-Yehuda has almost singlehandedly transformed Hebrew into a revitalized and thriving modern language.

1876 - Konrad Adenauer, the first post-war Chancellor of West Germany, is born. Imprisoned by the Nazis during World War II, Adenauer seeks to return Germany to the world community. To make amends to Jews everywhere, he offers war reparations to the government of Israel. Under Adenauer, Germany recognizes Israel and provides arms for her defense despite threats from Arab governments.

1887 – The Jewish Theological Seminary Association opens under the leadership of Rabbi Sabato Morais in New York. The idea is to train Rabbis who will help preserve Jewish traditions being eroded by the "reformers" and their Pittsburgh platform. In 1902 Solomon Schechter reorganizes the Seminary and changes the name to JTS, or the Jewish Theological Seminary. It becomes the central foundation for the Conservative Movement, a role it still plays today.

1895 - Theodor Herzl writes of personally witnessing Capt. Alfred Dreyfus being "drummed out of the army in the courtyard of the [French] Ecole Militaire as huge crowds outside shout 'Death to the Jews!"

1908 - Abraham Goldfaden dies at the age of 67. Born in 1840 in part of the Russian Empire, Golfaden is a driving force in the Yiddish theatre during its golden period of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, as author, composer (yes, there were musicals), director and producer. One of his early comedies is called Shmendrik, whose title-hero is the proverbial gullible, good-natured schlemiel. The play is so popular that the word Shmendrik becomes part of the Yiddish language and survives today in American slang. Goldfaden is so famous at the time of his death that he rates an obituary in the New York Times referring to him as "the Yiddish Shakespeare." Some 75,000 people attend his funeral procession from the People's Theater in the Bowery to Washington Cemetery in Brooklyn. >

David Gitin Author in the House

by Gloria Avner

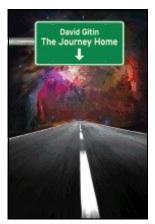
The year just past, 2010, was a big year for David Gitin. For one thing, he joined a *shul* (ours). For another, he moved 3,000 miles from California to the Keys to live with a girl he met more than a half-century ago at Hebrew-speaking Camp Massad in Northern Ontario. For a third (good things come in threes), his *tenth* book of poetry was just published December first, the last poem writ-

ten less than six months ago while he looked out a kitchen window in Bar Harbor, Maine. It has been quite a journey.

And that is the name of his new book: "The Journey Home," Poems: 1962-2010.

To us, David is a presence with deep voice and rabbinic beard (he actually does come from a long line of rabbis. Uncle Joe Gitin, chief rabbi for generations at Temple Emmanuel in San Jose, was until a few months ago the old-

The front cover of David's latest book.



est living Reform Rabbi in America. He died at 104. David's grandfather. Samuel Gitin. was an Orthodox

talked about for many pages in Selig Adler's book on the Diaspora, "From Ararat to Suburbia." We also know David

"The Journey Home" has received rave reviews: "The world in Gitin's poems is astonishing, layered with multiple suggestions and significances, fleeting and awesome. His deceptively simple seeming technique is built out of shrewd connections among contexts." Curtis Faville, in "Compass Rose."

Dialogue

East West North South burning down the house

until water from the well seasoned my lips

to words that mend I see the face

> of my ancestor once again

(Reviews and more information about David's books and readings can be found at www.davidgitin.com.)

Rabbi in Buffalo.

e" has re-"The world stonishing, suggestions teting and



Gloria's beautiful portrait of David was painted in Maine.

takes good photos for Chai-Lights, is a font of knowledge about music and film, and helps teach our kids at Religious School every Sunday.

Now we are learning about the national reputation of his poetry. Allen Ginsberg called David's work "commonsense appreciation of minute particulars, perhaps the clearest sort of writing anyone can do." Robert Creeley said "David Gitin's an old -time serious poet, with a happily light touch. Dance to the music!" Now we can dance and read. The book is in our gift shop: a percentage of all sales will be donated to the KJCC. David will happily sign copies.

There is a bonus for KJCC members in this book. Most books have a photograph of the author on the back. This one has a painting, "Portrait of a Poet." It is a batik painting, created this summer by, um, me, the longlost "girl" with whom David has re-united. The last section of the ter have Δ

book celebrates love. ◊



The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. This hilarious tale of overachievers' angst chronicles the experience of six adolescent outsiders vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Spelling Bee is the unlikeliest of hit musicals about the unlikeliest of heroes; a quirky yet charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time.

WINNER! 2 TONY AWARDS

Donation \$40 Contact Nancy Kluger klugerkeys@bellsouth.net 305-393-2129

Mah Nishtanah Ha New Year Hazeh?

by Gloria Avner

Why is this New Year different from other New Years?

Here is a hint: in one culture other than our own, there would be a Sadie Hawkins dance. That's right. In addition to Judaism observing four special New Years in every single year (that's in addition to the secular one we're now celebrating), Jews observe more leap years than almost any other culture. In fact we make seven "leaps" in every nineteen years. The 3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th, and 19th years are leap years in this cycle.

We are also one of the very few cultures (including the Chinese, Hindu, and Persian) to add "leap months" to compensate for astronomical differences. Our calendar (which has many technical names and rules I will spare you), in addition to being used to set *yahrzeits, rosh chodesh*, new moon dates, and *Parasha* readings, uses both solar and lunar time-marking systems to insure that we celebrate our core rituals in proper season.

We as a people have always paid heed to both solar and lunar cycles. It's about time. We watch the stars too, as anyone who has attended one of our short, sweet Havdalah services knows. (You have to love a religion that does not put a specific number on the hours necessary to call a day a day. It is enough for us that the day begins and ends at sundown). We honor our weekdays by naming them solely after their relation to the days of Creation and cessation/rest. (Friday, for example, is Yom HaShiShi in Hebrew - the sixth day.) We continue to be tied to our agrarian-based earth-honoring origins while remaining in tune with the secular world. a necessity in a world where governments throughout history have required the timely payment of all kinds of taxes.

Hillel and his fellow scholars were so smart (credit given in the *Mishnah*). Over all

these hundreds of years, their codified

system has never needed more than a few seconds adjustment.

Here's how it works, in simplified form: Most years, we have twelve months, six with 29 days and six with 30. Accordingly, a nonleap year consists of 354 days. Whoops, that's eleven short of the Gregorian calendar around which the secular world and our date books revolve. What do we do so that we don't get hopelessly behind? We can't celebrate *Pesach* in November or *Rosh HaShanah* in June. We know that our rituals are tied to earth's seasons and cycles.

This is what we do:

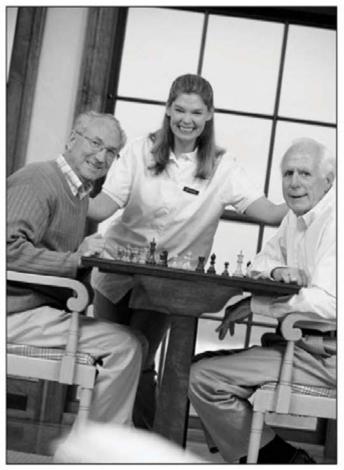
Right now, after the month of *Sh'vat* and the upcoming lovely celebration of "The New Year of the Trees" (don't miss our students' favorite ritual, adding to our orchard on Tu *B'Shvat*), we will be approximately thirty days behind. At the end of Sh'vat, we add an extra month of either 29 or thirty days (depending on which is necessary in order to avoid any fast day occurring the day after or before Shabbat--intelligently avoiding the problem of not being able to cook a meal before or after fasting). We call this extra month Adar 1. It is followed by our regular month of Adar. All is then in place for us to be in harmony with the energy of the seasons as they relate to our ritual cycles and holy days (until it is time for the next "leap").

A leap year is referred to in Hebrew as Shanah Me'uberet, a pregnant year. According to Jewish tradition, Adar is a lucky and happy month. May this leap month and year be pregnant with all kinds of possibilities for you, your family, and our worldwide community. May it give birth to good fortune, good health, creativity, and continued supportive, warm community life among our KJCC mishpachah. \Diamond



The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

The Palace Suites / Independent Living The Palace Royale / Catered Living The Palace Renaissance / Assisted Living The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center The Palace at Home / Home Health

| VERONICA'S ART
AND GLASS STUDIO | Barbara Knowles
Photography and Video
Destination
Wedding Planner |
|--|--|
| Stained Glass Custom Pieces •
Restoration and Repairs •
Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry •
Classes • Materials and Supplies
Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist
(305) 304-9411
veroagutierrez@yahoo.com | Officiant, All Events, Portraits
Real Estate, Corporate
Custom Packages
www.FLKeysWeddings.com
305-772-0503
305-853-5653
iweddu@bellsouth.net
Richard Knowles
PhotoVideo
305-942-4488
flkeys@bellsouth.net |
| florida keys
periodontics
and
implantology
paul e. berger, d.d.s.
the pink plaza
103400 overseas highway
Suite 229
tel: 305.453.1811
key largo, fl 33037
fax: 305.453.1889 | Ari B. Oberstein
Licensed Funeral Director
Miami-Dade 305.257.8110
Broward 954.366.2591
Fax 305.774.1890
866.975.EDEN
4051 Laguna Street
Coral Gables, FL 33146
www.edenfuneralservices.com |
| SOFY WASSER, L.M.T.
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST
870 NARRAGANSETT LANE
KEY LARGO, FL 33037
MILE MARKER 103 - BAYSIDE
305-332-1500 - CELL
305-453-1324 - HOME
SWEDISH / AROMATHERAPY /
NEUROMUSCULAR / HOT STONES | office hours by appointment phone: (305) 852-3219
fax: (305) 852-9016
OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S.
JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A.
RICHARD C. LAGE, D.D.S.
ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D. |





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

999 N. Krome Avenue Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Hwy. Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932







Shawn W. Tolley, C.P.A. Senior Partner

9350 South Dixie Highway Penthouse V Miami, Florida 33156 Tel: 305.670.1001 Fax: 305.670.1888 stolley@tolleycpa.com 97665 Overseas Highway Key Largo, Florida 33037 Tel: 305.852.9898 Fax: 305.852.9997 Cell: 305.608.8898 www.tolleycpa.com

Shingles Pain? Nerve Pain? Neuragen PN offers Fast Relief From

-Chronic Pain--Fibromyalgia--Sciatica--Numb Toes-Diabetic Nerve Pain-

CALL STEVE STEINBOCK 305-394-0143

70% Users Report Relief Apply Topically 2- 4X a Day No Side Effects



GARRETT CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER, P.A. a holistic healing center

DR. ERICA LIEBERMAN-GARRETT, BSC.D.C

Over 26 Years experience Chiropractic (Gentle/Manual) Yoga/Meditation Massage Therapy Physical Therapy Acupuncture/ Homeopathy

305-853-1003 MM 90.3 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice and other cases of significant damages.



TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, FL 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

FT. LAUDERDALE

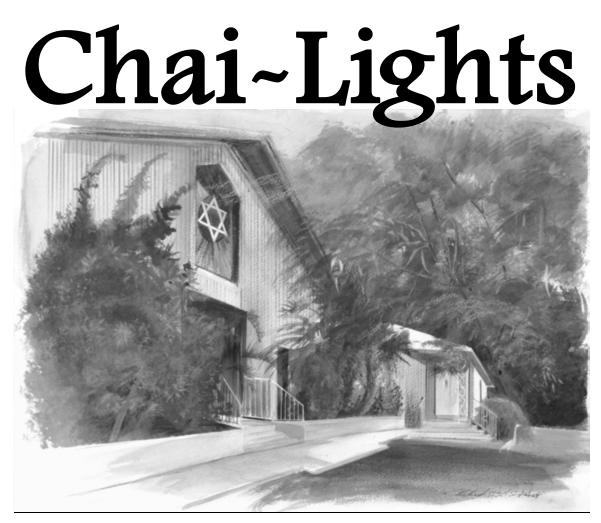
Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

BOCA RATON

Wachovia Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297



February 2011

27 Shevat - 24 Adar 1 5771

Remembering the Keys Homeless - page 25 Happy Birthday Mr. Lincoln - page 31 Debbie Friedman In Memoriam - page 32

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com Chai-Lights February 2011 1

February 2011

27 Shevat - 24 Adar 1

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--------------------------|-----|---|------------|--|-----------|
| | | 1 | 2
Poker
Night at
KJCC
7:30 p.m. | 3 | 4
Gloria Avner,
Yardena Kamely
& Sam Vinicur
Susan & Alan
Cooper | 5 |
| 6
Sisterhood
Meeting
Theater out-
ing-Putnam
Valley
Spelling Bee | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11
George Swartz
& Yardena
Kamely
Pat & David
VanArtsdalen | 12 |
| 13 Board
Meeting 9,
Annual
Meeting
10:30 a.m.
at KJCC | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18
Gloria Avner
& David Gitin

(Purim Katan) | 19 |
| 20 | 21
President's
Day | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25
Stuart & Lauren
Sax
6:30 Service
<i>Rita & Jim</i>
<i>Williams</i> | 26 |
| 27
Deli Nite
4 p.m. at
KJCC | 28 | | | Italicized | enote leaders of Friday
/ names are Oneg spons
fers services every Frid | ors. KJCC |

2010 - 2011 Officers and Board

President Alan Beth

Executive Vice President Stuart Sax

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Susan Gordon – Stan Margulies

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Roberta McNew

Directors

Marc Bloom – Joan Boruszak – Steve Friedman Bernie Ginsberg – David Goldfinger Elinor Grossman – Kurt Kluger – Ron Levy Neal Rakov – Steve Smith – Joan Stark Sam Vinicur – Mark Wasser

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor Marty Graham Editor 1987-2007

CHAI-LIGHTS is the

monthly newsletter of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Alan Beth

This is my last message as KICC president. As I conclude my term, our synagogue is thriving and doing better than ever. It truly is! We have more activity and more involvement than ever before in our brief history. This is not to be credited to any one individual. but to all of us as a community. I want to thank the officers and board of directors for their hard work and support. Thanks to the past presidents—Bea, George, Jim, loel. leff and Steve-whose advice and guidance I have relied on and with whom it has been a joy to work. I want to thank all the heads of committees, and all the religious leaders. Thanks to all of Sisterhood. Great thanks to all who pitch in when asked, and to those special people who help behind the scenes, not wanting the spotlight and not wanting any credit for the hard work they do. My last "thank you" goes to my mentor and wife - Candy Stanlake.

I know that all these gifts of time and dedication were not for me personally but for the KJCC itself. The larger picture here is how much we continue to give to each other as a community. Active involvement is crucial if our KJCC is to provide education and meaningful services, to teach our children, to continue an environment that



nurtures our individual and collective growth. We do so much so regularly, and I think we should all be proud of each other. The essence of us as a community center is just that – a center to which we can come, feel welcome and be right at home. I believe that those who founded KJCC thirty years ago would also be proud of us.

Our kitchen, our classrooms, our sanctuary and our building itself would be nothing if it weren't for all the energy you bring when vou come through our door. In our surveys the last few years, your feedback has been terrific, and positive. Now, in a couple of weeks, I will turn over the presidency to my friend and our current Executive V.P., Stuart Sax. Like other past presidents, I'll be there to do all I can to help Stuart and the new board continue our success and work confidently toward a wonderful KICC future. I know that we are on the right track.

Our Annual Membership Meeting and Election of the KJCC Board of Directors and Officers will be held on Sunday, February 13, 2011. Please attend.

Thank you to all.

-Alan

Nosh

Your New Online Calendar

If you haven't checked the online KICC calendar recently, you're in for a pleasant surprise. Alan has been fine-tuning and tweaking, and it's better than ever. Chai-Lights attempts to bring you all the information available for any upcoming month. But once we print we can't change anything. Alan updates the online calendar daily, or even more often if necessary. So now you'll never have an excuse not to know about all the wonderful things going on at KJCC. Take a look.

The KJCC Annual Meeting on the 13th

An important event each year is the KICC Annual Membership Meeting. This year it's on Sunday, February 13th, in the KJCC sanctuary. The Nominating Committee forwards its slate of nominees to the sitting Board, which must approve it. Both of those things have happened, and now the slate awaits approval by the entire membership at the Annual Meeting. Sisterhood will provide a light lunch to all present after the election and swearing-in of officers and board. For details, and the names of nominees, please see page 27.

Chai-Lights Deadlines

We haven't run this one for a while, and we're getting questions, so here's the info: the deadline for articles and photos and any other information you'd like to see in Chai-Lights is the 10th of the month preceding. (This apparently does not apply to Yardena.) We welcome all photos and articles and ideas, subject of course to editorial discretion and judgment. If you can't quite make the deadline, let us know anyway; we try to be flexible, especially for calendar entries.

Oneg Sponsors for February 2011

February 4th—Susan and Alan Cooper February 11th—Pat and David Van Artsdalen February 25th-Im and Rita Williams to cele-

brate lim's birthday.

The 2011 Upper Keys Concert Series

The final three of the season's concerts (the Harry James Orchestra and a young Chopin Prize -winning pianist will have already played by the time you get this) will all take place in February. There's a Boston-based chamber orchestra, a 14year-old Russian cello/piano prodigy, and the wonderful - operatic yet hilarious - Dueling Divas. Contact Joyce Peckman at 451-0665 or Mary Lee Singer at 240-0061 for ticket information and any remaining discount plans.

The Garden Progresses...

Our new KICC Meditation Garden continues to receive loving care and horticultural tending from the Garden Committee - Steve Steinbock, Candy Stanlake and Georgia Landau, and occasional help from many others. (They still need red mulch, by the way.) And now the pergola being donated and built by Alan and Candy is underway. (Not sure what a pergola is? As Stuart said, think of a *chuppa* made of wood.) We even have three benches now, so you can just sit and ponder. Please take a moment to look around as you enter or exit the parking lot.

February Anniversaries

| | | rears |
|------|------------------------|-------|
| 9th | Uri & Liliam Kamely | 19 |
| llth | Joel & Linda Pollack | |
| 21st | Murray & Claire Cooper | |

The KICC extends deepest condolences to

Bob and Fred Hermann and their family

> on the death of Eileen Hermann

4 Chai-Lights February 2011

February Birthdays

| l st | Evan Grossman |
|------|-------------------------|
| l st | Roy Pollack |
| 2nd | Linda Rutkin |
| 3rd | Caeleigh Stuart |
| 3rd | Dick Bromwich |
| 5th | Rebecca Smith |
| 5th | Robin Kantor |
| 6th | Martin Field |
| 7th | Erica Lieberman-Garrett |
| 7th | Larry Jacobs |
| | Deborah Kaplan |
| 9th | Ron Garrett |
| 10th | Shirley Burnett |
| | Justin Solomon |
| | Johnny Knowles |

| I2th | Paul Roberts |
|-------|------------------------|
| l 4th | Debbie Madnick |
| l 4th | Steven B. Sanders |
| l 5th | Judith Weber |
| 18th | Beth Hayden |
| 21st | David J. Marmar |
| 22nd | Harry J.C. Friedman |
| 24th | Emily Caryn Gershowitz |
| 24th | Muriel Swartz |
| 24th | Suzie Greenman |
| 25th | Rita Conklin |
| 26th | Jim Williams |
| 26th | John D. Schur |
| | Betsy Grossman |
| 28th | Árlene Line |
| | |



Still a Few Theater Tickets Left, But Hurry

Joyce still has a few tickets left for the February 6th performance of "Putnam Valley Spelling Bee," to be held at the wonderful Actors Playhouse in Coral Gables, for a show she's seen and says everyone will leave smiling. Donation is \$40. Contact Nancy Kluger, 305-393-2129 or klugerkeys@bellsouth.net. (But hurry.)

Havdalah Hosts Needed

Contact Gloria, 619-0216, if you'd like to host a "short and sweet" (and spicy) Havdalah ceremony during February or March.

Hosting An Oneg Shabbat

Our Oneg Shabbat is one of the many pleasures of belonging to the Keys Jewish Community Center. Following the Friday night services, the Oneg is a time to have a nosh and mingle in a relaxed setting. It is also a great opportunity to celebrate and honor special events such as a birthday, anniversary, new baby, graduation, safe return, yahrzeit, or any other occasion of your choice. There are three forms of sponsorship:

I. For a \$60 donation (whether you are present or not) Sisterhood will purchase challah, Kosher wine, coffee/tea/soft drinks, and assorted baked goods.

2. You may elect to provide your own foods. In that case, we suggest food for forty people to be at the KJCC thirty minutes prior to the start of services. Challah, wine, coffee/tea/soft drinks will be provided by Sisterhood at no cost to you. All goodies will be cut up and placed on serving trays by our kitchen staff unless Sisterhood is notified otherwise.

3. For a contribution of \$300 you may sponsor a Shabbat Potluck Dinner that Sisterhood will organize in your honor.

For additional information or to sponsor an Oneg, please contact me at 305-451-0665 or 305-240-1000.

-Joyce Peckman

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 852-0214.

Picture Postcards - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor – To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 451-0665. **Meditation Garden** – Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 394-0143.

KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim – Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 852-6152 or 393-1205.

JNF Trees In Israel - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 852-4353

Chai-Lights Mitzvah - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 852-8575 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack 852-8575 for annual rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.

On Memoriam February 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Lou Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Ted Nyman

Sunnie Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Kitty Nyman

By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

In Memory Of

Ida Boxer

By Shirley Boxer

Max Boxer

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

J. L. Fierberg

By Shirley Boxer

In Memory Of

Robert Kinney

By Frank & Gerri Emkey

In Memory Of

William Feinberg

By Arthur Feinberg & Patrice Gerard

In Memory Of

In Memory Of Elsie Gilderman

Louis Geller

By Milton & Claire Geller

In Memory Of

Charles Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

In Memory Of

Nicholas Goldenberg

By Bea Graham

By Larry & Stephanie Gilderman

In Memory Of

Joseph Gorson

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

Robert Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

In Memory Of

Chalom Haviv

By Leo Haviv <><><><><><> In Memory Of

Fred H. Hermann

By Robert Hermann

Ida Ratchik

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

Chai-Lights February 2011 7

In Memory Of

Rose Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

In Memory Of

A. James Weiss

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

llona Ban

On Memoriam February 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Fannie Phillips

By Henry & Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

Irving Stockser

By Frank & Sandy Kaplan

Isaac Jacobson

By Melvin Jacobson

In Memory Of

J. George Cooper

By David & Lois Kaufman

Pinchas Kamely

By Michal Kamely

In Memory Of

Sylvia Kay

By Harvey & Joan Kay

In Memory Of

Samuel Marmar

By David & Pamela Marmar

In Memory Of

Joseph Krissel

By Michael Krissel

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

M. Teresa Astray-Caneda

By Teresa Kwalick

In Memory Of

Sara J. Cohen

By Jim & Lynn Nobil

In Memory Of

Malka Frank

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Russ Wayne Rolnick

By Marilyn Rapp

In Memory Of

Irving Sanders

By Steven B. Sanders

Irene Nobil

By Jim & Lynn Nobil <><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Ida O. Present

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Shirley Horowitz

By Pauline Roller

In Memory Of

John A. Schur

By Lee Schur

In Memory Of

William Pollack

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Amos M. Present

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Al Roller

By Pauline Roller

In Memory Of

Miriam Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

8 Chai-Lights February 2011

In Memoriam February 2011

In Memory Of

Sarah Felder

By Stuart & Geri Smith

In Memory Of

Paul Buchman

By Mel Taks

In Memory Of

Morris Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memory Of

Samuel Wolfe

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memory Of

Pinchas Kamely

By Michal Kamely

In Memory Of

Al Roller

By Pauline Roller

In Memory Of

Sara J. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Minnie Berger

By Mark & Sofy Wasser

In Memory Of

Ann R. Kapulskey

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

David C. Willner

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

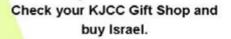


The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. This hilarious tale of overachievers' angst chronicles the experience of six adolescent outsiders vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Spelling Bee is the unlikeliest of hit musicals about the unlikeliest of heroes; a quirky yet charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time.

WINNER! 2 TONY AWARDS

Donation \$40 Contact Nancy Kluger klugerkeys@bellsouth.net 305-393-2129





Magnificent crystal mezuzahs designed by the artist Udi from the Blue and White gallery in the Cardo in the Old City of Jerusalem - Wonderful wedding gifts!

> Also: Silver star necklaces with multi colored stones and hand made parchment note paper from Zickran Yaakov.



Beautiful talit and kepahs from Jaffa

Multi-colored over-the-shoulder fabric purses and challah covers from Rifkas in the Old City of Jerusalem

Selected Items





Individual orders can be accommodated.

YEDA VETORASHA Yardena Kamely



Our Community and Adult Education - A Congregation of Learners

On November 7, 2010, the Jewish Community of Miami participated in a special event: *Global Day of Jewish Learning*. In celebration of our shared religion, culture, texts and history, more than 250 communities worldwide came together to study and grow. This event was inspired by renowned Jewish scholar Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz who, after 45 years and 45 volumes, has completed his monumental Talmud translation and commentary.

Jewish learning is critical to the continuity of Jewish life because learning is at the core of our identities as Jews. For Jews, learning is more than an intellectual exercise; it engages our emotions and influences our actions. It is, by definition, communal; even when one learns alone, one is linked to Jews in other times and places.

Synagogues have an important role to play in linking Jews to their heritage (*torasha*) and to one another. The synagogue is often the first point of entry into the Jewish community. Today most synagogues attract members because of the programs they offer; but too few members see the congregation (*kehilah*) as a source of community. It wasn't always this way. The traditional *kehilah* was a *Bet T'filah* (house of prayer), a *Bet Midrash* (house of study), and a *Bet Knesset* (house of assembly) all rolled into one.

How do current leading scholars and educators envision Jewish education, its purposes, the values it should serve, and the personal and social character it ought to foster? What are their visions of an ideal Jewish education for the contemporary world? Isadore Twersky, a historian and specialist in Jewish thought, places philosophical understanding at the core of Jewish living. For Twersky, the practices of Judaism cannot be separated from the ideas and ideals of Judaism. If properly educated, we achieve harmony between the practice of *mitz-vot* and the appreciation of their meanings. The *Halacha* (Jewish law) is the center of education.

Menachem Brinker is a scholar of Hebrew literature and philosophy. His outlook is secular. Brinker considers the thinkers of the East European *Haskalah* important to Jewish learning, their ideas having continuing relevance for our own period. Jews, for him, are those who identify themselves with the Jewish People, committing their energies and fate to its wellbeing. Such commitment implies affiliation with the historical heritage of Judaism, emotional and intellectual involvement with the Jewish People, and participation in Jewish society.

For Moshe Greenberg, a biblical scholar, Jewish education is religious rather than secular. Greenberg sees religion as the response to the universal question about meaning and value in life. For him, it is important to foster four qualities through Jewish education: 1. Love of learning Torah and love of the fulfillment of the *mitzvot.* 2. Acceptance of the Torah as a moral guide. 3. A way of life that creates a community. 4. A relationship to the Jewish people in all the lands of their dispersion.

A congregation of learners is much more than a collection of individuals that happens to learn. Learning will, inevitably, spill over into every other aspect of congregational life, changing people's approach to prayer, to ethics, and to social justice. Learning brings people together, creating the sense of community so many seek. When members of a congregation have a common understanding that Jewish learning is for everyone, and when they are provided with a range of engaging and stimulating opportunities for learning, that congregation will have become a congregation of learners. Chai-Lights February 2011

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

| Chai-Lights | |
|---------------|--------|
| Kirschenbaum, | Bianka |

In Honor of Medina Roy

General FundIn Honor ofDavidson, Foster & Carol LaskinGilson, Michael & SuzanneItkin, ArthurGrandson's bar mitzvahKahn, Lawrence & BetteJim Boruszak's birthdayLevi, NancyJim Boruszak's birthdaySax, Stuart & LaurenGet well wishes for Jim BoruszakTobin, AndyIm Boruszak's birthday

Meditation Garden Kamely, Michal Smith, Steve & Barbara

Oneg Fund Sponsors Cooper, Alan & Susan Mahjonggettes VanArtsdalen, David & Pat Williams, Jim & Rita Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy In Honor of

Gratitude to the KJCC

Jim's birthday Larry's birthday

Raffle

Alter, Barry Boruszak, Jim & Joan Coltman, Barney & Ellen Dorf, Barry & Natalie Goldfinger, David & Toby Graham & Mayk Graham, Bea Gross, David & Patti Hartz, Steve Kluger, Kurt & Nancy Kwalick, Teresa Peckman, Joyce Perloff, Linda Pollack, Joel & Linda Rakov, Neal & Cathy Rose, Skip & Rene Sax. Stuart & Lauren Silverman, Mort & Gene Singer, Mary Lee

12 Chai-Lights February 2011

Smith, Steve & Barbara Steinbock, Steve & Carol Swartz, George & Muriel Werthamer, Robert & Heide

Tree of Life Willner, Arthur & Johanna

Yartzeit Contributions Coltman, Barney & Ellen Emkey, Gerri Grossman, Stuart Olsen, Gerald & Sheila Tallent, Ralph & Lillian Taramona, Hermine Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy In Honor of New grandson Aaron

> In Memory of Eva Levine

Sylvia Grossman Betty Weinstein Morris Estrin Norma Robinson Diana Wolfe



Are you getting tired of your everyday cutlery? Sisterhood is stocking the kitchen and would be happy to have what you do not want. Bring your forks and knives and spoons to the KJCC. And we thank you.

Sisterhood Lauren Sax

ere We Go..... As I was being elected at the December Sisterhood Meeting, I was reminded of the phrase that Oprah uses every month in her column in "O" Magazine. Did I really know what I was doing? I'm managing a business, being a wife and now a new grandmother. Do I have the time and ambition to successfully lead the women of the KJCC?

Here we go again...and I stress the "again." Accepting the Sisterhood presidency takes me back twenty years ago when I became Sisterhood President of our congregation in the southern suburbs of Chicago, and then years later moving to Miami and chairing various Sisterhood fundraisers at Temple Judea in Coral Gables as well as helping in their gift shop. I suppose it all boils down to passion, a passion for wanting Sisterhood and our synagogue to succeed. No matter what city or what congregation, Sisterhoods everywhere are the backbone of the congregation. The KICC is no different. From cooking sumptuous congregational dinners, providing weekly Onegs, sponsoring "Break-the-Fast" and fundraising in our spare time, the women of Sisterhood are a force to be reckoned with.

I strongly believe that without Sisterhood, the KJCC would be missing a great deal. I am very fortunate to have a wonderful executive board and I look forward to working with them and all the ladies of Sisterhood. Isn't that the meaning of Sisterhood? Being able to work together?

We have already started forging ahead. Erica Garrett and Kathy Shabathai are hard at work preparing for our Deli Nite on Sunday, February 27th, which will include games, music, and of course lots of delicious food! New Gift Shop chairwomen, Susan Gordon and Roberta McNew, have reduced prices on current goods while they are on the lookout for some exciting new merchandise. In the coming months there will also be a new look to the KJCC foyer, as Candy Stanlake is in the process of collecting photographs of past Sisterhood presidents for our new Sisterhood Wall.

Also, I'd like to send a huge "thank you" to Alan Beth for organizing and setting up the Sisterhood portion of the KJCC website. There is now a complete listing of Sisterhoodsponsored events on the KJCC calendar as well as *everything* you need to know about hosting an Oneg Shabbat. Please do not forget that your Temple dues make ALL women of the KJCC automatic members of Sisterhood.

I will need help for what I want to accomplish this year. Membership retention and fundraising are paramount to our success. It is my vision and my hope that we can eliminate (yes, I'm stealing and adapting a line by Winston Churchill) "so much being done by so few." In this way, with more people to share in the tasks, the more we can accomplish. I am asking all of you to help keep Sisterhood alive. Consider it an investment in your synagogue.

I am most appreciative and grateful for those volunteers who have stepped up to offer their support this year and serve alongside me: Vice President Georgia Landau, Treasurer Nancy Kluger, Recording Secretary Carol Steinbock, Kitchen Committee Erica Garrett and Kathy Shabathai, Gift Shop Susan Gordon and Roberta McNew, Oneg Shabbats Joyce Peckman, Picture Wall Candy Stanlake.

And a special "thank you" to those past Sisterhood presidents who have already offered their expertise to me: Joyce Peckman, Linda Pollack, Joan Stark, Joan Boruszak, Bea Graham and Pauline Roller.

It will be an exciting and I hope productive and enjoyable time for all of us. My e-mail is MrsDirtDevil@aol.com. Stay in touch. >



GET OUTTA TOWN

A fundraiser for the Keys Jewish Community Center

Tickets \$100 each

Only 100 tickets will be sold. Where else can you fly to an exciting weekend destination for \$100?

Rules are simple. Buy a raffle ticket and when you win, you choose your destination from one of these four exciting weekend packages.

New York Long Weekend

Includes 3 nights at the Hilton New York, dinner at one of three premier restaurants, and a Broadway experience for two.

Sonoma, CA VIP Wine Experience

Includes lodging at the Fairmont Sonoma Inn & Spa and limousine service to a privately hosted tour of the Jacuzzi Family Winery.

New Orleans Jazz & Dining Package

Includes 3 nights at the Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel, VIP seats at Preservation Hall, and five-course dinner for two at Commander's Palace Restaurant.

Ultimate Sports Fan Getaway

Priority seats at your favorite MLB, NBA, NFL, NHL, PGA, or College Bowl Game. Deluxe accommodations with breakfast included.

> All packages are for two and include air travel and lodging. Travel times and itineraries are flexible.

Winner to be drawn February 13, 2011

Call Stuart Sax @ 305-852-2353 or email <u>SLIISAX@aol.com</u>

World Jewish Report Medina Roy

"A Breakthrough in Journalism Research"

That's what Oren Weinberg, director of the National Library of Israel, is calling the library's latest project to scan and upload to the internet hundreds of thousands of pages from Jewish newspapers dating as far back as the 19th century. Calling itself the *Historical Jewish Press*, the project is a joint initiative of the National Library and Tel Aviv University. The website – www.jpress.org.il – currently holds more than 400,000 pages from newspapers that until recently were hidden away in dusty archives. Among the collection's highlights: Hatzvi, founded by Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (regarded as responsible for the revival of modern Hebrew) and Hamelitz. the first Jewish weekly in Czarist Russia. The site also includes Jewish newspapers from France, Germany, Morocco and Egypt, among other places. Full-text search is available and access to all the material is free. (www.haaretz.com, 12-28-10)

1,200 New Species

At the end of December, biologists from around the world gathered in Jerusalem to mark the conclusion of a ten-year-long world census of sea life. The comprehensive research was conducted by 3,000 scientists from 80 different countries and resulted in the discovery of an additional 1,200 new species of marine flora and fauna. Three Israeli scientists were among those who carried out the planet-wide census, the first of its kind ever done. Among the new sea creatures discovered is a multi-cell organism that lives without oxygen – the first such creature ever to be identified.

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 12-20-10)

New iPhone App

The Western Wall Heritage Foundation, the Israeli organization that administers the



Western Wall, recently launched an iPhone application that streams live from the Wall 24/7 – except on Shabbat and Jewish holidays when transmissions are forbidden by Jewish law. Users are now able to send e-mail messages to be placed in the crevices of the wall, a traditional Jewish custom. The application also includes a compass, which allows users to follow the Jewish practice of praying in the direction of Jerusalem. (Associated Press, 12-29-10)

Spying for Israel?

Saudi Arabian security forces have "arrested" a vulture that was carrying a global positioning satellite (GPS) transmitter and a ring around its leg etched with the words "Tel Aviv University." They suspect the bird of spying for Israel. The arrest comes several weeks after an Egyptian official accused the Mossad of being behind a series of shark attacks aimed at tourists off the Sinai shore. The GPS and ring were connected to the bird as part of a long-term project by Israeli scientists that follow vultures' location and altitude for research purposes. Researchers said that seven vultures tagged in Israel in the last few vears reached Saudi Arabia but transmissions from four of them have ceased. The four vultures are presumed dead. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 1-4-11)

Focusing on the New Anti-Semitism

"Nazism was defeated in Europe 65 years ago. Anti-Semitism was not," said Indiana University Professor Alvin Rosenfeld, the founding director of the Borns Jewish Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences. With those thoughts guiding him, Rosenfeld has recently established the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Anti-Semitism (ISCA) at IU. The new institute, only the second of its kind at an American university, joins four major research institutes abroad. ISCA will focus especially on the "intellectual and ideological roots of what has been called the 'new' anti-Semitism, and will also seek to elucidate the social, cultural, religious and political forces that nurture such hostility." IU has a long history of a strong program in Jewish studies. (*The College Magazine, Indiana University, Fall 2010*)

An Important Warning

Two students from Jerusalem's College of Technology's Yeshiva High School have developed a sensor that warns of water leaks in home piping systems and even turns off the water when necessary. The gadget earned the two young inventors the top prize in a nationwide contest for young scientists and was Israel's entry in the international Junior Water Prize competition held in Stockholm. It placed in the top five among 100 entrants from around the world. The small device can be attached to water meters and might soon be standard in new apartments. The cost? \$27 per home. Based on average water use that it "learns" beforehand, the sensor can detect unusual increases in water use. It then warns the user via cell phone or internet of the situation and can even shut off the water supply. It is thought that a third of the world's water supply goes to waste because of leaks or water theft. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 12-16-10)

Eichmann's Free Ride

According to a report in the German daily magazine *Bild*, the West German secret service knew about Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann's hiding place in Argentina nearly ten years before Israeli agents captured him in 1960. The report's source is a recently discovered index card from 1952 which stated that "SS Colonel Eichmann is not to be found in Egypt but is residing in Argentina...[his] address is known to the editor-in-chief of the German newspaper in Argentina *Der Weg.*" German historian Dr. Bettina Stangneth, who has been researching the topic for six years, said the discovery of the index card is indeed a "sensation." Eichmann was captured by Mossad agents in 1960, secreted to Israel, publicly tried there and sentenced to death. He was hanged in 1962. (www.haaretz.com, 1-9-11)

In Memoriam

-Raphael Hillyer, founding violist of the Juilliard String Quartet, one of the world's premier chamber music ensembles, died at the end of December. He was 96. Hillver was born Raphael Silverman in upstate New York to musician parents. His father, Louis Lazare Silverman, helped found Tel Aviv University. Hillyer began violin studies at the age of seven and studied with Dmitri Shostakovich in Leningrad when he was ten. He studied music at Harvard with Leonard Bernstein, who wrote a violin sonata for him. The Quartet has received four Grammy Awards and is scheduled to be the recipient of a lifetime achievement award at the upcoming 53rd annual Grammy Awards to be held February 13th. (www.jta.org, 1-6-11)

-Adele Starr, who became "an important but unacknowledged figure in gay rights," died in early December at the age of 90. She was the first president of "Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays" (PFLAG), the national support group. (The organization's official name is now "Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.") Starr founded the Los Angeles chapter of PFLAG in 1976. Three years later, she spoke at the U.S. Capitol at the first March on Washington, which is seen now as the "seminal event in gay rights activism." She became the group's first national president two years later. Starr, born Ida Seltzer in Brooklyn, moved to Los Angeles in 1951 and was primarily a stay-at-home-mom with four sons and a daughter. One of her sons, Philip, told his parents he was gay in 1974. PFLAG now has more than 200,000 members. (www.jta.org, 12 - 16 - 10

Preserving the Most Powerful Symbol

The German government is scheduled to pay \$80 million over the coming months to a special fund for the preservation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the infamous Nazi death camp. The camp itself, and other evidence of crimes committed, have been deteriorating and are at the point of collapse. More than one million people, mostly Jews, died in the camp's gas chambers or through forced labor, disease or starvation during World War II. "Germany acknowledges its historic responsibility to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive and to pass it on to future generations," Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle said in a statement. The memorial site is widely regarded as the most powerful symbol of the Holocaust. Each year, more than a million people visit the museum there. (World Jewish Congress, 12-17-10)

The Best Economy in the West

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). Israel's economy is the fastestgrowing in the West. Israel's Gross National Product (GNP) grew by 4.5 percent in 2010 that's 0.5 percent more than had been expected. This compares with only 2.7 percent in the other 33 countries of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). Israel became an OECD member state this past September. In 2009, in spite of the great worldwide economic crash, Israel's economy still grew by 0.8 percent, after 4.2 percent growth in 2008. The GNP per capita grew by 2.7 percent in 2010, compared with a drop of 1.1 percent the year before. (www.israelnationalnewsw.com, 12-30-10)

Four Million and Counting

The Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Jerusalem has now confirmed the names of four million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. Ten years ago, the museum launched a "rescue" operation for the identification of victims by means of testimonial pages filled out by relatives. Avner Shalev, the museum's chairman, hopes that researchers will be able to identify an additional one million victims in the years ahead, but he is skeptical regarding the ability to retrieve the remaining million. Many Jews murdered in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union were the victims of mass executions committed at the beginning of the genocide and their fates were seldom documented. (World Jewish Congress, 12-22-10)

World Champs

Meir Yarom and Michael Shapiro, members of Haifa University's Debating Society, are the World Debating Champions for 2011. The two took first prize in their category at the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) held in Botswana in early January. More than 300 teams from about 50 countries participated in the championship. In the final round, Yarom and Shapiro debated the motion, "This house believes that the courts should break up consistently dominant political parties." In earlier rounds they debated internet privacy, prohibiting teacher union strikes, the right to possess nuclear weapons, and more. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 1-4-11)

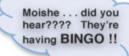
Did You Know...

-Amazon's e-book reader Kindle, one of the hottest gadgets around, was largely developed in Israel's Herzliya Industrial Zone. Israel has also helped develop many of the most important technological components of modern life: anti-virus software, cell phone technology, AOL chat and recent editions of Microsoft's Windows. (www.israel21c.org, 12-16-10)

-Mickey Mouse is heading to Haifa. Well, not exactly...but a 20-acre, \$168 million entertainment complex, including a 25-screen multiplex, and a Disney amusement park (though not a theme park) is scheduled to be built near the exit of the Carmel Tunnel in Haifa. The project is still in the development stage and is scheduled to open in 2013. (www.jta.org, 1-4-11)

-Israeli-American actress Natalie Portman, 29, is expecting her first child with fiancé Benjamin Millepied. He's a dancer and choreographer with the New York Ballet. The couple met last year while filming "The Black Swan," a ballet drama recently released and for which Portman received a Best Actress Golden Globe Award. Portman was born Natalie Hershlag in Jerusalem to an Israeli father and American mother. She has lived in the United States since the age of 3. Millepied, 33, is not Jewish. (www.jta.org, 12-29-10) ◆

Keys Jewish Community Center



"AUTHENTIC" DELI NITE

Sunday, February 27, 2011

4:00 pm

KJCC, 93250 Overseas Hwy, Tavernier

Come to Kibbitz & Nosh

SILENT AUCTION

Great Food from a GREAT DELI

50/50 RAFFLE



Great Food from the Mainland

Entertainment

Great Food like no other

FREE BINGO

Raffle with GREAT Prizes

 \$25.00 Early Bird Special Donation (Before February 20)
 \$30.00 Donation (AFTER February 20) All proceeds going to KJCC Sisterhood Fundraiser

Schmoozing, Schnapps and Schtick!!

RSVP EARLY LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE Contact Erica 305-853-1003 hippiejap@hotmail.com

Mail check to: Sisterhood P.O. Box 116 Tavernier, FL 33070

Photo Gallery





Rabbi Richard Agler had volunteered to conduct a Shabbat service at KJCC on Saturday morning, December 25th. He and wife Mindy have a house in Key Largo, and they love the Keys. And we at KJCC often reap the benefits.

Some fifty of us were there, in part because we knew to expect a warm, approachable service with plenty of





thought-food and lively discussion. It's also a special treat when we can open and read from our Holocaust Torah. It was the beginning of a special day.





Part two of a very special December 25th came immediately after Rabbi Agler's service, when all of KJCC was invited to Steve and Carol Steinbock's world-famous annual **Christmas Day Open** House. Even two manatees joined in, as photographed below by Mindy Agler. (Or maybe they just cruised up the canal to see Steve's Garden.)







This New Year's Day, as many others before it, saw the now-traditional Blessing of the Fleet from the Whale Harbor Bridge. Gloria ably represented KJCC. Blessings rained but the sky, happily, did not. (Photos from Patti Gross.)





Sunday, January 2nd saw the first Sisterhood meeting of the new year at KJCC, below. It was time to install the new officers and thank Joyce for two years as president. And then they got to work planning the rest of the season.



The new Sisterhood officers, above: Nancy Kluger, Treasurer; Georgia Landau, VP; Lauren Sax, President, and Carol Steinbock, Secretary



Stuart, that old romantic softie, showed up at the Sisterhood meeting with roses for Lauren just after her official installation as president. (And they've been married for 35 years.) Below left, we were able to gather all the attending Sisterhood past-presidents and have them show off their Hebrew "Ahava" necklaces (the word means "love," for those who don't know, although you would if you came to Ulpan class), given in gratitude at the end of each Sisterhood presidency.



It's high season, and the first Shabbat dinner of the new year took place at KJCC on Friday, January 14th. As they have on other occasions lately, Erica Garrett and Kathy Shabathai put out a splendid array of home-cooked entrees and desserts. (They wish to thank

all who helped.) And most people were so glad they came they stayed for services. (Alan, who led services, counted from the Bemah.)

Photos continue on the next page.



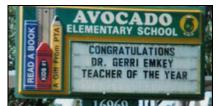
Never one to let a business opportunity pass, Stuart sold raffle tickets while he collected for the Dinner, above.





As he does so often, Harry Friedman helped Gloria with the HaMotzi blessing, left.





The photo of Gerry Emkey, left, speaks for itself. The crown was only a prop, however. She had to give it back.





David Gitin, top, at Snapper's, where Gloria had taken him on his birthday to listen to jazz guitarist Frank Carmelitano.

Joshua Bernstein and friend Jonathan Gahagen work on a

nature trail for disabled people in Marathon as part of an effort to help Jonathan get his Eagle award. The ranger is Michael Romance, Jonathan's project advisor.

At bottom is Nissan and Israel Mayk's house in New Jersey after the Boxing Day blizzard. As Nissan put it, "So much snow! Too bad our snow blower didn't work..." Arthur and Johanna Willner pose, above center, with camera-shy granddaughter Elliana and new grandson Aaron John, born December 10th. Their son and daughter-in-law happily complete the

> picture. Below, Georgia, Steve, Candy and Alan rest after installing the posts for the new Garden pergola Alan and Candy are donating to KJCC.



"Tzena Tzena" – The Roots of a Popular Hebrew Song

by Joyce Peckman

Anyone who attended a Jewish camp or youth group in the 1950s or 1960s who hears the words "Tzena Tzena " will involun-

tarily begin to hum and tap their toes. It was one of the tunes, along with "Mayim Mayim" and "Hava nagila" that were sung on every bus ride and at every campfire where Jewish kids were found. The other two songs have survived as popular folk tunes, yet in its time "Tzena" was the most well known. This song was composed in 1941 by Issachar Miron, using lyrics brought to him by a young soldier named Yehiel Haggiz who was serving in Jewish Company Number 22 of the British Buffs Regiment in Palestine. The lyrics were easy with few words, and the melody was upbeat and could be sung in a round. It guickly caught on and Miron remembers that. "almost instantly, the whole camp was singing it." mi-ben chayil ish tzava.)

For those studying Hebrew, the "na" is a version of "please."

From there it went to Israeli radio and by 1949 it was found in a collection called "Songs of Israel." Probably in the form of



His name was Lilo, but Joyce was no farm girl and she wasn't afraid.

sheet music, the original Hebrew version of the song found its way into the hands of Pete Seeger. who at that time was a part of the trail-blazing American folk group called the Weavers. Seeger had by then committed himself to collecting and recording American folk songs, but he said he always liked to include a few "songs from other countries, hinting at different types of people in this big world."

In the 1950s United States, older Jews still listened to Yiddish radio or cantorial music, while their children liked rockand-roll or Broadway tunes. Others, largely the parents of the Boomers, turned away from ritual and towards Israel to express their Jewish identity.

The words speak to the young girls of the Moshav farming settlements, saying, "Go out, Go out daughters, and see the young soldiers in the settlement. Do not be afraid of a soldier, a man of the army!" (Tze-na, tze-na, tze -na, tze-na, habanot ure-na chayalim bamoshava.

Al-na, al-na, al-na, al-na - Al-na titchaben-na

When the Weavers recorded "Tzena," it became an instant hit. It was recorded by Mitch Miller and sung by Vic Damone, Sophie Tucker, Judy Garland, Dusty Springfield and Chubby Checker (four of whom were definitely not Jewish). \diamond

This article is largely based upon an article by Ari Y. Kelman in Tablet e-magazine.



Tuesday, April 19, 2011 6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

Contact Leslie Dillon at 305-853-2693, 222law@gmail.com, for information and reservations. Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116, Tavemier, FL 33070.

Your check is your reservation. Reserve early as we will be opening this up to the public after April 1st.



Adults \$50 Children 12 and under are our guests.

On "Shalom", In "Shalom":

On Winter Solstice, a Memorial to the Homeless

by Gloria Avner

hen Reverend Pam asked me to give a talk on "Shalom," my first thought was that nearly everyone must know of the three meanings of Shalom, or at least the three ways it is typically used - to greet someone (to sav hello), to take leave of someone (to say goodbye), and to express all that is meant by our English word "peace." But the more I thought about this word, which we sing multiple times every week at Friday night services at the KJCC, the deeper and wider my understanding has grown.

When I say "Shalom" in greeting. I am not just say-

ing hello. I am wishing you the greatest blessing of all, that peace be upon you. When I leave you and say "Shalom," I am not just taking leave; I am leaving you with a wish that you remain, and walk through the rest of your day and life, in a peaceful state.

Let's talk for a minute about peace, and what that state really means. "Shalom" is so much more than the absence of war. The root of the word, in Hebrew, is *shalem*, which means to make restitution. The word "shalam" means wholeness and completion. From a multitude of sources and commentary we see these synonyms for "Shalom": Completeness, wholeness, health, welfare, safety,



Representing KJCC at the interfaith service, Gloria speaks of "Shalom."

soundness, tranquility, prosperity, perfectness, fullness, rest, harmony, the absence of agitation or discord.

And then, of course, there are the profoundly spiritual connotations. What a blessing we give to another human being and to ourselves when we meet or greet or part with the very layered, rich word, "Shalom." It is a word of magnificent, expansive depths.

Now let's think for a moment about why we are here today. Whoever chose this theme for today was perfectly on target. Could any of us abide in "Shalom" today if we didn't know where we or our children would be sleeping tonight, if we didn't have enough

warm clothing for the bitter cold spells that strike the Keys each winter for days or even weeks in a row? How can you possibly have rest, health, safety or soundness when you have none of life's essentials, much less a reliable roof over your head? How can you not be agitated when you or your child is hungry and you don't have money to buy food? How can you have tranquility of mind, much less a feeling of prosperity, when your feeling of self-worth, of being able to provide for your own basic needs, is anything but whole? If addiction to alcohol or drugs is part of the problem, I suspect it is a behavioral attempt to regain that feeling of wholeness, or at



Everything possible was done to gently remember the homeless. As he does so often, Dave Feder came to offer the graceful balm of music.



A makeshift altar was set up. It was, after all, a religious ceremony.

least to deaden the feelings of unsoundness, agitation, and inadequacy.

Not an easy image. Not an easy question. No easy answers.

But bless the fact that there are those who care and work to help challenged final communal prayer. people meet their basic needs. Bless those who are here to remember and honor the memory of people who could not, in their lifetime, achieve "Shalom."

Shalom is anti-anxiety medicine. If one could bottle it, the world would be a better place. We *can't* bottle it, so we do our best to *live* it and to share it. It might be through our religion or just plain neighbor-to-

her er would love to wish

Gloria spoke these words at an interfaith gathering on December 21st at the Community Park in Tavernier to honor and bless the Keys homeless who had died in the past year. Carol and Steve Steinbock also participated, with Carol reading the poem Remembrance from the

"Shalom." &



KJCC Yizkor Book and Steve leading the assembled in Kaddish. Our thanks to David Gitin for all the photos.



Keys Jewish Community Center, Jnc.

P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • heysjewishcenter.com

| | all KJCC members: |
|----|---|
| | The KJCC Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 13, 2011 at |
| 1: | 1:00 a.m. in the KJCC sanctuary. |
| la | The February Board meeting, in the Ruth Richardson Social Hall, is scheduled
r the same day at 9:00 a.m. All members are invited to attend both meetings.
The primary order of business at the Annual Meeting is the election and instal-
tion of Officers and the Board of Directors. According to our by-laws, nomina-
ons from the floor can be accepted at that time. |
| of | A light lunch will be served to all present immediately following the installation
Officers and Board of Directors. |
| | The Nominating Committee has met as required and selected the following |
| | ate of 2011-2012 Officers and Board Members. This slate was approved at the inuary $9^{\rm th},$ 2011 Board Meeting: |
| Pi | resident – Stuart Sax |
| | cecutive Vice President – Bernie Ginsberg |
| | ce Presidents – Gioria Avner, Susan Gordon, Stan Marguiles |
| | easurer – Linda Pollack |
| | ecording Secretary – Beth Hayden |
| | nancial Secretary – Rene Rose |
| | orresponding Secretary – Joyce Peckman |
| DI | rectors: |
| | Marc Bloom |
| | Joan Boruszak |
| | David Gitin |
| | Steve Hartz |
| | Kurt Kluger |
| | Medina Roy |
| | Gene Silverman |
| | Sam Vinicur |
| (N | lote: Past presidents are automatically voting members of KJCC's Board.) |
| | espectfully submitted by the 2011 Nominating Committee: |
| _ | am Vinicur (chair), Alan Beth, Stuart Sax, Steve Steinbock |

-This Month in Jewish History-February

362 - Roman Emperor Julian issues an edict recognizing equal rights for all the religions in the Roman Empire. Known to Church historians as Julian the Apostate, Julian effectively undoes the edicts of Constantine that made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. Julian is sympathetic to the Jewish people and is prepared to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem, but is assassinated by a Christian apparently angry at Julian's decision to deny sole religion status to Christianity.

1451 – Sultan Mehmed II inherits the throne of the Ottoman Empire and conquers Constantinople in 1453. He allows Jews from today's Greek Islands and Crete to settle in Istanbul. His published declaration reads: "Listen, sons of the Hebrew who live in my country...May all of you who desire come to Constantinople and may the rest of your people find here a shelter." Mehmed also invites the Ashkenazi Jews of Transylvania and Slovakia to settle in the Ottoman Empire.

1481 – The first *auto-da-fe* of the Spanish Inquisition takes place in Seville, Spain. (Autode-fe means, literally, "act of faith.") It is a ceremony that culminates in burning at the stake those decreed as heretics by the Inquisition. The first are Jews forced to convert and found guilty of secretly practicing their Judaism. The next year, by Papal order, seven new Inquisitors are nominated, among them Tomas de Torquemada, who will zealously lead the Spanish Inquisition and in 1492 help bring an end to the most advanced, learned and successful Jewish culture since Solomon.

1697 - In Great Britain, a site is acquired for the first Ashkenazi cemetery.

1772 - Poland is first partitioned by Russia, Prussia and Austria, effecting the demise of Poland as an independent nation until after World War I. Russia acquires a large Jewish population as a result of the partition, a population the Russians decidedly do not want.

1838 - Together with a dedicated group of Philadelphia Jewish women, Rebecca Gratz, descendant of one of the Grandee families and reknowned for her education and beauty, establishes the first Jewish Sunday School.

1876 - The National League, the first and oldest of baseball's two Major Leagues, is formed. Lip Pike, already a professional, plays that same year with the National League team in St. Louis. He is the first known Jew to play major league baseball.

1905 – Alissa Rosenbaum is born in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her father is a pharmacist, a middle-class professional, a rare accomplishment in anti-Semitic Czarist Russia. The family loses everything in the Bolshevik Revolution. Alissa emigrates to the United States, where she changes her name to Ayn Rand and eventually manages to publish the two novels that define the ideas and philosophy she calls Objectivism, "The Fountainhead" and "Atlas Shrugged."

1925 - The Technion, Israel's first modern university, opens in Haifa after years of effort and deep involvement by no less than Albert Einstein. The first undergraduate class consists of sixteen students in two areas of instruction, Civil Engineering and Architecture. After serious debate, the language of instruction is chosen to be Hebrew instead of German.

1936 - Bronislaw Huberman, a prominent Polish violinist, announces that a symphony orchestra is being formed in Palestine, to be known as the Palestine Orchestra Association. Many in the orchestra are Germans no longer allowed to work under their country's new Nazi regime. Huberman reports that \$25,000 has been contributed to help the orchestra with its organization. ◊

Stained Glass of KJCC Part six of our closer look at the story behind the art.

As our gaze departs from the window of the tribe of Levi, on the northern—or Miami side of the KJCC sanctuary, the next window we see as we continue clockwise offers a far gentler central image, and a return to the graceful rays of sun and open sky and peaceful terrain seen in earlier windows. There is a hint, in an inset lower center, of the rolling, fertile hills of the territory of this tribe. The The next mention of Naphtali is when Jacob, issuing his blessings to his sons, refers to Naphtali as "giving beautiful words," seemingly implying that he is intelligent and eloquent, and also compares him to a hind, a female red deer, a slightly more opaque reference. The standard interpretation of this is that Naphtali was swift and graceful. The deer image has clung to discussions of Naphtali, however, which explains our window art. Not

central image represents a description given of this son by his father Jacob. It is the window of the tribe of Naphtali.

We actually know very little about this sixth son of Jacob. He was the second son born to Jacob and Bilhah, the handmaid (an archaic and lovely word for servant) of Rachel, Jacob's first choice but second wife. It's a familiar Bible story that Rachel, believing her-



explained is why the window looks far more like a gazelle than a red deer. though perhaps the answer is simple: gazelles are more attractive and stately. The last mention of Naphtali himself is that he and his sons Jahzeel, Guni, lezer and Shillem went to Egypt during the famine, where Naphtali died and was

KJCC's window representing the Tribe of Naphtali.

self to be infertile, sent Bilhah to Jacob to conceive a proxy son on her behalf. The strategy succeeded, first with Dan and then with Naphtali, sons number five and six. (The first four were with Leah.) Naphtali's name, translated variously as "my wrestling" or "my struggle," was bestowed by Rachel as a vindication of her struggle with sister Leah for Jacob's affection and an equal place in his household. (The literature and commentary was silent as to why this name, so poignant in its meaning, was given to the second son by Bilhah and not the first.)

buried at the age of 137.

The Tribe of Naphtali that emerged during the Exodus and the conquest of Canaan had a far different personality than its eponym. During the travail in the desert, as the Israelites faced every imaginable kind of test, including learning to think like free people and also defend themselves against a generally hostile world, three tribes were regularly placed at the rear of the caravan (at God's own instruction), its most vulnerable place. They were the tribes most to be relied upon to provide fierce and unwavering defense. The three tribes were led by Dan; the other two were Asher and Naphtali.

Naphtali was probably central to the first major battle of the Canaan conquest, described in the Book of Joshua, because the territory involved was in the north, where Naphtali had received its allotment. This was the Battle at the Waters of Merom. The king of Hazor - the dominant city of northern Canaan, just nine miles north of the Sea of Galilee and possessed of the key strategic location in all of northern Canaan - had summoned an alliance of other Canaanite city states to fight the Israelite army led by Joshua. As we know, the Canaanites were routed, and Joshua turned to destroy Hazor. Interestingly, archeological evidence at Hazor indicates a violent conflagration and its destruction shortly before 1200 B.C.E., at almost the exact time it would have happened in the Bible.



The second major battle in which Naphtali participated was under the leadership of the judge Deborah, who with a Naphtali general named Barak faced a far-superior Canaanite army under its commander Sisera in the Jezreel Valley. The undermanned Israelites gathered at Mt. Tabor, the Canaanites at their stronghold Megiddo (the supposed location of Armageddon), which commanded the entire central valley. We all know who won. The Song of Deborah, which recounts the battle in the Book of Judges, gives high praise to the warriors of Naphtali. Naphtali is also mentioned in Chronicles con-



cerning the coronation of King David at Hebron two hundred years later, as bringing voluminous amounts of food and supplies to the feast. They were also one of the prime sources of his troops. King Solomon later imported a specific and highly skilled metalworker to help him construct his Temple, one Hiram of Tyre, of the tribe of Naphtali.

Naphtali's territory was the Galilee, in the north. Its eastern boundary was the lordan River. In the south it surrounded the Sea of Galilee, and it occupied some of the most beautiful and arable land in all of Palestine. The historian Josephus referred to Naphtali's territory as "an earthly paradise." But being in the north, they were closest to the Syrians and the Arameans, and through their territory wove most of the important roads and trade routes of the north, from Damascus to the east and Tyre and Acre, Philistia and Egypt. As a northern tribe, Naphtali allied with the northern kingdom of Israel after Solomon's son and heir could not hold the country together. But despite their valor, and experience as warriors, they were badly exposed by geography to the newly aggressive kingdoms in western Mesopotamia, and were no match for the Assyrians under Tiglath-Pileser, who conquered and dispersed Naphtali along with the rest of Israel in 722 B.C.E.

There once were dozens of cities in Naphtali. Today, only two in its area still have importance – Tiberias, on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee, and Safed, the medieval mystical city of Isaac Luria. ◊

Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln – Your friends, the Jews.

by Gloria Avner

A nearly SRO crowd gathered to hear an unusual and enlightening presentation in our KJCC Social Hall on January 9th. Thanks to Roger and Danna Levy, and KICC's commitment to enriching educational experiences, we were privileged to hear Harold Holzer. world-renowned Lincoln author and expert, talk about Lincoln and the Jews. (There is, as vou might imagine, a story behind the story: Roger met Holzer at an annual Lincoln Club meeting, where all distinguished members wear tuxedoes and top hats. As President of the lewish Historical Society of Delaware. Roger suggested the talk, invited Holzer to Wilmington, and a crowd of 300 was able to see and hear it in person at Roger's temple. It was our good fortune to be able to watch the DVD that resulted.)

The connections between Abraham, forefather of our tribe, and Abraham, father of the effort to salvage our nation during an unimaginably difficult time, ring loud and true. "When I do good I feel good, when I do bad I feel bad. That is my religion," said Lincoln. Hillel said the same thing in a different way: "What is hateful to thee, do not unto thy fellow." Lincoln has also long invited compari-



Gloria with the afternoon's hosts, Roger and Danna Levy, plus visiting son Brett.

sons to Moses in his work for emancipation, in black churches and in scholarly papers.

Abraham Lincoln treated Jews no differently from other people, a huge achievement in the society of his day. Though well versed in the Hebrew Bible, Lincoln did not know a Jew personally until at thirty he met the man, Abraham Jonas, who would become his Postmaster Gen-

eral and a trusted friend the last twentysix years of his life. When Jewish soldiers, and there were thou-



sands on each side of the Civil war, protested the absence of Jewish clergy, Lincoln made it possible for ordained rabbis to come to the field as chaplains.

Lincoln did not just recognize black Africans as slaves to be liberated. He recognized all claims, including those of Jews, to equality of treatment and opportunity. He was a man of Biblical temperament and Old Testament belief and character. Because he did not regularly attend church and because on the last evening of his life, a Good Friday, he attended a play, some Christians considered him an infidel.

When Lincoln died the next day, on April 15th, Passover was ending. The Red Sea had been crossed.

Lincoln did not emancipate the Jews, but he did recognize our claims to equality, a huge step forward. Synagogue services were dedicated to Lincoln's memory, and three hundred Jews marched, mourning, in the streets of New York. *Kaddish* was said for a non-Jew for the first time. \Diamond

In Memoríam: Debbie Friedman Modern Jewish Troubadour

haring a Washington, D.C. stage in 2004 with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Judith Shapiro, then the president of Barnard College: Sally Priesand. the first woman to be ordained as an American rabbi: artist Judy Chicago, and many other extraordinary Jewish women at a UIA event of 1.200 people marking 350 years of achievement in America by these women and their Jewish forebears, Debbie Friedman walked alone to the podium, guitar in hand, to accept her inclusion into this honored and extraordinary group. She announced that she was about to sing a new composition she had just written, "Shma Koleinu." After an unusually long. strummed introduction. Debbie had to admit. out loud, that she'd forgotten the lyrics. No one groaned. No one moved. Since Debbie never learned to read music (neither. by the way. did Frank Sinatra). she couldn't consult any score. So she strummed her guitar in a hushed room until, at last, the words came. Afterward, as related by her friend Letty Cottin Pogrebin. Debbie was devastated at what she'd done.

A Note from Ritual In Memory of Debbie Friedman

"If you want to talk to God, pray. If you want God to listen, sing." - Anon.

As a congregation, we have grown to love the simple melodies we use on Saturday night to bless wine, spices, and light. We gather 'round a table in the warmth of someone's home with our ritual objects to say a sweet goodbye to Shabbat. Everyone joins in on "Ya lai lai ya la la lai lai" as we sing and sip and sniff and, ultimately, snuff our candle in a shallow pool of wine. Our voices become one voice. We send out one vibration in the same way that the primary symbol of our service, the Havdalah candle, reminds us of the central fact of our existence.

Who are we?

We embody a congregation, a people, a religion, a "mishpochah." We are also individuals with separate idiosyncratic lives, goals and motivations. We are capable of hurting each other's feelings as much as we are capable of lifting each other up, particularly when one or more of us, or the world, is hurting. We are different from each other, but entwined. At the beginning and end of Shabbat, our voices resonate with one vibration, a vibration of gratitude. We are grateful to our Creator and for the life and legacies of those who've gone before us.

Still in sorrow at her too-early death, I want to honor and remember and say thank you to Debbie Friedman, the creator of the melodies to our modern liturgy, especially our *Havdalah* and *Mishabeyrach songs*. May her vibration carry on, in us and through our voices.

-Gloria



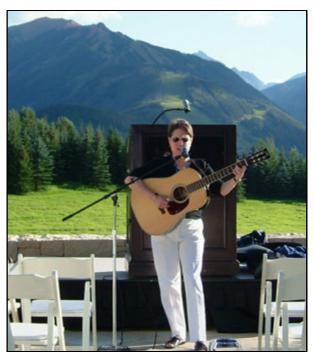
But in a measure of her stature among those who understood her importance to Jewish music and modern Jewish worship, people who were there remember only that they heard the premiere performance of a song that is today a beloved part of Debbie Friedman's canon.

As Lee Schur notes in her personal remembrance. Debbie began writing while a song leader at a Jewish camp in Wisconsin in the early 70s. Her first song was a version of the V'ahavta. She taught it to kids who were listening to James Taylor, Joan Baez and Judy Collins. They sang it arm-in-arm, crying. It was the first step. She'd opened a door - actually single-handedly created a bridge - between the sacred music and words of Jewish scripture and the ears and tastes and spirit of a new generation, one that had begun to drift away. Ultimately, she brought countless thousands back. Her music now permeates the

services of most Reform and Conservative synagogues. She was once quoted as saying that "what I do is respond to text. A rabbi friend of mine calls my music musical *Midrash*. It's an interesting way to look at what I do."

Debbie's best-known work, by far, is still her "MiShebeyrach" (which was performed not only for Debbie herself recently, but also in Congregation Chaverim in Tucson, Arizona, for synagogue member Gabby Giffords). But she also has a long list of other songs that are now deeply embedded in the modern lewish liturgy: versions of *Lecha Dodi*, and Bar'chu, and Mi Chamocha, and Ma Tovu. And there are her original compositions "L'chi Lach," "Miriam's Song," "Hal'luyah," "The Angel's Blessings," "Shelter of Peace," and "Sing Unto God." Barney the purple dinosaur sang her pre-school "Alef Bet" song on television. She wrote the popular Chanukah songs "Not by Might" and "I am a Latke." She recorded twenty albums, and sold out Carnegie Hall in 1995. In 1998, The Forward named her one of the hundred most influential American lews.

Debbie Friedman died on January 9th, at the age of 59. According to Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union for Reform Judaism,



"What happens in the synagogues of Reform Judaism today - the voices of song - are in large measure due to the insight, brilliance and influence of Debbie Friedman." \Diamond

A Personal Remembrance of Debbie Friedman

by Lee Schur

Debbie Friedman transformed Jewish music, liturgy and worship. We sing her songs in our synagogues, in our schools and in our camps. Every branch of Judaism has been impacted by her musical interpretations of the liturgy. Over 7,000 people watched her funeral online. Temple Beth Israel in Chicago (my home Temple) hosted a community-wide tribute, in song, on January 13th.

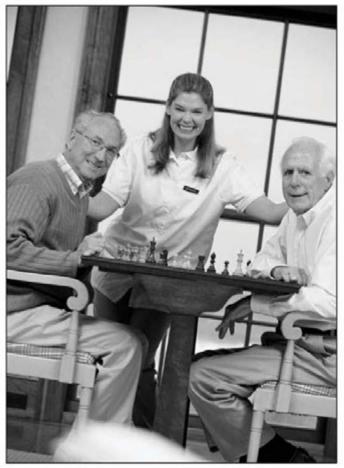
Debbie began her remarkable musical and spiritual journey at Olin Sang Ruby Institute Camp (now called OSRUI), in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Many former campers remember her barefoot and leading them, on the lush and rural camp grounds, in her first composition, the beautiful "Sing Unto God." When it was first recorded, many of those same campers were thrilled to be included as a part of the chorus. At Olin Sang Camp, my son John worked closely with her. He transcribed some of her music and accompanied her on the piano.

Debbie also put together a choir, which met in Chicago. John remembers fondly a trip to New York City with Debbie and the choir. Generations of Jewish campers remember her inspiring music, including other members of my family.

Debbie appeared almost every year at Chicago's Jewish Folk Festival, despite physical problems. She has left a giant musical and spiritual legacy for the Jewish people. May her memory be a blessing.

The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

The Palace Suites / Independent Living The Palace Royale / Catered Living The Palace Renaissance / Assisted Living The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center The Palace at Home / Home Health

| VERONICA'S ART
AND GLASS STUDIO
Stained Glass Custom Pieces •
Restoration and Repairs •
Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry •
Classes • Materials and Supplies
Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist
(305) 304-9411
veroagutierrez@yahoo.com
Declue's Art Printing
and Framing
Simply Extraordinary, Creative,
Quality Picture Framing. | Barbara KnowlesPhotography and VideoDestinationWedding PlannerOfficiant, All Events, PortraitsReal Estate, CorporateCustom PackagesWww.FLKeysWeddings.com305-772-0503305-853-5653iweddu@ bellsouth.netRichard KnowlesPhotoVideo305-942-4488flkeys@bellsouth.net |
|---|---|
| florida keys
periodontics
and
implantology
paul e. berger, d.d.s.
the pink plaza
103400 overseas highway
Suite 229
key largo, fl 33037
tax: 305.453.1889 | Ari B. Oberstein
Licensed Funeral Director
A DICNIFIED Alternative for the BUDGET MINDED
*A DICNIFIED Alternative for the BU |
| SOFY WASSER, L.M.T.
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST
870 NARRAGANSETT LANE
KEY LARGO, FL 33037
MILE MARKER 103 - BAYSIDE
305-332-1500 - CELL
305-453-1324 - HOME
Swedish / AROMATHERAPY /
NEUROMUSCULAR / HOT STONES | office hours by appointment phone: (305) 852-3219
fax: (305) 852-9016
OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S.
JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A.
RICHARD C. LAGE, D.D.S.
ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D. |





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

999 N. Krome Avenue Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Hwy. Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932







Shawn W. Tolley, C.P.A. Senior Partner

9350 South Dixie Highway Penthouse V Miami, Florida 33156 Tel: 305.670.1001 Fax: 305.670.1888 stolley@tolleycpa.com 97665 Overseas Highway Key Largo, Florida 33037 Tel: 305.852.9898 Fax: 305.852.9997 Cell: 305.608.8898 www.tolleycpa.com

Shingles Pain? Nerve Pain? Neuragen PN offers Fast Relief From

-Chronic Pain--Fibromyalgia--Sciatica--Numb Toes-Diabetic Nerve Pain-

CALL STEVE STEINBOCK 305-394-0143

70% Users Report Relief Apply Topically 2- 4X a Day No Side Effects



GARRETT CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER, P.A. a holistic healing center

DR. ERICA LIEBERMAN-GARRETT, BSC.D.C

Over 26 Years experience Chiropractic (Gentle/Manual) Yoga/Meditation Massage Therapy Physical Therapy Acupuncture/ Homeopathy

305-853-1003 MM 90.3 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice and other cases of significant damages.

GR

TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, FL 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

FT. LAUDERDALE

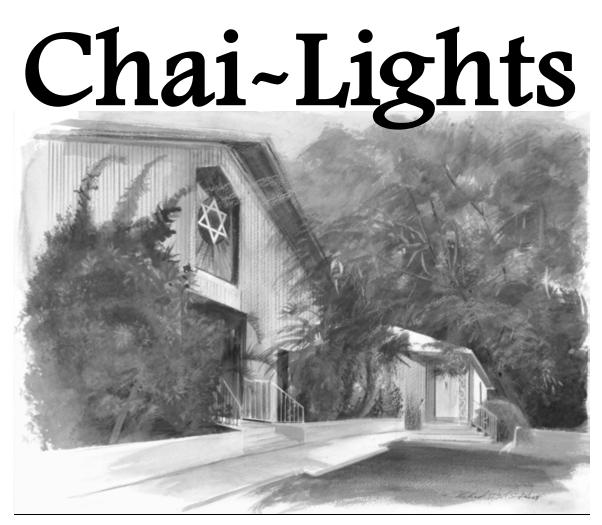
Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

BOCA RATON

Wachovia Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297



March 2011

25 Adar I - 25 Adar II 5771

Celebrating *Tu B'Shvat* at KJCC - page 25 The KJCC Annual Meeting in photos - page 27 Exploring the *Shechinah* - page 29

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com March 2011

25 Adar I - 25 Adar II

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2
Men's Club
Meeting &
Poker
Night, 7:30
p.m. at
KJCC | 3 | 4 Gloria, Susan,
Yardena & KJCC
students
Toby & David
Goldfinger;
Carol & Steve
Steinbock | 5
Shabbat
Across
America &
Canada |
| 6
Sisterhood
Meeting
at KJCC
9:30 a.m. | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11
Joyce Peckman
Elinor & Herb
Grossman;
Joseph &
Susan Sachs | 12 |
| 13
KJCC Board
Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Daylight Savings
begins | 14 | 15
The Ides of
March
(beware) | 16 | 17
Ta'anit
Esther | 18
Bernie Ginsberg
The Mah
Jonggettes | 19
Musical
"Chicago"
at Coral
Shores
8:00 p.m. |
| 20
Purim at
KJCC –
Megillah
reading
10:30 a.m.,
then brunch | 21
Shushan
Purim | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25
Ken Atlas
6:30 Service
Pat & David
Van Artsdalen | 26 |
| 27
Sisterhood
"Chai" Tea at
home of Kathy
Shabathai,
3:00 p.m. | 28 | 29 | 30
Discussion
Group at
KJCC
7:30 p.m.
w/ Rabbi Ed
Rosenthal | Italicized | note leaders of Friday
names are Oneg spons
ers services every Frida | ors. KJCC |

2011 - 2012 Officers and Board

President Stuart Sax

Executive Vice President Bernie Ginsberg

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Marc Bloom – Susan Gordon

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Joyce Peckman

Directors

Joan Boruszak – David Gitin – Steve Hartz Kurt Kluger – Dave Mont – Medina Roy Gene Silverman – Sam Vinicur

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Men's Club Steve Friedman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock Alan Beth

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavenier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message

Stuart Sax

Following seven years on the KJCC Board, serving most recently as your Executive Vice President, I am honored to be the fifteenth President of the KJCC. I am also honored to follow in the footsteps of Alan Beth. My goal is not to reinvent the wheel but rather to keep it maintained and rolling forward. Alan's visions and mine are much the same; the only major difference between us is that I can carry a tune!

Many thanks to Carol Steinbock for organizing a wonderful and meaningful installation program. And to our fabulous Sisterhood, thank you for the delicious luncheon.

In the year ahead, my focus will be participation. Each of us pays membership dues, and I would like to see every member get the biggest "bang for their buck" through the wide spectrum of activities that are available. These include attendance at our weekly Shabbat services in addition to adult education programs, religious special events, Sisterhoodsponsored Shabbat dinners. and a myriad of other programs to enrich both adults and children in our congregation

I look forward to serving this year with a Board that includes some energetic new faces along with many dedicated veterans who continue to be part of the total congregational experience. We have challenges ahead this year and I am convinced that we have



the talent to tackle each one head on.

I am reminded of my grandfather and father, both of whom served as presidents of their congregations in New Jersey and Indiana. Back then, much of life in their lewish communities revolved around the temple. My grandfather attended shul nearly every day, and he and my grandmother would return several nights during the week for social activities with their friends. My father attended nearly every committee meeting in his congregation, played cards regularly with the Brotherhood, attended every special event and bowled twice a week with B'nai B'rith. So I guess it was my legacy and my destiny to serve my own congregation.

And so my journey begins as president of KJCC. My focus is simple: Seventyfive percent participation and twenty-five percent administration. I know that I will be successful because I have a strong Board dedicated to moving us forward. And I also have a secret weapon who just happens to be the Sisterhood president. Team Sax. It has a nice ring to it. \Diamond Chai-Lights March 2011 **3**

Nosh

A note from Michal

In one of his last acts as KJCC president, Alan decided – just because – to send Michal Kamely some flowers. Yardena says her mother was very touched, overwhelmed even, and dictated this note in reply. (The original was in Hebrew, with translation by Yardena, who thought all of KJCC might like to see it. We thought so, too.)

What a pleasant surprise to receive such a beautiful bouquet of flowers, and to know that you remember me.

I am still receiving medical treatment at the Jewish Home, and waiting for the moment to return home. I hope that this will happen soon, and that we can see each other again. I send you *Shalom* and blessings for the whole congregation.

All the best and success for your future.

-Michal

New Members

KJCC offers its warmest welcome to Susan Ellner of Tavernier and River Vale, NJ, and Bennett and Deborah Beinfest of Key Largo. We hope you'll become an integral part of all the wonderful things we do here.

Megillah Mitzvah - March 20th, 10:30 a.m.

Don't forget to get dressed up. Bring your mask (or wear one made by our students). To be present at the reading of Purim's *Megillat Esther* is to perform an important *mitzvah*. Watch our young students parade, sing, and participate in the re-telling of the death-defying tale of one's man's persecution of the Jews, resulting not in genocide but in jubilation and justice. Come prepared to drown out Haman's name (and in the words of the rabbis, get so drunk you can't tell villain from hero). Celebrate Esther and Mordechai and the hand of G-d. Help us read from the *Megillah* and eat a wonderful sisterhood luncheon.

TREE OF LIFE

In Honor of the Birth of our Grandson

Aaron 12/10/10

Arthur & Johanna Willner

From Ritual: Two Events Not To Be Missed

• On Friday, March 4^{th} , 8 p.m. – Be a part of "Shabbat Across America and Canada," a continent-wide celebration of our most important holiday and keystone of our religion, family-oriented Shabbat. Last year twenty-seven of our "mishpocha" gathered for dinner at Bill and Freda's and then went off to shul. This year, we will start at shul. Students from our KJCC Religious School will play important roles in a service full of singing, led by Gloria, Yardena, and Susan. We will chant our prayers joyously and follow with a special Oneg (delicious and hand-made by Sisterhood) under the stars on the grounds of our new Meditation Garden. We will be listed in a national locator guide by the promoters of this event, so we may have guests. Let's welcome them. Bring your friends.

• On Wednesday, March 30th, 7:30 p.m. – We are pleased to announce that a discussion group, a *Shiur*, will be led at KJCC by Hillel Rabbi Ed Rosenthal. We will be hosting Rabbi Rosenthal and eleven young Hillel men from Eckerd College in Tampa. The students have chosen to perform a week of Tikkun Olam here, working on the Keys coral reef instead of reveling in a typical spring break. Possible discussion topics are "Jewish reincarnation," "Age of the Universe," and "Jewish Astrology." (Call me with topic ideas, 619-0216.) We at KJCC will be their "mishpocha" away from home from March 28th till April 1st.

-Gloria

March Birthdays

| Melvin L. Jacobson | l et |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Sasha Dutton | |
| Barbara Kantor | |
| Stephanie Gilderman | 3rd |
| Stephen Steinbock | 3rd |
| Benjamin K. Kwalick | |
| Bea Graham | |
| Hannah Feig | |
| | |
| Toby Goldfinger | /th |
| Pearl Jacobs | |
| Kate Horowitz | |
| Thomas Davis Smith | |
| Alvin J. Gottlieb | |
| Bryan Schur | Ilth |
| Heath Greenbaum | |
| Carl Roy | |
| Ira Stein | |
| Jenna Lane | |
| Seth Horowitz | |
| Allan Boruszak | I 5th |
| Johanna Willner | |
| Steven Nobil | |
| Benjamin Schwaid | I 7th |
| Daniel E. Friedman | I 7th |
| Eric Grace | |
| Michelle Palacino | 19 th |
| Janet Palacino | 20th |
| Susan Sachs | |
| Barbara A. Calev | 21 st |
| Erwin Kantor | 21st |
| James Jr. Nobil | 21st |
| Joseph Palacino | 21 st |
| Lois S. Kaufman | 21 st |
| Doug Graham | |
| Stephanie Coeurjoly | 25th |
| Sylvia Berman | |
| Nichelle E. Denker | |
| Roger Vorcheimer | |
| Joel Pollack | |
| Anthony A. Gutierrez | |
| David VanArtsdalen | |
| Lee Schur | 30th |
| Eva Faust | |
| Jane S. Friedman | |
| Robert Gintel | |
| Sari Elizabeth Goldstein | |
| | |

To my dearest mishbucha at the KJCC,

Thank you so much for all of your prayers and thoughts. This has been a very difficult time for us and I can't express just how much it has meant to us to receive the heartfelt condolences from all of you, from all of your e-mails and cards to the beautiful basket of fruit delivered personally by Rene Rose. I can't thank you enough. What a wonderful feeling to have all this love and support from all of you. Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Love, Sofy Wasser

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of

Lillian Skolnick

by Jim and Joan Boruszak

Oneg Sponsors for March 2011

March 4th—David & Toby Goldfinger to celebrate Toby's birthday; also Carol & Steve Steinbock for Steve's birthday

March 11th—Elinor & Herb Grossman - "LeChaim"; also Joseph & Susan Sachs for their anniversary

March 18th—The Mah Jonggettes

March 25th—Pat and David Van Artsdalen

March Anniversaries

| | | Years |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|
| lst | Jerry & Sheila Olsen | 52 |
| 7th | Joseph & Susan Sachs | 46 |
| l4th | Henry & Patricia Isenberg | 41 |
| l 6th | Frank & Gerri Emkey | 3 |
| 18th | Alvan & Carol Field | 23 |
| 22nd | David & Patti Gross | 14 |
| 24th | Morris & Sherrie Willner | 42 |
| 25th | Joseph & Susan Goldberg | |

Food For Thought From "Miriam's Kitchen" and Joyce

The leadership of the KJCC has just been passed to a new president and board. As I step down from the presidency of Sisterhood, and pass on all the responsibility and effort it entailed, I want to share with you some words adapted from "Miriam's Kitchen," by Elizabeth Ehrlich.

"It is nice to live in a world of bright diversity, with many forms and colors from which to choose in designing a life...But the wellsprings must be authentic, or else it is just a museum. Someone, many someones, must keep the sources alive.

"We want to pick and choose from the great shopping mall of expedient culture: a certain sandwich to feed a hungry nostalgia, particular communal values when we need them, ritual expertise at times of joy or stress. But when one decides, after all, to celebrate a child's bar mitzvah, the synagogue and all the trappings must be there, maintained by a community. The old kosher bakery will close without regular shoppers. With no passionate discussants, the valued argumentative traditions of Jewish study will fade away into irrelevance.

"Without commitment, the sources will die. The forms we love to have the choice to return to will become hollow shells, cultural theme parks. Someone (many someones) has kept the forms alive and vital, has kept the choices available to us. They may have been skeptical. They must have had moments when their preferences were elsewhere.

"It is our turn now."

-Joyce Peckman

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 305-852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 305-852-0214.

Picture Postcards - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 305-852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor – To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **Meditation Garden** – Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 305-394-0143. **KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** – Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 305-852-6152 or 305-393-1205.

JNF Trees In Israel - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 305-852-4353. *Chai-Lights Mitzvah* - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-852-6152 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights or Directory - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights and/ or annually in the Directory. Call Gene Silverman 305-664-3316 for rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam March 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Harvey Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

E. Paul Charlap

By Maryann C. Azzato

In Memory Of

Dorothy Stanlake

By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

In Memory Of

Maurice Field

By Alvan & Carol Field

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Robert Kohlenbrener

By Jim & Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Maxime Kaplan

By Tom & Marsha Garrettson

In Memory Of

Louis Weinstein

By Eric Grace & Ruth Schrader-Grace

In Memory Of

Hanna Gross Klein

By Mollie Gross

In Memory Of

Anna Horn

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

In Memory Of

Rachamim Levy

By Michal Kamely

In Memory Of

Robert Berman

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Louis Abraham Weinstein

By Dick & Rita Bromwich

In Memory Of

Morris Shore

By Milton & Claire Geller

In Memory Of

Selma Greenspan

By Bea Graham

In Memory Of

Louise Hermann

By Robert Hermann

In Memory Of

Rubin Bressick

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

In Memory Of

Judith N. Cooper

By David & Lois Kaufman

Chai-Lights March 2011 7

Anna Shore By Milton & Claire Geller <><><><><><><><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Arlene R. Brenner

By Marilyn Greenbaum

In Memory Of

Dorothy Hirsch

By Gerald Hirsch

In Memory Of

Harry Phillips

By Henry & Patricia Isenberg





Magnificent crystal mezuzahs designed by the artist Udi from the Blue and White gallery in the Cardo in the Old City of Jerusalem - Wonderful wedding gifts!

> Also: Silver star necklaces with multi colored stones and hand made parchment note paper from Zickran Yaakov.

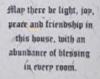


Beautiful talit and kepahs from Jaffa



Multi-colored over-the-shoulder fabric purses and challah covers from Rifkas in the Old City of Jerusalem





Blessing for the Dome

Individual orders can be accommodated.

In Memoriam March 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of Mrs. Mildred Lewit

By Wendy Sue Lewit

In Memory Of

Oscar Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Marian Rose Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

In Memory Of

Jennie Lippman

By Lillian Lippman

In Memory Of

Dorothy Ross

By Joyce Peckman

In Memory Of

Samual Fisch

By Michael & Arlene Rosenbach

In Memory Of

Ida Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Irving Taks

By Mel Taks

In Memory Of

Denise Moss

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Esther Schur

By Lee Schur

In Memory Of

Theresa Steinbock

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock

In Memory Of

Anne Temkin

By Robert & Susan Temkin

In Memory Of

Deborah Eichler

By Lawrence & Judith Weber

In Memory Of

Tillie Zalmanovich

By Morris & Evelyn Zalmanovich

In Memory Of

Irving Line

By Jonathan & Arlene Line

In Memory Of

Louis Weinstein

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

In Memory Of

Cissie Rose Lang

By Skip & Rene Rose

In Memory Of

Isadore Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Abe M. Reider

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Alice Weber

By Lawrence & Judith Weber

In Memory Of

Florence Patterson

By Morris & Evelyn Zalmanovich



The best combination since peanut butter and chocolate!

FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM AT THE KJCC MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ALL KJCC MEN ARE AUTOMATICALLY MEMBERS ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED EVERYONE IS WELCOME

> Light Snacks (Potluck) Refreshments Worst Player Prize!

FUN AND EXCITEMENT FOR ALL!

YEDA VETORASHA Yardena Kamely



Purim in the Community

Jewish communities around the world celebrate *Purim* as a holiday of feasting and gladness, 'mi'shenichnas Adar marbim b'simchah' (with the start of the month of Adar we increase joy), of gift-giving – mishlo'ach manot – and tzedakah (charity), giving money to the poor, matanot le'evyonim. Purim is a time when Jewish communities, like the community in the Book of Esther, from whence the story comes, become aware of the fragility and particular vulnerability of living in the Diaspora, as a people "scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples" (Esther 3:8).

The observance of Purim centers around the *mitzvah* of reading the Book of Esther. called the Megillah (the scroll). Last year it was read in our David Kamely classroom at the KJCC, with the participation of a group of adults and our Religious School students and parents, a group much larger than the required *minvan*. Another tradition of Purim observance is Ta'anit Esther, the Fast of Esther. It is one of the four public fasts in the Jewish calendar. These so-called four minor fasts commemorate tragedies in Jewish history, tragic events related to the destruction of Jerusalem or to the loss of the Jewish state. (The major fast days are Yom Kippur and Tisha B'Av.)

A *ta'anit* may have one or more purposes: a tool for repentance; an expression of mourning; and supplication, such as the *Ta'anit Esther* which is a fast from dawn until dusk on Purim eve, commemorating the three -day fast observed by the Jewish people in the story of Purim. Whenever in peril, we are commanded to institute a fast day to repent, pray, and ask for Divine mercy. Thus, in the story of Purim, the 13th of Adar, the day of battle, was a day of fasting. Earlier in the Purim narrative, Esther risked her life by appearing before the king without permission. But first she had asked the Jews to fast with her for three days. The source for the *ta'anit* is a *minhag* (custom) dating from the Gaonic period.

Purim is one of the most popular Jewish holidays for families and children. The day is celebrated with costumes, masquerades, plays, parodies, and liquor. All of these activities are meant to make Purim a day full of Carnival spirit. I remember celebrating Purim as a child in Haifa; every girl wanted to be Queen Esther, or a beautiful princess. Our mothers would spend weeks in preparing the costumes. My mother was looking for some beautiful pieces of fabrics that grandmother Dina or aunt Rivka had kept in the closet.



The tomb of Esther and Mordechai in Hamadan, a city in western Persia (Iran) said to be on the ruins of Shushan.

With those costumes, my sister and I looked like real Persian princesses.

In Israel, Tel-Aviv has become "The City of Purim." The saying is: "Purim was born in the *Galut* (Exile), but has been adopted by Tel-Aviv as its very own. Let Yerushalayim have its pilgrim festivals! Let little Meron reioice over Lag Ba'Omer and proud Modi'in over Hanukkah! *Tel-Aviv* embraces joyously and passionately Purim. festival of the Galut." In the Diaspora the custom is to celebrate most holidays for two days, but give only one dav to Purim. In Tel-Aviv it is different: one dav for most holidays. but for Purim two, and even more! New ceremonies and celebrations have been created to express in modern ways the spirit of this ancient festival of Queen Esther. The buildings and streets in the citv are decorated. and costume pa-

In the story of Purim, King Achashverosh's kingdom of Persia covered the areas now known as Iran and Iraq. In this spirit, below is a recipe for Iraqi Hamantaschen: (From Judy Zeidler's 'Purim Pastries with a Twist.' Recipe by: Linda Haim Meadows)

Ba'ba Beh Tamur (Iraqi Filled Pastries)

Note: The word "tamur" comes from the Hebrew word "tamar," meaning dates.

(These pastries often include a date filling; however, the recipe below offers different suggestions.)

Ingredients:

- I package active dry yeast
- I cup lukewarm water
- 3 cups flour
- 1⁄2 teaspoon salt
- I teaspoon baking powder
- I tablespoon ground fennel
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- Cheese or almond filling (recipes below)

I) Combine the yeast and water. Set aside for 10 minutes.

- Mix flour, salt, baking powder, fennel, yeast mixture, and melted butter together. Cover with a damp cloth, and let rise until doubled, about 1 hour.
- 3) For cheese and almond fillings, cut dough into circles, and place filling in the center. Brush the edge with water and fold to make a crescent shape. Seal edges with a fork, and bake at 425 degrees for 20 minutes.

Cheese Filling:

1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
1/2 cup shredded Muenster cheese
1 egg

Almond Filling:

- I cup ground almonds
- 1/3 cup sugar
- I tablespoon rose water
- I tablespoon orange blossom water

rades are planned. Since 1933, Tel-Aviv has issued an official guide named Kerobez. Its name is made up of the first letters of the Hebrew words: Kol rinah vi'yeshuah be'ohale tzadikim (Psalm 118.15). The name Kerobez expresses the spirit of Jewish joy, for the words of the Psalmist sav that the righteous reioice when God makes justice triumph in the world. The festivities begin with plays and shows telling the story of Purim in different versions for adults and children. At one place vou can hear choral singing, at another an orchestra playing music of Purim

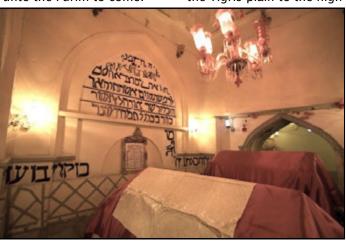
melodies. For

the children.

a special pageant is prepared dramatizing the Book of Esther. Like a living *Megillah*, the characters of the story step out of the pages of a gigantic scroll. Guest artists and singers, dancers, musicians and actors participate in these performances.

One of the most important events of the Purim celebration is the election of *Malkat Esther*, the Queen who reigns over Tel-Aviv *mi'yom Purim zeh ad yom Purim ha'ba*, that is. "from this Purim unto the Purim to come."

Not always is the most beautiful young girl crowned Queen Esther. Sometimes she is chosen for beauty. but sometimes for other reasons. One year an Ashkenazi girl is chosen, then perhaps a Sephardic beauty. Once. a Yemenite girl of Neve Tzedek. a beautiful old guarter in Tel-Aviv. was crowned gueen.



The interior of the tomb of Esther and Mordechai.

It was a Cinderella story of a poor orphan girl. The joy of the Yemenites was great; at last they had come to feel a certain pride as an ethnic group; they were now considered the full equals of other Jews. Thus, the selection of the queen can contribute to a sense of Jewish unity. A wit in *Kerobez* says: *Kol Yisrael yesh lahem chelek be Esther ha'Malkah*, which means that all Israel is united in the pride they share in glorious Queen Esther.

Another interesting city connected with the celebration of Purim is *Hamadan* in Persia, today's Iran. To make a pilgrimage on certain occasions to the grave of some ancestor has long been a religious custom among Oriental Jews. This custom can be traced back to the influence of the Islamic environment in which these Jews have lived. They say that the most important holy place of the Persian Jews is the tomb of Esther and Mordechai, in Hamadan, which supposedly is on the site of biblical *Shushan Ha'Birah* (Shushan the Capital).

W. J. Fischel writes: "I must confess that a curious sense of solemnity filled me when, on my way from Jerusalem via Bagdad into the interior of Persia, I found myself in *Shushan Ha'Birah*, at the graves of Mordechai and Esther. First came the impressive road from the Tigris plain to the high Persian plateau, a

stair-like, rising pass, on which for thousands of vears the armies of all kings, merchants and pilgrims of all nations have travelled - that old caravan road to China which is a natural passage connecting East and West...then there is Hamadan itself. one of the most ancient of cities, standing on the ruins of old Achmetha,

the summer residence of the kings of the Medes. But there was another reason why I felt that in this city I stood on holy ground; I recalled the Megillat Esther, the characters of which come to life as one stands beside the tomb of its heroes. One can fairly see the procession of mourning, fasting lews: Mordechai in sackcloth and ashes; beautiful, graceful Esther; hate-filled Haman; the vacillating king and then the messengers who bear the tidings of salvation to all the lewish communities of the great Persian Empire, the festive rejoicing of the Jews. No wonder that at Purim everybody wants to make a pilgrimage to the graves of these heroes of the Me*gillah*. Dark and narrow though the tomb is, everybody wants to perform the special *Mitzvah* of hearing the reading of the *Megillah* at the historic site of the actual events."

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

General Fund Cole, Ronald Sax, Stu & Lauren

General Fund Sax, Stu & Lauren Peckman, Joyce In Honor of love offering Joel Pollack

In Memory of Eileen Hermann Eileen Hermann, Sofia Ojeda

In Honor of grandson Crue LaMarche Yartzeit Contributions Friedman, Max & Ingrid Gilderman, Larry & Stephanie Isenberg, Henry & Patricia Krissel, Michael Kwalick, Teresa Marmar, David & Pamela Present, Marjorie Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

In Memory of Max & Flora Rosenthal Elsie Gilderman Fannie Phillips Joseph Krissel M. Teresa Astray-Caneda Samuel Marmar Amos & Ida Present Sally Sussman Morris Feinberg Samuel Wolfe



Contact Leslie Dillon at 305-853-2693, 222law@gmail.com, for information and reservations. Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116, Tavemier, FL 33070. Your check is your reservation. Reserve early as we will be opening this up to the public after April 1st.



Adults \$50 Children 12 and under are our guests.

Meditation Garden Line, Jon & Arlene

Oneg Fund Sponsors Grossman, Herb & Elinor Steinbock, Steve & Carol

Raffle

Agler, Rabbi Richard & Mindy Avner, Gloria Bolton, William & Donna Graham, Bea Klein, Harvey & Judith Koler, Jason & Kate Marmar, David & Pamela Olsen, Gerald & Sheila Pollack, Joel & Linda Reynolds, Nicole Sachs, Joseph & Susan Schulberg, Alan & Elaine Shabathai, Joseph & Katherine Steinbock, Steve & Carol Weber, Lawrence & Judith Williams, Jim & Rita

Sisterhood Shutan, Alvina In Honor of Lauren Sax as president

Sisterhood Lauren Sax



"If you want something done, your best bet is to ask a Jewish woman to do it. Jewish women, by our tradition and by the way we were raised, have an ability to cut through all the reasons why something should, shouldn't or can't be done and pull people together to be successful."

This is a quote from Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords that then-President Alan Beth read one Sabbath eve service. Our KJCC Sisterhood certainly exemplifies its meaning. Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Kathy Shabathai and their crew banded together to pull off a fabulous "Deli Nite" evening of fun, food and schmoozing just as the ads guaranteed. Hats off to everyone who gave of their time and talents, including: Leslie Dillon, Patti Gross, Georgia Landau, Roberta McNew and Joan Stark. You really outdid yourselves and we all thank you for a terrific and very profitable fundraiser.

Sisterhood sends its own *mazel tov* to the newly elected President of the KJCC, Stuart Sax (that name sounds vaguely familiar) and his Board of Directors. In their honor, Sisterhood hosted a light luncheon immediately following the installation and I want to thank all those who cooked, baked, schlepped, organized and cleaned up. You know who you are and I am most appreciative of all your efforts.

As we head into March, Sisterhood continues to be busy and vibrant. The weekend of the 19th and 20th is turning out to be a KICC weekend. I hope you are all planning to see "Chicago" at Coral Shores High School on Saturday, March 19th. This outstanding musical is the winner of six Tony Awards and is the longest-running musical revival on Broadway. Linda Pollack is in charge of tickets for what promises to be a very entertaining performance. The following morning the KJCC Sunday School students will lead the congregation in the *Megillah* reading, followed by a brunch sponsored by Sisterhood. This is always a fun holiday at the KJCC and we hope as many of you as possible will join us. Since this will be a potluck brunch, Erica is coordinating the food. So please call her.

Continuing the theme of a Jewish woman being necessary to get something done, we are excited about our newest event, a membership "Chai" tea. Kathy Shabathai is not only sponsoring but also cooking and baking for what should be a relaxing and very social afternoon. We hope those of you who are not familiar with what Sisterhood does, or those who just want to forge new friendships, will join us at Kathy's (and Joe's) home on March 27th at 2 p.m. We are all looking forward to some good conversation with our feet up – something we don't usually get to do!! And remember, all female members of the KJCC are automatically members of Sisterhood.

For those of you who have been putting on a few pounds this season, it might be due in part to our wonderful Oneg Shabbat hosts and the good food that has been provided. We truly appreciate all those who have chosen to celebrate a mitzvah with the rest of their "mishpocha" at the KJCC. There are always dates available, so don't hesitate to contact Joyce Peckman (451-0665 or 240-1000 or joyce@adoctorsbag.com) and she will coordinate it all. Thanks, Joyce for your help and being so organized.

To avoid any confusion, I thought it might be helpful to include a roster of our committee chairwomen. Keep it handy for reference.

| President | Lauren Sax |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Vice President | Georgia Landau |
| Treasurer | Nancy Kluger |
| Recording Sec'y. | Carol Steinbock |
| Kitchen/Dinners | Erica Lieberman-Garrett/ |
| | Kathy Shabathai |
| Picture Wall | Candy Stanlake |
| Publicity | Lauren Sax/Linda Pollack |
| Gift Shop | Susan Gordon/Roberta McNew |
| Oneg Scheduling | Joyce Peckman |
| Oneg Food | Lauren Sax/Georgia Landau |
| | |

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Saturday, March 19, 2011 8:00 pm Coral Shores High School Plantation Key - MM 89 Oceanside



Book by Fred Ebb & Bob Fosse Music by John Kander Lyrics by Fred Ebb

Based on the play CHICAGO by Maurine Dallas Watkins Directed by Debra Ginsberg Produced by the Miami Acting Company

Contact: Linda Pollack to reserve your ticket lindap4000@earthlink.net Donation: \$25

World Jewish Report Medina Roy

Would You Like Fries With That?

The Subway sandwich chain is experimenting with a new falafel sandwich, testing it in the Chicago area. Subway has nearly 24,000 restaurants in the United States and five locations in Israel, four in Egypt and 41 in Saudi Arabia. Bahrain was the first place it opened outside of North America back in 1984. In a related story, the McDonald's fast food chain is about to roll out its latest offering of the "McFalafel" in Israel. It will come with a side of techina and the classic Israeli salad made up of chopped tomatoes and cucumbers. (*The Forward*, 1-11-11)

From the Bible

According to figures recently released by the Israeli Bureau of Statistics, Noa continues – after almost 10 years – to be the most popular name for Jewish newborn girls. For boys it is Noam. Other top names for girls are Shira, Tamar and Yael, while Iti, Uri and Daniel head the list for boys. When choosing names for babies of both sexes, Israelis typically go to the Bible, which is also the source for the top twenty names. (*Dateline: World Jewry, February 2011*)

A Nation of Immigrants

Israel's Immigration and Absorption Committee revealed that one of every four people living in Israel today, and one-third of its workforce, was born abroad. Since the founding of the State in 1948, some three million Jews have immigrated to Israel. Between 1948 and 1951, two main waves of *aliya* (Jewish immigration) brought 600,000 new residents, doubling the nation's population. In addition, nearly 400,000 Jews immigrated to Israel from former Soviet Union countries in just one year, between 1990 and 1991, with some 1.2 million arriving since the fall of the Iron Curtain. All of Israel's prime ministers except Yitzchak Rabin, Ehud Barak and Benjamin Netanyahu have been immigrants. *(www.israelnationalnews.com, 2-8-11)*

Permaculture?

Eco-Israel is offering English-speaking voung adults, between the ages of 18-30, the opportunity to explore environmental issues while living five months on an organic farm in central Israel. The international program of the Hava & Adam Eco-Educational Farm is located halfway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The program allows students "to explore how ecology, Judaism and Israel blend together in a working model of selfsustaining ecological community." Upon completion of the program, participants receive an internationally recognized certificate in Permaculture Design. Permaculture is rooted in the observation of nature and is a philosophy of working with, rather than against, nature. To download an application, go to www.eco-israel.org. (In case you missed it, "Hava" is the Hebrew name for Adam's better -half, "Eve.") (The Jewish Council for Public Affairs, www.thejcpa.org, 1-18-11)

Tomb of Zechariah

The Israeli Antiquities Authority has recently unearthed a 1,500-year-old Byzantine church, which includes an unusually well preserved mosaic floor. The discovery was made at *Hirbet Madras* in central Israel, southwest of Jerusalem. The church was built on top of another structure, about 500 years older, dating to Roman times, when it is believed that the settlement was inhabited by Jews. Various scholars who visited the site believe



it could mark the residence and burial place of the Old Testament prophet Zechariah. *Hirbet Madras* had a large, important Jewish community for hundreds of years, from the Second Temple period until its destruction during the Bar Kokhba Revolt against Rome in 135 C.E. (Associated Press, 2-2-11)

A Place to Worship in the Caribbean

The Jewish community of St. Martin, a Dutch and French island in the Caribbean, has opened its first synagogue since the 18th century. It is part of a new Chabad Center. There are about 300 Jewish residents in St. Martin, but the population swells to about 1,000 during tourist season. Jews first came to the island as refugees from the Spanish Inquisition, and the community grew during the 16th and 17th centuries. The synagogue was abandoned in 1781 and later destroyed by a hurricane. A historic Jewish cemetery also was recently discovered. (World Jewish Congress, 1-28-11)

Be Fruitful and Multiply (and Multiply...)

A Jerusalem woman has given birth to her 18th child, a baby boy who is already an uncle twice over. Rivka, 44, has two grandchildren older than her new son. Part of the strictly Orthodox Chasidic community, Rivka herself has 15 siblings. Her husband helps out by making the children sandwiches every morning, and it takes him almost an hour since each one gets his or her favorite. Two washing machines work non-stop and when asked about transporting the family, Rivka said, "A car isn't enough for our family – we need a train." (www.thjc.com, 2-11-11)

2011 Sydney Taylor Book Awards

The 2011 winners of the prestigious Sydney Taylor Book Awards were announced by the Association of Jewish Libraries in January. The award honors new books for children and teens that "exemplify the highest literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience." The award is named for the author of the classic *All-of-a-Kind Family* children's series. Winners are:

· For young readers: Gathering Sparks, by

Honor awards in this category:

Modeh Ani: A Good Morning Book, by Sarah Gershman;

Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty, by Linda Glasser;

Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale, by Barbara Diamond Goldin;

• For older readers: *Hereville: How Mirka Got Her Sword,* by Barry Deutsch;

Honor awards in this category:

Resistance, by Carla Jablonski;

One Is Not a Lonely Number, by Evelyn Krieger;

Black Radishes, by Susan Lynn Meyer; • For teen readers: The Things a Brother Knows, by Dana Reinhardt;

Honor awards in this category:

Hush, by Eishes Chayil;

Once, by Morris Gleitzman;

Life, After, by Sarah Darer Littman; In addition to the medal winners, the Association designated 27 Notable Books of Jewish Content for 2011. For details about all titles, go to www.SydneyTaylorBookAward.org or Amazon.com for full annotations. (Association of Jewish Libraries, January 2011)

Profiles of the Fallen

Later this year, the United States will mark the 10th anniversary of its military involvement in Afghanistan. The eighth anniversary of the war in Iraq will be observed on March 20th. As of February 7th, the number of service men and women killed in these wars reached 5,775 and approximately 37 of them were Jewish. That number may be higher, as some soldiers don't declare their religion, especially when serving in Muslim countries. Among the Jewish dead are the first female airman to die in Irag and the only member of the U.S. Coast Guard killed in action since the Vietnam War. Because the Jews who have died have not been very well covered by the Jewish community, The Forward newspaper has come out and told their individual stories. For a moving tribute to these fallen men and women, go to www.forward.com/ articles/135331. (The Forward, 2-9-11)

In Memoriam

-Tuvia Friedman, who hunted Nazis for decades and gathered material that helped identify Adolf Eichmann in advance of his capture by Israel in 1960, died in mid-January. He was 89. Friedman lost his entire family in the Holocaust, except for one sister. He managed to escape from the Nazis towards the end of the war by grabbing the rifle of the German soldier who fell asleep while guarding him. Friedman worked with Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal in the early days after the war, and together the two succeeded in capturing and bringing over 250 Nazi criminals to justice. Like Wiesenthal, Friedman decided to drop everything after the Holocaust and devote his life to bringing Nazi murderers to justice. After Wiesenthal settled in Vienna. Friedman moved to Israel and continued on his own. In 1952 he established the Institute for the Documentation of Nazi War Crimes in Haifa. Friedman published an autobiography in 1961 titled "The Hunter." (www.jta.org, 1-17-11)

-Maria Altmann, who waged a seven-year legal battle to recover her family's Nazilooted paintings, has died. She was 94. In 1998, when she was 82, Altmann retained E. Randol Schoenberg, an attorney, to investigate the Nazi theft of five Gustav Klimt works owned by her family. The collection included Klimt's famous "Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer," which was hanging in the Austrian National Gallery. Adele Bloch-Bauer was Altmann's aunt. The United States Supreme Court ruled that the case could go forward. resulting in an Austrian mediation panel ultimately awarding Altmann the five Klimt paintings in January, 2006. The paintings were subsequently sold for \$327.7 million. The portrait of Bloch-Bauer is now on permanent display at Ronald S. Lauder's Neue Galerie in New York. (www.latimes.com, 2-8-11)

A Living Tribute

The Hebrew Union College's (HUC) School of Sacred Music has a new name. The Reform movement's cantorial school has been named for the late Debbie Friedman, who died in January at the age of 59. Friedman transformed Jewish worship in American liberal synagogues with her style of folk-inspired music, often with new tunes for ancient texts. The school will now be known as *The Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music*. The HUC's cantorial school in New York was established in 1948 and has invested 462 cantors. (For a moving tribute to the life of Friedman, see the article in the February 2011 issue of *Chai-Lights.*) (*Jerusalem Post, 1-31-11*)

And the Award Goes To

Two Israeli filmmakers received awards at the Sundance Film Festival in Utah at the end of January. Erez Kav-El won the World Cinema Dramatic Screening Award for his film "Restoration," about a man coming to terms with his estranged son. Talya Lavie received an inaugural Sundance award, which supports emerging independent filmmakers from around the world. Her film, "Zero Motivation," deals with three women working in an administrative office at a remote Israeli army base and their power struggles. (www.jta.org, 1-31-11)

Did You Know...

-Israeli scientist Yosef Shiloh of Tel Aviv University's Sackler Medical School has become the first Israeli researcher to win a prestigious award given by the American Association for Cancer Research. Shiloh has devoted his research to ataxia-telangiectasia, a rare neurodegenerative hereditary disease. It is prevalent among people of North African origin, as well as in the Palestinian and Bedouin communities. (www.jta.org, 1-25-11)

-David Gorr, 68, a Jewish grandfather from Melbourne, Australia, won the world's secondlargest poker tournament. Gorr took nearly two million dollars in prize money in the Crown Aussie Millions Main Event 2011 tournament, beating 721 competitors, including the top poker players from around the world. Last year's tournament was won by Tyron Krost, who also is Jewish. (Our sources report on good and unimpeachable authority that Gorr will *not* be invited to the next KJCC Men's Club poker night, as there is great concern that humiliating losses there could damage his burgeoning international career.) (*www.jta.org, 1-31-11*) \diamond



Keys Jewish Community Center

Cathy Kaplan Sisterhood

Cordially Invites All KJCC Women to a

"Chai Tea"

Date: Sunday, March 27, 2011 Time: 3:00 pm Place: Home of Katherine and Joseph Shabathai 106 Royal Lane Plantation Key, FL 33070 MM 87.5 Bayside

RSVP: kathyshabathai@hotmail.com by March 23rd

Sponsored by Joe and Kathy Shabathai Refreshments prepared by Kathy Shabathai

> This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and mingle with your fellow sisters in the congregation.

Photo Gallery



Yardena's Ulpan classes met at Michal's house on January 22nd, left, to go beyond language study and explore topics of Jewish ethics and culture. Joyce and Gloria, below, address their first audience of the



year at the beginning of the Upper Keys Concert series. The first concert, on January 25th, was the Harry James

Orchestra, now led by old hand Fred Radke, shown at left with wife and vocalist Gina and the KJCC volunteers.





After the early service on January 28th, a group headed to Num Thai in Key Largo, above, to celebrate the birthdays of Carol Steinbock and Yardena Kamely. (And, yes, to eat.) Obviously they have a lot of fans. The two ageless birthday girls pose without their entourage, left.



Medina and Rachel - created a display that's now in the KJCC lobby but will soon go to Coral Shores High School.

RNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

The second in the Upper Keys Concert Series took place January 29th, and featured the Chopin Award-winning Korean pianist Soo-Yeon Ham. One wonders if Chopin himself could have played his etudes more beautifully than she does.

> Gloria couldn't be there that night, but how often does KJCC enjoy a Donna Bolton sighting? (Group shot, far right.)

It was, if you'll remember, cold in January, and Yardena was just able to begin resuming normal activities, so chivalrous Dave Mont mans both oars and transports Yardena on a very blue Atlantic off Key Largo.

The photo at bottom is of Joel and Linda Pollack's grandchildren Will and Maddy. What's amazing about this shot is

> that they live in Austin, Texas, where it never snows. Except it did that day. If you'll remember, about threequarters of the country was covered in snow.







There will very shortly be a plaque on the beautiful new gazebo in KJCC's beautiful new Meditation Garden, which will read:

"Gazebo Donated and Built by Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake in Honor of our Parents, Rose & Laurie Beth and Dorothy & J.D. Stanlake."

For any of you who'd think that Candy would do all the real work, here are photos of Alan hard at it, even if getting a little help from Steve Steinbock. Gloria and

Susan enjoy the remarkably comfortable benches, right, and many in the crowd after the Annual Meeting on February 13th get their first look at the finished product (which might also become our new Sukkah).



The whole Megillah--The real Megillah--The KJCC Megillah--

Sunday, March 20, 2011

Wear a costume - Bring a dish!

10:30 Megillah Reading and Purim presentation 11:30 Brunch - Potluck

Megillah reading will be moderated by Joyce Peckman with participation by our students and congregation. Tzedakah will be collected to be used for Passover meals for those in need.

Contact Erica Garrett, (305) 853-1003 hippiejap@hotmail.com, to coordinate your dish.

The 2011 KJCC Fashion Show

by Joyce Peckman

Sisterhood's fabulous fashion show on January 18th featured many firsts this year. It was held for the first time at Braza Lena, which is generally only available for sumptu-



ous Brazilian barbeque/buffet dinners. It was the first time that the alwaysengaging presenters from Angelika's were also the incoming presidents of Sisterhood and the KJCC. And the main model was not a Sisterhood sories. Stuart, in his inimitable way, previewed Angelika's newest merchandise, including magnetic broaches, re-



Well, at least this model works cheap, and Stu seems to like her.

versible shawls, and necklaces that double as belts. Lauren, with her unerring eye, managed to find women wearing exactly the outfits that could be perfectly complemented and enlivened by the accessories she'd brought. Thus the audience became



The dinner began with the Joyce with the Brighton necklace she won.

blessing over the bread – the *HaMotzi* – led by a duo performance of Stuart and me.

Featured were interesting and unusual belts, scarves and jewelry. For over an hour, attendees were treated to the latest trends in fashion and colors, with the main theme being how to stretch your existing wardrobe with new acces-







the models. (At which point the mannequin graciously stepped aside.) After the show there was a drawing for prizes donated by



Oh, there are times I just looooove the retail business!



Angelika. Pauline, our KJCC matriarch, drew the raffle tickets from the bowl. Coincidentally, the owner of Curves in Key Largo, Anna, won the lovely



ing the ticket sales; to Sofy Wasser and Roberta for check-in; and to Carol Steinbock for singlehandedly selling over \$400 in raffle tickets. To everyone else who helped with the luncheon and to all who supported it, we offer you thanks as well. ◊



shawl that she had been modeling. I had just been walking around demonstrating a magnetically transforming necklace, and won a Brighton necklace.

We all offer many thanks to Joan Stark for chairing the event and making all of the arrangements; to Roberta McNew for organiz-



Our great thanks to Mary Lee Singer and Carol Steinbock for all the photos.

New Year For The Trees Our Wonderful 2011 Tu B'Shvat Seder at KJCC

bv Gloria Avner

C ometimes being replaced is a good thing. \mathcal{J} That's how Yardena and I felt as we *kvelled* over our students' beautifully set *Tu B'Shvat*

table and listened. Our mystical seder honoring the birthday of fruit-bearing trees was led for the first time, not by us, but by our own students: Joshua, Harry, Noach and Moira did the honors this year.



Nettie, Barbara and

Sylvie helped prepare

mention providing shovels, dirt, seedlings, and fertilizer). Bless the Bittons, the Friedmans, the Grace/Schrader-Graces, the Bernsteins, the Werthamers, and the Knowleses.

We said the blessings for all the fruits, those with edible skin and inedible skin, those with pits and without. We blessed and drank four cups of wine, moving metaphorically from the pure white of winter to the hint of rosy warmth in spring to near fiery red in summer to the pure red of autumn harvest time. Our table was full and we were grateful. There were children. parents and tutors, teachers, board



All KJCC members are invited to the Tu B'Shvat seder, and many came.

members and future board members. our president, a past-president, sisterhood president, our future president (and excellent photographer) Stuart Sax, Lee Schur, and the Seders. The feeling of community support for the children's efforts was palpable.

And then the grand finale! Our kids love to dig; they love to plant. They love to grow.

all the food. Max facilitated decoration of the schoolroom as the efficient and creative tutor he is. Lilv and Zach, in addition to helping with decorations, created their annual floral centerpieces with flowers from our own grounds,

and Natalie and Mikhaela decorated and arranged the table.

Behind the scenes. our students' parents contributed fruits and creative labor as they broke walnut shells. opened pomegranates and made beautiful trays with the season's "first" fruits (not to



Three of the four service leaders: Moira, Joshua and Harry. Noach eluded the camera.



Since Tu B'Shvat is the New Year of the Trees, each year our KJCC religious students plant a fruit tree, or two or three, on our grounds in celebration. Top left, Gloria prepares a

> blessing for the new plant as the students dig the hole. At bottom left, Robert Werthamer helps the students get the plant in properly. At bottom right, the students enter the new KJCC Meditation Garden through the front gate.

We dig, we place, we water. Three new trees joined our KJCC orchard—a fig, an avocado, and an (ask Susan—I forget the name, but it is something like carborundom :-). We held hands, danced around the trees and sang "Mayim, Mayim." (Water, Water.) How can one help but be struck by the parallels between our beautiful young trees and our equally beautiful and evolving students? ◊





Our thanks to Stuart Sax for taking all the photographs, indoors and out, for this article.



Introducing Your New 2011 - 2012 KJCC Officers and Board



On Sunday, February 13th, 2011, the membership of KJCC met in open session in the KJCC Sanctuary and formally voted to elect the following officers and directors as recommended by the Nominating Committee, to serve for a term of one year:

President: Stuart Sax Executive Vice President: Bernie Ginsberg Vice Presidents: Gloria Avner, Marc Bloom, Susan Gordon Treasurer: Linda Pollack Recording Secretary: Beth Hayden Financial Secretary: Rene Rose Corresponding Secretary: Joyce Peckman Directors: Joan Boruszak, David Gitin, Steve Hartz, Kurt Kluger, Dave Mont, Medina Roy, Gene Silverman, Sam Vinicur



AZAL TOV STUART

In the photo top left, Jim Boruszak reads a prayer from our siddur for the welfare of our country. As head of Ritual, Gloria Avner reads a benediction. Alan Beth addresses KJCC for the last time as president, and

Stuart Sax for the first. After the formal meeting it was time for Sisterhood's lunch. Georgia found herself sandwiched between two presidents. We all laughed at the misspelling on the cake, but appreciated the message.



In his first act as KJCC president, Stuart Sax presented the following plaque to his predecessor, Alan Beth:

> Presented to ALAN L. BETH President 2009-2011

For your unwavering dedication and extraordinary leadership, enhancing our Ritual programs, designing and implementing our data management system, and so much more, we thank you.

> KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

The new officers and board for 2011 for KJCC, center. Only Bernie Ginsberg was absent. At right, Stuart stands with four past presidents, who all still make major contributions to the life and direction of KJCC. Alan and Jim, who round out a stellar ex-prez club, had to leave immediately after the ceremony so aren't pictured.



"Shechinah" Among and Within Us

by Gloria Avner

omen's Seder time approaches, and my thoughts turn both to creativity – our play with clay – and divinity. Perhaps they are the same, the feminine aspect of divinity and the feminine spirit's place in Judaism.

A month ago, a Friday evening's parsha spoke about the great care and amount of precious materials used by the homeless Jews to build the *Mishkan*, or Tabernacle, in the desert, creating an awe-inspiring place for *Shechinah* to dwell. How striking that the word for tabernacle (*Mishkan*) and the word for *Shechinah*, share the same root letters.

When we were herdsmen and farmers, living close to the land, Shechinah had always been seen as the source of all things in nature. In traditional lewish writings. Shechinah is defined as the "female aspect of God" or the "presence" of the infinite God in the world. She shares in the exile of the Jewish people. Construction of the Mishkan was made necessary by exile. We needed a place to house "creator spirit" while we wandered in the desert. Shechinah wandered with us. She is introduced in the early rabbinical commentaries as the "immanence" or "indwelling" of the living God, whose role as the animating life force of the earth is to balance the transcendent deity. She does not appear by name in the five books of Moses, the Torah. Still. scholars of the Old Testament refer to her while interpreting the text. When Moses meets the burning bush, he is told to remove his shoes and prepare himself to receive the Shechinah. According to the rabbis, the choice of the simple thorn bush as the vehicle for the revelation emphasizes the Shechinah's presence; nothing in nature can exist without her.

Talmudists emphasize her association with humanity. They see her as suffering

when human beings erred: "Acts of bloodshed, incest, perversion of justice and falsification of measures cause her to depart." They tell us: "Whoever is humble will ultimately cause the *Shechinah* to dwell upon Earth. Whoever is haughty brings about the defilement of the Earth and the departure of the *Shechinah*." In their view, actions harmful to other human beings or the Earth cause the *Shechinah* to flee, and she rises upward to the Seven Heavens. On the other side of the scale are the positive actions of humanity, which attract her presence downward to the earth.

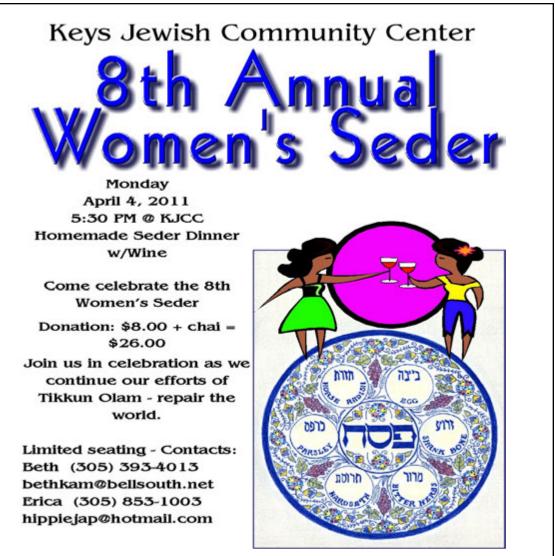
Shechinah also comes to earth when people need her comforting presence. She hovers, rabbis tell us, at the bed of all who are ill, and is seen by the dying as they exit the world into the great light. According to tradition, the Shechinah comes to the good and true at death, giving them the opportunity to go straight up the center of the heavenly ladder in a moment of pure consciousness, into the merger with the Divine.

We don't know if the *Shechinah* spoke to our matriarchs or other women. Women did not write. But women did sing. And women drummed and danced. Not least among them was Miriam, as she led the ecstatic call and response at the shore of the just-parted sea, *"Shirat HaYam."*

The Talmud reports that the *Shechinah* is what caused prophets to prophesy and King David to compose his psalms. Creativity and inspiration. Appreciation and joy.

I am writing these final paragraphs on Valentine's Day, hardly a Jewish holiday. I mention it only because the *Shechinah* is intimately connected with expressions of human love, particularly romantic and marital bliss. It is she who blesses a happy couple; the glow of lovers is considered to be the reflection of her presence. Making love on Shabbat is said to be a *mitzvah*, blessed by *Shechinah*. Once again we come back to creativity and to joy, the joy associated with a *mitzvah*.

Early Jewish mystics emphasized the splendor of the *Shechinah*, often envisioning her as God's glory. In their conception, she is the jewel or precious stone represented by the Torah, as the crowned bride of God we welcome on Shabbat. She is the luminous presence of the Divine, the great light who shines on all creatures. I believe she is also the light within us, made manifest by our creativity and joy in observing *mitzvot*. As we at KJCC get our hands "dirty" while creating clay teacups, or hammer boards for a garden pergola, or plant flowering bushes alongside our meditation garden, it occurs to me that we, as a congregation, male and female, young and old, are creating our own *Mishkan*, a place of joy and creativity where *Shechinah* will feel welcome and treasured. ◊



Purim:

Interpretations, Teachings and Arcana

You all know the basics, the cast of characters, and the rituals. If nothing else, Purim is the ultimate "they tried to kill us...we survived...let's eat!" story. But as with everything else in Judaism, scrupu-

survived...let's eat!" story. But as with everything else in Judaism, scrupulous study of the text by our rabbis has yielded a rich literature, many layers of understanding, and (surprise) some difference of opinion. We waded into the commentary to give you a representative sample:

Eulogies and fasting are prohibited on Purim, and in a leap year they are prohibited in the first month of Adar as well. A mourner likewise does not mourn publicly on Purim. He does not sit on the ground nor remove his shoes, but observes the private aspects of mourning, as is the case on Shabbat.

The most preferred manner of fulfilling the mitzvah is to read the *Megillah* publicly, and in the synagogue. Even if one could form a *minyan* elsewhere, he should go to the synagogue, since, "in a multitude there is majesty," and that way the miracle is made known more widely.

Positive Torah commandments (things you should do, as opposed to things you are ordered to eschew) are all deferred for the sake of hearing the *Megillah*. Even the study of Torah is suspended for the *Megillah* Reading.

If one hears the *Megillah* read aloud, he fulfills the obligation as if he were to read it himself. It is, however, necessary to hear every single word, for if one has not heard the entire *Megillah*, he has not fulfilled his obligation.

The names of the ten sons of Haman, together with the four preceding words ("500 men and..."), and the word "ten" which follows, are all read in one breath, to stress that they were all slain and hung together.

The miracle of Purim occurred through wine. Vashti was removed from her throne because of a wine-feast and Esther replaced her. The downfall of Haman was brought about through the wine feasting which Esther held. The rabbis, therefore, have prescribed the drinking of wine on Purim, and said: "A person is obligated to drink on Purim till he no longer knows the difference between 'Cursed-is-Haman' and 'Blessed-is-Mordechai.'

In rabbi-speak, this does not mean excessive drinking of wine so that one might descend to "levity," or forget the required *brachot* or prayer. It is sufficient to drink a little more than is one's usual habit, and to take a nap. In rabbi-think, this fulfills the precept, for one who sleeps does not know the difference between a curse and a blessing. Aware of a strong propensity for alcohol abuse amongst the very observant, modern orthodox rabbis now play down the command to drink. In the words of Rabbi Alexander Ziskind of Grodno, quoted by Rabbi Weinreb of the Orthodox Union, we may become "a bit warm, a bit fragrant," but becoming drunk is absolutely forbidden.

The Purim Feast is especially significant in that it elevates the soul as it provides pleasure to the body. The Zohar states that on Purim one may accomplish through bodily pleasure what he can accomplish on Yom Kippur through bodily affliction.

It is obligatory to send a gift consisting of at least two "portions" to another person. Both men and women are included in this *mitzvah*. Only what is edible or drinkable without further cooking or preparation is considered a "portion." One may therefore send cooked meats or fish, pastry goods, fruit, sweets, wine and other beverages.



A person cannot free himself, through gifts to the poor on Purim, from the general obligation of *tzedakah* that the Torah places upon him. Even a poor person is obligated to fulfill this *mitzvah* at least once a year, aside from what he gives to the poor on Purim.

A story is told in Chabad of Purim in 1953. The Lubavitcher Rebbe was asked to give a blessing for the Jews of the Soviet Union, known to be in danger. The Rebbe instead told a cryptic story about a man voting in the Soviet Union who heard people cheering for the candidate, "Hoorah! Hoorah!" The man did not want to cheer, but was afraid to *not* cheer, so he said "hoorah," but in his heart, he meant it in Hebrew: *hu ra*, which means, "he is evil"! The crowd at the Rebbe's 1953 gathering began chanting "hu ra!" regarding Stalin. That night, Stalin suffered the stroke that led to his death a few days later.

In leap years, when there are two months of Adar, Purim is celebrated in the second Adar, so that it is always one month before Passover. The 14th day of first Adar is then celebrated as a minor holiday called Purim Katan, which means "little Purim." There are no specific observances for Purim Katan.

The Book of Esther, more than anything else, is responsible for the continued celebration of Purim. It also opened the way for the establishment of later holidays that, like Purim, could be instituted without Divine command if they commemorated an important event or served an important function in the life of the Jewish people. (The Purim story, remember, preceded the Chanukah story.)

Although Esther and Mordecai are the heroes of the Purim story, some see Vashti, the queen Esther replaced, as a heroine in her own right. She refused to debase herself before the king and his drunken friends, choosing to value her dignity above submitting to her husband's whims. Vashti is seen as a strong character who does not use her beauty or sexuality to advance herself, which some argue is exactly what Esther does later in the text. In the Talmud, by the way, it is suggested that Vashti was unwilling to appear nude before the king and his guests either because she had leprosy or because she had grown a tail.

In short, the four mitzvot to celebrate Purim:

1. We hear the story of Esther as recounted in the Bible; 2. We have a festive meal with more wine than usual; 3. We deliver two different kinds of food to friends and neighbors; 4. We give gifts to the poor.

Like Hanukkah, Purim has never been universally considered a religious holy day, in spite of the fact that it is designated by the term "yom-tov." Business transactions and even manual labor are allowed on Purim.

In the *Mishnah* there was a difference of opinion as to how much of the *Megillah* one must read in order to discharge one's duty. According to Rabbi Judah, a portion sufficed. Rabbi Meïr demanded the reading of the entire scroll; his view was accepted in the Talmud.

Purim was an occasion when joyous license was permitted even within the walls of the synagogue, such as the boisterous hissing, stamping, and rattling during the public service, at the mention of Haman or his sons, as well as the whistling at the mention of Mordechai. This practice traces its origin to French and German rabbis of the thirteenth century, who introduced the custom of writing the name of Haman, the offspring of Amalek, on two smooth stones and of knocking or rubbing them constantly until the name was blotted out. Some wrote the name of Haman on the soles of their shoes, and at the mention of the name stamped their feet as a sign of contempt.

As early as the fifth century, and especially in the Gaonic period (9th and 10th centuries), it was a custom to burn Haman in effigy on Purim. In Italy the Jewish children would arrange themselves in rows and pelt one another with nuts; while the adults rode through the streets with fir-branches in their hands, shouted, or blew trumpets around a doll representing Haman, which was finally burned at the stake, with due solemnity. \diamond

Stained Glass of KJCC Part seven of our closer look at the story behind the art.

I t's fitting, perhaps, that the last window image we find as we finish our journey around the stained glass windows in KJCC's sanctuary is that of a ship, the universally understood symbol of a journey. There is the familiar radiant sunshine in this window, as the ship sits atop a very blue Mediterranean Sea. The sunshine is missing from the two windows that feature martial images, so it's

reasonable to assume that this is a ship of commerce, not war. Indeed, the tribe that this window represents is said to have been the great seagoing purveyor of commerce among their brethren. Our last tribal window is that of the tribe of Zebulon.

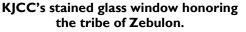
It's a little strange that Zebulon was chosen for one of the windows. There is very little mention of him in the Bible, either as a

son of Jacob or as the tribe that bore his name. Perhaps his inclusion was as simple as the boat image being both very visually arresting and also fitting perfectly with the themes and pastimes of the Keys.

What we do know about Zebulon was that he was the sixth and last son of Jacob with Leah, his first wife. In one place the Torah says Leah derived his name from *zebed*, a word for gift; in another it says the name derives from *yizbeleni*, meaning honor, as a hope that Jacob would honor her since she had now given him six sons. (As with Rachel and the two handmaiden "wives," Bilhah and Zilpah, apparently the women alone, and never Jacob, gave names to the newborns.) The Torah states that Zebulon had three sons – Sered, Elon and Jahleel. His tomb is said to be a surviving brick structure in the ancient Phoenician city of Sidon, on the Mediterranean coast of today's Lebanon. As for Zebulon himself, that's all we know.

His tribe, which numbered 60,500 fighting men in Moses' second census, fought conspicuously in the two major early battles of

> the conquest of Canaan. The Song of Deborah mentions them approvingly for their valor at the battle of Merom. They also fought with Deborah and her general Barak against the Canaanite general Sisera in the lezreel Valley. As with Naphtali, Zebulon is mentioned as having contributed tens of thousands of troops and voluminous supplies of food and drink at the coronation of



Zebulon's blessing from Jacob noted that he "shall dwell at the haven of the sea." Indeed, all the mentions of Zebulon state that it was a seagoing tribe, skilled in fishing and trade, and even expert in extracting a rare and expensive purple dye from a sea mollusk. (Hence the tribal symbol of the ship.) Yet tribal maps clearly show that their territorial allotment was not on the Mediterranean coast, but abutted that of Asher, which was.

King David in Hebron.

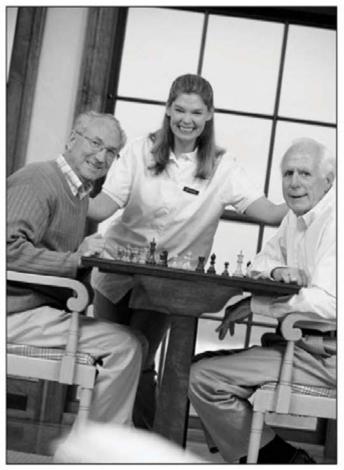
As a northern tribe, Zebulon was one of the ten comprising the northern kingdom of Israel. Like the others, it disappeared to history upon Israel's conquest by a suddenly active and powerful Assyria in 722 B.C.E. \diamond

Chai-Lights March 2011 35



The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

The Palace Suites / Independent Living The Palace Royale / Catered Living The Palace Renaissance / Assisted Living The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center The Palace at Home / Home Health

| VERONICA'S ART
AND GLASS STUDIO
Stained Glass Custom Pieces •
Restoration and Repairs •
Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry •
Classes • Materials and Supplies
Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist
(305) 304-9411
veroagutierrez@yahoo.com
DeClue's Art Printing
and Framing
Simply Extraordinary, Creative,
Quality Picture Framing.
82200 Overseas Highway, Islamorada
305-664-9385 - marciadeclue@gmail.com | Barbara KnowlesPhotography and VideoDestinationWedding PlannerOfficiant, All Events, PortraitsReal Estate, CorporateCustom Packageswww.FLKeysWeddings.com305-772-0503305-853-5653iweddu@ bellsouth.netRichard KnowlesPhotoVideo305-942-4488flkeys@bellsouth.net |
|--|---|
| florida keys
periodontics
and
implantology
paul e. berger, d.d.s.
the pink plaza
103400 overseas highway
Suite 229
key largo, fl 33037
tax: 305.453.1889 | Ari B. Oberstein
Licensed Funeral Director
ADICNIFIED Alternative for the BUDGET MINDED*
ADICNIFIED ALTERNATIVE for t |
| SOFY WASSER, L.M.T.
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST
870 NARRAGANSETT LANE
KEY LARGO, FL 33037
MILE MARKER 103 - BAYSIDE
305-332-1500 - CELL
305-453-1324 - HOME
SWEDISH / AROMATHERAPY /
NEUROMUSCULAR / HOT STONES | office hours by appointment phone: (305) 852-3219
fax: (305) 852-9016
OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S.
JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A.
RICHARD C. LAGE, D.D.S.
ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D. |





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

999 N. Krome Avenue Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Hwy. Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932







Shawn W. Tolley, C.P.A. Senior Partner

9350 South Dixie Highway Penthouse V Miami, Florida 33156 Tel: 305.670.1001 Fax: 305.670.1888 stolley@tolleycpa.com 97665 Overseas Highway Key Largo, Florida 33037 Tel: 305.852.9898 Fax: 305.852.9997 Cell: 305.608.8898 www.tolleycpa.com

Shingles Pain? Nerve Pain? Neuragen PN offers Fast Relief From

-Chronic Pain--Fibromyalgia--Sciatica--Numb Toes-Diabetic Nerve Pain-

CALL STEVE STEINBOCK 305-394-0143

70% Users Report Relief Apply Topically 2- 4X a Day No Side Effects



GARRETT CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER, P.A. a holistic healing center

DR. ERICA LIEBERMAN-GARRETT, BSC.D.C

Over 26 Years experience Chiropractic (Gentle/Manual) Yoga/Meditation Massage Therapy Physical Therapy Acupuncture/ Homeopathy

305-853-1003 MM 90.3 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice and other cases of significant damages.



TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, FL 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

FT. LAUDERDALE

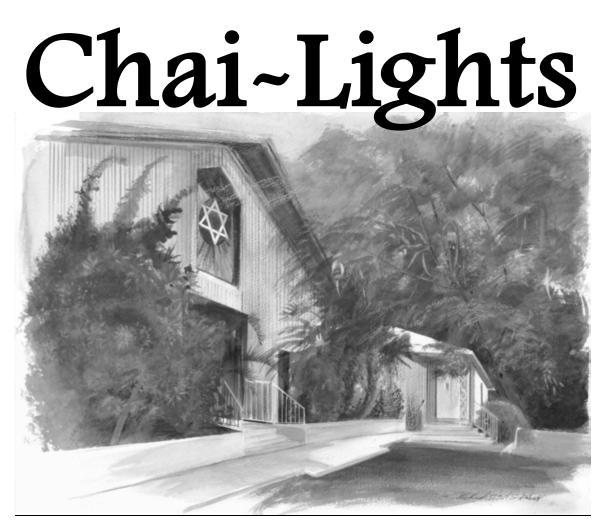
Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

BOCA RATON

Wachovia Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297



April 2011

26 Adar II - 26 Nisan 5771

····· =·o···· · · · · · · · · ·

Deli Nite Recap - page 20 Safe Haven in the U.S. During World War II - page 26 The Music of Pesach - page 29

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

April 2011

26 Adar II - 26 Nisan

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|-----|--|---|
| | nes denote leaders
cized names are C
conducts services | neg sponsors. KJ | | | 1
Joyce Peckman
Nettie & Jules
Seder | 2 |
| 3
Sisterhood
Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Jewish
Heritage Day | 4
8th Annual
Women's
Seder 5:30
p.m. at KJCC | 5 | 6
Men's Club
Meeting &
Poker Night
at KJCC,
7:30 p.m. | 7 | 8
George Swartz
& Yardena
Kamely
Elaine & Bernie | 9
Men's Club
Movie Night
at KJCC
7:00 p.m. |
| 10
KJCC
Board
Meeting
9:00 a.m. | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15
Stuart Sax
Pat & David
Van Artsdalen
Lauren & | 16 |
| 17
Search for
Chometz
(evening) | 18
Burning of
Chometz
(morning)
Erev Pesach
First Seder | 19
First Day of
Passover;
KJCC
Second
Seder eve.
6:30 p.m. | 20 | 21 | 22
Jim Boruszak
& Gloria Avner | 23 |
| 24
KJCC "Chai-
yaking"
with Dave
Mont | 25 | 26
Eighth Day
of Passover | 27 | 28 | 29
Alan Beth
6:30 Service
Yizkor service | 30 Note:
tomorrow,
May 1st, is
Yom HaShoah;
PowerPoint
presentation
by Steve
Smith at KJCC |

2011 - 2012 Officers and Board

President Stuart Sax

Executive Vice President Bernie Ginsberg

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Marc Bloom – Susan Gordon

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Joyce Peckman

Directors

Joan Boruszak – David Gitin – Steve Hartz Kurt Kluger – Dave Mont – Medina Roy Gene Silverman – Sam Vinicur

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Men's Club Steve Friedman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock Alan Beth

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Stuart Sax

First of all, I am still picking remnants of my corned beef sandwich from my teeth following our recent Authentic Deli Nite event. It took me back to my childhood days at the Shoreline Delicatessen on 71st Street on the south side of Chicago. We cannot give thanks enough to Erica. Georgia, Kathy, Patti, Leslie, Roberta, Joan S. and masterslicer Marc for an incredible meal and wonderful evening of entertainment and reminiscing.

Our Men's Club is planning a wonderful series of events over the coming months. Some will be oneshot events and others will happen monthly – Poker Night, Movie Nite and "Chai-Yaking." As with the women in Sisterhood, every male member of our congregation is automatically a member of the Men's Club.

I am appreciating more and more the level of love and involvement of the people in our congregation. From special dinners to the evolution of our new Meditation Garden and gazebo to new faces on the bima participating in services, ours is a congregation that is moving forward and embracing a broad spectrum of exciting events. Many thanks to Gloria and Susan for our religious and Sunday school offerings, to Yardena for continuing to bring the Jewish story to our multi-



denominational community, to Sisterhood for planning and executing meals and onegs with precision, to a growing Men's Club that is quickly boarding the "fun" and fundraising train, and to each member of this unique congregation for embracing all of the above.

Recently, the KJCC was invited to join a newly formed Interfaith Dialog Group, intended to bring various denominations together for a common purpose - to support each other's religious faiths and share calendars for the benefit of all. Gloria Avner and David Gitin have joined me in representing our congregation in this most worthwhile undertaking. Our first interaction was in January with the annual Blessing of the Fleet, and will continue with the upcoming revisit of the Tibetan monks later this month.

If there is a down side to what we are doing, it's that there remain many Jews in our community who are unaffiliated with our synagogue and have never experienced what we have to offer. Every member of the KJCC is on the membership committee. If you have a friend or a neighbor who is Jewish, invite them to attend a service and stay for the oneg. As they say, "Try it, you'll like it." ♦ Chai-Lights April 2011 **3**

Nosh

Our New Online Calendar

Alan Beth, still the KJCC tech wizard, has lately been re-designing the KJCC web site. He has created a new, very user-friendly calendar where, at a glance, you can see all of KJCC's myriad of activities for the current month. Merely lay your mouse over a colorful tab and the full story of an event bursts into view over the calendar grid. The great part of an online calendar is that it can be updated regularly.

If you have something you think should go in the new KJCC calendar, contact Stuart Sax at his KJCC e-mail, president@keysjewishcenter.com. At least for now, we ask that all information go through Stuart.

Two Upcoming Yom HaShoah Events

Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, will be commemorated on May 1st this year. On April 29th, Yardena will offer some thoughts as part of the Friday service. Then on Sunday, May 1st, Steve Smith will honor KJCC with a Power-Point presentation he wrote and produced, about the role of doctors in the Holocaust. (Some portions may not be suitable for children.)

Looking for a First Seder to Attend?

KJCC members Aaron and Judy Schmidt of Ocean Reef have written Stuart to say that anyone looking for a place to celebrate the First Seder is welcome to contact them, phone 305-367-2565, or e-mail packagehse@aol.com.

Oneg Sponsors for April 2011

April 1st—Nettie & Jules Seder for their 45^{th} Anniversary.

April 8th—Elaine & Bernie Solas in honor of the marriage of Amy Solas & Richard Klein

April 15th—Pat & David Van Artsdalen for Dave's birthday, and Lauren & Stuart Sax for Lauren's birthday.

We're Looking for Tee Shirt Ideas

Both Dave Mont, our new KJCC Membership Chair, and Susan and Roberta, the new doyens of the Gift Shop, would like to create a KJCC signature tee shirt to both give to new members and sell in the Gift Shop. If you have any ideas for slogans or designs, please send them to Stuart at president@keysjewishcenter.com.

April Anniversaries

| | | Years |
|------|-------------------------|-------|
| 3rd | Jules & Nettie Seder | 45 |
| 7th | Salomon & Mary Terner | 18 |
| 10th | Stuart & Geri Smith | 46 |
| 18th | Rick & Roberta McNew | 30 |
| 30th | Morton & Gene Silverman | 56 |



To raise funds for KJCC, Mort Silverman has generously offered his custom-built 50footer for intimate fishing trips. The cost is only \$100 per person (and it's tax deductible), maximum of five people per day trip, with Mort providing chum and bait. All funds raised will be donated to KJCC. Contact Stuart Sax, president@keysjewishcenter.com to sign up.

The KJCC extends its deepest condolences to Barney and Ellen Coltman

on the death of their daughter

Eve Greenstein

April Birthdays

| 3rd | Claire Cooper |
|--------|------------------------|
| 3rd | Harvey Kay |
| | Jonathon Lever |
| 3rd | Lauren Abrams |
| 4th | Larry Weber |
| | Lauren Lane |
| 6th | Faychesca Graham |
| 7th | Harvey Schwaid |
| 9th | David Feder |
| 9th | Gene Silverman |
| 10th | Abigail Everson |
| 10th | Addison Greene-Barnett |
| 10th | Ilese Vorcheimer |
| l l th | Max Logan Gershowitz |
| | Richard Knowles |
| l 3th | Moira Knowles |
| l 3th | Samantha Grossinger |
| | Timothy J. O'Connor |
| | Dave VanArtsdalen |
| l6th | Ella Gilderman |
| | Susan Ellner |
| | |

| I7th | Katie Greenman |
|------|------------------------|
| 18th | Jennifer Garrett |
| | Lauren Sax |
| 20th | Jonathan Nobil |
| 20th | Larry Gilderman |
| 21st | Susan Temkin |
| 22nd | Robin S. Denker |
| 24th | Lynn Nobil |
| 24th | |
| 24th | Tiffany McNew |
| 25th | Jared Scott Gershowitz |
| 25th | Samantha Schenker |
| 25th | Shirley Stein |
| | Maryann Boruszak |
| 27th | Áaron Schmidt |
| 27th | Beverly Robins |
| 27th | Elinor Grossman |
| 29th | David Goldfinger |
| 29th | Jordan Neidenberg |
| 29th | Linda Pollack |
| 30th | Rachel Barrett |
| 30th | Jason Sherman |

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 305-852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 305-852-0214.

Picture Postcards – We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 305-852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor - To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **Meditation Garden** - Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 305-394-0143. **KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** - Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 305-852-6152.

JNF Trees In Israel - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 305-852-4353. *Chai-Lights Mitzvah* - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-852-6152 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights or Directory - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights and/ or annually in the Directory. Call Gene Silverman 305-664-3316 for rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.



Tuesday, April 19, 2011 6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

Contact Leslie Dillon at 305-853-2693, 222law@gmail.com, for information and reservations. Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116, Tavemier, FL 33070.

Your check is your reservation. Reserve early as we will be opening this up to the public after April 1st.



Adults \$50 Children 12 and under are our guests.

In Memoriam April 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Clara Bloom

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

In Memory Of

Bozsi Schon Grunhut

By Stephan & Eva Ban

In Memory Of

Baruch Epstein

By Jim & Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Mark Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

In Memory Of

In Memory Of
Lawrence Gross

Marty Graham

By Bea Graham <><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Harry Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

In Memory Of

Nathan Klein

By Harvey & Judith Klein

In Memory Of

George Nobil

By Jim & Lynn Nobil <><><><><>>

In Memory Of

Rabbi Milton Greenwald

By Paul & Susan Roberts

In Memory Of

By Margaret Gross

Sylvia Grossman

By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman

In Memory Of

Fred Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

In Memory Of

Erwin Moss

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Herman Rubin

By Myron & Myrna Rubin

Nat Feldblum

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

In Memory Of

Frances Wolfe

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

In Memory Of

Belle Scaller

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

In Memory Of

Stella Hartz

By Steven Hartz

In Memory Of

Marilyn Janet Barr

By Michael Klimpl

In Memory Of

Benjamin A. Savage

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Louise Folks Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Chai-Lights April 2011 7

Sn Memoriam April 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Sam Sax

Dolores Feldman

By Jeffrey & Patty Schocket

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

In Memory Of

Ginger Lewis

In Memory Of

Louis S. Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith

In Memory Of

Cantor Alex Chapin

By Steven & Barbara Smith

In Memory Of

Luis Terner

By Salomon & Mary Terner

In Memory Of

Irwin Cutler

By Donald & Nancy Zinner

By Robert Silk

In Memory Of

Claire Smith

By Stuart & Geri Smith

In Memory Of

Benjamin Terner

By Salomon & Mary Terner

In Memory Of

Donald Rich

By Morris & Evelyn Zalmanovich

In Memory Of

Warren J. Sheinker

By Miltra Sheinker

In Memory Of

David Wernicoff

By Donald & Nancy Zinner

In Memory Of

Ida Tallent

By Ralph & Lillian Tallent

In Memory Of

Samuel Zalmanovich

By Morris & Evelyn Zalmanovich

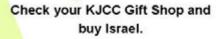
In Memory Of

Morris Smith

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Mishebeyrach List

For those of you who might not make it to services regularly, each week we read aloud the names of those we know to be ailing so that we may include their names in a special supplication to G-d to heal them. Our printed list is read, and then the leader asks if anyone in the congregation has names to add. If you can't be at services. and would like someone vou care about to be included in the mishebey*rach* prayer, call or e-mail and let us know. We'll happily include any name (or names) you tell us about. The main KICC number is 852-5235. The website, which accepts e-mail, is keysjewishcenter.com.





Magnificent crystal mezuzahs designed by the artist Udi from the Blue and White gallery in the Cardo in the Old City of Jerusalem - Wonderful wedding gifts!

> Also: Silver star necklaces with multi colored stones and hand made parchment note paper from Zickran Yaakov.



Beautiful talit and kepahs from Jaffa

Selected Items

Multi-colored over-the-shoulder fabric purses and challah covers from Rifkas in the Old City of Jerusalem





Individual orders can be accommodated.

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

Oneg Fund Sponsors Cont.

Chai-Lights In Honor of Arthur Plutzer Pauline Roller Joel & Linda Pollack General Fund In Honor of Fleischer, Adi & Linda Stu & Lauren Sax's presidencies Janowitz, Sam & Leslie Sewer project Pollack, Joel & Linda Gerri & Frank Emkey's new house Pollack, Joel & Linda Stan Margulies' speedy recovery Sachs, Joseph & Susan Sewer project in appreciation of our good fortune Sax. Stuart & Lauren Get well wishes to Jerry Hirsch, Stan Margulies, Beth Hayden Schur, Lee Lee's Chai year as a Member Shutan, Alvina Stu Sax's presidency Solas, Bernard & Elaine Sewer project Tobin, Andy Wohl, Milton & Joan Sewer project General Fund In Memory of Kominsky, Randy & Eileen Layne Shapiro's uncle Pollack, Joel & Linda limmy Gordon Pollack, Joel & Linda Eve Greenstein Sachs, Joseph & Susan Dorathea Morris INF Certificates Sent By In Memory of Boruszak, Jim & Joan Lois Behm Meditation Garden In Memory of Schur, Lee Robert E. Schur **Oneg Fund Sponsors** In Honor of Friedman, Steve, Jane & Harry Steve, Jane & Harry's birthdays Thank you to Lewis, Phil & Arlene the KICC for the warm welcome Nobil, Jim & Lynn lim's birthday

Schur, Lee Lee's birthday Solas, Bernard & Elaine marriage of Amy Solas & Richard Klein Steinbock, Steve & Carol Steve & Carol's birthdays & anniversary Larry's birthday Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy Raffle Bloom, Marc Ginsberg, Bernie Gross, David & Patti Havden, Beth Hermann, Robert Hirsch, Jerry Kamely, Uri Krauer, Artie & Lee Liebowitz, Sandy Mont, Dave & Georgia Landau Nelson, Theodore Silverman, Mort & Gene Stanlake, Candy Tabasky, Suzanne Wasser, Mark & Sofy Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna

Scholarship Fund Peckman, Joyce

Wretzky, Gerald

Yartzeit Contributions Geller, Milton & Claire Isenberg, Henry & Patricia Lippman, Lillian Olsen, Jerry & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila In honor of Eve Greenstein

In Honor of

In Memory of Morris & Anna Shore Harry Phillips Jennie Lippman Louis Weinstein Sara Cohen

Sisterhood Lauren Sax



Another month, another deadline. For those of you who don't know me very well, I definitely *do not* have the gift of gab my husband constantly displays in his writings. I can see down the road that I may struggle to write the interesting column you deserve. However, this month was an *aha!* month. I have decided that I have finally become my mother!

When I think back to the time of my mother's Sisterhood presidency, I realize her entire term was spent on the telephone. Not just any telephone, but a telephone with an extra long cord so she could simultaneously fix our meals, do the laundry or, as we say now, "multi-task." In fact, she was on the telephone so much that the busy signal became a way of life whenever any one of us tried calling home. Consequently, the phone company gladly installed a second line so my father could call home when he was away on business!

Then there's me. The 2011 version of my mother. After settling down at the computer to SKYPE with our daughter, imagine my dismay and embarrassment when the telephone interrupts us not once, not twice, but three times! I also remember my father complaining about my mother being the first one in the temple and the last one out. Well...need I explain any more? But when I look at my 90year-old mom and all that she has accomplished, her fabulous outlook and her zest for life, it's not so bad to emulate her – actually, I am rather proud of it.

Sisterhood continues with its (very) busy season via telephone and e-mails. What a pleasure it was to have the amazing Miami Acting Company in our own backyard! Their production of *Chicago!* was absolutely amazing. Many thank-yous to Linda Pollack for ordering the tickets and coordinating the evening. And I would be remiss if I didn't also thank Linda for all the creative flyers she whips up at a moment's notice to publicize our many events.

Somehow we all got up the next morning to be at the KJCC for the annual Purim Festival. Afterwards, Erica worked her magic again and we all feasted on a wonderful potluck lunch. Thanks so much to all who cooked and baked.

Our "Chai Tea" was a premier event plus a real treat for us ladies. Much applause and many accolades to Kathy Shabathai for a lovely afternoon and for her scrumptious goodies. Thank you to all who attended.

It's hard to believe, but our April 3rd meeting is the last scheduled Sisterhood meeting of the year. Our meeting will begin at 9 a.m. to accommodate those who want to attend the Jewish Heritage Day baseball game that afternoon with Men's Club.

Pretty soon our snowbirds will be leaving, which means fewer people to help with our Onegs. We could use sponsors, bakers, shoppers or even helpers in the kitchen on Friday evenings. If you think you could help with any of these things, please contact me or Georgia Landau to volunteer. The more people who help, the less we each have to do.

Don't forget to check out the wonderful and very helpful calendar Alan Beth created for Sisterhood on the KJCC website. It has all the current and future dates of our various activities so that you can plan your own calendar accordingly.

Our end-of-the-year luncheon will take place on Sunday, May 1st at a location yet to be determined. This is strictly a social event; we will not have a meeting. All KJCC women are invited as well as our KJCC Teaching Staff. Separate checks will be given. Please R.S.V.P. by April 25th to me – mrsdirtdevil@aol.com. ◊



FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM AT THE KJCC MARK YOUR CALENDARS! April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, Aug 3, Sep 7

ALL KJCC MEN ARE AUTOMATICALLY MEMBERS ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED EVERYONE IS WELCOME

> Light Snacks (Potluck) Refreshments Worst Player Prize!

FUN AND EXCITEMENT FOR ALL!

Men's Club Steve Friedman



coming sewer connection, the KICC has recently been more active than usual in some very needed fundraising (that's "Fund" with a "d") activities. The bad news is, the necessity for this. The good news is, that these activities have been an overwhelming success. I am still full from Deli Night! Every gathering has been a well-orchestrated and top-notch event. Erica, the Sisterhood, and the untiring labor of so many of our congregation have not only rallied to satisfy this costly need, but used the occasion to create a quality social opportunity which we all enjoyed and will fondly remember. Erica, the Sisterhood, and the many member volunteers who expend their time, labor, skills, and monetary efforts to support these endeavors cannot be thanked enough. Their results have indeed been impressive!

As you know, due to the costs of our up-

That said, and in all honesty, I do not believe anything the Men's Club will do, could come near to approaching the accomplishments of the others I have lauded. Therefore, the primary focus of the Men's Club for this year will simply be "Fun Raising" (that's "Fun" without a "<u>d</u>") activities. Hopefully, we can augment the "fun" factor here at the KJCC.

Here are some of the upcoming Men's Club events for April (*mark your calendars*):

• April 3rd, Sun., 10:30 a.m., meet at the KJCC – *Marlins Baseball* (an annual event, Jewish Heritage Day);

 April 6th, Wed., 7:30 p.m., at the KJCC – *Poker Night* (the first Wednesday every month);

• April 9th, Sat., 7:00 p.m., at the KJCC -*Movie Night* (the second Saturday every month);

April 24rd, Sun., 1:00 p.m., location t.b.a.
 Chai-yakking with Dave Mont (usually planned to be the fourth Saturday every month...this Sunday is a one-time thing).

Our monthly Poker nights feature stakes

of nickels, dimes, and quarters, plus potluck snacks, refreshments, and lots of fun. Our new, monthly movie nights will show one film, either a drama, comedy, or action. Popcorn, pretzels, pickles, and sodas are provided. Chai-yakking (kayaking, for the Yiddish-impaired) can be with your kayak or one of Dave's; launching areas will vary. Bring sunscreen.

For more information, contact: Steve Friedman, sfried@ix.netcom.com, 305.720.1681 (for Marlins, Poker, and Movie Nights); Dave Mont, moogoodave@yahoo.com, 305-393-9883 (for Chai-yakking).

Later this year and other possible events are:

• Picnics and Barbeques;

· Stick Ball Game and Picnic (early September);

· Dance Night;

• Fishing Trips;

· Karaoke Night;

• Most importantly, everyone is encouraged to offer other suggestions; please let us know!

By the way, and to clarify (just in case)...

ALL men of the KJCC are automatically members of the "Men's Club" (no dues or fees).

I apologize for the name "Men's Club," but there are NO gender restrictions; it's just a name!

All women are welcome (and many are regulars) at Men's Club events.

All Men's Club events are for the entirety of the KJCC.

Our events are open to *everyone*. That means bring yourself, family members, and friends, too! (A Men's Club event is the perfect opportunity to introduce a prospective new member to the KJCC!)

So look at what's offered monthly, mark your calendar, and *come on out* to a KJCC ("Men's Club") event, relax, have fun, and enjoy! \diamond

A Passover Project in Clay

by Joyce Peckman

Each year we look forward to spending a few hours under Beth's gentle tutelage, engaged in creation with clay. Each year a different project is named: goblet, soup bowl, plate, covered dish. This year we aimed for a Miriam's cup – a vessel to contain water, symMy coils seem to want to take a shape different from the vision in my mind. Finally, a compromise is reached, and a satisfactory form created. Some are outstanding: Suzi's goblet, Jane's delicate leafed bowl, Lee's textured tumbler. But we all leave smiling, hav-

bolizing the water that flowed from a well that appeared during Miriam's lifetime, wherever the wandering tribes camped in the wilderness.

As in much of life, it's a

lot more about the experience than about the end product: the lovely open air workshop, the camaraderie, Beth's soft encouragement as everyone focuses on trying to form a lump of earth into something of beauty. It takes imagination, good hands and a lot of patience. The clay does not readily roll into a smooth coil. It can't be





ing created something.

Two weeks later we return to finish the pottery. To give us some idea of possibilities, Beth shows us the different colors and textures of her beautiful work. We relearn about wax, slips and glazes, and how one

can never be exactly sure how the colors will react in the firing. We choose color combinations; we dip and paint, and leave them with Beth to be fired. Since the slips and glazes look nothing like the final

too wet, or too dry. It must be worked, smoothed, built up, smoothed again. We encourage each other.

Beth is in constant motion, helping everyone.



A Chai-Lights thanks to Susan Gordon, who was also there, for the photos.

colors, we will anxiously await the evening of the Women's Seder, when Beth will present us all with our finished projects. ◊

World Jewish Report Medina Roy

Hebraic Harmonizers

On college campuses across the country. a growing number of Jewish *a cappella* harmonizers are sprouting like weeds. The groups are touring and putting out CDs and it's no longer just for college auditoriums. The group Six13 (613 mitzvot?) has sung "God Bless America" at five Mets games during the seventh-inning stretch, and the Mac*cabeats*, an all-male Modern Orthodox group at Yeshiva University, had more than four million YouTube hits around Chanukah after recording their music video "Candlelight." Mike Boxer, director of Six13, estimates that today there are about 40 such Jewish groups. Pizmon is believed to have been the first collegiate lewish-American *a cappella* group. formed in 1978. The group now has its ninth CD out. Boxer is leading the way to popularize the medium. His production company, Halfway Coherent Productions, provides musical services, plans events and produces the KolCast, a music and news roundup of the Jewish a cappella scene. Jewish a cappella groups incorporate many types of music, including Yiddish tunes, hip-hop and Israeli rock hits, and are quite inventive when it comes to giving themselves names: There's the MeshugaNotes, the Mazal Tones and Honorable Menschen. (The Forward, 2-16-11)

A Long Overdue Memorial

A campaign to memorialize thirteen fallen Jewish military chaplains with a monument in Arlington National Cemetery may soon become a reality. Senator Charles Schumer (D-New York) and House members Anthony Weiner (D-New York) and Tom Rooney (R-Florida) have sponsored a Congressional resolution to honor the memory of the Jewish chaplains in the same way fallen chaplains of other faiths have been honored at Arlington.



"Chaplains Hill in Arlington National Cemetery appropriately memorializes the names of 242 chaplains who perished while on active duty," said Cheryl Fishbein, of the Jewish Federations of North America. "But astonishingly, none of the thirteen Jewish chaplains who have died while serving are honored on Chaplains Hill."

Chaplains Hill currently houses three monuments honoring chaplains of other faiths. The monument to the Jewish chaplains had hit a snag when organizers discovered this past November that Arlington's previous superintendent failed to mention that congressional approval for all new memorials is required. Among the Jewish thirteen is Rabbi Alexander Goode, one of four chaplains who relinquished their life jackets to soldiers in 1943 when the USS Dorchester was sunk by German torpedoes. The four chaplains, armin-arm, went down together in prayer. (www.washingtonjewishweek.com, 2-16-11)

It Possibly Saved Gabby's Life

An invention by Bernard Bar-Natan, an American immigrant to Israel, may have helped save the life of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords when she was shot on January 8th. First responders credited what they are calling the "Israeli Bandage" with saving lives in the aftermath of the shooting in Tucson, Arizona, that left six people dead and thirteen wounded. Less than a year ago, Pima County – which includes Tucson – switched to the upgraded emergency bandage. The shooting was its first major field test. It is likely, though not certain, that the Israeli bandage was applied to Giffords.

The bandage is known for, among other things, its ability to stop the flow of blood in

head wounds, one of the great challenges for conventional bandages, which require multiple standard bandages to keep a sterile pad in place. What distinguishes the Israeli bandage is that it has a built-in applicator, which applies the equivalent of up to 30 pounds of pressure over the pad. Only one Israeli bandage applies the needed pressure to the wound. Since the applicator is built-in, it's more stable than external pressures applied with conventional bandages. Since its 1993 invention, the Israeli bandage has become standard issue in militaries throughout the world, with the U.S. military making it standard issue in 2003, in time for the Irag War. Bar-Natan is a Brooklyn boy, a son of Holocaust survivors. He immigrated to Israel in 1979. (www.jta.org, 2-13-11)

Jerusalem's Freedom Riders

In early January, the Israeli High Court declared that segregation on public transportation is illegal. Supreme Court Justice Elvakim Rubenstein expressed surprise that in the year 2011 the court needed to state the obvious - women are entitled to sit wherever they choose on public buses. He claimed that there had never been segregation on public buses until the issue was raised in the past decade by a group of religious extremists demanding that women sit in the back of the bus on certain routes that passed through Haredi (ultra-Orthodox) neighborhoods. The same group also demanded that women be dressed modestly as determined by their "modesty patrols." The Egged bus company complied and women were directed to the rear of certain buses. When some women refused, they were subjected to verbal and, on occasion, physical abuse by some male extremists. Best-selling Orthodox writer Naomi Ragen was harassed while riding a bus to her lerusalem home and decided to take action. Along with the Center for Religious Pluralism, Ragen filed a petition to the High Court of Justice: in 2009, segregated buses were declared illegal. Recognizing that some religiously observant men and women might wish to sit separately, the court ruled that in a pluralistic, multicultural society, everyone has

the right to sit where he or she chooses (except for seats designated for the disabled). (*Jerusalem Post*, 1-22-11)

Prestigious Accreditation

The Leo Baeck Day School in Toronto is the only Jewish school in North America to be accredited by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). The school is affiliated with the Reform movement and underwent a seven-year accreditation process. The IBO was established in 1968 in order to "promote K-12 education aimed at creating global citizens." The organization works with more than 3,000 schools in 140 different countries. Founded in 1974, the school serves nearly 900 students from nursery school to eighth grade. (www.jta.org, 2-27-11)

No Pat-Downs Necessary

Airport security screeners in Israel have long relied on individual face-to-face interviews in order to ferret out potential terrorists. But now an Israeli company, WeCU Technologies, has developed a device that reportedly "detects a wide range of involuntary physical and biologic reactions based on measurements of heart rate, temperature, blood pressure, changes in breathing and more." According to the machine's developer, the device begins detection readings on individual travelers as they approach the device. It also tends to speed up the screening process. The developer further claims that the machine can differentiate between people who are anxious because they have a fear of flying and those who intend on doing harm. (Dateline: World Jewry, March 2011)

A Tragedy Remembered

March 25th marked the 100th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, which claimed the lives of 146 garment workers – 102 of them Jewish - in Greenwich Village in 1911. The 22 victims of the fire who were buried by the Hebrew Free Burial Association (HFBA) were remembered in a ceremony in Staten Island, New York on March 1st. Most of the victims were young, underpaid immigrant women who worked long hours in unhealthy, unsafe conditions. The fire was a major event in the history of the labor movement, leading to major changes in workplace labor and fire safety laws. (*www.jta.org*, 3-1-11)

The Lessons Continue

The Scottish government will be providing \$350,000 in the forthcoming financial year to ensure that two students from every secondary school continue to take part in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project, which is run by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). The four-part course involves a day trip to Auschwitz, in southern Poland just west of Krakow. Students are given a tour of the death camp and then must give a presentation to their schools on their experiences. The continued funding will enable over 350 Scottish students to participate. HET chief executive Karen Pollock welcomed the decision saying, "...thanks to this commitment, many more students will...visit Auschwitz-Birkenau, giving them an extraordinary insight into what can happen when racism and prejudice gain legitimacy." (World Jewish Congress, 2-28-11)

The Happiest Man in America is...

It's Alvin Wong, a 69-year-old Hawaiian Jew who is tall, married with children, and owns a business. He earns more than \$120,000 a year and keeps kosher. According to a recent Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, Wong is the exact statistical composite of the happiest person in America. (Observant Jews scored the highest.) Back in 2008, Gallup and Healthways, a company focusing on research aimed at improving overall health and lowering associated costs, started calling thousands of Americans each night asking a multitude of guestions related to well-being. They then developed a wellbeing index for each state and even each Congressional district. Data showed that Hawaii had the highest well-being score and West Virginia had the lowest. (www.abcnews.go.com, 3-8-11)

Did You Know...

• On Sunday April 3rd, five of Los Angeles's most prominent Conservative rabbis will par-

ticipate in "Dancing with the Rabbis," an event hosted by the American Jewish University. The rabbis will compete for a donation to a charity of their choosing. (*The Forward*, 2-18-11)

• Davka Corporation, the Israeli company that pioneered computer usage in Jewish education, has released *Talmud Keys*, an application for beginning Talmud students. The program introduces 500 of the most common Hebrew and Aramaic words and expressions in an easily searchable format. Davka gives wired students anywhere in the world the ability to independently study and master the basics of the Talmud at a cost of \$2.99. (*Dateline: World Jewry, March 2011*)

• Rahm Emanuel, 51, President Obama's former chief of staff, has been elected the first Jewish mayor of Chicago in the city's history. His father is a Jerusalem-born pediatrician who was once a member of the Irgun, the Jewish paramilitary organization that operated in British-Mandate Palestine. During the first Gulf War in 1991, Rahm volunteered in the Israel Defense Forces as a civilian helping to maintain equipment. (World Jewish Congress, 2-23-11)

• Mary Rothstein recently turned 110, making her Australia's oldest Jew. She and her family escaped the pogroms of Russia and fled to England soon after she was born in 1901. She lived in London for half her life, working as a milliner, on occasion making hats for the royal family. But according to Robert Young, a senior researcher at the Gerontology Research Group, which specializes in verifying "super-centenarians" (those 100years-old and older), Rothstein is not the oldest Jew in the world. That person would be Evelyn Kozak of New York City, who was born in August of 1899. (www.jta.org, 3-6-11)

• Alan Shatter, Ireland's only Jewish Member of Parliament, has been appointed new Irish Justice Minister. Shatter represents a constituency in the south of Dublin, where most of Ireland's Jews live. Shatter is the second Jewish cabinet minister in Ireland's history, the first having been Mervyn Taylor in the 1990s. Shatter is well known as a staunch supporter of Israel. (World Jewish Congress, 3-10-11) ◊



Get out of the house to relax and enjoy a film... Bring yourself, your family, your friends!

SECOND SATURDAY EVERY MONTH 7:00 PM AT THE KJCC MARK YOUR CALENDARS! April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug 13, Sep 10

EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOME

Enjoy a big screen projection of a wide variety of films... comedy, action, drama, fiction, classic, and others

Refreshments Provided (popcorn, pretzels, pickles, and sodas)

This should not be confused with our Poker Night. The flyer looks the same only because of a lack of imagination and artistic talent on the part of the author!

Photo Gallery



Some of the members of Boston's Far Cry Chamber Orchestra gather with Joyce and Gloria and Mary Lee and their volunteers, at

> the third of the 2011 Upper Keys Concert Series on February 14th, top left. The 16-member ensemble opened with a modern piece (written by an old friend of David Gitin's) that had the audience squirming a bit. But the power and harmo-

nies of the Rachmaninoff and Dvorak that followed gave them exactly what they came to hear.

The other photos on this page (which were, for those who would otherwise be horrified, taken without flash) are from David Gitin's inaugural evening leading KJCC services on February 18th. He was ably assisted at the Chazzon's side of the bemah by partner Gloria and Susan Gordon.









The top five photos are all from the March 4th service, when KJCC added its voices and prayers to "Shabbat Across America," celebrated throughout both the U.S. and Canada. The service was led by KJCC's educators — Gloria, Yardena and Susan, along



with the KJCC religious students. At top left, Sylvie and Jane, helped by Moira, Natalie and

Michaela, begin Shabbat with the lighting of the candles.

At bottom, Stuart Sax gavels to order his first Board Meeting as the new KJCC president on March 13th. Past president Steve Steinbock

makes sure that new Board member Medina Roy feels right at home.





The photo at top shows all the KJCC members attending the January 15th annual luncheon of the children's advocacy group, Voices of the Florida Keys. At right, Maryon Gould holds the coveted plaque she was awarded as this year's Unsung Hero, the group's Volunteer of the Year.



Joe and Susan Sachs are affirmed as the winners in KJCC's Get-Outta-Town raffle by KJCC president Stuart Sax. They chose the New York trip. (And they only bought ONE ticket.) At right, the KJCC religious school students rehearse in costume for the upcoming Purim celebration on March 20th. The Sunday School is kept humming by Yardena and Gloria and David, but they did take time out to celebrate Harry Friedman's birthday, below.



Oh, What a Night...

Our "Authentic Deli Nite" Sisterhood fundraiser was a huge success, both socially and financially. Some 85 people gathered at KJCC on Sunday, February 27th – mostly members, some not – for some schmoozing, schnapps and kibbitzing, while enjoying the most delicious corned beef, pastrami and turkey sandwiches on rye. You know, old-fashioned Jewish deli.

Thanks to the our hard-working committee, and with the advice of our resident KJCC "bagelman" Marc Bloom, we enjoyed the perfect deli sandwiches as well as our fantastic feast of knishes (graciously donated by Natalie Dorf and imported to the Keys with the help of Steve Hartz), homemade chopped liver (traditional and vegetarian), coleslaw, potato salad and more. (Thanks Roberta, Kathy, and Linda Perloff.)

After some fun rounds of bingo (thanks to Roberta), led by our peerless caller Bernie Ginsberg, and when the final, cherished prize of chicken soup had been won (made, alas, by Manischewitz, not Bubbe), we all proceeded to the sanctuary to watch "Old Jews telling jokes" on video and enjoy some laughs together.

Thanks to the hard work of Patti Gross and Leslie Dillon, and the generous donation of our Sisterhood and our local community, we had over twenty baskets to raffle off, while we enjoyed our homemade strudel, courtesy of Georgia Landau and Linda Perloff, as well as our chocolate babka, imported from an authentic deli bakery. It was yummy, all of it!

After a few shots of schnapps (four different flavors), and a little more kibbitzing, we all left happy and full with an aluminum-foil-wrapped half-sandwich for the next day.

Thanks to Joan Stark, Roberta McNew, Kathy Shabathai, Georgia Landau, Leslie Dillon and Patti Gross – the Deli Nite committee – for an exciting, fun and prosperous event. Special thanks to Barbara Bernstein, Marc Bloom, Steve Friedman, Alan Beth, Natalie Dorf, and Linda Perloff for their help and support in making this a wonderful evening.

Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Deli Nite Chairperson



The staff of Sisterhood (with honorary member Marc) who did the work for Deli Nite, all wearing one of a limited series of hand-painted aprons by Rosie Biskar.



It was Deli Nite, so the first order of business was the food. (Surely someone, somewhere was trying to kill us; they failed, of course, so it was time to eat.) It was crowded inside, and a lovely day, so Medina, Rosie, Candy and Susan dined al fresco on the terrace.



After the food, it was time for some oldfashioned bingo fun. (Some had never played before.) If you were starting a bingo game, who would you want as your caller? Bernie, of course. And it just so happened that Bernie was available.



JEWISH





After Bingo, it was time to draw the winners for the auction table items. (Bernie had the



magic touch, winning five times.) All the winners are shown together at left.





The final event of the day was to gather in the sanctuary to watch a video of "Old Jews Telling Jokes," most of which were actually funny. Of course, Bernie and Jules already knew all the punch lines.



Those who had the winning tickets pose with their prizes. Deli Nite was, indeed, a day of smiles. Don't be surprised if there's a sequel.









A big Chai-Lights thanks to Mary Lee Singer, who shot many of the Deli Nite photos.

Stained Glass of KJCC

The final entry in our closer look at the story behind the art.

We've completed our months-long look at the stained glass art gracing the KJCC sanctuary. Six of the original tribes of Israel are represented, one in each of the sanctuary's large windows near the roofline. We have also examined the two complex and symbol-laden windows mounted high above either side of our bemah.

There is actually one more stained-glass window of KJCC. It's far larger than the oth-

ers, yet it's placed so that we tend not to fully notice it. above the true front door to our building, the one that we never use. It's a simple, straightforward, strong, uncluttered image a hexagram, a six-pointed star, two equilateral trianales merged pointing in opposite directions - recognized the world over today as the symbol of Judaism, though it doesn't even have one particular name. The more traditional name is Magen David - the Shield of David - though it's also widely known, and more frequently described as the

The large stained-glass Magen David of KJCC, above the door facing rte.1

still-great academies of learning and Talmudic development in what was once Babylonia, to stroll down U.S. 1 at night and see the huge, beautiful, stained-glass six-pointed star adorning the public side of KJCC's building, they would surely smile at its beauty. But they would not recognize it as having anything to do with the religion of Judaism.

On the strictly temporal and historic side of this story, there are lots of gaps, and dots

> that don't connect, and unanswered questions. Perhaps modern scholarship, with its overflowing quiver of tools, will manage to pinpoint the exact time when the hexagram became synonymous with ludaism. But so far it has not. We do know that the symbol is not mentioned in reference to Hebrews or Israelites or lews in either the Bible or the Talmud. (The Torah was declared closed and unalterable by Ezra and Nehemiah in the 5th century B.C.E.: the Talmud was basically finished by the

"Jewish Star," and occasionally as the Star of David. It's an image we've all known all our lives. Could it have a story of its own worth telling? Yes, it does.

It would surely have been inconceivable to the founders of KJCC, or to those of any modern synagogue anywhere of any denomination (except perhaps a few on the outer periphery of Orthodox), to not include depictions of the *Magen David* on or in the various rooms of its new building, especially the sanctuary. But were a Jewish couple of a thousand years ago, from either the splendid elegance of Moorish Spain or the dark and dank medieval cities of central Europe or even the time of Rashi in the 13th century C.E., though in the *Shulchan Aruch* there were still new codifications around the time English settlers began appearing on the eastern shores of North America.) So up through medieval times the symbol was not considered by anyone to be a "Jewish" star. Of course there are numerous references in scripture and all the Talmudic commentary about the *Magen David*. But to the ancient rabbis the "shield of David" had only one meaning — the force that created the universe and that stood by to guide and protect the young poet and warrior king: the God of Israel.

There is a stone bearing a hexagram from

the arch of a 4th century C.E. Galilee synagoque, though most experts consider it strictly ornamental. (A swastika, another popular ancient motif, appears alongside the hexagram on the synagogue wall.) The first potentially meaningful use of the hexagram in a Jewish context comes as a decoration on a page of the famous Leningrad Codex, dated 1008 C.E. In the Jewish Encyclopedia there is a reference to a 12th century Karaite document mentioning a sign called the "Shield of David," but no specific shape is described. In 1354, Jews of Prague in Bohemia were allowed by Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV to display their own flag. What they produced had a large six-pointed star at its center. (It also included two pentagrams, five-pointed stars, often associated with David's son Solomon. The oldest synagogue in Prague, the Altneuschul, still flies such a flag.) The first Hebrew prayer book, printed in Prague in 1512, displays a large six-pointed star on its cover. In 1592, another Prague synagogue was allowed "a flag of King David, similar to that located on the main synagogue." In 1648, the Jews of Prague, being rewarded for helping defend Prague against marauding Swedes, were again allowed a flag. The central image they chose was a yellow Shield of David. But it's important to note that the hexagram was not then an exclusively Jewish image. It was also used as decoration on many medieval Christian buildings. It adorns a variety of surviving cathedrals and churches.

It would appear that the use of the hexagram as a Jewish symbol spread from Prague. In Vienna, in the 17th century, the Jewish quarter was officially separated from the Christian quarter by a boundary stone; on the Christian side was carved a cross, on the Jewish side a hexagram. At that time hexagrams also began appearing on the outside of synagogues. By the time Napoleon broke down the medieval ghetto walls and thrust Jews into modern Europe, the six-pointed star was widely accepted as denoting something Jewish, even appearing on Jewish tombstones. When Theodor Herzl was casting about for a symbol for Zionism, the nationalist yearning of Jews, he selected the six-pointed star, and at this point, at the end of the nineteenth century, the association was complete.

There is, of course, also a mystical side to the hexagram-as-Jewish-symbol story. It may well have been Jewish mystics who first used the symbol, or at least made it popular. There is evidence of the use of hexagrams on segulot - magic, protective amulets - as early as the 11th century. To mystics, the symmetry and specific shape of the hexagram told a detailed and multi-layered story. One of the two equal triangles pointed toward heaven. the other toward earth. The six points of the star are believed to symbolize God's rule over all six directions of the universe: east, west, north, south, up and down. In the hexagram there are also seven spaces - the interiors of the six small triangles plus the center - that to mystics correspond to the seven spiritual building blocks (sefirot) with which God built the world. The upward-pointing triangle symbolizes the masculine, and the element fire; the downward-pointing triangle represents the feminine, and the element water. So the six-pointed star is the balance between masculine and feminine, and the balance between the elements fire and water. The union of masculine and feminine also represents the ultimate of God's works: creation. (Similar ideas about the hexagram are also held in Hindu mysticism.) Mysticism and the use of protective amulets were far more prevalent in Europe than in other spheres of the Jewish world during medieval times. Was Europe, not ancient Israel or Judah, where the popularity, and eventual dominance, of the hexagram as Jewish icon all began?

Either way, kindly take pity on the poor, jilted menorah. It was the unchallenged symbol of Jews and Judaism for much of Jewish history, until the dawn of modern times. There was even a controversy over which image to include on the new Israeli flag in the late '40s. When the hexagram, the "Shield of David," was chosen, it had now taken the absolute final step on its journey from ornamental design to mystical symbol to full representation of an entire people. It was now, finally and undeniably, the "Jewish Star." \diamond

Eleanor Roosevelt Had an Idea...

A KJCC Member's Novel Tells the True Story of European Jewish Refugees Welcomed to Upper New York State During World War II

by Judith Weber

Sometimes the most exciting adventure starts by chance. I've been writing children's books for 35 years and was researching a possible book about Dr. Mary Walker, the only woman to win the Medal of Honor. Historical information was available at the local museum in her hometown, Oswego, New York. On a beautiful summer day I drove to Oswego, twenty-some miles north of Syracuse on Lake Ontario. When I checked into my motel the desk clerk asked, "are you here for the reunion?"

"No, I'm here to research Mary Walker."

Everywhere I went that afternoon, I was asked if I was going to the reunion. Finally I asked someone: "what reunion?" I expected to hear about a high school reunion, but instead I was told it was the fifth reunion of the refugees who were brought to the United States during WWII in 1944.

Fort Ontario, which wasn't being used by the Army at that time, became the only refugee camp in the United States. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt had had a humanitarian idea: If every free country took one thousand refugees off the streets of war-torn Europe and gave them sanctuary, thousands of innocent people would be saved. To set an example, she arranged for the first group to come to America and live at Fort Ontario in Oswego which had been built in its first incarnation by the British during the Revolutionary War to use as a raiding base against upstate New York, and which was not being used by the U.S. Army during World War II - until the war was over. The plan was for the refugees to be returned to their countries of origin at war's end, and they had to agree to that. Almost all of the refugees ended up being Jewish, and the last thing they wanted was to go back, but to get out of Europe at that moment, 982 men, women and children signed the contract. Their countries of origin were Yugoslavia, Poland, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

The refugees traveled for two weeks on a U.S. troop transport ship, the almost-500-foot "Henry Gibbins." Half the ship was filled with wounded soldiers returning to the States and the other half were the refugees. They landed at Pier 84 in New York. Above them on the berth the sign read the "Hamburg-American Line." (I illustrated the irony of this otherwise dry fact in "Seeking Safety" by having Ida, the mother of my ten-year-old heroine, say, "We have escaped the Germans only to arrive in America at the pier that the German shipping company once owned.")

The American Red Cross met the ship and tended to the soldiers first. Then they gave out sandwiches, sodas and doughnuts. Officials tagged every refugee, then bused them to a train that took them to Oswego, a long train ride of many hours.

Fort Ontario was far from luxurious, but it was livable, and, above all, safe. It had wooden cabins with double-decker beds, a social hall, dining room, kitchen and a parade ground with an American flag flying from the top of the pole. It became a small village and self-sufficient except for the government food and clothing donated by the local churches and synagogues. Everyone was assigned a job.

But Fort Ontario also had one thing the refugees didn't enjoy. The entire Fort was fenced. A person had to get special permission to go outside the fort's grounds. They could talk to people through the fence, but they couldn't leave. Many of the refugees had family in the United States who wanted to take them home, but it wasn't allowed. As I delved into individual stories while doing research for my book, it was very painful hearing about families wanting to reunite. Packages were sent and received, as were clothing, favorite foods, letters and pictures, but only on rare occasions were Eleanor Roosevelt's refugees allowed to go into the town of Oswego. Soon the refugees learned a popular America song, "Don't Fence Me In," and it became their anthem.

But there was one big exception. The children were allowed to attend the local school. At school, elementary through high school, the refugee children learned English and made friends with local children. I learned that many of those friendships continued throughout their lives.

A very young Ruth Gruber was put in charge of the rescue mission because, besides working for the State Department, she could speak Yiddish and German. (Ruth is today 99 years old and lives in New York City. Her comments are on the back of the book.)

The refugees lived in the camp from August 1944 until February 1946. A very few families decided to return to Europe, mostly because they wanted to be near relatives. Others wanted to claim businesses and homes they hoped would be returned to them. But staying wasn't so easy, either. To stay in America a person needed a visa. There was a very long wait for those from European countries. According to the rules, the refugees would have to return to Europe and reapply for visas, a process that would take years. Ruth, with the help of the State Department, found a legal way to get the refugees into America as permanent immigrants.

This is what Ruth wrote in her own book, "Haven": "On January 17, 1946, the first three busloads, carrying ninety-five refugees, drove across western New York State to Buffalo, where the community invited them to a roast beef lunch at Temple Beth El. Then the buses traveled to Niagara Falls, and crossed the Rainbow Bridge to the town of Niagara Falls in Ontario, Canada. They were greeted by George Graves, the American consul, who gave each refugee the longed-for visa embellished with a red seal and ribbon. They were driven across the Rainbow Bridge again, and at last, entered America, not as a refugee, but as immiarants bound for United States citizenship."

My novel "Seeking Safety" is told through

the eyes of ten-year-old Yugoslavian refugee Lillian. The story starts in Italy, includes her journey with her mother to Oswego, her experiences in the local school, friendships and life in the refugee camp. The KJCC Sisterhood has copies of "Seeking Safety" in the Gift Shop. It is appropriate for children 8 to 12.

Judy and Larry Weber live in Islamorada.

Ruth Gruber - Journalist, Rescuer, Hero

I f not for Ruth Gruber, the thousand Fort Ontario Jewish refugees would never have made it to New York and safety during World War II. Without her untiring efforts, and access to highly placed ears, they would never have been allowed to stay at the end of the war. For most lives this would have been its

most exciting and dramatic chapter. But helping save the Oswego lews was not the first time in Ruth Gruber's life that she had stood astride and helped shape history, and it would by far not be the last. She truly became one of the most remarkable



Ruth Gruber as photojournalist after World War II.

women of the twentieth century.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y. in 1911, Ruth Gruber graduated from N.Y.U. at age eighteen. In 1931 she was offered a fellowship to study in Germany, which against her parents' wishes she accepted. She attended Nazi rallies, and in person heard Hitler mesmerize his audience, ranting against Americans and, of course, Jews. Professors asked her to stay in Germany and pursue a PhD, which she did in the unheard-of time frame of one year, analyzing the feminist tendencies of a not-yetwidely-read young British author named Virginia Woolf. According to the New York *Times*, she was, at age twenty, the youngest PhD in the world.

In 1935 she became the first foreign correspondent allowed into Siberia, where she spent months interviewing prisoners of Stalin's gulag, many of them Jews. From this came her first book, "I Went to the Soviet Arctic."

Harold Ickes, FDR's influential Interior Secretary, read the book and hired Ruth as his special assistant, sending her in 1941 to Alaska to report on its social and economic

potential. She spent eighteen months there, traversing the vast and primitive territory by plane, truck and, when necessary, bobsled. In 1944, when FDR decided to bring the 1,000 Jewish refugees here (as "visitors," to circumvent the stringent wartime immigration laws), Harold Ickes vested her with the temporary rank of general. His reasoning was simple: she was entering Europe secretly, on a secret mission, and if captured the Nazis would surely execute her as a spy. But if she carried the rank of general,

they'd have to feed her and keep her alive. She spent much of the voyage home on the U.S.S. Henry Gibbins listening and writing as the refugees told their stories. Out of this came another book, "Haven: The Dramatic Story of 1,000 World War II Refugees and How They Came to America."

Returning to journalism after the war, she was sent by the New York Post to accompany the joint British/American committee on its tour of European Displaced-Persons camps, to decide what to do with all the Jews who wanted to go to Palestine. The refugees were pathetic, the camps squalid. She asked a 16vear-old survivor of Bergen-Belsen why he wanted to go to Palestine: "Why? Everybody has a home. The British. The Americans. The

Ruth Gruber today, living in New York. She'll turn100 in September.

French. The Russians. Only we lews have no home. Don't ask us. Ask the World." The Committee filed its report, which was received by Ernest Bevin, Britain's Foreign Minister, who proceeded to do nothing.

The issue was next taken up by the new United Nations. Ruth accompanied the Special Committee on Palestine to the camps and then to Palestine itself. While in Jerusalem, she learned that a former pleasure boat now renamed The Exodus - had tried to deliver 4,500 Jewish refugees, including 600 children, mostly orphans, when it was attacked by six British warships. Ruth arrived in Haifa to see the Exodus limp into the harbor two children and Bill Bernstein, the American

> second mate, dead - looking, as she wrote, "like a matchbox splintered by a nutcracker."

Hearing that the Exodus prisoners were being transferred to Cyprus (where 52,000 Holocaust survivors were imprisoned between 1945 -1948), she flew there. But the British sent the ship to southern France instead, where the refugees famously refused to disembark. After 18 days of increasingly bad publicity, the British decided to ship the Jews back to Germany. Out of hundreds of journalists, only Ruth Gruber was allowed on board to accompany the ship,

and the homeless DPs, on this dismal leg of the journey. Her photo of refugees holding up a Union Jack onto which they had defiantly painted a swastika became the photo of the week in Life Magazine. Her book, "Exodus 1947: The Ship that Launched a Nation," was used as source material by Leon Uris for his novel.

Ruth Gruber has now written 19 books. She has received numerous international honors, and at least one documentary and one feature film have been made about her. She has lived in the same New York City apartment for over 50 years, and in September will achieve 100 years of an amazing, aweinspiring life. ◊



Make a Joyful Noise!! The role of Jewish Music in Telling the Passover Tale

by Gloria Avner

"Sing, sing, sing, sing . . . Everybody's got to sing."

It's January 1938. Germany is marching towards Czechoslovakia, less than two years away from the invasion of Poland and the start of World War II.

In New York City, a band filled with Jewish and black musicians, led by Benny Goodman, are playing "jazz" for the first time in what was strictly "classical" Carnegie Hall. Breaking all boundaries, they enter into a jazz rendition of "Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen." (Poor Sholom Secunda, who sold his half of the song for \$15.) In the middle of the song, Gene Krupa gets wild, and with trumpet player Ziggy Elman interpolates a swinging version of "Freilich," the "Jewish Wedding Dance." Their music brings down the house.

Jewish music has reached out and touched the world for decades – think Irving Berlin, Harold Arlen, and George Gershwin just for starters. There is a reason. It comes from a rich place with serious celebrational intent, a Biblical place, from great cantorial tradition, and from centuries of folk adaptation. It is the accompaniment to the Jewish story, essential to its telling, and it is especially important on Passover.

We know there are two essential *mitzvot* in observing Pesach. One is a purely physical act, ripe with multi-layered meaning, a kind of mnemonic device, the commandment to eat only unleavened bread for the duration of the holidays. The other involves "the Haggadah," the telling (and the re-telling) of the entire Pesach story.

Four times in the Bible we are commanded to do this recounting. God tells us in the Exodus chapter "Sh'mot" to teach and re-teach in every generation the story of Passover.

We tell the story by reading it aloud and

by singing it. The plentiful Passover/Pesach songs help create and reinforce the holiday's major themes—physical freedom; redemption; spring, the season of re-birth; generosity to others; trust; and gratitude.

Songs with simple, rhythmic melodies are easy to remember and fun to sing. They deliver the intended message, but they do something else as well. They connect us, horizontally through space and vertically through time, to all Jews everywhere. Before we begin, we even chant the order (the very meaning of the word "seder") of the fifteen steps that must be followed in order to properly conduct the Passover Seder meal.

There are many happy Passover songs that are sung in joyous reminder of having been released from bondage. Passover music spans the gamut from universal traditional melodies to exotic-sounding tunes that are customary for Jewish people of a specific community. Yet each table of Jews, in dining rooms throughout the Diaspora, looks to its youngest child, whether or not there are four sons present, to ask the "Four Questions" and open the dialogue.

The youngest begins the dialogue because the youngest needs it the most. Chanting the rhythmic, repetitive "Ma Nishtanah--Why is this night different from all other nights," is meant to convey and symbolize the differences between slavery and freedom, a mindbroadening theme ever-present and interwoven throughout all fifteen steps. The invitation is made to tell a story, not as if it were ancient history, but as if it had personally happened to us. Ownership, connection, is not someone else's, but "mine." *Ours*. (The only thing "evil" about the "wicked" son is that he does not take on the community story as his own, but looks at it detached, from a distance).

Shortly after the "Four Questions," we sing "Avadim Chayinu," celebrating the essential fact of our escape from Egypt. "Once we were slaves; now we are free." The words are simple. They are stunning. The chorus soars. Even if one did not know Hebrew, one would feel the deep ecstatic joy inherent in this piece.

Some of our favorite songs are expressions of gratitude for what we, as a people,

were given, not just in escape from slavery in Egypt, but fifty days later, when Moses came down from the Mountain with the "laws" in his hands, 613 "Mitzvot" that would take us from the lowest level of slave consciousness to a higher level of being, in which we could be responsible not only for ourselves but for the world.

Think of the three verses we sing in the most popular song of all, "Dayenu." Eyes light up and energy revives when we get to this part of the seder. (It can't just be the wine, can it?)

"If God had just given us freedom from slavery in Egypt, that would have been enough. If God had just given us Shabbat, that would have been enough. If God had just given us the Torah, surely that by itself would have been enough. "Dayenu!"

An embarrassment of riches. Yet we go on for more verses. Because we were given more. We are not just to be grateful for favors large and small from God, but for favors from everyone and everything in life; we are even wordlessly grateful for the song, the joining of voices in which everyone knows, or soon will know and understand, the significant word.

We may not know all the words to "Echad Mi Yodea," ("Who knows One"), another song of many verses in which we explore the meaning of numbers 1-13 as they relate to concepts of Jewish life and thought. But any-

We are not just to be grateful for favors large and small from God, but for favors from everyone and everything in life.

one who hears or reads the verses will soon get the idea, and enjoy the fun of trying to sing their numbered verse all in one breath. From God being One on Heaven and Earth to Two being the Tablets of the Covenant to Three being our Fathers and Four our Mothers, Five the books of Torah, and on and on to Thirteen, we create another musical way to appreciate our gifts and tell the milestones in our history. The circle of the song begins and ends with God as One, the beginning and end

of all that is Judaism.

We are getting close to the last hurrah. A seder does not seem complete until "Chad Gadya," the "baby goat" song, is sung. On one level, it seems like a nonsense song akin to "I know an old lady who swallowed a fly," a song mainly to keep small children amused until it's time to find the "afikomen."

And yet, there is a lot of research that says this Passover song about a baby goat which "my father bought for two *zuzim*," a pitifully small

sum of money, actually chronologically describes all the empires throughout Jewish history that have occupied the Land of Israel which, one by one, have been destroyed by successive empires, with the Jewish nation at the bottom, symbolized by the baby goat. The purpose of this song is to teach that every evildoer, no matter how strong, will eventually suffer the consequences of their actions at the hands of God. A seemingly childish song inspires a firm, mature faith and belief in the power of God.

There are many other Passover songs we sing, including "Adir Hu," concerned with praising Gods' glory, and there are songs that focus on Elijah – the forerunner to "Moshiach," or Messiah. When we sing about Elijah we also combine song with the physical act of opening a door, a welcome, an expression of hope and trust, that teaches as much in its theatrics as the reading of any paragraph could. Still, the most important song of the night is Miriam's Song. In all of Judaism, this Song with a Capital S, describing events near the end of the Passover Story, sung after we realized we were saved by God and that the Egyptian army once in hot pursuit had drowned in the no-longer-parted "Sea of Reeds," is Number Two in the All Time Hit Parade of the Ten Most Important Songs ("Ten Shirot") ever created.

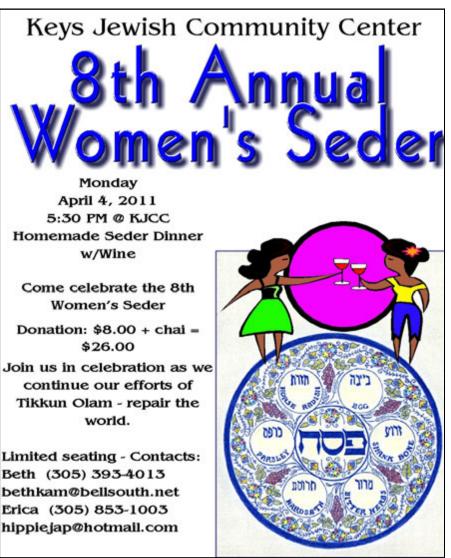
The Ten Shirot mark historical events in

vigorously on their hand-drum timbrels, their bodies and hair swaying freely as they sing without restriction.

We don't have a clue as to the rhythm they beat or the melody they sung, but with nearly empty hands, a supply of unleavened bread, and a song in their hearts and mouths, the newly escaped Jewish slaves, our mothers and our fathers, our selves and our children, made a joyful noise before stepping into the unknown. *Dayenu.* ◊

lewish history. They are not mere melodies, but they express the harmony of Creation as well as marking these events in human history. The Ten Shirot are separated from other songs by their being written with a capital "S" for "Shirot" in Hebrew and in English with a capital "S" for "Songs."

Miriam's song (Think "Mi Chamocha") comes right behind Song Number One, "A Psalm for the Sabbath Day," the Song that Adam sang after the Creation was completed. This may have been an important, even solemn song, but it is filled with joy and gratitude. this call-andresponse chant of praise, the women calling and the men responding. If we close our eyes and open our minds, we can see the women dancing, playing



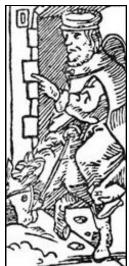
ELIJAH THE ETERNAL PROPHET

o single earthly figure looms larger in the Passover Haggadah – or arguably in all of Jewish literature - than the prophet Elijah. He is by far the most famous of all the prophets. His guidance and assistance has been regularly sought, by paupers and sages alike, ever since he first thundered disapproval at King Ahab and Queen Jezebel in the northern kingdom of Israel about three thousand years ago. With Seders worldwide about to open their doors to welcome him. now seemed like a good time to take a closer look at this complex, enigmatic figure.

Elijah's story is told in the First and Second Books of Kings. Queen Jezebel of Israel (whose reputation has not softened at all over time), the daughter of a Phoenician king, had grown up worshipping the Canaanite deity Baal and had no wish to adopt the God of Israel. To please her, King Ahab erected a temple to Baal in his capital city of Samaria. It was in response to this idol worship that Elijah began his public career. Publicly scolding absolute rulers and railing that their actions will cause drought and famine is not a strategy to earn one a comfy life, and in fact Elijah was forced into hiding at least twice.

Elijah's most famous act was to challenge the priests of Baal to a public test of whose

God was more powerful. He asked 450 of them to meet him on Mt. Carmel. Two twin bullocks were brought, and both were slaughtered. Whose God would accept the sacrifice? Hundreds or thousands turned out to watch. The priests of Baal went first, chanting and pleading for hours. Nothing happened. As their religion called for,



A depiction of Elijah from a 1526 Prague Haggadah

they then began to mutilate themselves, offering their own blood to Baal. Again, nothing happened, and after many hours they withdrew, exhausted. Elijah then stepped up and prayed to God to accept the sacrifice. Immediately, fire crashed down from the heavens and consumed the bull. After a brief, awed silence (imagine seeing something like that), all present bowed down in fear and reverence to the God of Israel. But proving his point wasn't enough: Elijah then had his followers kill all 450 of the priests of Baal, which so infuriated Jezebel that she ordered Elijah himself killed. Ultimately God led him to Mt. Horeb (Mt. Sinai), the same mountain where Moses had brought the law to the Israelites some 400 years before. It was here that the transformation of Elijah from misanthrope to philanthrope began. Probably no important Biblical figure ever underwent such a complete metamorphosis, particularly in the rabbinical literature, where he has enjoyed a prolific second career as a protector of the weak and spiritual guide to the learned.

There are hundreds of stories recounting Elijah's legendary appearances through the ages. The stories vary widely, often including miracles, but many revolve around the theme of an old man wrapped in his mantle who mysteriously appears to teach an ethical lesson, impart hope to those in despair, aid the destitute or confront injustice.

In the literature Elijah becomes a favored symbol for the whole Jewish people, "exiled and tortured but alive and hopeful." As one of only two figures in the Bible to not die yet still ascend to heaven, he becomes the ultimate bridge between the two worlds. In rabbinic lore he often takes the role of interlocutor with God for men and also guide to the earthly sages on the mysteries of God's laws. Since he never dies, and frequently returns to earth in various guises to combat injustice or instruct the learned in the secrets of the Torah, Elijah has also become to many the prototype of the Wandering Jew.

Ultimately, especially in Ashkenazic tradition, Elijah takes on many roles. In a tradition going back at least twelve hundred years, an empty chair – the chair of Elijah – is placed to the right of every male child at his circumcision. Elijah is also said to be the guardian of all infants for the first thirty very vulnerable days of life. His other roles in rabbinic literature include peacemaker, recorder of marriages decreed in heaven, blesser of barren women, and protector of slaves, the poor and the oppressed.

The prophet Malachai, in the last book of the Hebrew Bible, implies that it will be Elijah to herald the coming of the Messiah, one reason Elijah is given such an important role in the Passover Seder. (And at the conclusion of every Shabbat we sing "Eliyahu Ha-Navi," a song urging Elijah to return with the Messiah, speedily and in our time.) Upon completing the blessing after the Passover meal, in one of the Seder's more dramatic moments, we pour the Cup of Elijah and open the door for the prophet, hoping that he will have arrived to usher in the Messiah.

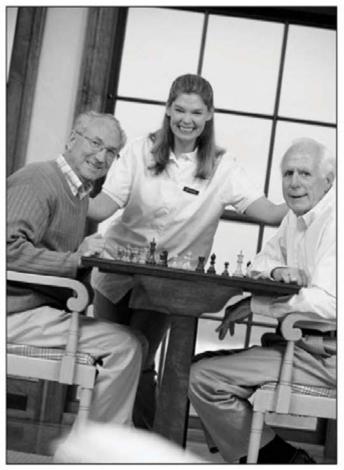
Most scholars believe it was in the Middle Ages in Europe, after the Crusades, when the Seder door was first opened in the hope that Elijah was there with the Messiah. (Sephardim typically do not open the door.) Passover was then a particularly hazardous time for Ashkenazi Jews, as "blood libel" fever - the belief that Jews would kill a Christian child and use his blood to bake the matzoh - was at its peak. Jewish folklore began to teach that it was Elijah himself who came to defend the accused. One school of thought says that opening the door was the ultimate act of faith. Another says that opening the door had the practical advantage of being able to see anyone sneaking into the courtyard to falsely plant evidence of blood libel or otherwise disrupt the Seder.

The other major role Elijah plays in the Seder is through what is now called "Elijah's Cup." When Seder rituals were first being developed in the second century C.E., there was dispute over whether there should be a fifth cup of wine. The rabbis simply couldn't agree, so they decided, just in case, to produce a fifth cup, but not to actually drink this one. So why call it "Elijah's Cup?" Because one of the beliefs is that as he ushers in the Messianic Age, Elijah will also answer all the questions that have stumped and bedeviled the rabbis over the centuries. And Elijah will not drink from the cup. The idea is that we are waiting to hear from Elijah whether we should drink from the fifth cup.

Ultimately, at the Seder, we pray that Elijah will help us resolve our disputes with one another; enable us to open our hearts to one another; and bring peace to Israel, her neighbors, and to all places filled with fear and hatred. Menachem Mendel, the 19th century Rebbe of Kotsk, said: "We err if we believe that Elijah the Prophet comes through the door. Rather he must enter through our hearts and souls." \diamond

The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

The Palace Suites / Independent Living The Palace Royale / Catered Living The Palace Renaissance / Assisted Living The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center The Palace at Home / Home Health

| VERONICA'S ART
AND GLASS STUDIO
Stained Glass Custom Pieces •
Restoration and Repairs •
Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry •
Classes • Materials and Supplies
Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist
(305) 304-9411
veroagutierrez@yahoo.com | Barbara Knowles
Photography and Video
Destination
Wedding Planner
Officiant, All Events, Portraits
Real Estate, Corporate
Custom Packages | |
|--|---|--|
| DeClue's Art Printing
and Framing
Simply Extraordinary, Creative,
Quality Picture Framing.
82200 Overseas Highway, Islamorada
305-664-9385 - marciadeclue@gmail.com | www.FLKeysWeddings.com
305-772-0503
305-853-5653
iweddu@bellsouth.net
Richard Knowles
PhotoVideo
305-942-4488
flkeys@bellsouth.net | |
| florida keys
periodontics
and
implantology
paul e. berger, d.d.s.
the pink plaza
103400 overseas highway
Suite 229
key largo, fl 33037
tax: 305.453.1889 | Ari B. Oberstein
Licensed Funeral Director
ADICNIFIED Alternative for the BUDGET MINDED
ADICNIFIED ALTERNATIVE f | |
| SOFY WASSER, L.M.T.
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST
870 NARRAGANSETT LANE
KEY LARGO, FL 33037
MILE MARKER 103 - BAYSIDE
305-332-1500 - CELL
305-453-1324 - HOME
SWEDISH / AROMATHERAPY /
NEUROMUSCULAR / HOT STONES | office hours by appointment phone: (305) 852-3219
fax: (305) 852-9016
OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S.
JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A.
RICHARD C. LAGE, D.D.S.
ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D. | |





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

999 N. Krome Avenue Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Hwy. Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932







Shawn W. Tolley, C.P.A. Senior Partner

9350 South Dixie Highway Penthouse V Miami, Florida 33156 Tel: 305.670.1001 Fax: 305.670.1888 stolley@tolleycpa.com 97665 Overseas Highway Key Largo, Florida 33037 Tel: 305.852.9898 Fax: 305.852.9997 Cell: 305.608.8898 www.tolleycpa.com

Shingles Pain? Nerve Pain? Neuragen PN offers Fast Relief From

-Chronic Pain--Fibromyalgia--Sciatica--Numb Toes-Diabetic Nerve Pain-

CALL STEVE STEINBOCK 305-394-0143

70% Users Report Relief Apply Topically 2- 4X a Day No Side Effects



GARRETT CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER, P.A. a holistic healing center

DR. ERICA LIEBERMAN-GARRETT, BSC.D.C

Over 26 Years experience Chiropractic (Gentle/Manual) Yoga/Meditation Massage Therapy Physical Therapy Acupuncture/ Homeopathy

305-853-1003 MM 90.3 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice and other cases of significant damages.

GR

TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, FL 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

FT. LAUDERDALE

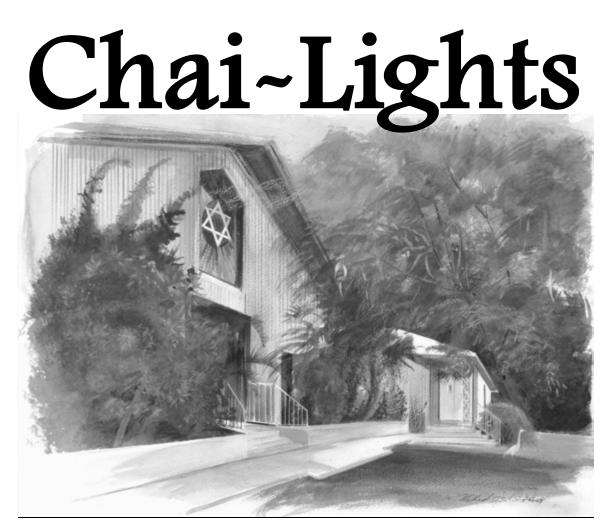
Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

BOCA RATON

Wachovia Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297



June/July/August 2011

28 Iyar - 1 Elul 5771

A Visit to London - page 23 Exploring the KJCC Library - page 33 Gloria Channels Miriam - page 36

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

June 2011

28 Iyar - 28 Sivan

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---------------|---|---|--|---|---|
| Italicized na | ames are Oneg | Friday services.
g sponsors. KJCC
riday evening. | 1 Men's Club
Meeting &
Game Night,
7:30 at KJCC
Yom
Yerushalayim | 2 | 3
George Swartz
&
Yardena Kamely
<i>Carol & Steve</i>
<i>Steinbock</i> | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 Erev
Shavuot
Tikkun Leil
Shavuot at
KJCC 8 p.m. | 8
Shavuot
1st Day | 9
Shavuot
2nd Day
Megillat Ruth | 10
Jim Boruszak
Lynn & Jim Nobil
Yizkor Service | 11
Men's Club
Movie Night
at KJCC,
7:00 |
| 12
KJCC
Board
Meeting
9:00 a.m. | 13 | 14
Alan Beth's
Computer
Class at KJCC,
6:30 p.m. | 15 | 16 | 17
Stuart Sax
Amelia & Steve
Kasinof | 18 |
| 19
Father's
Day | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24
Steve Steinbock &
Yardena Kamely
(6:30 Service)
Lauren & Stuart Sax
and
Rene & Skip Rose | 25
KJCC
"Chai-
yaking" |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

2011 - 2012 Officers and Board

President Stuart Sax

Executive Vice President Bernie Ginsberg

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Marc Bloom – Susan Gordon

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Joyce Peckman

Directors

Joan Boruszak – David Gitin – Steve Hartz Kurt Kluger – Dave Mont – Medina Roy Gene Silverman – Sam Vinicur

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Men's Club Steve Friedman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock Alan Beth

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Stuart Sax

Now that the majority of our "snowbirds" are back in their summer nests. the attendance at our summer services and special events falls on the shoulders of our "locals." We will continue to have meaningful Shabbat services with maybe a surprise quest or two. The Men's Club will continue to host poker nights, movie nights, Chai-yaking and maybe throw in a Sha-BBQ. The Silvermans will continue to lead fishing trips and sunset cruises on request, and any other ideas are always welcomed.

In every organization there are unsung heroes. These are people who don't necessarily wait to be asked to do something. They step up before the fact and offer to help. Sometimes they are out-front heroes like Gloria Avner, Erica Garrett, Kathy Shabathai, and many more who take charge of an event and, literally, make it happen. Sometimes they are behind-the-scenes people who are less visible but not less valuable. One of our unsung heroes is the financial pulse of this congregation. I consider Linda Pollack to be my "go-to girl" in many dimensions. When discussing any financial matters. I can read her eves to determine if the proposal is feasible. Linda has magnificent recall on how our funds are managed and she is as protective of those funds as a mother duck is of her ducklings. Thank you, Linda for all that you do,



and thank you, Joel, for the sacrifices you also make.

Even though it is early in the summer, we are starting to plan for this year's High Holy Days. For the second year in a row, we will be led during the Days of Awe by Rabbi Danny Young and Cantor Mark Halpern. This added depth to our holidays does carry with it an additional cost. When the dues packages go out next month, there will be a line item for an additional voluntary contribution to assist with our religious leadership expenses. Please consider how meaningful it was to have Rabbi Danny and Cantor Mark together last year and seriously consider a special donation for this year.

This will be the final edition of Chai-Lights before the staff takes a well-deserved respite for a couple of months. To Sam, Lisa, Gloria, Medina, Yardena, and everyone else who contributes articles, ads, photos and information to this outstanding publication, our gratitude is boundless. Because most KICC members keep each month's issue for reference all month. those with businesses and with business connections should seriously consider advertising in Chai-Lights. The added sales will more than cover the modest cost. >

Nosh

See You in September

Please make a mental note (or, in Alan's case, an iPad note) that this issue of Chai-Lights is our combined summer issue, encompassing June, July and August. Our next issue will be September, as we all prepare for High Holy Days. Please continue to send your photos, announcements and ideas to chailights@keysjewishcenter.com. September's issue will look forward to the coming season, yes, but will also look back at the collective activities of a KJCC summer.

A Thank-You to Jim Boruszak

(The following note was sent to Jim by Stuart Sax after another year of Jim's famous post-Pesach, pre-Board Meeting Matzo Brie.) Dear Jim,

On behalf of the entire Board, I want to thank you for all of your efforts in cooking a delicious breakfast for everyone this morning. The fact that it was a holiday and we had nearly a full Board in attendance is a testament to your efforts and generosity. It was fantastic.

We took a vote after the meeting, and you have been selected to make breakfast for every Board meeting from now on!!

> Best Regards, Stuart

Oneg Sponsors for June 2011

June 3rd — Carol & Steve Steinbock in honor of their anniversary.

June 10th — Lynn & Jim Nobil in honor of Jim's birthday.

June 17th — Amelia & Steve Kasinof in honor of Amelia's birthday.

June 24th — Lauren & Stuart Sax and Rene & Skip Rose in honor of their anniversaries.

June Birthdays

| Julie E | in chicays |
|---------|------------------------|
| | Abraham Rakov |
| | Elanor Forbes |
| | Lorene Solomon |
| | Alfred Weihl |
| 4th | Scott Kay |
| 5th | Dorothy Wolfe |
| | Joseph Sachs |
| | Donna Bolton |
| 6th | Nancy Kluger |
| | Suzanne Gilson |
| 7th | Carrie Smith |
| 7th | Jim Nobil |
| | Joan Wohl |
| 8th | Elaine Solas |
| 9th | Zoe Berk |
| l l th | Deborah Weiss |
| l l th | Linda Feinberg |
| | Kevin M. Silverman |
| l 2th | Michal Kamely |
| l 3th | Israel Mayk |
| l 3th | Justin Greenbaum |
| l4th | Jennifer Nobil |
| l 5th | Haley Mayclin |
| l 5th | William Bolton |
| l 6th | Peter Kantor |
| l7th | Leo Haviv |
| | Amelia Kasinof |
| 18th | Kim Haviv |
| 20th | Harvey Klein |
| 20th | Judy Schmidt |
| 21st | Taryn Nobil |
| 23rd | Joseph Goldberg |
| 24th | Delaney Rohde |
| | Rita Bromwich |
| 27th | Frank Emkey |
| 27th | Maxwell Schrader-Grace |
| | |

New Members

KJCC is delighted to welcome Roger and Jessica Hernstadt of Marathon as our most recent new members. Son Aidan is already enrolled in school, and will begin bar mitzvah studies with Gloria in the fall. Jessica had first come to KJCC with Judy Greenman to attend the Women's Seder.

June Anniversaries

Years

| lst | Jim & Rita Williams | 27 |
|-------|------------------------------------|-----|
| lst | Joel Bernard & Joan Stark | 25 |
| 5th | Stephen & Carol Steinbock | 28 |
| 7th | Richard & Sheila Steinberg | .52 |
| 8th | Stephan & Jane Friedman | 15 |
| 10th | Mark & Sofy Wasser | 16 |
| llth | Carl & Medina Roy | 39 |
| l2th | William & Donna Bolton | |
| l 2th | Harvey & Beverly Robins | .54 |
| l4th | Harvey & Joan Kay | 41 |
| l 4th | Jim & Joan Boruszak | .58 |
| 18th | Eric Grace & Ruth Schrader-Grace | 17 |
| 20th | Milton & Joan Wohl | .60 |
| 21st | Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake | 24 |
| 23rd | Skip & Rene Rose | .56 |
| 23rd | Stuart & Lauren Sax | 37 |
| 24th | Robert & Heide Werthamer | 16 |
| 25th | Herbert & Elinor Grossman | .54 |
| 28th | Wes & Rita Conklin | 41 |
| | Lloyd & Rae Susan Wruble | |

Summer Activities at KJCC

We don't publish monthly calendars for July or August, but that doesn't mean that activities at KJCC cease. There are, of course, services every Friday night. The Oneg afterwards is the perfect time to re-connect and catch up. It's said that summer was once quiet and sluggish around here, but that's certainly not true any longer. Game Night (nee Poker Night) will still take place the first Wednesday of the month. Movie night is still scheduled for the second Saturday of each month. And Dave Mont's "chai-yaking" excursions are still scheduled for the fourth Saturday of each month.

Alan's computer tech classes will be going on all summer, on a roughly every-two-weeks schedule. We'll almost certainly celebrate our annual Shabba-be-cue on or around July 4th (which is a very important day here in that it's our amazing matriarch Pauline Roller's birthday).

Lauren has scheduled a Sisterhood meeting in August to begin preparing for High Holy Days.

And one never knows what else will emerge. Pay close attention to Stuart's weekly e-mails. Or log on to KJCC's web site keysjewishcenter.com — to follow Alan's online calendar. They contain all the details you'll ever need to know about, and any changes that get made to, your KJCC summer activities.

July Birthdays

| J ert | Alex Hudson |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| | |
| | Chely Markowitz |
| l st | Jennifer Gilson |
| lst | Patti Gross |
| | Elissa A. Denker |
| | Pauline Roller |
| 5th | Ron Levy |
| | Erica Morgan Shatz |
| | Joyce Peckman |
| | Lindsay Gould |
| | Steven Hartz |
| | Rebecca M. Schur |
| | Richard Steinberg |
| | Dot Brooking |
| | David Gross |
| l 4th | Paul Eric Bernstein |
| | Danna Levy |
| I7th | Foster Davidson |
| l7th | Robert Werthamer |
| l7th | Shira Listman |
| 18th | Ellen Coltman |
| 18th | Zachary G. Kwalick |
| 20th | Ćarol Laskin |
| | Arlington Garrett |
| 21st | Brian Smith |
| | Joshua Samuel Bernstein |
| | Linda Perloff |
| | Carrie Temkin |
| | Alan Markowitz |
| | Carol Field |
| | Marc Bloom |
| | Rachael Bloom |
| | Lila E. Juenger |
| | Bruce Boruszak |
| | Candy Stanlake |
| | |
| | |
| | Drew Nobil |
| | ts June, July and August 2011 5 |
| | |

Open House at Garrett Chiropractic

KJCC's Dr. Erica Lieberman-Garrett will be celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of Garrett Chiropractic and Wellness Center in Tavernier during the month of June. On Thursday, June 23rd, at 4 p.m., all are invited to a celebratory open house. She'll ply you with organic snacks, smoothies and mini-chair massages.

July Anniversaries

| | Years |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2nd | Douglas & Rozi Graham7 |
| 3rd | Michael & Lorene Solomon22 |
| 5th | Erwin & Barbara Kantor54 |
| 9 th | Michel Bitton & Sylvie CoeurjolyI |
| l2th | Jason & Debbie Madnick16 |
| 24th | Dick & Rita Bromwich37 |
| 29th | Bernard & Elaine Solas55 |

July & August Service Leaders

July 1st — Bernie Ginsberg July 8th — Alan Beth July 15th —Stuart Sax July 22nd — Sam Vinicur & Beth Hayden July 29th — Ken Atlas

August 5th — Joel & Linda Pollack August 12th — Bernie Ginsberg August 19th — Alan Beth August 26th — Jim Boruszak

Summer Onegs

As noted above, services go on all summer, without fail. We still need oneg sponsors for July and August. Hey, snowbirds. Why not sponsor an oneg while you're away to show that neither time nor distance can dim your love for KJCC? Contact Joyce Peckman at 305-240-1000 or e-mail Sisterhood@keysjewishcenter.com.

Ron Levy's Tandoor Ovens

The New York Times did a long feature recently on KJCC's own Ron Levy and his unique niche in the tandoor oven market.. Go online to nytimes/2011/05/11/dining for the full article.

August Birthdays

| 1 st | Marc S. Field
Jessica Forman
David Kaufman
Nissan Mayk
Ilana Gilderman
Eric Freundlich
Barbara Smith
Rozi Graham
Brian Gilderman
Gina Moritz
Stephan L. Friedman
Heide Werthamer
Danielle Zinner
Eileen Kominsky
Patricia Isenberg
Alan Lindenbaum
Alison Thompson
Zachary Schrader-Grace
Pamela Friedman
Ananda Nobil
Ashley Solomon
Rachel Zinner
Dave Mont
Morris Willner
Carl McNew
Mikhaela Bitton
Jaimee Marshall |
|------|---|
| | |
| 27th | Jaimee Marshall |
| 27th | |
| 28th | |
| 30th | |
| 30th | |
| 30th | |
| | |

August Anniversaries

| 7th | Larry & Dorothy Wolfe | 54 |
|-------|---------------------------|----|
| 7th | Aaron & Judith Schmidt | 56 |
| l 5th | Paul & Susan Roberts | 43 |
| l 5th | Richard & Barbara Knowles | 12 |
| l 6th | Ira & Shirley Stein | 53 |
| 20th | Barnet & Ellen Coltman | 51 |
| 22nd | Enamblin & Luchy Chamman | 20 |
| | Franklin & Judy Greenman | |
| 27th | Israel & Nissan Mayk | |

Tikkun Leil Shavuot Tuesday, June 7th, 8 p.m. at KJCC Study Torah, Hear The Commandments, Eat (homemade) Dairy Food

On Shavuot, seven weeks and one day from the second Passover Seder, when we have finished with the mitzvah of counting the omer, when we have refined ourselves from slave mentality by spiritual replenishment sufficient to make us worthy of receiving divine law, we celebrate our receiving of the Ten Commandments. We perform yet another mitzvah – by making up for our ancestors' failure to wake up on time for Revelation.

We stay awake; and we study. (Being Jewish, we also eat).

We repair ("tikkun") the wrong done by our historic heavy-liddedness; we give ourselves and our ancestors another chance at the foot of Mt. Zion. In recent years, more and more congregations make a point of celebrating Erev Shavuot with a *Tikkun Leil (night)* *Shavuot* study program. This will be the third year that we will have such a celebration in our own synagogue. We may not last all night, but a couple of hours, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., would be an excellent start.

We will gather in the Sanctuary and hear the Ten Commandments chanted from our Torah by Bernie Ginsberg. We will close our eyes and listen to the trumpeting of the Shofar as free people, a new people fresh from Equpt, ready to live new lives. We will read and discuss the book of Ruth. look at the list of 13 Commandments, have some Torah discussion, and last (but far from least), eat Muriel's wonderful blintz soufflé, cheesecake, and other dairy treats provided by Sisterhood. Erica Garrett will coordinate the food portion of the evening (please contact her to volunteer dishes - 853-1003 or hippiejap@hotmail.com); we know it will be good and plentiful. Be there for repair! It's a *mitzvah*. And a good time.

-Gloria

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 305-852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 305-852-0214.

Picture Postcards – We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 305-852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor - To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **Meditation Garden** - Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 305-394-0143. **KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** - Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 305-852-6152.

JNF Trees In Israel - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 305-852-4353. *Chai-Lights Mitzvah* - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-852-6152 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights or Directory – Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights and/ or annually in the Directory. Call Gene Silverman 305-664-3316 for rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam June, July and August 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Samuel Segal

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

In Memory Of

Lois Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn

William Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn

Esther R. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

In Memory Of

Louis R. Coltman

By Barnet & Ellen Coltman

In Memory Of **Betty Weiss**

In Memory Of

Rose Caspi

By Mollie Gross

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

Samuel Schneider

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Saul Elson

By Bea Graham

In Memory Of

Kathe Gross

By Margaret Gross

In Memory Of

Rose Kantor

By Erwin & Barbara Kantor

In Memory Of

Bill Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick

In Memory Of

Carl C. Reiff

By Rick & Roberta McNew

8 Chai-Lights June, July and August 2011

Kurt Scaller

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

In Memory Of

Arthur Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

In Memory Of

E. Enrique Astray-Caneda

By Teresa Kwalick

In Memory Of

Sarah Oshinsky

By Gerald Oshinsky ~~~~~~~~~~ In Memory Of

Samuel Horn

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

In Memory Of

Esther Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick

In Memory Of

Robert Lewit

By Wendy Sue Lewit

In Memory Of

Leslie Peckman

By Joyce Peckman ~~~~~~~~~~

In Memoriam June, July and August 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Ben Horwitz

By Pauline Roller

In Memory Of

Leon Kirschenbaum

By Carl & Medina Roy

Morris Rose

By Skip & Rene Rose

Milton Lang

By Skip & Rene Rose

In Memory Of

Mae Rubin Rear

By Myron & Myrna Rubin

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Wally Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Rose Fine

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memory Of

Eva Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

In Memory Of

Gizella Reiff

By Rick & Roberta McNew

In Memory Of

Millie Prober

By Mel Prober

Leonard Tobin By Andrew M. Tobin

In Memory Of

Erik S. Persoff

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Isaac Cohen Pardo

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

In Memory Of

Erik S. Persoff

By Jim & Lynn Nobil

In Memory Of

Joel Reed Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

In Memory Of

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

In Memory Of

Irma Weihl

By Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl

In Memory Of

Joseph Wasser

By Mark & Sofy Wasser

In Memory Of

Dorothy Marmar

By David & Pamela Marmar

In Memory Of

Beryl M.O. Present

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Howard Shutan

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

In Memoriam June, July and August 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Sidney Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

In Memory Of

Louis Boxer

By Shirley Boxer

Phyliss Bloom

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

In Memory Of

Sam Fabian

By Martin Fabian

Gussie Fierberg

By Shirley Boxer

In Memory Of

Rose Goldberg

By Joseph & Susan Goldberg

In Memory Of

Julius Haber

By Margaret Gross

In Memory Of

S. Marshall Gorson

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

Max Gould

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Jason Grossman

In Memory Of

Feda Bushell

Emanuel Gross

In Memory Of

By Mollie Gross

In Memory Of

Stanley Horn

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

In Memory Of

Margaret Isenberg

By Henry & Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Otto Kluger

By Kurt & Nancy Kluger ~~~~~~~~~~ In Memory Of

Sylvia Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

In Memory Of

Jacob Ratchik

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

In Memory Of

Sidney Kaplan

By Ronald & Deborah Kaplan

In Memory Of

Irwin Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick ~~~~~~~~~~

By Ronald & Deborah Kaplan

Catherine Kaplan

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

In Memory Of

Sydney Emsig

By Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs

By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman

In Memoriam June, July and August 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Fred Ross

By Joyce Peckman

In Memory Of

Morgan Rowen

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Gordon Present

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Kitty Roemer

By Harvey & Susan Schwaid

Frank Stanley Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

In Memory Of

Sylvia Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

In Memory Of

Jack L. Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

In Memory Of

Stanley H. Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

In Memory Of Mollie Z. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of Ben Steinbock

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock

In Memory Of

Sally Taks

By Mel Taks

In Memory Of

Seymour Werthamer

By Robert & Heide Werthamer

Mack Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Ida Estrin

By Ralph & Lillian Tallent

In Memory Of

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memory Of

Selma Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith

In Memory Of

Samuel Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of Milton Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Alfred Eichler

By Lawrence & Judith Weber

In Memory Of

Henrietta Zinner

By Donald & Nancy Zinner

In Memory Of

Meyer G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Frieda Feinberg

In Memoriam June, July and August 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Franne Alter

By Barry Alter

In Memory Of

Irene Sinner

By Shirley Boxer

Isaac Berman

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Gary W. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Priscilla Leshin

By Jim & Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Mark Sands

By Murray & Claire Cooper

In Memory Of

Harriet Feinberg

By Arthur Feinberg & Patrice Gerard

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Dorothy Schafer

By Barry & Natalie Dorf

Robert Davidson

By Foster Davidson & Carol Laskin

In Memory Of

Jess Ginsberg

By Bernard Ginsberg

In Memory Of

Henry Kirschenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

In Memory Of

Esther R. Horowitz

By Robert Hermann

Florence Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

In Memory Of

Irving M. Horowitz

By Robert Hermann

In Memory Of

Chanoch Levy

By Michal Kamely

12 Chai-Lights June, July and August 2011

leanette Gould

In Memory Of

By Maryon Gould <><><><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Charles Kantor

By Erwin & Barbara Kantor ~~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of **Richard Gould**

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Margaux Rene Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

In Memory Of

Manuel Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

In Memory Of

Arthur Kaplan

By Frank & Sandy Kaplan ~~~~~~~~~~

YEDA VETORASHA

Yardena Kamely



Yom Yerushalayim — Jerusalem Day

V om Yerushalayim is the newest holiday on the Israeli calendar. Observed on 28 lyar, it celebrates the reunification of Jerusalem on June 7, 1967, after the Six-Day-War.

Jerusalem, the holiest city in Jewish tradition, is mentioned over five hundred times in the Tanach (Bible); so many songs and poems have been written for and about Yerushalayim. The "City of Faith" is considered to be Judaism's birthplace, "the central shrine of faith," and its people have always revered it as the "Jewish Home." The phrase b'shanah ha'baah b'Yerushalayim (next year in Jerusalem) is always used to mark the end of Pesach (Passover), the festival of national redemption, and closes the Yom Kippur service, the festival of personal redemption.

The *Talmud* asserts that Jerusalem was

in Jerusalem, God is seen, and felt, as a tangible presence. In Jerusalem we reach beyond the frailty and vulnerability of our lives, and we sense and strive for transcendence. Elsewhere we grope for insight. In Jerusalem we anticipate clarity...lerusalem is for visionaries."

The memory of Jerusalem is somehow linked to us as a people. The "Holy City" was always the center of our collective soul, our spirit, as the merkaz ruchani, (center of spirituality). In Hebrew the word for "man" is zachar. the word for "memory" is zecher. Man is memory. If he loses memory he loses his self.

Personally, I have very fond memories of Jerusalem: my grandfather's house, where we spend the most wonderful traditional Shabbat and festivities; the walks through the streets where every stone was telling a story of Jewish

named by God. The name has two parts: Yira, which means "to see." and shalem. which means "peace" or "whole, complete," The name itself is an expression of hope. Jerusalem was the place of Abraham's nearsacrifice of Isaac. and Abraham said of Jerusalem, "This is the place where God is seen." Rabbi N. Braverman said. "Elsewhere. God is a theory, but



history and my parents' history; the Hebrew University, the new center of learning where our everyday life was to be involved in the actual dynamic history of the reunited city.

lews in exile have remained passionately attached to Yerushalavim for thousands of years. Wherever they found themselves, they faced toward Ierusalem when they prayed. Their synagogues were oriented toward the city.

and when a Jew built himself a house, he always left a small portion of a wall unfinished to symbolize that it was only a temporary dwelling, until he could return to his real and permanent home – *Yerushalayim*. One place there is the site most sacred to the whole Jewish people – the *Kotel* (Western Wall).

In the 400 years of Ottoman rule in Jerusalem the *status quo* concerning the *Kotel* was

preserved. The area that had been created in front of the Wall was reserved for lewish praver, and the Wall was officially classified as the most sacred place in the Jewish religion. Because of the weeping and wailing of pilgrims and ordinary tourists visiting the place, it became popularly known as "The Wall of Tears" or "The Wailing Wall." During the British Mandate in Palestine (1917-1948), the Wall became a focus of the conflict between lews and Arabs. The British authorities maintained the religious status it had been granted by the Ottoman Turks. But the sounding of the shofar at the Kotel, particularly at the end of Yom Kippur services, and the question as to whether it was permissible to put benches at the Wall for

the elderly, became controversial issues over which Jews and Arabs argued.

When the Jewish Quarter and the rest of the Old City fell into Jordanian hands after Israel's War of Independence, the *Kotel* also passed into Jordanian control. For the next 19 years (1948-1967), modern and western Jerusalem was divided by eastern and ancient Jerusalem by concrete walls and barbed wire, and Jews were denied all access to the *Kotel*. Jordan joined in the Six-Day-War against Israel and, as a result, Israeli forces conquered the whole of Jerusalem. The liberation of the Old City and the *Kotel* was the emotional climax of the war. I remember the day the news arrived that Israeli paratroopers, who had been fighting inside the wall of the Old City, were reaching the *Kotel*. In every house, in every family, there was a sense of joy, of redemption; an emotion went through both old and young generations that is not possible to describe. Later, we heard the story how the Chief Rabbi of Israel's Armed Forces, Shlomo Goren, managed to reach the Wall even before the firing had ceased, and sounded the *shofar*.

Dayan, Eshkol, and Rabin were close behind him. The paratroopers, battle-hardened veterans, ran to touch the ancient Wall and to weep. One of them described that moment: "Though sniper fire continued, the paratroopers could not take their eyes off the *Kotel*. They gazed up at it, and wondered why history chose them."

Haim Hefer, Israeli songwriter, poet and writer, later wrote "The Paratrooper's Cry":

This Kotel has heard many prayers. This Kotel has seen many walls fall.

This Kotel has felt wailing women's hands and notes pressed between its stones... But this Kotel has never

before seen paratroopers cry... This Kotel has seen them

tired and exhausted.

This Kotel has seen them wounded and scratched up.

Running towards it with beating hearts, with cries and with silence...

And here they are standing in front of it... And the tears fall and they look awkwardly at each other.

How is it that paratroopers cry?

How is it that they touch the Wall with feeling?

How is it that from crying they move to singing?

Maybe it is because these 19-year-olds were born with the birth of Israel,

Carrying on their backs two thousand years. \diamond



The Kotel in 1910. Access was

limited: there was no plaza.

Sisterhood Lauren Sax



s they say, " another one bites the dust." We have schlepped, shopped, met countless times, e-mailed, phoned, made lists and made more lists, cooked, cleaned and organized the kitchen. At our closing luncheon at the Buzzard's Roost. I toasted to all the ladies there and thanked them for helping me ease into my secondfull-time job as Sisterhood President. Our year was jam-packed and I do believe we hit lots of heights. There were Shabbat dinners, holiday dinners and brunches, a Deli Nite, a luncheon and fashion show, a brand new Chai Tea, our wonderful Seders (notice it is plural), and we formed new Gift Shop and fundraising committees. None of this would have been possible without the help of all my fantastic Sisterhood executive board and members. They say it takes a village. In our case, it takes a congregation.

Now it's time for some respite. Well, for some of us. For others, like my executive board and me, summer means more meetings and getting ready for the upcoming year. Like a car, Sisterhood needs to tune itself up, and what better time to do it than the quiet time of the year. We also need to plan our calendar, although some preplanning has already begun. In fact, fundraising co-chairs Gene Silverman and Nancy Kluger and I are in the process of planning two special events for this coming year. We are not at liberty to say yet what they are, but both are sure to be very interesting and enlivening events. Maybe even THE social event of the season! Stav tuned. Our Gift Shop committee has their hands full, stocking the shelves with brand new Judaica and gift items. Susan and Roberta are taking to heart the old adage: "out with the old, in with the new." They have marked down much of the merchandise to 40% off in anticipation of changing over the entire cabinet for the holidays. For those of you who are in town, please take a look next time you are at the KJCC. Consider shopping early for birthdays,

anniversaries and even Hanukkah.

Over the summer you will be receiving our yearly Oneg Shabbat donation letter. For those of you who continuously support Sisterhood in honor of your *simchas*, we truly thank you for your generosity. For those who have never taken advantage of sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat, I ask that you consider helping Sisterhood and the KJCC by way of celebrating a birthday, anniversary, baby naming, housewarming or any other occasion. It is very heartwarming and at the same time helps Sisterhood attain their goal for the year.

We have much to do to get ready for the new year. They come quickly! But it all takes manpower. We cannot do it alone. If there is anything you can do, from making phone calls to stuffing envelopes to setting up for one of our dinners, we need to hear from you.

I trust you will all have a happy and restful summer. Hopefully, we will not have to shutter our homes and listen to the forecasters debate on which way some storm is headed. I am planning a couple of small trips, including one to Chicago to do some bonding with our daughter, whom we never see enough of, and visit my mother as well as take in a White Sox game. Plus, I can't forget our little Liam and our wonderful son and daughter-in-law here in Florida. I sorely need some Grandma bonding time and will gladly change a few diapers.

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 7th, as plans for the holidays need to be finalized. I look forward to seeing you in the fall. Hopefully Grandma won't be too exhausted from running around and babysitting two yapping dogs and an adorable grandson! \diamond

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

| General Fund
Begam, Delores | In Honor of please pray for all of us | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Childree, Ron | Silverman's boat/fishing trip | | | |
| Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin | | | | |
| Hermann, Robert | Silverman's boat/fishing trip | | | |
| Kominsky, Randy and Eile | een speedy recovery of | | | |
| | Phillip Drujack | | | |
| Sax, Stuart and Lauren | wishing Leslie Dillon a | | | |
| | speedy & full recovery | | | |
| Sax, Stuart and Lauren | congratulations to | | | |
| | Gloria Avner on receiving the | | | |
| | Joel S. Cohen award | | | |
| Steinbock, Steve | Silverman's boat/fishing trip | | | |
| Swartz, George | Silverman's boat/fishing trip | | | |
| Tobin, Andrew | | | | |

Meditation Garden Beni, Michael Gordon, Susan and Rose Marie Sax, Stuart & Lauren Sax, Stuart & Lauren In Memory of Si & Lilly Skolnick Bill Gordon Lilyan "Babe" Sax Bill Gordon

Meditation Garden Sax, Stuart & Lauren Sisterhood/Women's Seder Alan Beth & Candy Stanlake dedicating our beautiful new gazebo

Scholarship Fund Peckman, Joyce

Yartzeit Contributions Grossman, Stuart In Memory of Bill Gordon

In Memory of Morris Grossman

To raise funds for KJCC, Gene and Mort Silverman have generously offered their custom-built 50-foot yacht for

Tobin, Andrew



for the sunset cruises. All amounts are donations to KJCC and therefore <u>tax</u> <u>deductible.</u> Mort will provide chum and

either unique, Mort-led fishing trips for small groups of five or romantic sunset cruises for up to five couples. The cost is only \$100 per person for fishing (compare that to commercial rates) or \$100 per couple bait for the fishing trips (plus a mate, in this case not Gene) and they'll offer sommelier quality wine and cheese as part of the sunset cruises. Contact Stuart Sax to sign up, at president@keysjewishcenter.com

World Jewish Report Medina Roy

Mighty Mouse

Israeli scientists have created a detector that can ferret out would-be bombers and drug couriers. The device is similar to the controversial full-body scanners that have recently been implemented at airports. This scanner, however, has three concealed cartridges, and each cartridge contains eight specially trained mice. According to New Scientist magazine, the mice work four-hour shifts and are more accurate than dogs or xray machines. Air is pumped into the cartridges every four hours so that the mice can breathe. When the mice sense traces of drugs they run to a side chamber where an alarm is triggered. This type of scanner may be more appealing at airports since invasion of customer privacy would no longer be an issue. (www.telegraph.co.uk, 2-3-11)

Spice-Less

Jay Bernstein, a Baltimore Jewish activist, has managed to get McCormick & Company (based in Baltimore) to agree to stop selling its spices to Iran. The New York Times had reported that, despite sanctions against Iran, the U.S. Treasury was still allocating licenses to American companies to conduct business with the Islamic Republic. One of those companies, Bernstein learned, was the McCormick spice company, founded in 1889 by a Jewish immigrant. Bernstein wrote to a McCormick board member who also happened to be president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (where a KJCC member, Rebecca Boehling, is a history professor), asking that pressure be put on McCormick to "do the right thing and end all business dealings with and in Iran." Shortly after, Bernstein received word that McCormick would stop selling to Iran as long as that country remains subject to sanctions imposed by the United States government. "Is it going to bring down a



regime? No," Bernstein said. "But McCormick showed a great example of corporate responsibility." McCormick sells its spices to more than 100 countries. (www.jewishtimes.com, 4-15-11)

An Esteemed Honor

Israel has been admitted to CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, the largest scientific organization of its kind in the world. "Israel is joining an exclusive club, which provides unusual visibility, exposure, prestige and international status," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was guoted as saying. Only twenty other countries are members of the Geneva-based CERN. When it was founded in 1954. CERN stated as its mission that it "shall provide for collaboration among European States in nuclear research of a pure scientific and fundamental character...The Organization shall have no concern with work for military requirements and the results of its experimental and theoretical work shall be published or otherwise made generally available." (www.israelnationalnews.com, 4-21-11)

At the Movies

-Issur Danielovitch Demsky, better known to the world as actor Kirk Douglas, 94, will be honored at the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival in July, where he will receive the Freedom of Expression award at a special 50th anniversary showing of "Spartacus." Douglas, whose production company made the film, insisted on giving a screen credit to blacklisted screenwriter Dalton Trumbo for the story of a gladiator rebellion against the Roman Empire, an act credited with helping to end the notorious Hollywood blacklist during and after the McCarthy era. One of the film's final scenes, where captured gladiators refuse to name the real Spartacus, was widely understood as support for those who refused to name communists before the House Un-American Activities Committee. Douglas has made a wellpublicized return to Judaism. At the age of 83, he had a second bar mitzvah in Los Angeles. The San Francisco Festival, founded in 1980, is the nation's oldest and largest Jewish film festival. (www.jta.org, 4-27-11)

-Israeli director Alma Har'el took top honors at the Tribeca Film Festival in the documentary category with "Bombay Beach," her feature-length film. Har'el is a Tel Aviv native who now lives in the United States. The judges were unanimous in their decision, praising the film for its "beauty, lyricism, empathy and invention." Another Israeli, Dor Fadlon of Ramat Gan, also won special attention at the festival for "Eva – Working Title." The Tribeca Film Festival was founded in 2002. (www.jta.org, 5-1-11)

-"Footnote," a film by Israeli director Joseph Cedar, has won Best Screenplay honors at one of the film industry's most honored events, the Cannes Film Festival. The story is about rival Talmud scholars who just happen to be father and son. Cedar is one of the top young Israeli directors. His last film, "Beaufort," earned one of the top prizes at the Berlin Film Festival in 2007 and was the first Israeli film to be nominated for the Best Foreign Language Oscar in 24 years. (The Forward, 4-14-11)

"Not Only False, But Offensive..."

African-American student leaders from a variety of historically black colleges and universities recently took out full-page ads in a number of college newspapers blasting "Israel Apartheid Week" organizers. The ad, an "Open Letter to Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)," said that they were offended by SJP's use of the term "apartheid" at "Israel Apartheid Week" events held at campuses across the country. "The SJP's labeling of Israel...as an apartheid state is not only false, but offensive...It is highly objectionable to those who know the truth about the Israelis' record on human rights and how it so clearly contrasts with South Africa's," the letter reads, noting that under apartheid black South Africans had no rights in a country in which they were the majority of the population, and continues with "SJP has chosen to manipulate rather than inform with this illegitimate analogy." The ad was signed by sixteen members of the Vanguard Leadership Group, a leadership development academy and honor society for top students. "We request that you immediately stop referring to Israel as an apartheid society and to acknowledge that the Arab minority in Israel enjoys full citizenship with voting rights and representation in government." (Jerusalem Post, 4-9-11)

And the Winner is...

For the first time, an Israeli winerv has won the grand prize at Vinitaly, Italy's annual international wine competition, beating 3,720 wines from more than 1,000 producers in 30 countries. The Golan Heights Winery, founded in 1983 in Katzrin on the Golan, took home the Vinitaly Special Award, the so-called "Wine World Cup." It was the first time that the grand prize was given to an Israeli winemaker, although the Golan Heights Winery had already won Grand Gold Medals at Vinitaly in 2004 and 2006. The 105-member jury included international wine experts and journalists. The wines are marketed under the Yarden. Gamla. and Golan labels. (World Jewish Congress, 4-11-11)

"Oshpitzin"

That's the name of a new multimedia online project that's been launched to highlight the long Jewish history of Oswiecim, the former *shtetl* in southern Poland where the Nazis built the Auschwitz extermination camp. *"Oshpitzin"* is the Yiddish name for the town. Before World War II, Oswiecim had a majority Jewish population. The project includes an interactive map of synagogues, businesses and other prewar Jewish sites, plus films, photographs, articles, memoirs, interviews and other educational material on its Jewish history. The website is www.oshpitzin.pl (*www.jta.org*, 5-1-11)

5,000 and Counting

The Israeli Defense Force (IDF) has become a center for Jewish learning, with thousands of soldiers who are not lewish according to halacha (Jewish law) taking part in the Nativ program, a series of courses in Judaism that can lead to conversion. Roughly 800 soldiers per year are choosing to undergo conversion. So far 17,000 non-Jewish soldiers have participated in the program and almost 5.000 of them have converted. Most Nativ participants have a Jewish parent or grandparent, but are not Jewish according to hala*cha*, which states that Jewish status is passed through the mother. Two-thirds of the soldiers who convert through *Nativ* are women, meaning their children will be considered lewish. One out of five IDF soldiers was not born in Israel. In 2010, 40,000 soldiers were immigrants. Sixty-five percent of immigrant soldiers were born in the former Soviet Union, with 12.5 percent born in Ethiopia. (www.israelnationalnews.com)

Stamps Honor Anti-Apartheid Jews

Early in March, three African countries – Liberia, Sierra Leone and Gambia – issued a set of commemorative postage stamp sheets remembering famous Jews who fought apartheid in South Africa. "This stamp issue acknowledges the extraordinary sacrifices made by Jews to the liberation of their African brethren, and these stamps recognize some of the most significant contributors to global humanity in the 20th century," reads the introduction to a website

(www.legendaryheroesofafrica.com) dedicated to the new stamps. The website provides brief biographical sketches of the honorees. (www.jta.org, 3-21-11)

In Memoriam

-Moshe Landau, former president of the Supreme Court of Israel and the judge who presided over the trial of Adolf Eichmann 50 years ago, died on May 1st, the eve of the country's Holocaust Remembrance Day. His death occurred just weeks after *Yad Vashem* launched an online video archive of the trial. Landau was 99. Born in 1912 in Danzig, Germany (now Gdansk, Poland), Landau studied law at the University of London before making *aliyah* to Israel in 1933. He became a judge at the age of 26 and in 1953 was appointed to the Supreme Court, where he served until his retirement in 1982. He had been on the high court for eight years when selected to head the three-judge panel for the Eichmann trial. Landau was later the recipient of the Israel Prize for his contributions in the field of law in 1991. (www.haaretz.com, 5-1-11)

-Sidney Lumet, one of the significant film directors of the 20th century, died in April at the age of 86. He directed more than 40 films, including such classics as "12 Angry Men" (his directorial debut), "Dog Day Afternoon," "Serpico," "Network," Arthur Miller's "A View from the Bridge," Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey Into Night," and "The Verdict." Other Lumet films included "The Pawnbroker," starring Rod Steiger as a Holocaust survivor, and "Bye Bye Braverman," about a group of Jewish intellectuals getting lost while driving to a friend's funeral. Lumet's films earned more than 40 Academy Award nominations. He was nominated four times as Best Director but never won. His parents, Baruch Lumet and Eugenia Wermus, were Yiddish theater actors. (www.jta.org, 4-11-11)

-Baruch Blumberg, the Nobel Prize-winning biologist whose work led to vaccines against hepatitis and who also explored the biology of space, died at the age of 85. Along with Daniel Carleton Gajdsusel, Blumberg won the Nobel Prize in 1976 for discovery of the hepatitis B virus. The discovery was seen as "one of the greatest medical achievements of the 20th century." In the decades that have passed since the award, the vaccines have saved millions of lives worldwide. Later on. Blumberg became involved in NASA, where he was a distinguished scientist at its Astrobiology Institute and its Lunar Science Institute. Blumberg was born in 1925, the second of three children of Meyer and Ida Blumberg. He received his elementary education at the Yeshiva of Flatbush in Brooklyn and graduated from Far Rockaway High School (about 22 years before I did!) (www.jta.org, 4-7-11) >

Photo Gallery



On May 1st, Sisterhood gathered for the last time this season, not for business but for lunch and hugs before many depart for the summer. Thanks to Mary Lee for the three photos, top.

The first KJCC Men's Club "chai-yaking" expedition, led by the intrepid optimist Dave Mont, took place on April 24th, below. Similar outings are already scheduled for the last Saturday afternoon of each summer month. Photo courtesy of Jerry Oshinsky.



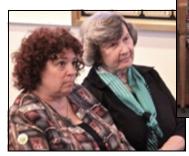
Granddaughter Liati, her husband Doron and son Mati, visiting savtah Bea, joined us for the May 13th service, below.



Each year, Yardena and her Holocaust Committee — Muriel, Medina and Rachel — create a lobby display for Yom HaAtz'ma'ut. This year's is at right.







On May Ist, Yom HaShoah itself, Steve Smith gave a presentation at KJCC about how organized medicine, of all entities, helped enable The Holocaust. Below right, Steve, Stuart, Yardena and her Holocaust Committee stand before this year's KJCC lobby display. At the Friday, May 6th service, below, Yardena had six candles ready to be lit, one for each million murdered, then offered her own annual tribute.



We had two honored guests at the May 6th service, at right: Yardena's cousin Ya-el from Israel, and longtime KJCC friend Chaim Schaffer. השואה



At left, mate Joe Beth is shown during the first KJCC fishing trip aboard Mort and Gene Silverman's custom yacht. Captain Mort himself, below, attends to final details before shoving off.



Stuart Sax and sister Kathy pause above before embarking on the MS Breakaway 150 (yes, that means 150 miles on a bike) on May 14th & 15th, to benefit Multiple Sclerosis.



That's Mary Lee In the trees of

ee a

Costa Rica, at the end of an activity they call "ziplining." At right, Roy Pollack (in hat) was also in Costa Rica, but to



In the photo above, Gloria Avner stands at the head of a long table filled with Buddhist monks, here on their annual "Keys to Peace" tour. Gloria and Lyn Dils are holding up signs to teach the monks to say "Shalom, chaverim." (The monks now know that's Hebrew for "hello, friends.")



go fishing.

In the photo at left, Rebecca Smith, daughter of Steve and Barbara, is shown at her March 31st wedding to Christian Robert Strasser. They live in Orlando. The photo



below was taken by founding KJCC member Ben Sherman In 1993, as religious students first led a service. That's Rebecca far right, next to Stephanie Line and Haley Mayclin, daughter of Jackie LePree.

A Formal Dedication in Our Garden

By Gloria Avner

n April 29th, more than 60 members of the KJCC "mishpocha" gathered for multiple mitzvahs. We celebrated the beginning of Shabbat. we remembered our dear departed with a Yizkor service, and then we went outside. Standing round our new gazebo - designed, constructed. and donated to KJCC by Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake in honor of their parents (with construction principles based on the mystical number Chai: 18) - we chanted a



How did we ever get along without the Beth/ Stanlake gazebo and its surrounding Meditation Garden? The garden's welcoming shade and comfortable seats have already hosted Bar Mitzvah tutoring sessions, short meetings, individual meditations and permanent memorials.

On Sunday and Monday evening, May 10th and 11th, our gazebo found a new use. Thirteen people fit comfortably standing in a circle, making a *minyan* and celebrating a *Mincha* service so that people from somewhere other than here, vacationing in the Keys,



"V'higianu." Smiles abounding, we formally dedicated the gazebo, the newest addition to our Meditation Garden and Synagogue. Stuart installed the *mezuzah* he and Lauren donated. We read and admired the bronze dedication plaque, and then Candy's father, J.D., hugging his daughter and looking both pleased and moved, took up the scissors and cut the ribbon.

could say *Kaddish* for their parents on the occasion of the parents' *yahrzeits*. The breezes blew and two tuneful birds chanted along with us.

We are sure there will be many more uses to come. Thank you again, Alan and Candy. \diamond



On the same evening as the dedication of our garden gazebo, Gene and Mort Silverman sponsored the Oneg in



Alan, at right, addresses his audience at the first of his computer classes for members of KJCC, on May 10th. It's a rare opportunity to learn from a world-class computer ge..., er, expert. Classes will continue through the summer. celebration of their 56th anniversary. Candy sits at the Oneg with her dad J.D. (the ribbon cutter) and Medina, at far left. Above right, with son Roy fishing in Costa Rica, Linda and Joel got a visit from Vippi, Mattie and Will. Teresa joined the girls for a photo.



Our Recent Visit to London

by Joseph & Katherine Shabathai

K athy and I recently visited London on May 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} , not for the Royal Wedding, but on the double occasion of my great

nephew's Bar Mitzvah and for a memorial service commemorating the death of my mother Sally Shabathai fifteen years ago.

The Bar Mitzvah was held at the Western Marble Arch synagogue. The rabbi at this synagogue is Lionel Rosenfeld. His late father was the *chazan* (cantor) at my own Bar Mitzvah 51 years ago at Finchley Synagogue in North London

and he also presided over my sister's wedding – also in London – 48 years ago.

Being on a Monday, the Bar Mitzvah was not held in the main sanctuary but in an



The Western Marble Arch Synagogue's main sanctuary in London, above, where Joe had his bar mitzvah. Below, Joe's father, in tallit and tefillin, leading the service at the bar mitzvah of his great, great nephew. At bottom, London's Aden Jewish Congregation sanctuary.



annex. We were fortunate to have my 94-year-old father, Jack, wearing his *tefilin* lead the service and sing in Hebrew from the Torah. My three sisters and other members of my family were also present. The next day we attended the memorial service for my mother held at the Aden Jewish Congregation's synagogue in Stamford Hill in northeast London. As some of you may know, my family's roots are in Aden, which was a strategically located port on

> the trade route between India and Egypt and was held as a British colony between 1840 and 1967. Aden is now a part of Arabdominated Yemen. There are records of lews living in Aden and in Yemen *before* the time of Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.E). As such, the Jews of Aden are not a part of the two main groups known as "Ashkenazim" or "Sephardim," but date from the time of King Solomon.

During the 1940s,

the Jews of Aden were forced to leave what was an idyllic life, abandoning property and wealth to rioting Arabs who outnumbered and surrounded them. Many left for the newly emerging State of Israel (some by way of Operation "Magic Carpet," which airlifted them to safety). Others migrated to India



and to England. My parents were among the early departures, leaving Aden in 1943 for India, at the time also a British colony, where I was born after the Second World War ended. A few years after India became an independent nation my family left to live in England.

The Aden Jewish Community Center in London is the locus of the Adani Jews living in London. ("Adani" is the way that the for mer Jews of Aden refer to themselves, reflect ing the Arabic pronunciation.) The services are carried out according to the tradition of the services from the old Aden Jewish world; it's very different from anything anyone in the Keys would be familiar with.

Kathy is now back in Miami nursing a cold but happy to be back in the warm weather. I expect to return to the States later this month after completing a visit to Switzerland. \diamond



And the Winner of KJCC's 2011 Joel Cohen Fellowship Award is...

On April 19th, at the KJCC Family Seder, previous winner Carol Steinbock presented this year's Joel Cohen Award, KJCC's highest honor, to

services and, in fact, was one of the eighty or so people who answered the newspaper ad calling Jewish people to meet in February 1980 at a home in Islamorada.

A very spiritual person with a myriad of talents, the honoree uses those talents in

Gloria Avner. Below is the text of Carol's remarks.

n 1989 the planners of the Second KICC seder decided that every Passover, a very special award would be aiven to an individual or individuals who showed "unstinting dedication to the KICC.



brotherhood and community."

The first honoree was Joel Cohen, and thereafter the award was named in his honor because he unquestionably displayed "devotion to his people and his love of all peoples of the earth."

Like Joel Cohen, this year's honoree was amongst those early attendees at KJCC

many important ways.

But more than that, this honoree is a strong, dedicated, spiritual person who never gives up, never stops giving, here at the

KJCC, in the Keys community and everywhere.

Her incredible blend of talents – in spirituality, art, music, song and prose – are showered on all, with patience and a joyful heart. The recipients of those talents are not just members of the KJCC, both young and not so young, but also the children and adults of the upper Keys.

It is difficult to continue without giving strong hints of this worthy

individual's identity.

She has been a Sunday School teacher here for years and a substitute teacher in our public schools. She continues to lead our Women's Seder.

Frequently taking part in Friday night services, she shares with us her voice and her heart in Hebrew psalms and prayers. She has even tried to teach us new melodies, although not always successfully.

As our Religious Chairperson, she is not just a teacher, but an organizer and supervisor of the High Holy Days services and other special days and events throughout the year.

AND she makes sure that we have someone to lead services every Friday night, whether she is here or not. And she does all these things well. For the last couple of years she has joined clerics from numerous churches in the upper Keys



<u>The words on Gloria's Plaque read:</u> With love and appreciation for your years Of dedication to the KJCC, enriching our Lives through your unique blend of artistic And spiritual gifts in your writing, In the classroom and from the bema in song.

in the New Year's Day Blessing of the Fleet. She represents KJCC at the "Longest Night

of the Year" Memorial Service for the Homeless who have died that year in the Keys.

She is our Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutor. She leads our *Havdallah* services, and is involved in Purim, Succot and every other special day at the KJCC.

She has been taking cantorial courses in

order to enrich our services and improve her ability to guide or educate us in Jewish liturgy.

She has been an indispensable contributor to Chai-Lights for over four years, writing feature articles, as well as often providing explanatory text for the many photo spreads we enjoy each month.

Finally, she has been involved in bringing music to the entire upper Keys with the concert series we have enjoyed during recent winter seasons.

I could go on, but I believe it is clear that this award recipient undoubtedly meets and exceeds the mandate that she be

devoted to the KJCC and the Jewish people and love all peoples of the earth.

So, if you haven't already guessed, it is my honor on this *Pesach*, 15 Nissan 5771, to present the Joel S. Cohen Fellowship Award to Gloria Avner. \diamond

The 2011 KJCC Family Seder...

by Joan Boruszak

ur annual KJCC Family Seder was again held this year at the Islamorada Fishing Club, on the second night of Passover - Tuesday, April 19th. Jim Boruszak (hmmm...name

day and installed his own sound system for us, so that everyone in the room could clearly hear the service. Dave also brought two cordless mikes instead of one, which not only

is familiar) and Gloria Avner worked verv hard to bring us all a festive and meaningful seder service (but still a lot shorter than the ones we all remember our grampa leading). For the first time in many years, we introduced a new KJCC Haggadah. carefully selected by lim and Gloria after a lot of research. Music.

part of the evening. And many thanks go to Dave





allowed various people to participate in the readings but also sped things along. Sharing with



strangers (not just Elijah) is an important part of a Passover seder. Joining our

KICC members this vear were several families who were visiting the Kevs at the time. We had several Keys families who aren't active and may not be members, but who still feel the call during Passover. As they often do.



Gene and Mort Silverman brought all of son Mark's family down from Ft. Lauderdale. Our guests' children joined our own children in searching the recesses of Jim and Joel Pollack's brains for the hiding place of the *afikoman*. A guest actually figured it

out, but all the children shared in the prize. Our

seders

typically

end with

the presentation of the beloved Joel Cohen Fellowship Award, our congregations highest honor, given to a member who deserves recognition for outstanding service to the KJCC. This year's award went to the most deserving Gloria Avner. Those of you who go to High





Holy Day services know the incredible amount of work that Gloria puts into

them. She puts an equal amount of work into our weekly Shabbat services, often on the *bemah* as our cantor. She also teaches our children in Sunday School. (*Please see the article on page 25 to see the remarks*









by Carol Steinbock as she presented Gloria with the award – Ed.)

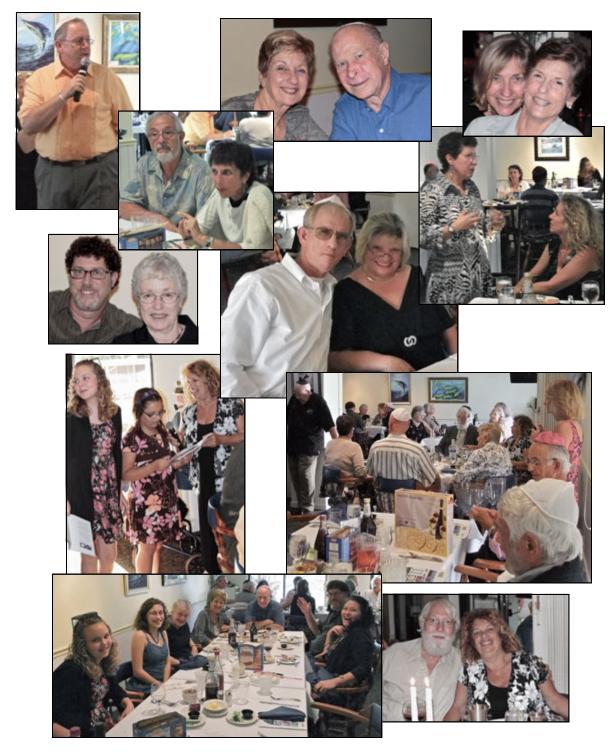
As usual, the fishing club went

all out to make us a delicious seder dinner. (They actually made the matzoh ball soup themselves.) We thank Vinnie and everyone at the Fishing Club. We also thank Leslie Dillon and Lauren Sax for all the work they put in to help make our seder such a success again this year. Our thoughts are always with Leslie as she recovers from her automobile accident.

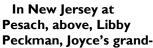
It isn't too early to mark your calendars for next year's seder, to be held once again at the Islamorada Fishing Club, on Saturday, April 7, 2012. ◊

Our great thanks for the Second Seder photos go to Barbara Knowles (especially), but also to Moira Knowles and Mary Lee Singer.





...And Other Seders of the KJCC Family Some photos from first-night seders, here and elsewhere.



daughter, met Tani Mayk-Hai, Liati and Doron's son, Nissan and Israel's grandson, and Bea's great-grandson, at his first seder.

Marathon's Community Seder

Marathon held its second community Seder at St. Columba Episcopal Church on Sunday, April 17th. Nearly eighty people attended, about thirty of them Jewish and the rest from St. Columba's parish plus community leaders such as Father Gerri from San Pablo Catholic Church.

St. Columba's parish set up the tables and chairs after church and Jessica Hernstadt (wife of Marathon's City Manager), Joan Manges and I then set up and organized the traditional Jewish elements of the evening. We all

read the Haggadah, projected onto a large central screen, that Sharon Silva had prepared as a PowerPoint. I even met a few new Jewish couples, who reached out to participate in the seder.

-Judy Greenman

(Great Chai-Lights thanks to Larry Benvenuti for the Marathon seder photos.)



This photo is of the traditional seder setting of Elinor and Herb Grossman in Toronto. In the center are their youngest granddaughters, Stevey and Rachel, asking the four questions.





All the photos on this page were shot by Alan Beth at Ron & Beth and Dave & Suzi's first-night seder on the beach in Islamorada.







Take a Trip... Through the KJCC Library est, containing Jewish classics such as

GIDEC

SECRET HIS

THE MOSSAL

SPIES

has been placed in the Holocaust (HOL) section.

The fiction section is by far the larg-Leon Uris's Exodus and James Michener's The Source. But you'll also find Herman Wouk's exhaustive two-volume historical fiction series on the founding of the State of Israel, The Hope and The Glory.

The entire collection, save a few titles, is made up of books that have WALKING

been donated by our KICC members. Here's a sampling of what you can find and the section where it

is located:

Turbulent Souls: A Catholic Son's Return to His Jewish Family, by Stephen Dubner. Dubner's memoir tells the story of his conversion from Catholicism to Judaism. So what's so unusual about this story? His uncommon religious history: before Dubner was born, his parents had done something guite unusual. at least in the modern day: they had converted from Judaism to Catholicism. Location: Biography (BIO).

One People, Two Worlds: A Reform Rabbi and an Orthodox Rabbi Explore the Issues That Divide Them, by Ammiel Hirsch and Yaakov Yosef Reinman. Hirsch is a Reform rabbi and Reinman, a Talmudic scholar, is Orthodox. Their book is written as an 18-monthlong e-mail dialogue where they discuss every issue in Judaism that you can imagine: closeness to God, homosexuality, matrilineal descent, the role of women in Jewish life, and interpretation of both the Talmud and the Torah. They also debate the issues of Zionism and the State of Israel, Sabbath observance, divorce, intermarriage, and synagogue practices. Although almost every aspect of their faith conflicts, the two rabbis have much in

by Medina Roy

It's tucked away in the corner by the office, to the immediate left before you enter the sanctuary. I've gotten many compliments on how nice the library looks. Yes, the KJCC library might look nice, but it's missing something: users.

I became a member of the KJCC during Jim Boruszak's presidency. When he found out I was a librarian, he approached me and asked me to organize the KJCC library and make it "usable." I gladly took on the task. At the time. we had half the space and sadly, I must

admit, I did a rather lousy job - I suppose I could blame it on the fact that I was still working full-time. But in the last year or so, I've been reinvigorated and am happy to say that the library is ready to be used.

I have devised a classification system that I hope is user-friendly (sorry Mr. Dewey – I've deviated from your plan). But not to worry; there are the usual subject areas that you would find in any public library - fiction titles, biographies, juvenile books, reference and audio-visual material. We have a few books with more than one copy. Most of the time, they are shelved together in the same section but on a few occasions, I've placed them in more than one location. For instance, Elie Wiesel's haunting memoir of his days in a concentration camp, Night, is located in the Biography (BIO) section and a duplicate copy

common because "they are bound together by blood, history, and some shared religious beliefs." Location: Rituals, Traditions & Customs (RTC).

People of the Book: A Novel, by Geraldine Brooks. This is the story of the Sarajevo Haggadah, the famous 14th century illustrated

Passover manuscript. Historians believe it was taken out of Spain by Spanish Jews during the Inquisition in 1492. The Haggadah survived centuries of wars thanks to people of all faiths who risked their lives to safeguard it. Geraldine Brooks, a Pulitzer Prize-



other intelligence service that continues to be surrounded by myth and mystery, or commands respect and fear, quite like Israel's Mossad. Formed in 1951, the Mossad has been responsible for daring feats of espionage, counterterrorism, and assassination. The book draws from classified documents,

> confidential sources, and secret interviews with Mossad agents and informants to reveal the organization's secrets. Location: Israel (ISR).

Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land Through the Five Books of Moses, by Bruce Feiler, is the story of the author's 10,000-mile journey from Mount Ararat to Mount Nebo. Feiler, a fifthgeneration American Jew from the South, had felt no particular attachment to the

winning author, has turned the intriguing history of this precious manuscript into an amazing work of historical fiction that re-

traces its turbulent journey. Location: Fiction (FIC).

Six Days in June: How Israel won the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, by Eric Hammel. Hammel believes that the countdown for the Six-Day War actually began in July 1964. That's when Israel completed a system of canals and aqueducts that would carry fresh water from the Sea of Galilee. Israel's Arab neighbors became fearful that Israel was expecting an influx of settlers. Ham-

mel maintains that the 1967 war "marked the finest performance of the Israel Defense Force," because in less than a week Israel defeated the armies of Egypt, Jordan and Syria with a minimum of Israeli casualties. The author points out that the IDF, unlike other military forces around the world, places its besteducated soldiers into the combat branch of the military rather than into the technical branches. Location: Israel (ISR).

Gideon's Spies: The Secret History of the Mossad, by Gordon Thomas. There is no

Holy Land. Yet during his journey, he began to feel a pull towards his heritage. Feiler's book is about the lessons he learned about



Washington Post, set out on a two-fold mission: she wanted to find the man who tried to kill her father and she felt the need to learn about vengeance. In the book, Blumenfeld interviews a variety of people about the meaning of revenge. The heart of the book, though, is her personal journey to find the man who pulled the trigger. She locates his family and learns vivid details about his life. But in the end, Blumenfeld says her quest helped her find hope in a dangerous world. Location: Biography (BIO).

I found a real gem tucked away in a corner: Modern Jewish Life in Literature, a twovolume set. Although not so modern any more (Book One was written in 1948, Book Two twenty years later, in 1968), it is an anthology and a treasure trove of primary source material. In Book One, there are writings of Theodor Herzl. Chaim Weizmann. Hen-

rietta Szold (the founder of Hadassah). Albert Einstein, and Louis Brandeis. among others. Notable in Book Two are entries written by Primo Levi and Victor Frankl (concentration camp survivors). Gideon Hausner (prosecuting attorney at the trial of Adolf

Eichmann), S.Y. Agnon (prolific Israeli novelist, short-story writer and 1966 Nobel Prize winner for Literature). Abba Eban (former Israeli Foreign Minister, brilliant orator and early Zionist), Elie Wiesel, Hayim Nachman Bialik (Israel's "national poet"), Tuvia Bielski (one of the brothers who led a band of Jewish partisans in rescuing lews and fighting the Nazis in German-occupied Poland, played by Daniel Craig in the movie "Defiance"), and Yevgeny Yevtushenko (Soviet author of the poem "Babi Yar"), just to name a few. We have two copies of each volume; one is located in the section labeled Jewish World (JW), the other set is housed in the Reference area (REF).

STORIE

FOR

CHILDREN

Some book titles, of course, are selfexplanatory:

So That Your Values Live On: Ethical Wills and How to Prepare Them. edited and anno-

tated by Jack Riemer and Nathaniel Stampfer. Location: Rituals, Traditions and Customs (RTC). The Jewish Lights Spirituality Handbook: A Guide to Understandina. Explorina & Livina a Spiritual Life, edited by Stuart M. Matlins. Location: Spirituality (SPI). God is a Verb: Kabbalah and 967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR the Practice of Mystical Juda-ERIC HAMMEL THE BEST OF

ism. by David A. Cooper. Location: Kabbalah (KAB). Strikina Back: The 1972 Munich Olympics Massacre and Israel's Deadly Response. bv Aaron I. Klein. Location: History (HIS). The lewish

Traveler: Hadassah Magazine's Guide to the World's Jewish Communities and Sights, edited by Alan M. Tigay (1987 edition; somewhat old but still reliable). Location: lewish World (IW).

Why Jews Don't Camp, Plus 24 Other Hilarious Stories About Everyday Life, by Arnie Z. Goldberg. Location: Humor (HUM).

Other categories include children's books (JUV), books for Young Adults (YA), audio-visual material (AV), Jewish law (LAW), Fine Arts (ART) and cookbooks (COO).

Take some time to come and browse, and feel free to borrow something. The library operates on the "honor" system. Procedures for borrowing library material are printed out and located in the area. All you need to do, basically, is tell us you're borrowing the book, and that you'll return it when you're done. Our goal is to help enhance the KICC experience for every member, in the unique way only reading can. We are, after all, the people of the book. \diamond

A Letter from Miriam

as imagined by Gloria Avner

Today will be my last entry in these brittle pages. My energy is drying up. I sense, too, that this rock Moses struck so long ago which has miraculously followed us through all these years in the desert – welling up with water for us every night – will not be with us much longer. Some call me a prophetess. Maybe that is a name that will be mine. I get confused. Sometimes I see the future more

clearly than the past.

My hand is not as steady as it was on that heady day when the women and I beat our timbrels in ecstasy after crossing through the Reed Sea. seconds before the hand of God closed it again. drowning the pursuing hordes of horse and rider. Ah. that song of utter joy. the lung-and-heart-filling praises of God. our women alternating with Moses and the men. What pride and gratitude in that call-andresponse. What relief after decades of degrading slavery, horrid nights of frogs and boils, locusts, blood, darkness, and the final dreadful killing of the first born.

Can anyone sanction the killing of innocents? Though I sense my end is

near, I am not yet dead. I have lived long enough to recognize cycles; I mourn both the Jewish and the Egyptian first-born. We are told not to rejoice at any death, not even an enemy's.

I was such a rebel in my youth. I still laugh at myself, idealistic, arrogant fresh midwife that I was, counseling my parents and their friends not to stop having sex, not to avoid having babies they would have to drown. I must have been protected by God and the courage of the ignorant. These nowtrembling, age-spotted hands so confidently carried the basket with my baby brother to the banks of the Nile. He smiled as I placed him on the water, as if he already knew the two of us were on a sacred journey. Today, with 127 years behind me (my age makes me laugh, but smiling hurts my desert-dry lips), I

> see how everything that happened to Moses and to me must have been foreordained, *bashert*.

Still, I wish there were some things I could have changed.

I wish the men had listened to us about the golden calf. We knew a bad idea when we heard one. Our refusal to hand over our iewelry had nothing to do with vanity or greed. Idol worship was not our path. What is it with men, so impatient, so fearful? Did Moses say how long he would be on the mountain? Did the men think he could make a contract with God for good and fruitful lives as a people in the blink of an eye? Were we so insecure in our relationship with the Creator who had liberated

us from Egypt that we needed secondary insurance? How could they have forgotten the manna and the quail? How fickle was our faith. Ah, my aching bones tell me, after 39 years in the desert, to stop turning these things over. We are what we were, imperfect human beings, still getting over slave mentality. We had forty-nine days wandering in the desert to uplift ourselves, to refine our thinking, to correct our behavior and deserve



In this idealized portrait, Miriam

hands baby brother Moses to

Pharaoh's daughter (whose name

the Bible does not mention).

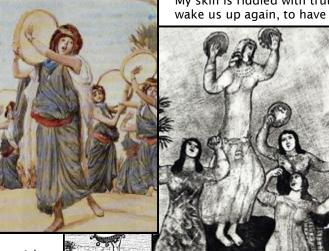
those tablets that my baby brother courageously climbed up the mountain to bring down for us. Twice.

So why couldn't we wake up early enough to be ready to receive God's word? Are we such a heavy-lidded people that we cannot keep the most important date of all time?

I am sorry, too, for my own sin of lashon hara. I wish I'd never spoken against Moses' Cushite wife. Who was I to be so rigid and judgmental. criticizing my brother and his choices? Was I iealous that God spoke only to him, not to me, his elder sister, the one who saved him? I paid for that

one. Seven days of being shunned was a punishment as horrid as my white, rotting skin. Oh, I recovered, but not without losing selfconfidence and gaining compassion.

I look back on everything now. The pictures come ever faster, both from past and future. It is dizzying. I see my own death and Moses'. Because only Joshua and my dear Caleb were brave enough to tell the truth about their spying mission in the promised land, not turning coward like the other ten who reported that the Canaanites were too mighty to be defeated by "grasshoppers" like us, my generation will die here. We will be grains of sand in this desert.





Depictions of Miriam's great leadership moment: "Then Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women followed her, with tambourines and dancing." (Exodus 15:20). The painting top right is a Chagall.

Joshua will take up Moses' mantle and my Caleb will enter the land as a great leader. How I will miss him when these bones are lying in the Cave of Machpelah.

There! There is the cloud that covered Mt. Sinai! I see it again. I hear the lightning. The blowing of the shofar rings between my ears. My skin is riddled with truth bumps. I want to wake us up again, to have another chance to

> receive God's word with open eyes and heart.

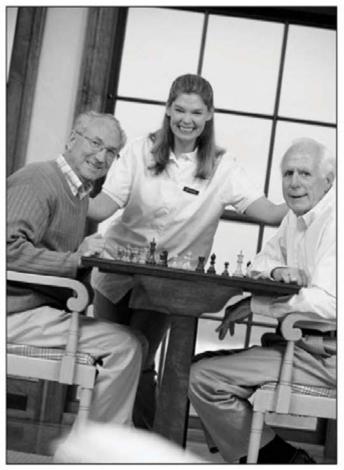
I see people counting Omer to remember each day of our trail towards becoming a people. They are making sacrifices, material and spiritual, looking within, attempting lives of holiness and compassion. This must be far

into the future. They are celebrating our forty-nine day journey from Egypt to Mount Sinai. They call the fiftieth day "Shavuot" and celebrate this "Chag" on which we nearly missed the Revelation by staying awake all night and studying, remembering our story, honoring the laws we were given. The image is fading, but I see food, cheese and milk and wonderful cakes. I hear a word and see a dish I do not understand. "Blintz soufflé," they call it. It does not matter. The people

who are studying and eating are delighted. I may not enter the Promised Land, but I have seen the promised vision. It is good. ◊

The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

The Palace Suites / Independent Living
The Palace Royale / Catered Living
The Palace Renaissance / Assisted Living

The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center The Palace at Home / Home Health

| VERONICA'S ART | |
|------------------|--|
| AND GLASS STUDIO | |

Stained Glass Custom Pieces • Restoration and Repairs • Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry • Classes • Materials and Supplies

Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist (305) 304-9411 veroagutierrez@yahoo.com

DeClue's Art Printing and Framing

Simply Extraordinary, Creative, Quality Picture Framing.

82200 Overseas Highway, Islamorada 305-664-9385 - marciadeclue@gmail.com

florida keys periodontics

and implantology

key largo, fl 33037

paul e. berger, d.d.s. the pink plaza 103400 overseas highway Suite 229 tel: 305.453.1811

tel: 305.453.1811 fax: 305.453.1889

SOFY WASSER, L.M.T. LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST

870 NARRAGANSETT LANE KEY LARGO, FL 33037 MILE MARKER 103 - BAYSIDE

305-332-1500 - CELL 305-453-1324 - HOME

SWEDISH / AROMATHERAPY / NEUROMUSCULAR / HOT STONES **Barbara Knowles**

Photography and Video Destination Wedding Planner

Officiant, All Events, Portraits Real Estate, Corporate Custom Packages

www.FLKeysWeddings.com

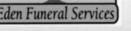
305-772-0503

305-853-5653

iweddu@bellsouth.net

Richard Knowles PhotoVideo 305-942-4488 flkeys@bellsouth.net

> Ari B. Oberstein Licensed Funeral Director



"A DIGNIFIED Alternative for the BUDGET MINDED"

4051 Laguna Street

Coral Gables, FL 33146

Broward 954.366.2591 Fax 305.774.1890 866.975.EDEN (3336) www.edenfuneralservices.com

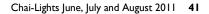
Miami-Dade 305.257.8110

office hours by appointment p

phone: (305) 852-3219 fax: (305) 852-9016

OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S. JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A. RICHARD C. LAGE, D.D.S. ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D.

91750 OVERSEAS HIGHWAY TAVERNIER, FL 33070











Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

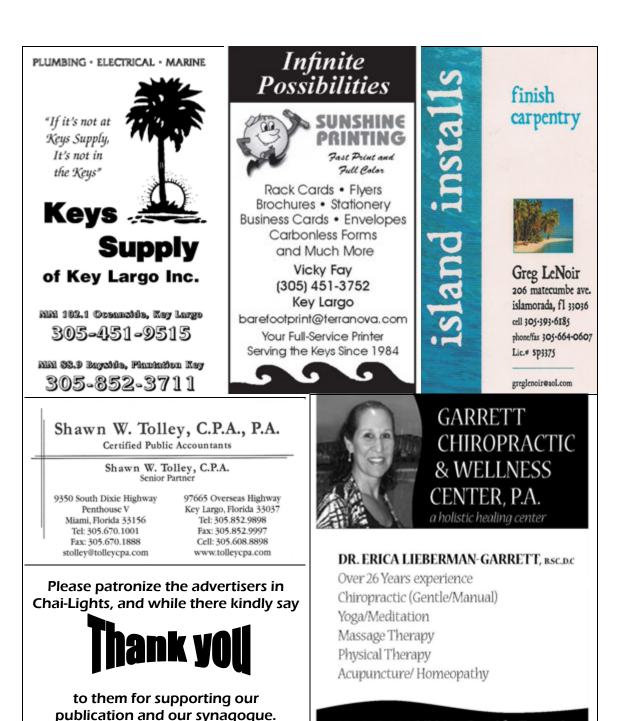
Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

975 Baptist Way Suite 101 Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Highway Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932







This ad sponsored by Steve and Carol Steinbock.

305-853-1003 MM 90.3 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice and other cases of significant damages.

GR

TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 305,509,7734 FAX: 305,509,7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, FL 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

FT. LAUDERDALE

Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

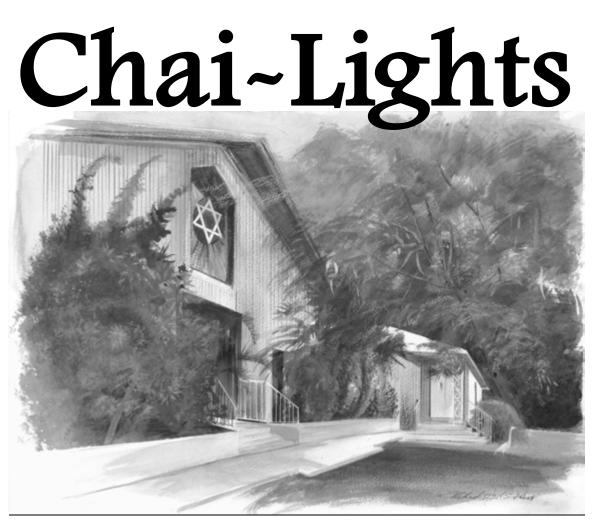
SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

BOCA RATON

Wachovia Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION PERMIT NO. 39 TAVERNIER, FL



September 2011

2 Elul - 2 Tishrei 5771-5772

Photo Gallery - page 15 High Holy Day Section - page 22 Museum of American Jewish History - page 33

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|-----|--|---|---|---|
| | nes denote l
talicized nar | | riday services.
Eg sponsors. | | 2
Stuart & Lauren
Sax | 3
Sat. A.M.
service w/
Rabbi
Agler
10:00 |
| 4 | 5
Labor
Day | 6 | 7
Men's Club
Game
Night at
KJCC
7:30 p.m. | 8 | 9
Steve Steinbock | 10
Men's Club
Movie Night
7 p.m. at
KJCC |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16
Yardena Kamely
& Bernie
Ginsberg
Stephanie &
Larry Gilderman | 17 |
| 18
KJCC
Board
Meeting
9 a.m.
Religious
School
begins | 19
Sister-
hood
Meeting
6:30
p.m. at
KJCC | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23
Gloria Avner &
Susan Gordon
Joel & Linda
Pollack | 24
Chai-yaking
with Dave
<u>Mont</u>
S'lichot
6 p.m. pizza
and movie;
services 8 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28
Erev Rosh
Hashanah,
services
7:00 p.m. | 29 Rosh
Hashanah
Day One,
services
10 a.m.
Taschlich
4 p.m. | 30 Rosh Hasha-
nah Day Two,
services 10 a.m.
Alan Beth &
Yardena Kamely
6:30 Service | Oct. 1
Shabbat
Shuvah,
services
10 a.m. |

2011 - 2012 Officers and Board

President Stuart Sax

Executive Vice President Bernie Ginsberg

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Marc Bloom – Susan Gordon

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Joyce Peckman

Directors

Joan Boruszak – David Gitin – Steve Hartz Kurt Kluger – Dave Mont – Medina Roy Gene Silverman – Sam Vinicur

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Men's Club Steve Friedman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock Alan Beth

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Stuart Sax

And what a summer it was. We finally got much-needed rain in time to feed our Meditation Garden so that Steve Steinbock could take a break from his daily visits. If you have not visited our garden recently, there is so much more in bloom to enioy. We also continued through the summer with our monthly game and movie nights as well as Dave Mont leading our "chai"-yakers through the crystal waters of the ocean and bay waters. If you have not paddled yet with Dave and your fellow congregants you are missing a golden opportunity.

Our Shabba-B-Q was a huge success thanks to the help provided by many members of the Men's Club and Sisterhood. While the food was awesome, the highlight of the evening was the celebration at the oneg in honor of Pauline Roller's birthday. Accolades were shared by those in attendance and dozens more were sent by e-mail and read at the gathering. For those keeping score, it is now America 235 and Pauline Roller 96.

Along with all of our ongoing activities, we still managed to take care of business. The Membership Committee organized and mailed out dues packages to the congregation. In lieu of raising our basic dues, several options were included for additional giving. I hope that each of you will be generous in giving to several of the



options listed,

especially to our Rabbi & Cantor fund. We are very fortunate to have Rabbi Danny Young and Cantor Mark Halpern leading our High Holy Days services again this year. Please return your completed dues package with your payment as soon as possible to be included in this year's membership directory. If you did not receive your dues package and new calendar, please contact Linda Pollack.

You may notice that all of the lights are illuminated on the Yahrzeit boards during High Holidays and for Yizkor services. From month to month, memorial plaques of members whose passing is acknowledged during that month are illuminated. This is not an automatic process. It is done with love and dedication by Gerry Oshinsky, who is hereby recognized as one of our KJCC unsung heroes.

I sincerely look forward to seeing each and every one of you during our High Holy Days. We welcome back with open arms Rabbi Danny and Cantor Mark to lead us in our worship services along with discussion sessions and waterfront Havdalah services. Since we are *mishpocha*, please remember that the family who prays together, stays together. *L'Shana Toya Tikateyu*. ◊

Chai-Lights September 2011 3

Nosh

Religious School Classes Begin Sept. 18th

The new season of KJCC Religious School will begin on Sunday, September 18th in the David Kamely Classroom.

The full year's schedule, including off-days and when all holidays will be celebrated, has been posted to the KJCC web site. Any changes that occur during the year will immediately be uploaded, so that the calendar is always up to date. The KJCC web site is keysjewishcenter.com.

YAHRZEIT PLAQUE

In Memory of

Laurie Beth beloved father

by Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake

Meditation Garden Expands its Offerings

If you haven't seen the KJCC Meditation Garden recently, you owe it to yourself to wander over. Our new gardener is offering a lot of TLC, and it shows. We've also expanded the ways in which you can participate. Bricks and benches are still available, and will always be a mainstay. But it's now possible to arrange live plantings in honor or memory of loved ones. Contact Steve Steinbock, 394-0143, to discuss the type of plant you'll want and where, based on the overall garden plan, it can go. Rates vary. And, yes, plaques can also be ordered with your choice of text.

Oneg Sponsors for September 2011

September 16th—Stephanie & Larry Gilderman For a good new year September 23rd—Linda & Joel Pollack in honor of Joel's birthday

Rabbi Agler to Lead Saturday Service

Rabbi Richard Agler, KJCC's newest member, has graciously agreed to lead a Saturday morning service on September 3rd, to begin at 10:00 a.m. Those of you who enjoy readings from the Torah will certainly want to attend.

For those who have not attended one of Rabbi Agler's services here, his style is relaxed yet brisk, often employing humor, and always seeking to engage the congregation to be an active part of the discussion. No one ever leaves his services without having a lot to think about.

Bea Wants Your Filled Blue Boxes

Bea Graham, KJCC's JNF chair, asks us to remind you that it's time to bring in your filled blue Jewish National Fund boxes. And that she'll happily exchange a beautiful, new empty one for your old filled one, so you can diligently turn it into another old, filled one. Contact Bea with any questions, at 852-0214.

The Ladies' Room has been Beautified

Thanks to the combined efforts of Sisterhood and Jim Boruszak, the KJCC Ladies' Room has been remodeled, with fresh paint and new art. Come and see.

2011-2012 Sisterhood Major Events

| September 19, 2011 | Sisterhood meeting 6:30 p.m. |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| November 11, 2011 | Shabbat Dinner |
| December 9, 2011 | Sisterhood Shabbat |
| December 23, 2011 | Hanukkah Party |
| January 6, 2012 | Sisterhood meeting 9:30 a.m. |
| January 13, 2012 | Shabbat Dinner |
| January 22, 2012 | Sisterhood event Steinbock |
| | home I - 4 p.m. |
| March 10, 2012 | Sisterhood Major Fundraiser |
| May 6, 2012 | Sisterhood final meeting |
| | and luncheon |
| | |

4 Chai-Lights September 2011

September Birthdays

| st | Wendy Shatz |
|-------|-------------------|
| 2nd | , |
| 4th | |
| 4th | |
| 6th | |
| 7th | Morton Silverman |
| 7th | Stellar Levy |
| 8th | Jeffrey Kominsky |
| 8th | Kurt Kluger |
| 8th | Mitchell Kominsky |
| 8th | Susan Horn |
| 9th | Jacob Klimpl |
| 10th | Gerri Emkey |
| 10th | Thomas Dillon |
| I 3th | Andy Tobin |
| I 3th | |
| l4th | Lili Werthamer |
| I 5th | Lorraine Rose |
| l6th | Larry S. Schur |
| 18th | |
| 18th | Shirley Krissel |
| 19th | Barbara Bernstein |
| 19th | Brenna Nobil |
| 19th | Steven Schur |
| 19th | Vippi Pollack |
| 22nd | Fred Hudson |
| 23rd | Lauren Schur |
| 23rd | |
| 24th | Noah Bitton |
| 25th | Michel Bitton |
| 26th | |
| 26th | |
| 28th | 2 |
| 29th | Bernard Solas |
| | |

New Members

KJCC is delighted to welcome Michael and Lorena Kaufman of Miami and Key Largo, and Rabbi Richard and Mindy Agler of Boca Raton and Tavernier, as our newest members. (And no, we haven't hired a rabbi. He's a member. We'll continue to be the best synagogue value in the country.) We look forward to getting to know all of you and hope to see you often.

September Anniversaries

| | | rears |
|------|-------------------------|-------|
| 4th | Jim & Lynn Nobil | 25 |
| 8th | Ronald & Deborah Kaplan | 15 |
| 9th | Neal & Cathy Rakov | 27 |
| 9th | Steven & Barbara Smith | 33 |
| 30th | Ira & Anita Krieger | 33 |
| 30th | Tom & Marsha Garrettson | 21 |
| | - | |

Well, He Still Sounds Like a Cantor

(The following exchange took place after the May 27 service, when retired cantor Irwin Gelman, now a professor of oncology research in Buffalo, New York,, literally just walked through KJCC's door to attend services. Learning he'd been a cantor, Stuart, as the evening's service leader, asked him to chant Kaddish for us. All in attendance were mesmerized by the beauty of his voice.)

Dear Irwin,

Not being able to decide whether to address you as Cantor or Doctor, I settled on Irwin. On behalf of those of us who experienced your magnificent voice at our Shabbat service, I want to thank you for being a part of our evening. We were also pleased that you and Mara joined our "chai"-yaking adventure the next day.

If you find yourself in the Keys again over a long weekend, the door is always open to you.

Best Regards and Shabbat Shalom, Stuart Sax

Dr. Gelman replied:

Hi, Stuart,

It was our pleasure to find such a wonderful congregation. We had the best time chai-yaking. I told my family, "see what happens when you go to shul!"

All the best, Irwin

A basic Prayer of Judaism, and Useful, Too

Most of us have a mezuzah in (or on) our home, at least on the doorway leading into the house. Some follow the more observant rule to have one on every doorway within the home, with the exception of bathrooms. But when you put it up, do you know the correct prayer to say? Alan has recently posted this prayer for installing a mezuzah onto the KJCC website, where it can serve always as a convenient reference. We're happy to also reproduce it here.

בָּרוּדְּ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לִקְבּוֹעַ מְזוּזָה

Baruch Atah A-do-nai Elo-heinu Melech ha'olam, asher kideshanu bemitz'votav, v'tzivanu likboa mezuzah.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who has made us holy with His mitzvot and has commanded us to affix a mezuzah.

Please contact Alan at the KJCC web site, keysjewishcenter.com, if you think other prayers — with Hebrew, transliteration and English versions all included — should also be added as a convenient reference. That way, if you have your smart phone or tablet with you, you'd never be stumped as to the appropriate prayer to use for different circumstances. Should our web site become a religious reference as well as a calendar, repository for back issues of Chai-Lights, and KJCC member guide to the business and practical aspects of our synagogue?

They Appeared in Synagogue Newsletters

Alan Beth found and sent us this list of bloopers that actually appeared in various newsletters and bulletins from shuls around the country. They are reproduced with no editing or corrections. As you'll see, Spellcheck would not have helped at all:

1) Prayer and medication to follow. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our congregation.

2) For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

3) Thursday at 6, there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All women wishing to become Little Mothers, please see the rabbi in his private study.

4) The ladies of Hadassah have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the basement on Tuesdays.

5) A bean supper will be held Wednesday evening in the community center. Music will follow...

6) Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. at the JCC. Please use the large double-door at the side entrance.

7) Rabbi is on vacation. Massages can be given to his secretary.

8) We are taking up a collection to defray the cost of the new carpet in the sanctuary. All those wishing to do something on the carpet will come forward and get a piece of paper.

9) If you enjoy sinning, the choir is looking for you!10) The Men's Club is warmly invited to the Oneg hosted by Hadassah. Refreshments will be served for a nominal feel.

11) Don't let worry kill you. Let your synagogue help. Join us for our Oneg after services.

12) We are pleased to announce the birth of DavidWeiss, the sin of Rabbi and Mrs. Abe Weiss.

o raise funds for KJCC, Gene and Mort Silverman have generple for the sunset cruises. All amounts are donations to KJCC and therefore <u>tax deductible.</u>

ously offered their custombuilt 50-foot yacht for either unique, Mort-led fishing trips for small groups of five or romantic sunset



Mort will provide chum and bait for the fishing trips (plus a mate, in this case not Gene) and they'll offer sommelier quality wine

cruises for up to five couples. The cost is only \$100 per person for fishing (compare that to commercial rates) or \$100 per cou-

and cheese as part of the sunset cruises. Contact Stuart Sax to sign up, at president@keysjewishcenter.com

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 305-852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 305-852-0214.

Picture Postcards – We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 305-852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor – To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **Meditation Garden** – Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 305-394-0143. **KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** – Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 305-852-6152.

JNF Trees In Israel – A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 305-852-4353. *Chai-Lights Mitzvah* – Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-852-6152 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights or Directory - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights and/ or annually in the Directory. Call Gene Silverman 305-664-3316 for rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.



In Memoriam September 2011

| | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| Art Begam | Sam Roazen | Goldie Berman | |
| By Delores Begam
<><><><><>> | By Sylvia Berman
<><><><><>> | By Sylvia Berman
<><><><>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| Molly Feldblum | Lillian Goldstein | Ronald Repka | |
| By Marc & Ellen Bloom
<><><><>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> | By Jim & Joan Boruszak
<><><><>> | By Nancy L. Cohn
<><><><><> | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| Evelyn O. Coltman | Sarah Sandberg | Charlene Fabian | |
| By Barnet & Ellen Coltman | By Murray & Claire Cooper | By Martin Fabian | |
| | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| Albert Improta | Hannah Improta | Louis Gitin | |
| By Alvan & Carol Field | By Alvan & Carol Field | By David Gitin | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| H. Melvin Berkon | Nettie Gorson | Paul Gould | |
| By Jamie & Laura Goodman
<><><><><><><><><><><> | By Janice Gorson | By Maryon Gould
<><><><><><><> | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| H. Robert Walters | Solomon Caspi Isadore Hurowitz | | |
| By Maryon Gould | By Mollie Gross By Melvin Jacobson | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | |
| Abraham Kaplan | Sadie Klimpl | Natalie Kominsky | |
| By Frank & Sandy Kaplan
<><><><><><><><><> | By Michael Klimpl
<><><><><><><> | By Randy & Eileen Kominsky | |
| | | | |

Chai-Lights September 2011 9

In Memoriam Beptember 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Anne Hendin Margulies

Toby Mitchell

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Louis A. Savage

Lorraine Martell

By Marjorie Present By Skip & Rene Rose

In Memory Of
Fred Roemer

In Memory Of

Anna Applebaum

By Harvey & Susan Schwaid By Myron & Myrna Rubin

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Blanche Taks

Samuel D. Savage

By Mel Taks By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Gertrude B. Schwaid

Lillian Goldstein

By Harvey & Susan Schwaid By Jim & Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Mollie Silverman

In Memory Of

Albert Improta

By Morton & Gene Silverman By Alvan & Carol Field

In Memory Of

Mauro Ojeda

In Memory Of

Paul Gould

 Mishebeyrach List

For those of you who might not make it to services regularly, each week we read aloud the names of those we know to be ailing so that we may include their names in a special supplication to G-d to heal them. Our printed list is read, and then the leader asks if anyone in the congregation has names to add. If you can't be at services, and would like someone vou care about to be included in the *mishebeyrach* prayer, call or e-mail and let us know. We'll happily include any name (or names) you tell us about. The main KJCC number is 852-5235. The website, which accepts e-mail, is keysjewishcenter.com.

10 Chai-Lights September 2011

YEDA VE'TORASHA Yardena Kamely



Tisha B'av, Destruction, Exile, And Jewish Survival

isha B'Av, the 9th of Av, is a fast day observed (or at least noted) by Jews this past month, on the 9th of August. The months of *Tammuz* and *Av* are marked by commemorations of tragedies that befell the Jewish people in several ages of their history. The most important are the destruction of the First Temple in 586 BCE, and of the Second Temple in 70 CE. The second destruction not only brought to an end the Temple (*Bet Ha'Mikdash*) service but also marked the end of Jewish territorial sovereignty and the beginning of *galut* (exile). The rabbis consider it to be the saddest day in the Jewish calendar.

Tisha B'Av has a theological nature: it is a day of mourning of fully three types of exile: of our people from the land, the exile of God from the Temple, and the exile of each of us from one another. With the Temple destroyed as the focus of worship, our people could have disappeared. The basis of Israelite religion, the Temple sacrifice - an expression of getting closer to God - was destroyed. (The Hebrew word for "sacrifice" is korban, from the root karov, meaning "close" or "near." It wasn't just through the *act* of sacrifice that they hoped to get closer to God. The concept is voked to the word itself.) This could have been the end of Jewish history, but it was not. It was the beginning of new rethinking of Biblical ideas that would result in Iudaism as we practice it even today.

After the destruction of the First Temple and the first exile, the new historic situation leads to the creation of the synagogue, *Bet* *Knesset* – "house of gathering" in Hebrew – where the Jewish people present themselves collectively before God. The Temple sacrifice is replaced by the *tefilah*, prayer. Now, the only element to relate to God is the word, the language. Thus the synagogue is itself a product of the exile of the Jews. Going to the synagogue and praying in community (the purpose of a *minyan*, ten people), means not only to pray as an individual relating to God, but also to be part of a people and a history. To pray to God you don't need to go to a synagogue, you can do it any place.

The person who participates in the *Bet Knesset* service breaks the confinement of his loneliness and unites, congregates, with his fellows. This is the starting point. Then comes the union, the people, the "we" relating to God when we recite: *Baruch atah*, *Adonai* – relationship of "I" and God – *Eloheinu*, relationship of "we" and God – *Melech ha'olam* – relationship of "world" and God. The "we" becomes integrated into the universe. The synagogue educates the person to practice solidarity with his Jewish identity on a people/history level. That's how Jewish communities are formed.

This achievement, the transformation of Biblical ideas and values, insured the continued existence of the Jewish people and religion. Maybe we can find another message for *Tisha B'Av*, this national day of mourning. We remember what was lost, the spiritual center of the generations of those Biblical times of both first and second Temple. But it also goes beyond loss to remind us of Jewish survival. In an article in the Jewish Journal, Rabbi Yaakov Thompson writes: "...in a sense this day (*Tisha B'Av*) that marks so much destruction also marks rebirth and renewal...Today social scientists tell us that Judaism and the Jewish people are disappearing...(they say)

traditional Judaism have been able to contribute much needed ideas and values to modern society. It came to them naturally from an inherited Jewish way of life; they learned it from their *mishpoche*. I love tradition, and hope that I can pass it on to my children as my parents did to me. \Diamond

that statistics show the inevitable disappearance of the Jewish community as we know it." Rabbi Thompson thinks that we should learn from Tisha B'Av by taking its message seriously; our reaction to calamity should not be desperation but renewal. "Our sages were right," he says. "The future can emerge out of the ashes of the past."

In today's modern world, are there opportunities to practice Judaism in a way that can make this a better world? I think yes, but personally I would need to study more and learn more from our Jewish sources and heritage. I know that many of the generation of our parents who practiced



Sisterhood Lauren Sax



ow! Where did the summer go? Baby Liam and I were able to bond a bit more. Stuart and I have been preparing for a (hopefully) busy season in our store by reading up on all the latest fashion trends and attending buying shows. It was a productive summer for Sisterhood as well, with many of us putting the finishing touches on various projects. In fact, we're so organized that Sisterhood has already planned our calendar for this year. See the table in this month's Nosh.

Mark your calendars for this season's major fundraising event on Saturday, March 10, 2012. We will be presenting an extraordinary entertainer who has performed worldwide to adoring audiences. His comedy is sidesplitting, his touching vocals and stunning display of dexterity as a pianist and impersonations have wowed crowds all over the globe. Who is he? He is SARGE. The Entertainer! It will be an experience you won't forget. Nancy Kluger is our chairperson and she is already working very hard to show us that you do not have to leave the Keys for an exciting Saturday evening. Please say "yes" when she calls on you for help. We will need lots of support to make this a profitable event.

Ladies, you will notice quite a change in our women's bathroom at KJCC. It is now bright and beautiful. Nancy Kluger and Joan Stark were in charge of the makeover and I can't thank them enough for all they did. Next to the sanctuary, it is the best seat in town! Also, a round of applause to Jim Boruszak, who coordinated all the work.

Carol Steinbock has used her summer to reorganize and re-bind the minutes from ALL previous Sisterhood meetings. She also spent a great deal of time helping me go through our Sisterhood file cabinet, labeling all the folders and files. She is truly a dedicated Sisterhood Secretary! By now you should all have received our yearly Oneg Donation letter. I hope you will seriously consider hosting at least one Oneg Shabbat during the year. It is a fun and easy way not only to honor someone (or something), but also to help out the KJCC and Sisterhood. For those who helped in the KJCC kitchen (or in your own by baking) these past few months with Angela away, thank you for your valuable time. I appreciate the time out it afforded me.

Our main focus this month is the High Holidays. Sofy Wasser is chairing all Rosh Hashana Onegs and Barbara Bernstein is her able assistant. Erica Garrett is in charge of our break-the-fast. These tasks are not easy – they require not only the food but also the set-up, cut-up and clean up – and I appreciate these ladies greatly. Please contact them to volunteer your help. Or contact me — Sisterhood@keysjewishcenter.com—and I'll forward the message.

I am excited to announce that, beginning in the fall, Joan Kay has volunteered to chair a women's group. The focus is still in development, though Joan feels that discussions regarding getting older, healthy lifestyles, relationships, and being grandparents are all good topics. The plan is to get together monthly. Stay tuned for more information.

I want to wish everyone at the KJCC a good and sweet new year! May the coming year bring only healthy and joyous things to you and your families.

Note: all Sisterhood meetings take place the first Sunday of the month in the KJCC social hall at 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted. (A schedule of important Sisterhood dates for the upcoming KJCC season is located in Nosh on page 2.) \Diamond Saturday, September 24, 2011 6:00 pm Pizza and Movie in Social Hall 8 pm S'lichot Service

SLICHOT SERVICES WILL BE HELD IN THE SANCTUARY FOLLOWING THE MOVIE. SERVICES WILL BE LED BY STUART AND LAUREN SAX

Movie: 100 Voices: a Journey Home

This film chronicles a musical voyage to the birthplace of songful prayer known as chazzanut. An assembly of the world's finest cantors come together for a series of exhilarating concerts backed by the Polish National Opera Chorus and a 100-piece orchestra. The largest group of cantors to return to Poland since WWII travels from Warsaw to Krakow, culminating in an emotional memorial at the gates of Auschwitz. Included are archival clips of superstar cantors of yesteryear to celebrate the resilience of Jewish tradition and the ability of music to heal hearts.

Ret.

Official selection of seven International Film Festivals

RSVP TO PRESIDENT@KEYSJEWISHCENTER.COM THE EVENING IS SPONSORED BY STUART & LAUREN SAX. COME AND ENJOY!

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys lewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

Chai-Lights In Honor of Steinbock, Stephen & Carol Silverman boat/sunset cruise Pollack, Joel & Linda Tobin, Andrew Roy, Medina Smith, Dr. Steven & Barbara General Fund Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna Pollack, Joel & Linda Georgia Landau's brother Rita Conklin's sister Pollack, Joel & Linda General Fund In Honor of Begam, Delores please pray for us Holocaust Education Fund Boruszak, Jim & Joan sewer fund Isenberg, Henry & Patricia Bowman, Leslie & Michael Finkelstein lim Boruszak Roy, Medina Cohn, Nancy sewer fund Smith, Dr. Steven & Barbara Cooper, Alan & Susan Silverman's boat/sunset cruise Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin Meditation Garden Dorf, Barry & Natalie Bader, Ivan & Jean **Bader Family Past Present** & Future since 1892 Finkelstein, Susan the KICC Mishpocha Friedman, Stephan & Jane Silverman fishing trip Knowles, Richard & Barbara for Mom and Dad Knowles, Richard & Barbara Gilson, Michael & Suzanne Gorson, Janice Kwalick, Teresa for Barry Kwalick and Bill Kwalick Hartz, Steven Lieberman-Garrett, Erica my dad, Max Lieberman Hirsekorn, Robert & Beverly appreciation for minyan Roy, Medina lacobson, Melvin Willner, Morris & Sherrie Willner grandchildren Kasinof, Steve Sachs, Dr. Joseph & Susan Kluger, Kurt & Nancy Silverman's boat/fishing trip Sax. Stuart & Lauren Jan Shutan Finer Miller, Steven & Tonia Sledd Sax. Stuart & Lauren Joan Stark & Joel Bernard's Nobil, Jim & Lynn Pearlman, David & Audrey Family Fund Donna Bolton Sax. Stuart & Lauren George Landau's brother Peckman, Joyce Pollack, Joel & Linda Pauline Roller's birthday Rabbi and Cantor Fund Pollack, Joel & Linda Beth, Alan & Candy Stanlake Pollack, Joel & Linda Boruszak, Jim & Joan Silverman's boat/sunset cruise Reichman, Allan & Nancy thank you for minyan Braun, Ira & Lyn Nadel Roy, Medina sewer fund Bromwich, Richard & Rita Ruthen, Melvin & Joyce Aunt Pauline Roller's Cohn, Nancy 96th birthday Coltman, Barney & Ellen Sax. Stuart & Lauren Silverman's boat/sunset cruise Feinberg, Arthur Schulberg, Alan & Elaine Silverman's boat/sunset cruise Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Schur, Lee Gould, Maryon Schwaid, Harvey & Susan Sisterhood Hartz, Steven Solas, Bernard & Elaine Kasinof, Steve Steinbock, Stephen & Carol Krissel, Michael Linda Pollack's birthday Silverman's 56th Steinbock, Stephen & Carol Line, Jonathan & Arlene anniversary Pollack, Joel & Linda

Chai-Lights September 2011 15

In Memory of

In Honor of

Pauline Roller

Morgan Rowen

recent loss

Contributions to KJCC continued

Roy, Medina

Sachs, Dr. Joseph & Susan Sax. Stuart & Lauren Silverman, Morton & Gene Smith, Dr. Steven & Barbara Tobin. Andrew VanArtsdalen, David & Patricia Willner, Arthur Lee & Iohanna Willner, Morris & Sherrie

Scholarship Fund Roy, Medina Avner, Gloria Singer, Mary Lee

Zadie Gerber Robert W. Singer and Jon R. Singer

In Honor of

Sisterhood Oneg Fund Anonymous Boruszak, Jim & Joan Coltman, Barney & Ellen Gilderman, Larry & Stephanie

Isenberg, Henry & Patricia Isenberg, Henry & Patricia

Kasinof, Steve & Amelia Kasinof, Steve & Amelia Kasinof, Steve & Amelia Steve's birthday in December Knowles, Richard & Barbara Knowles, Richard & Barbara Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Line, Jon & Arliene Mayk, Israel & Nissan Pollack, Joel & Linda Pollack, Joel & Linda

Pollack, Joel & Linda

Smith, Steve & Barbara

Smith, Steve & Barbara

Smith, Steve & Barbara Smith, Steve & Barbara

Roller, Pauline

In Honor of Donation to Sisterhood Joan's Birthday in May Ellen's Birthday in July their anniversary and many b'days anniversary in March Henry's birthday in lanuary Anniversary in January Amelia's birthday in June Anniversary in August Barbara's & Sam's b'days in October her birthday in February grandson, Crue LaMarche's lst b'day Bea Graham & Memory of Saba Marty Graham loel's special September date Sponsor Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner 50th Anniversary in February Sisterhood Donation Sax, Stuart & Lauren Stu & Lauren's anniversary in June Anniversary in September Barbara's birthday in August Brian's birthday in July Carrie's birthday in June

Smith, Steve & Barbara Steve's birthday in December Thomas' birthday in March Smith. Steve & Barbara Smith. Steve & Barbara Christian's birthday in May Steinbock, Steve & Carol Anniversary in June Steinbock, Steve & Carol Carol's birthday in January Steve's birthday in March Steinbock, Steve & Carol Willner, Sherrie Sherrie's birthday in December Donation to the Oneg Fund Wohl, Milton & Joan Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy Larry's birthday in November

Tree of Life Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna

Yahrzeit Contributions Coltman, Barney & Ellen Emkey, Gerri Goldberg, Joseph & Susan Gould, Marvon Gould, Maryon Gould, Marvon Gould, Maryon Graham, Bea Gross, Mollie Grossman, Stuart Isenberg, Henry & Patricia Kwalick, Teresa Kwalick, Teresa Kwalick, Teresa Marmar, David & Pamela Roy, Medina Rubin, Myron & Myrna Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Tallent, Ralph & Lillian Taramona, Hermine Temkin, Robert & Susan Weber, Lawrence & Judith Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

Yahrzeit Memorial Plagues Beth, Alan & Candy Stanlake 45th anniversary

In Memory of L. R. Coltman Gertrude Weisberg Rose Goldberg leanette Gould Max Gould **Richard Gould** Sam Schneider Marty Graham Emanuel Gross Margaux Grossman Margaret Isenberg E. Enrique Astray-Caneda Esther Kwalick Irwin Kwalick Dorothy Marmar Leon Kirschenbaum Mae Rubin Rear Rose Wainer Sam Wainer Wally Steinberg Mollie Cohen Ida Estrin Robert Robinson Phillip Temkin Alfred Eichler Frieda Feinberg Rose Fine

> In Memory of Laurie Beth

Smith, Steve & Barbara Rebecca's birthday in February

Photo Gallery



Just because we haven't published since June, that doesn't mean the activities at KJCC have slowed much, if at all. In late May, KJCC's own Gloria Avner and Natalie Dorf were two of the artists painting old dive tanks (well, artists are always looking for things to paint on, and there are certainly plenty of dive tanks around here) for the annual visit of the Buddhist monks, sponsored by Keys to Peace.

At left, Gloria stands with Noah and Michaela Bitton, who came to see the exhibit.

Below left are the intrepid souls who participated in the first-ever all-Sisterhood service at KJCC

On May 20th. The experience was not, apparently, too painful.

At bottom, Liati Mayk-Hai brought son Mati to visit Savtah Bea for the same service. Bea was stunned when daughter Nissan showed up, too.



Contributions to this month's Photo Gallery have come from Mary Lee Singer, Stuart Sax, Barbara and Richard Knowles, Gene Silverman, Steve Steinbock, Alan Beth and David Gitin. Many thanks to all.

May 22nd was the last day of Religious School classes for the year. The students all got their certificates of achievement. Classes begin anew, for the fall term, on September 18th.





Alan Beth began his computer classes at KJCC in late May. In separate classes he covered in detail topics such as e-mail

(everyone who was there left with two to three times the knowledge they came in with), computer security, smart phones, and the latest advance in the computer industry...iPads and other tablets.







The three photos at top were taken on May 28th, during one of the fishing trips Mort and Gene Silverman are offering aboard their 50-footer to raise funds for KJCC. Kurt and Nancy Kluger and Jane

Friedman were among the triumphant anglers.

The bottom three photos were taken on Memorial Day at Mt. Nebo Cemetery by Stuart Sax, who goes twice a year to place flags and pay homage to his fellow veterans. Jeff

Schocket, Steve Steinbock and Bernie Ginsberg went, too. In the center photo, Steve and Bernie sit on a bench next to the grave of David Kamely, who fought in the pre-Israel Haganah, and then in the War of Independence and also the 1956 Sinai Campaign. As always, Kaddish was

said for all Jewish veterans, some dating back to World War I.

According to notes from Stuart, "On Monday, March 30, another ceremony to honor our nation's veterans was held at the hurricane monument in Islamorada. The



color guard ceremony and raising of the flag were done by local boy scouts, who included KJCC's own Joshua Bernstein."



cheese. Orange skies and cooling mist are also included as part of the package.

The three photos at top are all from KJCC's Tikkun L'eil Shavuot celebration on June 7th led by Bernie Ginsberg. Above, Yardena brought Michal to

rg. ha l to endall and invited a number month. On l



have become. They take place the fourth Saturday of every

month. On June 17, Stuart Sax led a special Father's Day service. Lauren and Teresa Kwalick lit the candles to begin the service and also, of course, Shabbat.

her house in Kendall and invited a number of KJCC friends to come and help celebrate Michal's 91st birthday.

The bottom photo shows how popular Dave Mont's "chai"-yaking expeditions



At the June 24th Oneg, Lauren & Stuart Sax, Skip and Rene Rose, and Herb & Elinor Grossman all sponsored in honor of their anniversaries. (The total of all three is something around 150.)

Horry 2000 J Rose & Sax July I was a special day at KJCC. It was our annual Shabbabecue, yes, as you can see at bottom with Marc and Stuart slaving over a hot grill. But most importantly, we all got to celebrate our matriarch Pauline Roller's 96th birthday. Stuart read aloud over 30 notes of

good wishes sent by those who couldn't be there. It was the perfect time for new members Michael and Lorena Kaufman, and their

family, to join us for their first big KJCC mishpocha event.











In early August, Noah Bitton showed off his Keys fishing prowess. The fishing's a little better here than in Montreal, non? While on one of her now-infrequent visits to the Keys, Sheila Steinberg shot this view, through the craggy Poinciana on KJCC's front lawn, of the stained-glass Ma-

GARDEN

gen David inset above KICC's front door.

In addition to new bricks, and new plantings, and a new gardener who has added beautiful new, thoughtful touches to KJCC's burgeoning Meditation Garden, Garden Committee Chairman Steve Steinbock has also created this sign that now greets everyone who

> walks through the formal entry. At left. Alan Beth conducts his final computer class of

the summer. Our newest KICC members, Rabbi Richard and Mindy Agler, went "chai"-yaking with a group from the dock at Joel and Linda Pollack's Key Largo home. At bottom, Joel conducts the service on August 5th, something he's done probably a hundred times before.











High Holy Days 5772

For the second straight year, KJCC's High Holy Day services will be led by Rabbi Danny Young and Cantor Mark Halpern. They've both contributed articles to this issue, each helping prepare us in their own special way. We also have two articles by Gloria, our wonderful Head of Ritual. She also did the artwork.



Come Blow Our Horn

by Gloria Avner

or millennia Jews have been known as the "People of the Book." Our lives are still guided by the laws inscribed in white and black fire on the stone tablets Moses brought to us – twice. It took Moses 40 days on the mountain in persuasive dialogue with God to make "the book" happen. When we received it, lightning shattered the air and the mountain rang with thunder. As the Days of Awe approach, we prepare to reproduce that blast of thunder, to travel on its sound wave back to our covenant with God. We will repeatedly, ritually, blow the shofar, the horn of a ram, our people's tribal totem animal.

From our earliest roots, we have been an earth-based, tribal religion. Sheep are referred to over two hundred times in the Five Books of Moses. It is clear in these references that sheep are of primal importance to tribal life both economically and spiritually. The flock Jacob accumulated while serving Laban provided wealth and sustenance for his growing family; the rams required for sacrifice on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur fed the spirit needs of the tribe. The *Torah* and *mezuzot* are written on sheepskin parchment. The tent of the *Mishkan* – the sanctuary that we constructed and that accompanied us from Sinai until we built the first Temple in

| | salem | |
|-----|-------------------|----|
| | - was | |
| | COV- | S |
| | ed in | |
| | nned | S |
| ra | m skins. | _ |
| | We use | ١ |
| | r eyes | |
| an | - | ٦ |
| m | nds to | |
| rea | ad "The | ٦ |
| | ok." We | _ |
| | e our | F |
| | rs and | F |
| | arts to
ed the | • |
| | ofar's | \$ |
| | ike up | |
| ca | | S |
| ca | Crea- | |
| tic | | F |
| | /ths of | |
| | any | S |
| | bes | |
| | count | S |
| | w their | |
| to | tem | S |
| an | imal | |
| | ought | S |
| th | eir tribe | - |
| | o be- | 1 |
| | g. Every | • |
| | sh Ha- | 2 |
| | anah, | c |
| | the | 2 |
| biı | rthday | |

leru-

| | High | Holiday | S |
|-----------|----------|------------|---|
| Saturday | Sept. 24 | 6:00 p.m. | |
| Saturday | Sept. 24 | 8:00 p.m. | |
| Wednesday | Sept. 28 | 7:00 p.m. | |
| Thursday | Sept. 29 | 10:00 a.m. | |
| Thursday | Sept. 29 | 4:00 p.m. | |
| Friday | Sept. 30 | 10:00 a.m. | |
| Friday | Sept. 30 | 6:30 p.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. I | 10:00 a.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. I | 8:00 p.m. | |
| Friday | Oct. 7 | 7:00 p.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | 10:00 a.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | 11:45 a.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | 11:45 a.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | 2:00 p.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | 4:00 p.m. | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | | |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | | |

of the world, we retell the *Akedah*, the story of the binding of Isaac, describing how the

sacrifice of a ram saved the life of our patriarch Isaac, preserving the bloodline from which we descend and marking the covenant between us, Abraham's children, and God.

The ram of the Akedah is so important to our tribe that legend tells us God created the ram at an auspicious moment during Creation. According to *Talmud*, the ram was created at twilight after the sixth day, on the eve of the first Shabbat. Other legends say it was created even before the first day of Creation.

chedule 2011 (5772)

Movie/Pizza prior to S'lichot service

S'lichot service in Sanctuary

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

Rosh Hashanah (Day One)

Tashlich at Ocean Pointe

Rosh Hashanah (Day Two)

Erev Shabbat Shuvah Service

Shabbat Shuvah Service

Havdalah at Ocean Pointe

Erev Yom Kippur / Kol Nidre

Yom Kippur

Children's Service

Yizkor

Meditation Walk & Discussion

Neilah / Afternoon Services

Havdalah Immediately After Neilah

Break The Fast after Havdalah

our people took the ram's horn and created the shofar.

In a moment of complexity and manylayeredness. the Zohar explains that the letters of bereshit – the first word of Torah. meaning "in the beainning," can also be rearranged to form the words bara tavish – "He created a ram." God created the ram: The call of the shofar is primal, imprinted into the spiritual DNA of our tribe. It is to the Jewish people what the didgeridoo is to the Australian aborigines, what the conch shell is to the peoples of Polynesia, and what the council drum is to the native people of North America. It is the technology we use to assemble our community, call to our higher power, and to bring down blessings from heaven.

Tradition tells us that we *all* stood at Mt. Sinai (even generations not yet born) when God revealed *Torah* to us accompanied by the blasts of the shofar. Those sound waves continue to resonate within you and me, even today, so that we can be reminded of our Covenant. In our own social hall at KJCC, we felt the reality of shofar-as-time-machine last season when Rabbi Ed Rosenthal of Hillel asked us to close our eyes as he blasted us back to the foot of Mount Sinai with the purest virtuoso shofar that most of us had ever heard.

Why do we re-enact these moments? Why are we told, always, to act as if *we are* the people who were delivered from slavery in Egypt? Why do we retell the same stories at the same times every year? Why read the same *parashot*, build the same Sukkot, blow the same shofar?

We are a community of sparks, of souls in different stages of development. Some of us feel we've been around longer than Methusaleh. Others are in the first years of Sunday school, enthralled, hearing stories of Isaac, or Jonah and the whale, for the very first time. Still others of us are learning to chant from the Torah, to lead services and step into positions of responsibility. I see a great escalator in the shape of an arc, the rainbow of Noah's covenant. Some of us are on the lowest steps, on the way up, others are at the crest, and more are on the way down, and some are preparing to step off. All steps must be filled in order for us to continue to survive and thrive.

Our 40-day journey, as Rabbi Danny reminds us, begins now. We reproduce the lightning and thunder through the horn of a ram. Loud, long, and often may our ram's horn blow as we approach this season of "correction." (Remember that the Jewish word for sin, "cheit," means simply that we have missed the mark, our goal of being to others and the world our best possible mitzvahobserving selves.) With luck we will have a shofar blower at each of the Shabbat services during the month of *Elul* as we prepare for the culmination of judgment and "sealing" of God's decree.

Our best chance now to experience what our ancestors heard at Sinai, the full impact of the shofar, is to cultivate an inner quiet while we meditate and pray during the Days of Awe. Not only should we avoid "lashon hara," evil, careless speech (gossip), but we should be careful to speak as little as possible about anything, avoiding all but essential conversation in order to focus on the inner task at hand.

Last year we added two new shofar blowers to our existing corps of Dr. Bernie Ginsberg, Zoe Berk, Cantor Mark Halpern, Rachael Bloom, and Rabbi Danny Young. We watched the serious eyes and rosy young faces of Zach Schrader-Grace and Moira Knowles as their lips and souls answered an inner call with an outer one as strong and clear as if they had understood its importance forever. We are proud of all of them. (In case anyone wants to read more about the shofar, I can recommend a three-volume work by Michael Chusad titled *Hearing Shofar*.)

This year, each time before our shofars are sounded and the blessings chanted, let us be as quiet as we can be. Let's close our eyes and not look at the faces of those who take on this ancient, sacred task for us. Let us empty ourselves so we can be filled with the still, small voice within the shofar that calls us to *t'shuvah*.

L'Shanah Tovah! May we all be written and sealed for a good and healthy New Year. >

It Doesn't Have to Be About Fear

Approaching Elul, the Month Before the High Holy Days, in a Very Different Way

by Rabbi Daniel Young

ard as it is to believe, the High Holy Days are upon us again. This issue arrives in your mailboxes barely a month before Rosh Hashanah. It seems that no matter how late in September Rosh Hashanah is, it always manages to sneak up on us.

Monday night, August 29th, begins the Hebrew month of *Elul*, the month before Rosh Hashanah. Tradition teaches that this month helps set the stage for the High Holy Days. In fact, in many traditional congregations the shofar is sounded once each day during all of *Elul* to herald the approach of the High Holy Days. The rabbis also explain that the letters in the name *Elul* — *Aleph Lamed Vav Lamed* — form an acronym for the phrase *Ani L'dodi V'dodi Li.* This famous phrase, taken from the book Song of Songs (6:3), means "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine."

At first this might seem strange. After all, when *Elul* turns to *Tishrei* we arrive at the High Holy Days, also known as the *Yamim Noraim* — the Days of Awe. The *machzor* (High Holy Days prayer book) is replete with the language of judgment. *Avinu Malkeinu*, one of the most recognizable High Holy Day texts, appeals to God as judge and prays that God be more merciful with us than we deserve. But perhaps the sense of judgment is most powerfully expressed in *Unetaneh Tokef:* "On Rosh Hashanah it is written and on Yom Kippur it is sealed." If this High Holy Day season is about reflecting on our weaknesses as we stand in judgment before God, in the immortal words of Tina Turner, "What's Love Got to Do With It?"

Fear seems a more apt emotion for this time of year than love. We are asked to examine our shortcomings and to confess our sins. We appeal to God's mercy and God's compassion to look past our weaknesses. Perhaps most fear-inducing of all, the High Holy Days impel us to confront the uncertainty of life, specifically our own.

From a behavioral perspective, the language of fear makes sense. Fear can serve as a great motivator, especially when a deadline looms. So the language of fear impels us to action as Yom Kippur draws ever closer. We may take this whole period of reflection and evaluation more seriously because tradition teaches that our very existence hangs in the balance.

For most people, however, this is not a complete (or perhaps even accurate) expression of their relationship with God. Many have trouble with the Deuteronomic theology saying that those who follow God's laws will be blessed and those who don't will be cursed. Harold Kushner put the challenge of this theology succinctly in the title to his wellknown book, "When Bad Things Happen to Good People."

The month of *Elul* — remember the acronym — offers us a different metaphor upon which to draw. *Elul* offers us an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be in a lovebased, not just the familiar judgment-based, covenantal relationship with God. Rather than fear and judgment, which creates insecurity, covenantal love is all about security and confidence. In a covenantal relationship we are allowed to let our imperfections show, and we are always encouraged to strive to be better. In other words, as we prepare for the High Holy Days, *Elul* offers us an opportunity to imagine ourselves as partners with God.

One of my favorite Jewish sayings is "Who rise from prayer better persons, their prayer is answered." This means that the product is more important than the process. If the aim of the High Holy Days is to help us reflect and grow, then the metaphor of a covenantal relationship with God and the liturgical image of God judging and determining if we merit inscription in the Book of Life are both valid ways of getting to the same conclusion.

I look forward to sharing a meaningful High Holy Day season with you. May each of us emerge as a better person! \diamond

Understanding High Holy Day Music and its Relationship to Prayer

by Cantor Mark Halpern

W ith the approaching the Days of Awe, as we often refer to *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, I like to think about the prayers and *nusach* (musical mode) of the season. Many of the prayers are chanted at no other time during the year. I like to read the interpretations or backgrounds of the prayers to gain a better understanding, so that I can be the *Sheliach Tzibbur* (the emissary of the congregation).

Many congregations have melodies that have been used in their services for many years; such tunes are obviously "traditional" in that particular community. Very often, you won't even hear them in another shul. In terms of "traditional melodies," we must distinguish between individual compositions and *nusach* (musical modes or styles). The prayer modes are called *Nusach Ha'tefillah*, and the same ones will be heard, with minor variations, throughout the world. (Those used by the Sephardim, though, are totally different from the ones employed by Ashkenazim.)

You will notice that, whereas cantors will sing a variety of melodies for "*Unetaneh Tokef*," they will all use the same basic *nusach* for the paragraphs beginning with "Uvechein Tein." They will sing different tunes to "Ya'aleh," on Kol Nidrei night, but will use the same basic nusach for the penitential prayers - the Selichot.

A significant and instantly recognizable element of these *nusach* is the way that the *beracha* (prayer) and its Amen are sung. In the unlikely event that one had lost track of time, a regular shul-goer would be able to identify the day of the Jewish calendar by hearing just one *beracha* in the *Amidah*.

These *nusach* (musical modes, remember) are exceedingly important, since they help to create the atmosphere of the day. If the wrong *nusach* is used, it can be very disorien-

tating and totally spoil one's concentration. Although it is difficult to establish why these specific associations were made, it's not out of chance, or ignorance. It's as if the *nusach* itself is reaching out to us from beyond the High Holidays and saying, "Come back and hear me on other occasions, too."

There are a variety of reasons for the utilization of these specific tunes on the most solemn days of the year, the days on which we are literally begging for our lives.

First, singing them joyfully dem-

onstrates our confidence that the Almighty has indeed forgiven our sins. The trial through which we go on these awesome days is unlike a trial by a human court. We know that, if we have prayed with devotion, if we have made a sincere commitment to try to improve our ways, then with absolute certainty we shall be forgiven.

Also, I believe the rabbis did not object to joyous tunes because they inspire communal participation much more readily than somber tunes would. There's also the notion that people tend to remember attractive tunes, so they may also encourage people to return next year.

One of the central prayers of the High Holidays is the *Hineni* prayer, which has great personal meaning for me, as I remember my

Many of the prayers are chanted at no other time during the year.

father, Rabbi Erwin Halpern, Z'TL, *davening* with immense *kavod* (holiness) on behalf of the congregation, which I try to emulate. In *Hineni*, I come before G-d in all humility, indicating that I offer prayers on behalf of the congregants who should not be faulted for my own shortcomings. It is a plea that I make wholeheartedly, walking toward the *bimah* as an indication that I am one of the entire community, and should not be considered to be over and above any other person.

In the past year, I have lost some dear friends from all aspects of my life. Some of these deaths are still hard for me to reconcile. I know that when I chant the *U*'netaneh

Tokef this year, my heart will ache for my own personal loss while I pray that we all will be inscribed for a good and healthy year, and avert the severe decree that befell some of our dear family and friends both abroad and at the Keys Jewish Community Center since the last *Yamim Noraim*.

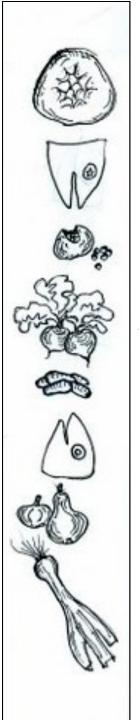
U'netaneh Tokef portrays G-d as a Shepherd over His flock, counting and examining each sheep one by one as it passes under His rod, reviewing each individual flock of humanity one by one, determining his/her fate

for the coming year.

But we are not just helpless sheep! Rather, we can contribute to our verdict by committing to and changing our behavior towards G-d and our fellow man, specifically in the areas of sincere repentance, prayer from the heart, and charity given with a cheerful spirit.

May G-d grant us the wisdom and courage to face our own faults, and may our pleas be as sincere, inspiring, and meaningful. May the upcoming Days of Awe bring us hope and renewed faith – faith in ourselves, in our community, and in our ability to make a difference in this world in which we live.

L'shanah tovah to you and your loved ones! May it be a year of health, happiness, prosperity, long life and peace. ◊



Auspicious Eating

by Gloria Avner

dern educators are finally realizing what tribal societies, and Jews in particular, have always known. There are many ways to teach and learn, and the most effective is to engage as many senses as possible. Naturally, Jews being Jews, just a wee bit obsessed with food. we also reinforce learning with what we eat. With a combination of blessings. prayer, ritual and metaphor, symbols and "simonim," the shape, taste, smell. and even the syllable sounds of ritual food names reinforce the meaning of each holiday, especially Rosh Hashanah. We may be best known as the people of the book. but we could just as easily be known as the people of the laden table. As we enter 5772, let us eat auspiciously.

Symbolic Foods: On the night of Rosh Hashanah there is an almost universal custom of dipping the first piece of challah into honey. The challah itself is symbolic, round in shape, an emblem of wholeness, unity, oneness without beginning or end. After the challah has been eaten, a piece of apple dipped in honey is given to everyone and the blessing is recited:

"Blessed are You, King of the Universe, Who creates the fruit of the tree."

After eating the bread and honey, we move on, in no particular order, to carrots, leeks, beets, dates, pomegranates, gourds, fish and fish heads. They are all "simonim," different symbolic foods that either taste sweet or have names that sound similar (in Hebrew, Yiddish or English) to our hopes and prayers for the new year. Each has its own blessing. We can plan our Erev Shabbat meal accordingly.

Carrots: May it be your will, Lord of the Universe, our God and God of our fathers, that our merits increase. (The Yiddish word for carrots — meren — also means "increase." Tsimmes, anyone?)

Leeks: In Aramaic, a leek is called *karti;* it symbolizes our hope — "sheyikartu soneinu" that our enemies should be cut off. May it be your will, our God and God of our fathers, that our enemies be decimated. (Potato Leek soup?)

Beets: Beets are called *selek* in Hebrew, which sounds like *yistalek*, "will be removed." (We can wish that our troubles will soon be removed! Shall we make borscht?)

Dates: the Hebrew word for date, *tamar*, sounds like the Hebrew word *yitamu*, which also means "will be removed." May it be your will, our God and God of our fathers, that our enemies be consumed and may our merits be proclaimed before you.

Gourds: A gourd, or *kara* in Aramaic, is a symbol—"sheyikurah ro'a g'zar deenainu v'y'kur'oo lifanecha z'chuyoteinu" — that any evil decreed against should be ripped up and our merits should be read before God.

Pomegranates: May it be your will, our God and god of our fathers, that our merits increase as the seeds of a pomegranate. (The seeds of the pomegranate are said to be as plentiful as — and exactly equal to — the number of mitzvot in the Torah — 613.)

Fish: May it be your will, our God and God of our fathers, that we be fruitful and multiply

like fish.

Fish Head: May it be your will, our God and God of our fathers, that we be as the head and not as the tail.

The symbolism of the different foods falls into different categories: sweet-tasting foods predicting a sweet year, others alluding to abundance, both material and spiritual, and others referring to destruction and eradication of Israel's sins, enemies, and our own *tsuris*, or troubles.

So let's make *tsimmes* with carrots and dates. Let's decorate our plates with the jewel -like seeds of pomegranates. Let's think of our unity with God having neither beginning nor end while we gaze upon our golden, round challahs. As we break off a piece and dip it in honey, say our *bracha* and lift the bread to our lips, let us savor both the sweetness of being in community at this exact moment and the anticipated sweetness of the year to come.

Maybe next year we can ask Erica and Sisterhood to prepare a "propitious cookbook." Meanwhile, sauté some zucchini (for gourds), whip up some potato leek soup, and — just for fun — cut heart shapes out of boiled beet slices. Most important, join with friends and "mishpocha" to create and enjoy this celebratory meal just before services on Rosh Hashanah. Set the tone for a healthy, happy 5772.*

Casting Out Your Sins in Style

This year we'll once again join Cantor Mark, after morning services on Rosh Hashanah Day One, for Tashlich, the symbolic casting away of sins by using bread. The dispatch of sins is certainly serious business. But using just any old bread lacks style, and nuance, and becomes sort of, well, rote. But we came across a wonderful list of breads that match up with particular sins. Some examples:

For ordinary sins: White bread; For exotic sins: French Bread; For very dark sins: Pumpernickel; For twisted sins: Pretzels: For Tasteless sins: Rice cakes: For sins of indecision: Waffles: For sins committed in haste: Matzoh; For sins of chutzpah: Very fresh bread; For sins of substance abuse: Poppy seed; For committing arson: Toast; For committing auto theft: Caraway; For being ill-tempered: Sourdough: For silliness: Nut bread: For excessive use of irony: Rye bread; For telling bad jokes: Corn bread; For war-mongering: Kaiser rolls; For dressing immodestly: Tarts: For promiscuity: Hot buns; For being holier-than-thou: Bagels; For trashing the environment: Dumplings: For sins of the righteous: Angel Food cake; For selling your soul: Devil's Food cake.

And, just because now is the season to turn in the little blue boxes...

A local bar was so sure its bartender was the strongest man around that they offered a standing \$1,000 bet. The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and then hand the lemon to any challenger. Whoever could squeeze even one more drop from the lemon would win the money. Many tried over time — weightlifters, lumberjacks, but nobody ever won the bet.

One day a scrawny little Jewish guy walked into the bar and said in his squeaky voice, "I'd like to try the bet." After the laughter had died down, the bartender said okay, grabbed a lemon, and squeezed away. He then handed the wrinkled remains of the lemon to the little Jew.

The crowd's laughter turned to stunned silence as the man clenched the lemon and caused six drops to fall into the glass. As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid the \$1,000, and asked the little Jewish guy what he did for a living. "Are you a weight-lifter? A martial arts guy? What?"

To which the Jewish fellow replied: "No, no, nothing like that. I work for the Jewish National fund." ◆

World Jewish Report Medina Roy



A Fitting Tribute

Naomi Shemer, the late, beloved Israeli national songwriter and composer, has been memorialized by having the Mount Scopus tunnel in Jerusalem named for her. The City Name Committee deliberated whether to dedicate Mahane Yehuda Street Market (often called "The Shuk"). the lerusalem Forest or the Mount Scopus tunnel to Shemer, each a worthy choice for its unique national significance. The Mount Scopus tunnel was selected, primarily because of Shemer's worldfamous song "Yerushalayim Shel Zahav," (Jerusalem of Gold) which was commissioned by Teddy Kollek, the late Mayor of Jerusalem. The song became Israel's unofficial second national anthem after the Six-Day War in 1967. The view from Mount Scopus takes in the majestic vistas of Jerusalem described in the song. Shemer is also well known for "Al Hadvash Ve'al Haoketz." (For the Honey and the Sting) a song about holding onto the land of Israel. Her songs are taught in schools throughout Israel and are a source of inspiration and national unity. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 7-21-11)

Israeli Experiments Make the Final Voyage

After its final voyage at the end of July, the Space Shuttle Atlantis returned to Cape Canaveral with three Israeli experiments on board. They included microgravity experiments on telomeres (DNA sequences that protect chromosomes from erosion), a study on bone cells, and one on water purification. All three experiments had been organized by Israel's Fisher Institute for Strategic Air and Space Studies, a nonprofit organization that has worked with NASA and other space agencies to lift Israeli experiments into space. Dr. Eran Schenker, head of the Fisher Institute's Aerospace Medicine Research Center, confirmed that Israel has already secured a spot on an upcoming 2012 Russian mission to the ISS. Aside from the United States and Russia, Israel is one of seven other countries with space-launch capability. (*The Canadian Jewish News, www.cjnews.com*, 7-25-11)

Will Child #2 be Called Bet?

Natalie Portman (nee Natalie Hershlag), the Jerusalem-born, Academy Award-winning actress ("Black Swan"), recently gave birth to a baby boy and named him *Aleph*, which is, of course, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. According to Kabbalah, *Aleph* represents the oneness of G-d. Portman, who is fluent in Hebrew, immigrated to the United States when she was just a child. She is a staunch supporter of Israel and claims that she has always been in touch with her Jewish heritage. (*The Forward, 7-7-11*)

The Best Outside of the U.S.

The Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot has once again been named in *The Scientist* magazine's annual survey as the "best place to work in academia" outside the United States. The institute consistently appears among the top five international (non-U.S.) institutions and has been ranked first several times. The Weizmann Institute consists of 100 buildings and is one of the world's leading multidisciplinary research institutions. *The Scientist* survey is taken by thousands of researchers in institutions around the world. (*The Jerusalem Post, 7-4-11*)

"Kosher" Facebook

Seven years after the debut of *Facebook*, another web developer has launched a site

that caters to the strictly Orthodox Jewish community. FaceGlat, the brainchild of 25year-old Yaakov Swisa, a resident of Israel's Kfar Chabad village, wanted to bring religious internet users all the benefits of technology without all of the temptations. Contact between male and female users is forbidden, and even husbands and wives, brothers and sisters are unable to contact each other. Users can post photographs, add friends and share video files, just as they can on Face*book.* The difference is that on *FaceGlat* there is a word filter, so obscene language is blocked; and there is technology to monitor men infiltrating the women's section and vice versa. (www.thejc.com, 7-28-11)

The "Hidden Highway"

Israel has done many things to protect its citizens from terrorist attacks. Among other things, it has built bomb shelters and invented anti-Kassam missiles. Now it has built a "hidden highway," designed to guard against rocket attacks. The new 1.5-mile road is out of view of nearby Gaza residents. The road was built in three months with the help of the lewish National Fund (INF) and the Engineering Corps of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). The route was built between trees, making it unable to be seen from Gaza's sand dunes. The construction of the road was ordered last April, after Hamas terrorists attacked a school bus, which was traveling on the main highway, and killed a 16-year-old boy. Another counter-terrorist measure carried out jointly by the JNF and IDF is to plant trees along the Gaza border so that those intending harm to Israelis will not be able to see their targets.

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 7-27-11)

A Taboo Broken?

Since the founding of the State of Israel, the country has had an unofficial ban against the playing of music composed by Germany's Richard Wagner (1813-1883), whose anti-Semitism was public and virulent. In addition to his work putting German mythology to dramatic symphonic music, Wagner was also known for his anti-Jewish rants, claiming that the German spirit had been corrupted by the Jews. For both of those things, he was admired and practically turned into a German deity by Adolf Hitler. Wagner's music was often used in Nazi propaganda.

In late July, 2011, however, the Israel Chamber Orchestra performed a composition by Wagner in Germany, in the Bavarian town of Bayreuth, at an annual festival devoted to Wagner's work. This was not just an incidental performance in a meaningless venue. Hitler himself had attended the Bayreuth Festival, founded by Wagner in 1876, every summer from 1933 to 1939 and was the festival's chief patron. The decision to break this unofficial taboo has triggered a national debate in Israel, yet in reality this is not the first time the unofficial ban has been broken. In 2001. Daniel Berenboim, the Argentina-born Israeli pianist and conductor, performed a piece from "Tristan and Isolde" in Israel, which caused a walkout by many in the audience. (Yet they were cultured enough to recognize the music, which means they'd heard it enough to have made it instantly familiar.)

This most recent performance by the Israeli orchestra was made optional for its members; only one of the orchestra's 36 members chose not to participate. The concert also included works by Germany's Felix Mendelssohn and Austria's Gustav Mahler, both of whom were banned by the Nazis because they were born Jewish. (*The Forward*, 7-25-11)

Free Children!

Israel is the world capital of *in vitro* fertilization (IVF). Assuta Hospital in Tel Aviv, which performs about 7,000 of the procedures each year, is one of the busiest fertilization clinics in the world. Israel provides free, unlimited IVF procedures for up to two "take-home babies" until a woman is 45, unlike the United States where couples can go broke trying the same procedure. The policy has made Israelis the highest *per capita* users of IVF in the world, and Arab citizens of Israel have the same rights to state-paid fertility treatments as their Jewish counterparts. In Israel, family is extremely important and Israelis are expected to have children. They already have a high fertility rate, an average of 2.9 children per family. But beyond the Biblical imperative to "be fruitful and multiply," some Israeli Jews feel the need to replenish their numbers after the catastrophic events of the Holocaust. A survey published by the journal Human Reproduction Update in 2002 showed that 1,657 IVF procedures per million people per year were performed in Israel, compared with 126 in the United States, which trailed far behind European countries. Four percent of Israeli children today are the products of IVF, compared with about one percent estimated in the United States. In America, an average treatment or cycle, from egg retrieval to embryo implantation. costs \$12,400. Insurance companies that do cover treatment, usually cap the amount of cycles they pay for. Israel is also the only country in the world that makes treatment available to all women regardless of their marital status or sexual orientation. A state committee is now considering whether to open coverage to gav men using a surrogate. (www.nytimes.com, 7-17-11)

In Memoriam

-Mieczyslaw (Mietek) Pemper, the Polishborn Jew who typed the names of what became known as "Schindler's List," consisting of more than 1,000 Jews working in forced labor for the Nazis, died recently at the age of 91. Pemper remained close to Schindler until the latter's death in 1974. In 2005, he wrote a memoir, "The Road to Rescue: The Untold Story of Schindler's List." (World Jewish Congress, 6-10-11)

-E.M. Broner, creator of the original "women's seder," which has booming popularity throughout the United States and Israel, has died at the age of 83. A pioneering Jewish feminist writer, Broner (born Esther Frances Masserman in Detroit) was the author of ten books, including her now famous "The Women's Haggadah," co-authored with Naomi Nimrod. Originally published in *Ms. Magazine* in 1977, it recast the traditional Passover Seder from the point of view of women, including Miriam, Moses' sister. Broner started leading women's seders in her New York apartment in 1976 and invited feminist leaders Gloria Steinem, Bella Abzug, and Letty Cottin Pogrebin. (*The Forward, 6-23-11*)

-Al Schwimmer, a New York native described by David Ben-Gurion as "the Diaspora's most important contributor to the survival of Israel," died in June in Ramat Gan, Israel. He was 94. Schwimmer had used his contacts and experience as a World War II flight engineer to smuggle some 30 surplus warplanes to the newly born Jewish state in 1948. He recruited the pilots and crews to fly the planes and got them all, often via circuitous routes, to Israel where the men, mostly World War II veterans, became the nucleus of the first Israeli Air Force. Schwimmer returned to the United States in 1949. He was convicted of violating the U.S. Neutrality Act for smuggling weapons to Israel, stripped of his voting rights and fined, but not imprisoned. He never sought a presidential pardon because he refused to admit any wrongdoing. Nevertheless, through the intervention of friends, he was pardoned by President Clinton in 2000. (www.jta.org, 6-12-11)

-Yelena Bonner, the Soviet human rights activist who was married to the late Nobel Prize-winning Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov, died in Boston. She was 88. Born in Soviet Turkmenistan, Bonner was kicked out of medical school because she was Jewish. Along with her husband, Bonner played a unique role in leading the resistance against the policies of the former Soviet Union. Her Jewish mother had been an active member of the Communist Party and was sent to the Gulag when Bonner was 14. (Bonner's father was Armenian.) In her later years, Bonner increasingly became a defender of Israel. (*The Forward, 6-22-11*)

Did You Know...

-Israel, despite being the hundredth smallest country in the world, has the highest number of companies listed on the NASDAQ after the United States. It also has the highest number of high-tech start-ups outside the U.S., estimated to be 3,500. (www.telegraph.co.uk, 7-21-11) ♦

-The L'Shanah Tovah page-

KJCC members and friends from here and across the country send their new year greetings to each other for the best possible 5772.

| With many thanks
and warm
wishes to all
for a year of
<i>nachas</i> in 5772.
Alan & Candy | Jim & Joan
Boruszak wish
all our KJCC
family <i>L'Shana
Tovah</i> and a
Healthy 5772. | May this be
a good year
for all of us.
Stuart and
Lauren Sax | Wishing our
KJCC <i>mishpocha</i>
A happy and
healthy new year.
Joel and Linda
Pollack |
|--|---|--|---|
| Best wishes
to all for a
healthy 5772.
Ron, Dot and
Susan Horn | Wishing a
joyous <i>Yom Tov</i>
and a healthy
5772 to my
KJCC family.
Joyce Peckman | A happy and
healthy new
year to our
KJCC friends.
Alan and
Susan Cooper | <i>L'Shana Tovah.</i>
Arthur and
Johanna Willner |
| To our
KJCC friends:
A happy and
healthy 5772.
Stan & Jenny
Margulies | Happy, healthy
5772.
Can't wait
for January.
Milton & Joan
Wohl | Best wishes
for a good
and sweet year.
Barry Alter | To my dear
KJCC friends—
A happy and
healthy 5772.
Maryon Gould |
| Alvan & Carol
Field extend
good wishes
to all of the
congregation for
the new year. | Dr. Erica Garrett
wishes all our KJCC
family a
<i>Shana Tova</i> and
healthy new year. | Here's to a
wonderful 5772
for all our
friends at KJCC.
Morris & Evelyn
Zalmanovich | <i>Shana Tovah</i> —
a sweet and
healthy year
to all of my
KJCC friends.
Medina Roy - 5772 |

VISITING THE NEW NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

by Joyce Peckman

n Philadelphia, on South Independence Mall, directly across from the Liberty Bell and just down from Independence Hall, stands a striking five-story glass building, the new home of the National Museum of American Jewish History. I had lived most of my life on Long Island and never made the trip to the birthplace of the U.S. Constitution. Now, spending the summer in New Jersey, Philadelphia was only an hour and a half away. I had read about the November 2010 opening of the new museum, and was anxious to visit it. I easily convinced Sue, my *machetenista*, to join me.

Entering the building, we were greeted by a smile, and then airport-like security screening. (No pat-downs, however.) On the main floor, along with a small kosher cafe and a lovely gift shop, stands Irving Berlin's piano. (Berlin, born Israel Baline in 1888 in a dusty little *shtetl* in what is today Belarus, the son of a cantor, never learned to read music, or, really, play the piano. All of his songs were composed in the same key – F sharp, essentially all the black keys – and the piano was specially equipped to allow for automatic transposition to other keys. He got the name "Irving Berlin" when a music publisher mistakhour sitting there, but there were three floors of exhibits to be seen.

We

took the



As in D.C.'s Holocaust Museum, architecture helps tell the story.

elevator to the fourth floor, where the exhibits begin. The door opened to a large open area, with the glass wall to our left and the labyrinth of rooms containing the museum's treasures to our right. In the open air center, the floors are connected by slanted stairways which reminded me of gangplanks to a ship.

The first permanent Jewish settlers in the United States were a small group of refugees fleeing Recife, Brazil. When the Portuguese conquered previously Dutch Brazil in 1654, Jews were given three months to leave. Many settled in the Caribbean, but this group accidentally ended up in New Amsterdam. (There were pirates involved, and the Dutch Navy. It's a fascinating story, told in detail in

Stephen Birmingham's "The Grandees" – Ed.) On display is the Dutch court document awarding the captain of the Sint Catrina payment for freight and board for "23 souls, big and little, who must pay equally." The passengers' goods were to be sold at auction. We also see a portrait of Gov. Peter Stuyvesant, a strict Calvinist with

enly called him that on his first published song.)

Projected onto a pair of large semicircular screens are voices and images telling the stories of 18 iconic Americans, including such diverse achievers as Isaac Mayer Wise, Albert Einstein, Sandy Koufax, Estee Lauder and Steven Spielberg. I could easily have spent an Through the open walkway on the mall side, visitors can see famed Independence Hall.





"That's My Father."

no interest in diversity, who wanted to have them ejected from New Amsterdam as "hateful enemies and blasphemers of the name of Christ." On display is the letter from the Dutch West India

Company, dated April 26, 1655, permitting them to stay because they felt the Jews' mercantile skills and international trade connections would benefit the colony. (It was primarily Jews, refugees from Spain's inquisition, who had developed the sugar and mining operations in Brazil, as well as the financial systems to run them.) However, they were forbidden to worship publicly in Dutch New Amsterdam, or own real estate, hold office, serve in the militia or obtain state relief there. The museum's three floors of displays are a treasury of documents and artifacts telling the story of the efforts of the first lewish-American communities and individuals to fully share in civic rights and responsibilities. using evocative objects, telling moments and state-of-the-art interactive technologies.

This floor also explores the Revolutionary War, covers the westward movement and the Civil War. It includes a model of the Newport Synagogue along with George Washington's famous letter. There are artifacts ranging

from portraits and posters, and bills of lading, to a miniature Torah carried by a traveling merchant, to jewelry worn by Rebecca Gratz (the renowned red-headed beauty from Philadelphia who founded the first Jewish Sunday School in the United States, and so captivated Sir Walter Scott that he was said to have modeled the Jewess Rebecca in "Ivanhoe" after her).

IN AND GEORGE ROSS

Walking down the gangplank across the open center of the building to the opposite wall, we see what appears to be a sculpture of curved rectangles, like white waves, or floating papers. Suddenly onto it is projected the correspondence and images of those who made the journey across the Atlantic. To the visual is added their spoken words. We entered the display through the valises, documents and possessions of the immigrants who poured into America between 1880 and 1924. This middle floor was my favorite. The bulk of this floor dealt with hardships and discrimination: but even more, it showed the innovation and energy that brought success. It covers the garment industry, the Triangle Shirtwaist fire and the rise of labor unions. As we passed a large photo of a factory room, we heard a woman cry out. "That's my father!"

We heard recordings of the anti-Semitic rantings of Father Coughlin and Charles Lindbergh. We relived the trial and lynching of Leo Frank in Atlanta. (His innocence was established long after he was lynched.) Jews, proud to show that they were loval citizens of the U.S.. enlisted to fight in both world wars. There is a wealth of posters, personal articles, and spoken stories. The theme of religious expression, on this floor, focuses on the rise of Reform and Reconstruction Judaism. Of special note also is a large and wonderful section dealing with the music and entertainment industry. In a small theatre a film documents the rise of Hollywood moguls, including clips from famed Jewish movie stars.

The final floor covers 1946 to the present:

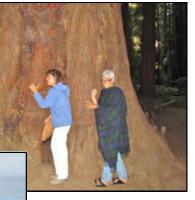
the establishment of the state of Israel, McCarthyism, the move to suburbia, the Catskills, summer camps and more. But we had already been there for over three

Joyce and Sue (daughter-in-law Rebecca's mom, for the Yiddishimpaired.) hours, and were saturated. I had lived the events of this floor. We left, but I hope to return. \Diamond

How I Spent My Summer Vacation — KJCC-style



Alan and Candy stand before San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. Just below, Candy offers some perspective on the stupefying grandeur of a redwood tree. In the center photo, she's biking at Copper Harbor, at the northern tip of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, near their house just off Lake Superior. At left she's hiking on Mt.



Baldy on Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. In the photo lower right, she offers a ride to a neighbor who throws an



annual spoof of a party where everyone, well past their teens, dons a prom dress. Candy eschewed the frock.







The Feders toured domestically this year, in Virginia and the Carolinas. Dave and Suzi kayak on Onancock Inlet, above, in the Tidewater area. In the center, Dave and Nyan rehearse, each in their own





Joyce went to New Jersey to look after granddaughter Libby while daughter-in-law/ mom Rebecca went back to school. Here Libby is helping Joyce water the garden behind their house.

way, for the Onancock concert. With friends, they're hiking near Ashville, above, in the mountainous west of North Carolina. Top right, Dave and Nyan at their Beaufort, N.C. gig. At far right, a family portrait just before the Beaufort concert.



Above, the Klugers, with son Ryan and his children, at Andrea's graduation from Vanderbilt in Nashville.

David Gross turned the big 6-0 this summer. He's at top right with his son at Wrigley Field in Chicago, posing dramatically be-

fore a poster at the Reagan Library in California, and, just above, visiting with his daughter and her family on Sanibel Island in Florida.

Gloria poses in picturesque Bar Harbor, Maine, with peripatetic KJCC member Suzie Finkelstein and friend Chaim Shaffer's sister Donna. David Gitin, of course, took the picture.







Lee Schur sits atop her boat "The Schur Thing V" in Diversey Harbor in Chi-

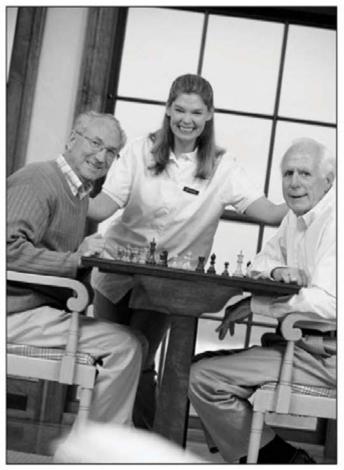


cago, along with son Larry and family visiting from Texas. In the two photos at left, Gerri Emkey mod-

els a new line of clothes together with a group of other cancer survivors, all to raise money for research.

The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

The Palace Suites / Independent Living The Palace Royale / Catered Living The Palace Renaissance / Assisted Living The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center The Palace at Home / Home Health

| VERONICA'S ART
AND GLASS STUDIO
Stained Glass Custom Pieces •
Restoration and Repairs •
Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry •
Classes • Materials and Supplies
Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist
(305) 304-9411
veroagutierrez@yahoo.com | Barbara Knowles
Photography and Video
Destination
Wedding Planner
Officiant, All Events, Portraits
Real Estate, Corporate
Custom Packages | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| DeClue's Art Printing
and Framing
Simply Extraordinary, Creative, | www.FLKeysWeddings.com
305-772-0503
305-853-5653 | | |
| Quality Picture Framing.
82200 Overseas Highway, Islamorada
305-664-9385 - marciadeclue@gmail.com | iweddu@bellsouth.net
Richard Knowles
PhotoVideo
305-942-4488
flkeys@bellsouth.net | | |
| florida keys
periodontics
and
implantology
paul e. berger, d.d.s.
the pink plaza
103400 overseas highway
Suite 229
tel: 305.453.1811
key largo, fl 33037
fax: 305.453.1889 | Fax 305.774.1890
866.975.EDEN
4051 Laguna Street (3336) | | |
| "Jews Don't Keep The
Sabbath
Sabbath Keeps The Jews." | office hours by appointment phone: (305) 852-3219
fax: (305) 852-9016 | | |
| Camaraderie is the glue that bonds us.
If you haven't made time in your life
recently to join us on Friday night, why not
do it this week? Then stick around for the
Oneg and schmoozing and nosh. | OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S.
JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A.
RICHARD C. LAGE, D.D.S.
ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D.
91750 OVERSEAS HIGHWAY TAVERNIER, FL 33070 | | |





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

975 Baptist Way Suite 101 Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Highway Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932







This ad sponsored by Steve and Carol Steinbock.



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice and other cases of significant damages.



TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, FL 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

FT. LAUDERDALE

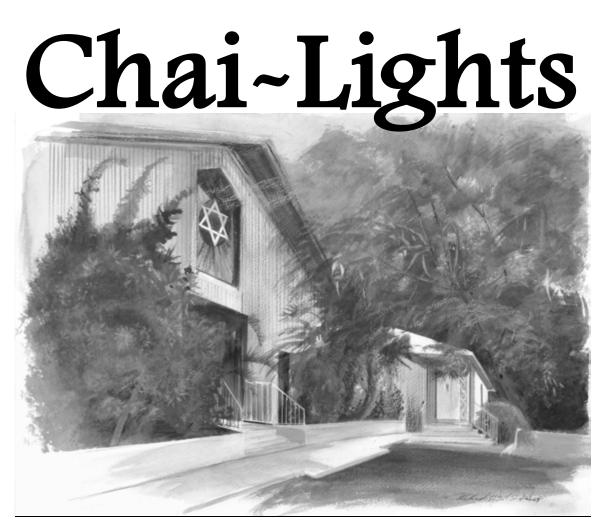
Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

BOCA RATON

Wachovia Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, FL 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297



October 2011

3 Tishrei - 3 Cheshvan 5772

World Jewish Report - page 13 Photo Gallery - page 19 Gloria on the Holidays - page 22

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

October 2011

3 Tishrei - 3 Cheshvan

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|-----|--|--|--|--|
| | nes denote leaders
talicized names ar | | s. | | | 1
Shabbat
Shuvah |
| 2 KJCC
Sisterhood
Meeting
9:30 a.m.
Fast of
Gedaliah | 3 | 4 | 5
Men's Club
Game
Night 7:30
p.m. at
KJCC | 6 | 7
Erev
Yom Kippur
Rabbi Danny
Young & Cantor
Mark Halpern | 8
Yom
Kippur
Yizkor
Service |
| 9 KJCC Board Meeting 9 a.m. Decoration of sukkah | 10
Columbus
Day | 11 | 12
Erev Sukkot | 13 First
Day of
Sukkot
KJCC
Hebrew
Classes
begin | 14
Steve Steinbock
& Yardena
Kamely
<i>Toby & David</i>
<i>Goldfinger</i> | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19
Hoshana
Rabba | 20
Shemini
Atzeret | 21 Simchat Torah
Yizkor Memorial
Service
Dave Mont &
Georgia Landau
Barbara & Richard
Knowles,
Nissan & Israel Mayk | 22
Bereshit
Chai-yaking
with Dave
Mont |
| 23 30 | 24
31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28
Gloria Avner &
Sam Vinicur
6:30 Service | 29 |

2011 - 2012 Officers and Board

President Stuart Sax

Executive Vice President Bernie Ginsberg

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Marc Bloom – Susan Gordon

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Joyce Peckman

Directors

Joan Boruszak – David Gitin – Steve Hartz Kurt Kluger – Dave Mont – Medina Roy Gene Silverman – Sam Vinicur

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Men's Club Steve Friedman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock Alan Beth

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message

Stuart Sax

Here we are half way through the most important period of prayer in Judaism and I am more than amazed at what we have accomplished as a small congregation in so many ways. We are privileged to be led by Rabbi Danny Young and Cantor Mark Halpern for the second time. By their professional presence, this also allows those who have sacrificed so much of their personal time leading us during the holidays to now sit back and eniov the services from the congregational point of view.

I could spend my entire column thanking people for a job well done. You all know who you are and we all thank you for your assistance in making these High Holy Days meaningful and spiritual. Having said that, I must give special appreciation to Gloria Avner and Alan Beth for helping to organize our services. Much of what they accomplished was done from a distance by means of the Internet and it is a testament to what modern technology has allowed us to do.

This is also the time of year when Temple presidents around the world ask for money. It goes with the job. In the last few months we have made several improvements to our facility and property but, as our building ages, there is more to be done. Leaks in the sanctuary mean replacing the outer windows. The awning over our entrance needs replacing. The driveway and parking lot need attention. These improvements cost money. Your generosity with gifts to the general fund above our modest dues structure is greatly appreciated.

Finally, a few weeks ago we were again reminded of how broken our world is since the events that occurred on September 11, 2001. After ten years there still seems to be as much dissension as existed before these tragedies. Fingers are still being pointed as to who was involved and who is to blame. On that historic date, Jews, Christians, Muslims and those of a variety of other faiths lost their lives. And it was Jews, Christians, Muslims and those of a variety of other faiths that immediately came to the aid of those in peril. At this season, may the words of "Lo visa goy el gov cherev, v'lo vil m'du ohd mil-chamah" (Nation will not lift up sword against nation; neither will they learn war any more) finally be heard in the heavens above.

May this be a sweet, happy, healthy, and prosperous year for each of you and may God shine his countenance upon you and give you PEACE. ◊



Nosh

The Garden Grows

There are two beautiful new donations to our ever-expanding KICC Meditation Garden. We now have a fountain, courtesy of Sisterhood, purchased with money they earned from last year's Women's Seder. We also have a new bench, donated by Larry and Dorothy Wolfe in honor of their grandsons. Brick orders continue to come in (we'll be acknowledging brick sponsors in the very near future). We also have begun offering living memorials. Our first tree has been sponsored and planted. The initial plan for that section offers five more, and then closes. Trees are \$300 each, and include a plaque. Please contact Steve Steinbock, 394-0143, for further information about bricks, or benches, or trees. And if you haven't seen the Garden recently, please stop by. KICC's new maintenance contractor is offering special TLC to the Garden.

SANCTUARY SEAT PLATE

David and Patti Gross In Honor of our Grandchildren Lily and Noah

Hebrew Classes to Begin

The snowbirds are beginning to filter back, and High Holy Days are upon us. Just after Yom Kippur, on Thursday, October 13th, this year's Hebrew Classes will be underway. The intermediate class will again run from 6 p.m. until 7:30, with the advanced class from 7:30 until 9:00. The Friday morning beginner's class is also scheduled to start on the 14th, exact time to be announced. Costs for the classes are \$50 per term for KJCC members. Contact Yardena at 393-1768 for further information or to sign up.

TREE OF LIFE

45th Anniversary

12/11/10

Arthur & Johanna Willner

Paul and Barbara Bernstein cordially invite the KJCC mishpocha to Joshua's Bar Mitzvah service.



Saturday, November 5, 2011 10 a.m. in the KJCC sanctuary

Light Kiddish to follow

October Anniversaries

Years

| 2nd | Jonathan & Arlene Line | 35 |
|-------|--------------------------|----|
| 2nd | Paul & Barbara Bernstein | 17 |
| l 2th | Harvey & Susan Schwaid | 59 |
| l 5th | David & Toby Goldfinger | 52 |
| 23rd | Michael & Suzanne Gilson | |
| 28th | David & Lois Kaufman | 32 |
| 31st | Harvey & Judith Klein | 57 |

October Birthdays

| l st | Nancy Yankow |
|--------|-----------------|
| 2nd | Michael Gilson |
| 4th | Michael Krissel |
| 6th | Joel Bernard |
| 7th | Jordan Feig |
| 9th | |
| th | |
| th | |
| th | |
| I 2th | |
| 13th | |
| 13th | |
| 14th | |
| 14th | |
| l 5th | |
| l 5th | |
| l 6th | |
| l 6th | |
| l 6th | |
| I7th | |
| 20th | |
| 21st | |
| 21st | , |
| 22nd | |
| 22nd | |
| 24th | |
| 24th | |
| 26th | |
| 29th | |
| 29th | |
| 29th | |
| 29th | |
| 30th | |
| 30th | |
| 30th | |
| 3 st | |
| 3 st | Susan Cooper |

Oneg Sponsors for October 2011

October 14th—David and Toby Goldfinger in honor of their anniversary.

October 21st—Barbara and Richard Knowles for Barbara and Sammy's birthdays, Nissan and Israel Mayk in honor of their parents.

A Time To Step Up – A Time To Step Down

Two of our members, who have each led Shabbat services for more years than we can count, have decided it is time to give up that role. Does this mean we will no longer see Jim Boruszak or Joel Pollack on the *Bimah?* Of course not.

We will see Jim on the First Day of Rosh Ha-Shanah, performing *the Kohen's Torah Aliyah*. He will give our congregation the Priestly Blessing. He will still call out the 100 notes for Bernie Ginsberg's blowing of the shofar. You are right if you think this does not sound like retirement. Especially if you consider that this list leaves out all the work Jim does behind the scenes. As Head of the KJCC House Committee, he consults with our President and Board Members, technicians, security people, cleaners, and flower providers (just to name a few) every day. Jim Boruszak keeps our physical home functioning smoothly, and does it so well that while we enjoy his handiwork we rarely notice it.

loel Pollack, who was not only a regular service leader but our KICC Ritual Director for many years, and a stalwart leader of First Day Rosh HaShanah as well, still takes it upon himself to polish all our brass and silver ritual objects for the High Holy Days. Jim and Joel also lovingly and carefully change the "dress" of our Torahs from blue to symbolic pure white in preparation for every Rosh HaShanah. They do it quietly, and they do it well. Joel, too, will be on the *bimah* during Rosh HaShanah, performing the Levite Torah Aliyah. Linda will be by his side, as she has been for years co-leading services. Even though both men have decided that it's time to stop leading a Shabbat service at this particular stage in life, we applaud them for electing to marshal their strength for other tasks that contribute to the welfare of the KICC. And have I mentioned that both also offered their many talents during terms as president of KICC?

A huge *todah rabah* – our thank you – to two wonderful, dedicated men. Their love of and service to KJCC are deeply appreciated by every one of us.

-Gloria

In Honor of KJCC Volunteers

Why Should You Be a Volunteer?

Many will be shocked to find when the Day of Judgment nears, That there's a special place in Heaven set aside for volunteers. Furnished with big recliners, satin couches and footstools, When there's no committee chairman, group leaders or car pools, No eager team that needs a coach, no bazaar and no bake sale, There will be nothing to staple, not one thing to fold or mail. Telephone lists will be outlawed, but a finger snap will bring Cool drinks and gourmet dinners and rare treats fit for a king. Who will serve these privileged few and work for all they're worth? Why, all those who reaped the benefits and not once volunteered On Earth!

(Author is unknown, but gently submitted by Lauren Sax.)

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 305-852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 305-852-0214.

Picture Postcards - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 305-852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor – To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **Meditation Garden** – Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 305-394-0143. **KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** – Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 305-852-6152.

JNF Trees In Israel – A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 305-852-4353. *Chai-Lights Mitzvah* – Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-852-6152 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights or Directory - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights and/ or annually in the Directory. Call Gene Silverman 305-664-3316 for rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam October 2011 In Memory Of

Stephen Berman Fanny Grossman Bernard By Sylvia Berman By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Milton Boxer Steven V. Calev Natalie Field By Shirley Boxer By Barbara A. Calev In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Miriam Gitin Arnold Widrich Joseph Elson By David Gitin By Joseph & Susan Goldberg In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Fanny Elson Lilian Goldenberg Elaine Hirsch By Mrs. Marty Graham By Mrs. Marty Graham By Gerald Hirsch In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of

Stanley W. Jacobson

In Memory Of

By Melvin Jacobson

In Memory Of

Leah Kamely

By Michal Kamely

In Memory Of

Eliza Christensen

By Kurt & Nancy Kluger ~~~~~~~~~~

Pearl W. Hurowitz

By Melvin Jacobson

In Memory Of

Rebekah Levy

By Michal Kamely

In Memory Of

Irene Becker

By Teresa Kwalick ~~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of

Gertrude Widlan

By Norbert Birnbaum

By Alvan & Carol Field

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Muriel Jacobson

By Melvin Jacobson

In Memory Of

Esther M. Klein

By Harvey & Judith Klein

In Memory Of

Jack Lippman

By Lillian Lippman ~~~~~~~~~~

Chai-Lights October 2011 7

. 1 0011 A

| Tn Memoriam October 2011 | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | |
| Joel S. Cohen | Reuben Oshinsky | Sarah Wernicoff | | |
| By Jim & Lynn Nobil
<><><><><> | By Gerald Oshinsky
<><><><><> | By Donald & Nancy Zinner | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | |
| Rosalyn Rose | Maurice Singer | Arnold Tomor | | |
| By Skip & Rene Rose
<><><><><> | By Lee Schur
<><><><>> | By Barbara A. Calev | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | |
| Morton I. Singer | Perren Gerber | Abraham Kanowsky | | |
| By Mary Lee Singer | By Gloria Avner | By Wes & Rita Conklin | | |
| | | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | |
| | | | | |
| Joel S. Cohen | Saunders G. Cohen | Harriet Feder | | |
| Joel S. Cohen
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><> | Saunders G. Cohen
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><> | Harriet Feder
By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<><><><><> | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
Second Steinberg
In Memory Of
Eva Buchman
By Mel Taks
Second Steinberg
In Memory Of
Doran David Zinner
By Donald & Nancy Zinner | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | | |
| By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
Second Sheila Steinberg
In Memory Of
Eva Buchman
By Mel Taks
Second Steinberg
In Memory Of
Doran David Zinner
By Donald & Nancy Zinner | By Richard & Sheila Steinberg
<><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><><> | By David & Suzi-Sara Feder
<pre></pre> | | |

8 Chai-Lights October 2011

Sisterhood Lauren Sax



Summer is officially over and I am well rested and ready to get back into the swing of all the KJCC happenings. It has been a good summer for me, as not only have I been able to take a little time off from working but I have also been able to see all our children, which is an extra bonus. Chicago was warm, much like the Keys, however spending a few days with our daughter and my mother was the best. I see my mom when she comes south for the winter but we don't get to see Jorie as much as we would like. Taking her out shopping, to dinner and to our favorite, Second City Theatre, was fabulous.

Sisterhood is in the process of organizing our High Holidays. By the time you receive this, planning for Rosh Hashana will be over and we will be on to Yom Kippur. Prepping for these holidays takes a great deal of effort, and I want to thank all those involved with the onegs during Rosh Hashana.

We have already had our first meeting of the new season, and at that time I announced, with much regret, the resignation of our treasurer, Nancy Kluger. Nancy has been Sisterhood's treasurer for ten years and she has done an exemplary job of keeping us all on track. She has certainly made it easier for me as an incoming president. It will be difficult to replace her, but we understand that she has given her all. However, I look forward to working with her on our major fundraiser this spring. Her resignation as treasurer is effective as of January.

Very shortly you will all be receiving a special Sisterhood letter. I am asking for help in all areas of our organization. Please read the letter carefully and think hard about what you can do for your Sisterhood and the KJCC. Whether it is making phone calls, addressing envelopes or helping on a committee, I would appreciate any support you can give us. It is only through that support that we can continue to provide all the wonderful events Sisterhood is known for.

Speaking about helping, Vice President Georgia Landau and Kitchen Chairperson Dr. Erica Garrett did their *mitzvah* by spending a few hours cleaning and organizing the kitchen. Thanks to them, the kitchen is in good working order for the new year. Erica wants me to remind all of you about Yom Kippur and our Break-the-Fast. Traditionally, Sisterhood has put out a lavish spread and this year will be no exception. Please contact Erica at hippiejap@hotmail.com to coordinate the dish you will be bringing or if you can help with serving and clean-up.

Another example of Sisterhood's busy ladies are Susan Gordon and Roberta McNew. Next time you are at the KJCC, make sure to stop and take a look at all the new and wonderful items they've purchased for the gift shop. They have been working very hard to select just the right merchandise for you and will continue to scour the market for those Judaica goodies that we can't locate in the Keys. Also of note, we are displaying some of Rosie Biskar's original, hand-painted *mezuzot* on the wall next to the gift shop. (We doubt if any of you have ever seen a mezuzah guite like these.) Not only is her art unique and beautiful, but Rosie is donating half of the profits from any sale back to Sisterhood! These are truly works of art, and laborintensive, and we are fortunate to have such a talented lady in our congregation.

I wish all of you a good holiday and an easy fast. ◊



Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

| <i>Chai-Lights</i>
Graham, Bea
Kwalick, Teresa | | Avner, Gloria honor Jim Boruszak & Joel &
Linda Pollack for their years as
service leaders | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| | | Field, Dr. Alvan and | Carol | | |
| General Fund | In Honor of | Goodman, Dr. Jamie | and Laura | | |
| Barton, Allison | | Gould, Maryon | | | |
| Dorf, Barry and Natalie | | Gross, David and Pa | tti | | |
| Gross, David and Patti | | Kluger, Kurt and Nancy | | | |
| Hartz, Steve & Jan | Hartz, Steve & Jan | | Knowles, Richard and Barbara | | |
| Lemelman, Elliot & Rebecca | | Levy, Ronald & Beth Kaminstein | | | |
| thanks for recent hospitality | | Steinbock, Stephen a | ind Carol | | |
| Steinbock, Stephen and Carc | bl | | | | |
| sewer project | | Sanctuary Seat Plate | | In Honor of | |
| Tobin, Andrew | | Gross, David & Patti | | our grandchildrer | |
| General Fund | In Memory of | Sara Cohen Memorial | Tzedukah F | und | |
| Kanowsky, Allyn & Neil | Sandy Kanarek | Goldberg, Joseph & S | Susan | | |
| Pollack, Joel & Linda | Max Lieberman | | | | |
| - | | Scholarship Fund | | | |
| Holocaust Education Fund | | Graham, Bea | | | |
| Steinbock, Steve & Carol | | Kluger, Kurt and Nancy | | | |
| Swartz, George & Muriel | | Levy, Ronald & Beth Kaminstein | | | |
| | | Steinbock, Stephen and Carol | | | |
| Meditation Garden | | | | | |
| Field, Alvan and Carol brick | - Alvan & Carol Field | Yartzeit Contributions | | In Memory of | |
| Knowles, Richard and Barbai | ra brick, Knowles | Avner, Gloria | | Alex Avner | |
| | Family | Cooper, Murray and | Claire | | |
| Steinbock, Steve and Carol | | Mark Sands | | | |
| | | Gould, Maryon | F | I. Robert Walters | |
| Wolfe, Larry and Dorothy | bench in honor of | Gould, Maryon | | Paul Gould | |
| grandsons Matthe | ew, Jordan, Ryan | Steinberg, Richard ar | nd Sheila | Erik Persoff | |
| Sax, Stuart & Lauren memory of Howard Shutan | | Steinberg, Richard ar
Meyer Cohen | nd Sheila | | |
| Rabbi & Cantor Fund | | ,
Steinberg, Richard ar | nd Sheila | Sam Wainer | |
| Avner, Gloria hor
birthday | nor Bea Avner's 90th | 2 | | | |

Contributions to KJCC continued

Yizkor Book

Alter, Barry Bader, Ivan & Jean Berman, Sylvia Bernard, Joel & Joan Stark Beth, Alan & Candy Stanlake Boruszak, Jim & Joan Bromwich, Richard & Rita Cianciolo, Carol Coltman, Barney & Ellen Conklin, Rita and Wes Cooper, Dr. Alan & Susan Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin Dorf, Barry & Natalie Emkey, Gerri Feinberg, Arthur Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Field, Dr. Alvan and Carol Goodman, Dr. Jamie and Laura Graham, Bea Geller, Milton Gilderman, Larry & Stephanie Gilson, Michael & Suzanne Goldfinger, David & Toby Gordon, Susan Gorson, Janice Gould, Maryon Greenbaum, Marilyn Hartz, Steven Hernstadt, Roger & Jessica Hermann, Robert Horn, Ronald & Dorothy Incociati, Estelle Isenberg, Henry & Patricia lacobson, Melvin Kay, Joan and Harvey Kluger, Kurt and Nancy Knowles, Richard and Barbara Kominsky, Randy and Eileen Kwalick, Teresa

Kaplan, Frank Krissel, Michael Levy, Ronald & Beth Kaminstein Line, Ionathan & Arlene Margulies, Stanley & Jenny Marmar, David & Pamela Olsen, Gerald & Sheila Peckman, Joyce Pollack, Joel & Linda Present, Marjorie Rose, Skip and Rene Roy, Medina Sachs, Dr. Joseph & Susan Sax, Stuart & Lauren Schwaid, Harvey & Susan Sheinker, Miltra Silverman, Morton & Gene Singer, Mary Lee Smith, Dr. Steven & Barbara Steinbock, Stephen and Carol Swartz, George & Muriel Tallent, Ralph & Lillian Temkin, Dr. Robert & Susan Weihl, Alfred & Sue Ann Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner, Morris & Sherrie Zinner, Donald

YEDA VE'TORASHA Yardena Kamely



The Many Faces of Sukkot

For everything there is a season. For everything there is a time. A time to weep and a time to laugh. A time to keep silent and a time to speak. A time to plant and a time to harvest.

- (Ecclesiastes)

The time of Sukkot is the time of joyous celebration. Sukkot celebrates nature, the season of the harvest. Sukkot, usually translated as Tabernacles or the Festival of Booths, occurs for seven days, from *Tishri* 15 to 21. There is a quick transition from the High Holidays, with their serious, somber mood of repentance and judgment, to a holiday of rejoicing and celebration for which we are commanded to build a hut – *sukkah*, plural *sukkot* – and make it our temporary home.

The Torah tells us: "You shall live in huts, sukkot, seven days in order that future generations may know that I made the Israelites live in huts when I brought them out of Egypt." The sukkah also reminds us of huts the Israelite farmers built in the fields during the harvest, and shelters the Jews built in Jerusalem during their pilgrimage to the Holy Temple, Bet Ha'mikdash.

Sukkot is one of the three "Pilgrim Festivals," along with Pesach and Shavuot, holidays for which Jews would make pilgrimages to the Temple in Jerusalem, bringing offerings, at this time from the fall harvest. Today, in each of these three holidays we include a *Yizkor* (memorial) service as part of the liturgy. Thus Sukkot, like many other festivals, is linked not only to Jewish history but also to the agricultural cycle that is such an important part of life in Israel. Two of the four names by which the holiday is known reflect this aspect: *Chag Ha'Asif*, Festival of the Ingathering (of crops), and *Chag Ha'Sukkot*. Two other names suggest another aspect of this holiday: *Ha'Chag*, The Festival, and *Z'man Simchateinu*, Season of Rejoicing. In Biblical times, Sukkot was the most important festival of all, *Ha'Chag*.

There are three *mitzvot* (commandments) concerning Sukkot found in the Torah. (1) living in the sukkah; (2) gathering together the Four Species, *Lulav and Etrog*; and (3) rejoicing during the holiday. Other rituals and customs include the reciting of the *Hoshana* prayers while making circuits in the synagogue; reading the Book of Ecclesiastes, *Kohelet*; inviting *Ushpizin*, symbolic guests, to the sukkah.

Lulav and Etrog: The Torah tells us - when you have gathered in the harvest crops, you shall celebrate. You shall take the branches and fruit of beautiful trees and you shall rejoice. The branches and fruit we use are: Lulav - the branch of a palm tree, Hadasim three boughs of a leafy myrtle, Aravot - two branches of a willow tree, Etrog - the lemonlike fruit of a citron. We hold them together, recite a blessing, and shake them in all directions to show that God is everywhere. The Lulav and Etrog stand for the crops of the harvest, but tradition has given them additional meanings. Each of the crops is different: the *Etrog* is both sweet-smelling and tasty. Dates, from the *Lulav*, have taste but no smell. *Hadasim* (myrtle) have smell but no taste. *Aravot* (willow) have neither smell nor taste. The rabbis said they are like the many

kinds of people who make up the Jewish community...those who study and perform mitzvot, those who study Torah, pray, but perform no good deeds, those who give Tzedakah but don't study Torah, and those who rely on the goodness of others. All four of these Jews are necessary to the sustaining of the people Israel, an essential part of the lewish community, even the unbelieving, nonpracticing one. When they are united, each makes up for the shortcomings of the others.

Hoshana: On each of the first six days of Sukkot (except

on Shabbat) during the morning service the congregation makes a processional circuit – a *Hakafah* – around the reader's table, carrying their *Lulavim and Etrogim*. During this procession, they recite one stanza of the *Hoshanot*, a series of prayers that begin *Ana Adonai*, *hoshia na* – Please, Adonai, save us!

Sukkot in Israel: In many of Israel's kibbut*zim*, agriculture is an important industry, and the harvest celebration is a joyous festival. Members build huge sukkot, large enough for all the families, and decorate them beautifully with fruits and vegetables grown on their farms. Israel depends on winter rains, and there are music and dance festivals to recall the Water-Drawing Ceremony at the Holy Temple, Simchat Bet Ha'Sho'evah, Families take hiking and camping trips to enjoy nature and the fall weather. Throughout the week, in cities and towns, you can see people - young and old - walking to synagogues with their Lulav and Etrog, and enjoying festive meals in *sukkot* built on rooftops and balconies. even on sidewalks in front of restaurants.

Ushpizin and hospitality: Sukkot is a week

"When you have gathered in the harvest crops, you shall celebrate."

full of opportunities for inviting and being invited. In some communities, after morning services the first day(s), people go from sukkah to sukkah "making *Kiddush.*" Instead of a formal lunch at any one place, during the course of the afternoon they visit many *sukkot* in their neighborhoods. Sukkot is also a

holiday of hospitality in its most basic sense. As mentioned, there is a tradition of inviting Ushpizin – honorary quests, symbolic quests (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, and David) - to your sukkah. This custom is related to the important concern of giving shelter to the homeless and food to the poor. As with the Passover seder, we are encouraged to invite the poor to be our real quests in the sukkah. We are also encouraged to invite those acquaintances who do not have a *sukkah* to join us

so they can fulfill the *mitzvah* of using one.

At the KJCC we are looking forward to the building of our *sukkah*, its decoration by our Religious School children, and invite you to be our guests and celebrate *Sukkot* with us, doing the *Kiddush* and shaking the *Lulav and Etrog* in the *sukkah*. \diamond

On Sunday, October 9th, the KJCC Religious School will decorate our sukkah. All parents are encouraged to join us, of course. But we also enthusiastically invite all members of KJCC and their guests to join us in this important and meaningful mitzvah. Please contact Yardena with any questions, or to discuss how you can participate in this joyous event, at 393-1768 or yardena@morah-yardena.com

World Jewish Report Medina Roy



They Swim Better in Winter

It's not surprising that, nine months after the coldest and dreariest time of the year, there's usually a spike in the number of children being born. But now, Israeli researchers have discovered that it's because winter sperm is actually better. (!) The scientists analyzed 6,453 semen samples and found that summer and spring sperm are not as likely to fertilize an egg as winter sperm is. Apparently, summer sperm, like most of us, become lethargic because of the heat. The study shows that, as the temperature drops, the ability of sperm to swim towards the egg increases. (*The Forward, 8-15-11*)

Possibly a Major Breakthrough

New research by scientists at Israel's Weizmann Institute could lead to an early diagnosis of autism in children. The biological causes of the disorder are still not completely understood, and at the present time a diagnosis is only possible after a child reaches the age of three or four. But the Weizmann research, which recently appeared in the science magazine Neuron, has found, for the first time, a method that can accurately identify a biological sign of the disorder in very young children. By scanning the brain activity when children are sleeping, the scientists discovered that autistic brains exhibited "significantly weaker synchronization between brain areas tied to language and communication, compared to that of non-autistic children." Many scientists believe that faulty lines of communication between different parts of the brain contribute to the disorder. but until now there has been no way to observe this in very young children because of their inability to lie still inside an MRI scanner while awake. On the basis of the scans, the scientists were able to identify 70 percent of autistic children tested between the ages of one and three. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 7-29-11)

After Gaddafi

The day after the fall of the capital city Tripoli to Libyan rebels, Raphael Luzon, the leader of the Libyan-Jewish community in Britain, said that he has been invited by opposition leader Mustafa Abdul Jalil to return to his country of birth and run for political office in free elections once Gaddafi is gone. Luzon, 57, born in Benghazi (the city that was about to be massacred by Gaddafi and for which NATO initially intervened to protect) fled Libya with his family following a pogrom in 1967. Luzon said he would wait for further developments before making a final decision. "I said I would accept it once I see it is real democracy...If I do it, I do it for one matter...the first Arab country that proposed that a lew run in a free election."

Jews have lived in Libya since ancient times. At its peak during the 1930s, the Jewish community in Libya numbered 25,000, but persecution by Italy and Germany during World War II and a series of state-sponsored pogroms after Libya's independence in 1951 took its toll. The Jews fled, immigrating mostly to Israel, Italy and the UK. The last Jew in Libya left the country almost a decade ago. Luzon said that if he were to return to Libya, his priorities would be the reconstruction of the war-torn country and the restitution to their rightful owners of Jewish assets confiscated by the Libyan regime. "As you know, we left there 82 synagogues, land and property, and I would like to take care of this because it belongs to the Jewish community of Libya." Luzon also said that he hoped Israeli Jews of Libyan descent would be free to visit their country of origin.

(The Jerusalem Post, 8-31-11)

So Now, Where Do I Go to Find a Bialy?

After 91 years, Coney Island Bialys & Bagels, the oldest bialy bakery in Brooklyn, is closing its doors, having fallen victim to a bad economy and the changing demographics of the once-predominently lewish neighborhood. The area is now made up primarily of Asians, Russians and Middle Easterners. If you are not familiar with a bialy, it's the bagel's "first cousin." Instead of the hole in the middle, bialys (bialies?) have a depression in the center, which is then sprinkled with onions. "I'm heartbroken," said Steven Ross, the bakery's 51-year-old proprietor and baker. "It's been four generations, including my son." Ross's grandfather, Morris Rosenzweig, came from Bialystok, (the town from which bialys get their name), in northeast Poland. Rosenzweig began selling bialys with his brothers in Brooklyn in 1920. Ross began working in the store when he was eight, sweeping the floors. (And did you know that the reason the very best bagels and bialys are made in New York is because of New York City's tap water? No kidding.) (The Forward, 8-19-11)

"Virtual" Autopsies

At the end of August, a new MRI device that can accurately determine cause of death without the need for autopsies was inaugurated at *Assaf Harofeh Hospital*, located in central Israel. The device allows doctors to conduct a "virtual autopsy," viewing the inside of the body without the need to cut the body open. This could bring an end to traditional autopsies in Israel, resolving a longstanding, problematic and divisive issue between religious Jews and the civil state. As in the U.S., Israeli police and medical authorities often insist on conducting autopsies in cases where the cause of death is not clear.

Similar MRI devices have been around for several years, but recent technological improvements make the scans far more accurate than they were in the past. (By the way, the hospital is named for Assaf Harofeh – Assaf the Physician – who practiced medicine in Israel in the 5th century BCE. He is the author of the oath for Jewish physicians, which is very similar to the oaths of Hippocrates and Maimonides.)

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 8-30-11)

Mel Maccabee?

Once again, Mel Gibson finds himself in the middle of Jewish controversy. Gibson, along with Warner Brothers Studio, are said to be developing a movie that tells the story of the iconic Jewish hero Judah Maccabee, the second-century B.C.E. Jewish warrior who together with his father and brothers led a small revolt of Jews against the Greek-Syrian armies, thereby liberating Jerusalem. This event is commemorated by Jews when we celebrate Channukah. There are rumors suggesting that Gibson may even play Judah Maccabee himself. "Judah Maccabee deserves better," said Abraham Foxman, Director of B'nai Brith's Anti-Defamation League. "He is a hero of the Jewish people and a universal hero in the struggle for religious liberty. It would be a travesty to have his story told by one who has no respect and sensitivity for other people's religious views." Reports state that Gibson has been working on the project for more than a decade.

(www.virtualjerusalem.com, 9-9-11)

In Memoriam

-Noach Flug, a leading advocate for the rights of Holocaust survivors, recently died in Israel at the age of 86. In his younger days, Flug was part of the Lodz Ghetto underground. He was deported to Birkenau (the killing half of Auschwitz-Birkenau) in 1944, where over one hundred members of his family died. He was transferred to other concentration camps until liberation by American troops just days before the end of World War II. After the war, he stayed in Poland until 1958 when he, together with his wife and two daughters, moved to Israel, where he worked as an economist and diplomat. Flug served as chairman of the Center for Organizations of Holocaust Survivors and organized his fellow survivors to directly lobby the German government for restitution. He believed that survivors should work on their own behalf and not rely on politicians to work for them. He also served on the board of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. (World Jewish Congress, 8-11-11)

-lyricist Jerry Lieber died recently at the age of 78. Lieber, along with composer Mike Stoller, wrote numerous hit songs, including "Hound Dog," "Stand By Me," and "Jailhouse Rock." Lieber and Stoller met in the 1950s when they were teenagers. They wrote two hundred hit songs that were performed by, among others, Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, the Beatles, B.B. King, the Drifters and Peggy Lee. Lieber and Stoller have been honored by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and several other music organizations. (www.jta.org, 8-24-11)

The Jewish Side of Hurricane Irene

-Rozalia Gluck, an 82-year-old Holocaust survivor, died when torrential floodwaters from Hurricane Irene uprooted and swept away the cottage where she and her husband were vacationing in Fleischmann's, New York (a town in the Catskill Mountains, about 140 miles north of New York City). The motel guests, including Gluck's husband, had been evacuated earlier in the morning. "She survived Hitler, but she couldn't survive Irene," said Isaac Abraham, a community leader from the Chasidic community of Williamsburg (Brooklyn) where Gluck lived. It is not known why she did not evacuate with her husband and the other guests. *(The Forward, 8-29-11)*

-Orthodox Rabbi and father of four David M. Reichenberg, 50, tried to save the lives of five-year-old Reuven Herbst and his father, who were walking through a puddle near their home in Spring Valley, New York, when they came in contact with a fence electrified by a downed power line caused by Hurricane Irene. Reichenberg was able to pull the two from the fence but was himself killed instantly. The father survived but the young boy, who was in critical condition after the incident, died on September 9th.

(www.thejewishweek.com, 8-30-11 and The Forward, 9-11-11)

Did You Know...

-Philip Levine, 83, has been named the 18th poet laureate (and one of the oldest poet laureates) of the United States. Levine, of Fresno, California, is the author of twenty collections of poems, including "The Simple Truth," for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1995. Levine is the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants. (*The Forward, 8-11-11*)

-The Library of Congress has digitized thousands of photographs showing the history of the land of Israel and made them available online. Many are over one hundred years old and are put into historical, Biblical and contemporary context. Most of the pictures are from photographers from the "American Colony" in Jerusalem, a group of Christian utopians that lived in Jerusalem between 1881 and the 1940s. At the website (which follows at the end of this sentence), you can get a picture a day from the collection.

(www.israeldailypicture.com, 8-12-11)

-Standard & Poor's has upgraded Israel's long-term foreign-currency sovereign rating from A to A+ with a "stable" outlook. four steps below AAA. S&P also reaffirmed Israel's local currency rating at AA-. The company was quoted as saying, "The rating...reflects our view of Israel's improved economic policy flexibility as a result of strong growth and careful macroeconomic management...Israel is on a credible path toward continued government debt burden reduction and stronger external indicators." S&P pointed to Israel's responsible fiscal policy and that expected tax revenues from natural gas discoveries will support these trends in the future. Yuval Steinitz, Israel's Minister of Finance, said, "This is an impressive certification for the Israeli economy, and its successful handling of the global economic crisis of the past three years in the in the Western world." (www.alobes.co.il. 9-9-11) ◊



The best combination since peanut butter and jalapenos!

FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM AT THE KJCC MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7

ALL KJCC MEN ARE AUTOMATICALLY MEMBERS ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

> Light Snacks (Potluck) Beverages Provided Worst Player Prize!

FUN AND EXCITEMENT FOR ALL!

For Additional Information Contact: Steve Friedman, sfried@ix.netcom.com, 305.720.1681

-This Month in Jewish History-October

331 B.C.E – Alexander the Great defeats Darius III and the Persian army at Gaugamela (near Mosul in modern-day Iraq). This victory, and the death of Darius, mark the end of the Persian Empire and complete Alexander's conquest of the Middle East. Thus begins the profound Hellenizing influence on the Jewish people, their thinking and their culture.

768 - Carloman I and Charlemagne are crowned co-Kings of The Franks. Charlemagne treats his Jewish subjects well, even at the risk of going against Church doctrine. Jews "mingle freely at the Frankish court in defiance of canon law...disputes between Jews are resolved in Jewish courts." The increased protection and freedom offered the Jews by Charlemagne results in increased commercial and financial activity, especially trade with the Islamic world.

1187 – Sultan Saladin captures Jerusalem from the Christian Crusaders. The Europeans had barred Jews from living in the city; Saladin allows them to return. Of Kurdish descent, Saladin is a great patron of the arts and learning. His personal physician is a renowned Sephardic Jew, born in Toledo, who even today is perhaps the most famous of all philosophers of Jewish law and ethics: Rabbi Moses Ben Maimon, or Maimonides

1666 – In Hamburg, Germany, on Yom Kippur, blessings are offered in honor of Shabbatai Zvi. Hamburg Jews are apparently unaware that the self-proclaimed Messiah had converted to Islam the month before.

1811 – The first steamboat to sail the Mississippi River arrives in New Orléans. The copper for the boilers in that steamboat is said to have been supplied by Henry Hendricks, a prominent New York Sephardic Jew who also supplied the copper for all of Robert Fulton's steamboats.

1876 - Texas A&M University opens as the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, becoming the first public institution of higher education in Texas. By 1916, there are enough lews on campus to justify forming an organization dedicated to their needs. It is called the TAMC Menorah Club. organized by Dr. Jacob Joseph Taubenhaus, a native of Safed who is chief of the plant pathology and physiology division of the school from 1916 to 1937. In 1920, the club becomes the TAMC Hillel Club, technically making it the oldest Hillel House in the United States. That status is usually credited to the University of Illinois, whose Hillel was actually not founded until 1923.

1884 - Non-Jewish writer Damon Runyon is born in Manhattan...Kansas, not New York. Though not Jewish, Runyan does as much as anyone to introduce the New York lewish subculture to the rest of the country. One of his signature characters, the gambler Nathan Detroit, is based on lewish gambler Arnold Rothstein (the man who fixed the 1919 World Series). But Runyon also writes a famous poem defending Jews from anti-Semitism and repeated charges of cowardice. Recalling the heroics of Sergeant Sam Dreben during World War I. Runvan writes his now-famous poem. "The Fighting Jew." (In the brief war, Dreben had earned the Distinguished Service Cross, the Croix de Guerre, the Militaire and other medals.) Runyon ends his poem with: "Thank God Almighty, we will always have a few, like Dreben a lew."

1895 - German born, American-Jewish inven-

tor/businessman Emil Berliner founds the Berliner Gramophone Company. It will produce "flat gramophone records," or what will come to be called phonograph records. His disc wins out over Edison's cylinders.

1903 - In the first game of the very first World Series, The National League's Pittsburgh Pirates play the American League's Boston Americans. The World Series is the brainchild of Barney Drevfus, a German-born Jew who immigrates to the United States in 1881. Dreyfus becomes part-owner and president of the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1900. Under his guidance the Pirates win three straight National League championships. During the 1903 season, Dreyfus meets with the owner of the Boston Americans and proposes that the two teams meet at the end of the season. The deal is consummated by a handshake. Drevfus also builds Forbes Field and helps create the office of the Commissioner of Baseball.

1908 – The first edition of *Pravda* is published in Vienna. Its editors include Adolph Joffe, born Adolph Abramovich Joffe, and Leon Trotsky, born Lev Davidovich Bronstein. When European anti-Communism later takes on clear hues of anti-Semitism, a European rabbi reportedly quips that it might be the Trostkys who make a revolution, but the Bronsteins are the ones who suffer.

1917 – British Intelligence learns of a meeting in Berlin where Germans and Turks plan to offer the Jews of Europe a German-sponsored Jewish National Home in Palestine. This stimulates the British to finalize what becomes known as the Balfour Declaration.

1918 - King Boris III accedes to the throne of Bulgaria. During World War II, Boris refuses Hitler's demands that he ship his nation's 50,000 Jews to Poland. Boris attempts to work out of deal with the British that will enable him to send the Bulgarian Jews to Palestine. The plan is blocked by Anthony Eden, Britain's Foreign Minister. Boris' plans are not a complete success, but the bulk of the Bulgarian Jewish community survives the war. Boris dies, supposedly of a heart attack, after visiting Hitler and refusing his demand that Bulgaria declare war on the Soviet Union. Many doubt that the death was, as reported, of natural causes.

1926: In New York, Joseph M. Levy, manager for Clark's Tours in Palestine and Syria, returns from Jerusalem and reports that the city has a population of 60,000, 37,000 of whom are Jewish.

1931 – The *Habima* Theater opens in Tel Aviv. Founded by Nahum Zemach in 1917 in Moscow, *Habima* (Hebrew for "the stage"... you know, as in "join us on the bimah") is one of the first Hebrew-language theatre groups. *Habima* is designated as the national theatre in 1958.

1943 – Jewish paratroopers from Palestine land in the Balkans during World War II. Many had been born in the region and therefore speak the language. The Jews are there to help organize non-Jewish underground units on behalf of the British war effort. In return, the British agree to let them aid other Jews once their primary mission is completed, though they make it clear they will offer only the opportunity, not any support.

1950 - Groucho Marx adds television to his list of show-business conquests as the game show "You Bet Your Life" first airs. He will later be banned from television for a quip that includes a reference to his cigar.

1965 - Pope Paul VI arrives in New York City, making him the first pope in history to visit the United States. Paul VI addresses the U.N. and, while in New York, publishes a document exonerating the Jews of all blame in the death of Jesus Christ.

1973 - During the Yom Kippur War, Gabi Amir's armored brigade attacks Egyptianoccupied positions on the Israeli side of the Suez Canal. The attack fails, and over 150 Israeli tanks are destroyed. ◆

Photo Gallery

After leading more Shabbat services here at KJCC than probably any-

one could count, Jim Boruszak led a service on August 19th that he says will be his last. Happily, Marc Bloom was there with his phone and we were able to capture a few photos. Jim always brought a certain





with Alan.) Please see Gloria's tribute to Jim and Joel Pollack that appears on page 3.





On Saturday morning, September 3rd, Rabbi Richard Agler (along with wife Mindy, KJCC's newest members) conducted a Shabbat service at KJCC. As it always is when he's here, it was a special morning. It isn't often we get to truly use our Torahs. And

since Bernie can't lead services every week, it was nice to have Rabbi Agler able to fill in.



The photo top left was taken at the Mahjonggettes' annual getaway play-a-thon this past August.

If you'll look carefully beneath the tallit in the center photo, you'll see — yup, that's what it is — a crucifix. Medina Roy's summer house in Boone, North Carolina brings her to a small but active congregation that just happens to borrow a local church for their services. This photo shows how they customize the room and make it as (temporarily) Jewish as possible.

> The photo bottom right is of Joyce Peckman's son Keith's house in New Jersey after a blind date with Hurricane Irene. It was messy, but the house didn't actually sustain any real damage.





The photo at left is at the base of the first memorial tree planted in KJCC's Meditation Garden. All tree sponsorships include a descriptive plaque.

To Every Thing There Is A Season

Turn Turn Turn: T'shuvah

Text and artwork by Gloria Avner

Whether the lyrics are Pete Seeger's version or straight Ecclesiastes, the words above and the notes playing in our heads make perfect background music for ushering in *Tishrei*, the most densely packed ceremonial month of the Jewish year. The Hebrew word "*Tshuvah*," the cornerstone of High Holy Days, means "return, a turning away from immoral behavior, turning toward God, returning to wholeness and holiness."

From the dark of the moon to fullness and back again, we continue the forty-day journey of self-examination begun in the previous month, Elul. Now, approaching our ten Days of Awe, we look inward towards selfand Yom Teruah (the Day of Trumpets Blasting Us Awake). Two of the four times a year that our oral tradition (the Mishnah) tells us the world is judged happen within Tishrei: on Rosh HaShanah all human beings pass before God. On Sukkot,

the Feast of the Tabernacles, a decree is passed determining rain for the coming season. Everything is about nourishment. We correct our behavior and nourish our souls. This allows us to correct the world with the seemingly impossible goal of unifying mankind.

This month can be a daunting one. The sheer number of significant holidays presents

correction. We want to complete our turn and return before Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, Remembrance, and Judgment.

Tishrei is the "head" (*rosh*) of our spiritual year. The name for this month comes from the Aramaic



a challenge to our organizational skills and piles task after task on our pool of willing workers. In the modern world the number of holidays so close together (Rosh HaShanah followed a week later by Yom Kippur followed five

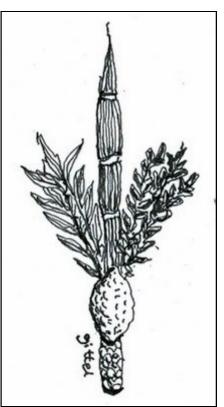
"sherei," meaning " to begin." The first two days of the month mark only one of the four Jewish New Years, but over generations it has become known to the world as *the* Jewish New Year, our *Rosh HaShanah*. The Torah calls it *Yom Hazikaron* (Day of Remembrance) days later by seven days of Sukkot, followed one day later by two more holidays, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah) also presents a challenge to our ability to balance home, work, and our spiritual worlds. The celestial sign of the month, the scales, is not only related to the Divine Judgment taking place between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, but also is asking us to weigh what we value in the world. As we transition from one holiday to the next, we travel on waves from crest to depth, from joyful celebration of new beginnings to serious introspection, and back to joyousness, all of it anchored by words of Torah and generations of symbolic ritual designed to anchor us respectfully to earth, inspire us to reach for the heavens. and, ideally, make the world a place where all can live in harmony.

Like so much in Judaism, *Tishrei* examined reveals layers within layers of meaning, and microcosms to explore. The themes of turning appear and reappear. We return to our Torah commandments to see where our behavior missed the mark. In

addition, we turn to self, others, and our Creator for forgiveness. Confession is not complete until we do in community.

In sweetness and hope at the beginning of the New Year, we celebrate with a festive family meal brimming with auspiciousness. As Yom Kippur approaches, we pass through a dark night of the soul, fasting and giving charity. On Shabbat Tshuvah we return through prayer. We are judged, and the judgment is sealed on Yom Kippur. Hearing that long, loud final wake-up call -- "Tekiah G'dolaaaaah," we open our eyes, refreshed, renewed, and we go on - to eat, once more celebrating in community.

In this microcosm that is *Tishrei*, Judaism looks more clearly than ever like a great wheel, alternating sorrow and gladness, darkness and light, acts of exhortation with acts of generosity and expressions of gratitude. Five days after Yom Kippur, we start celebrat-



ing harvest. At the same time, seed planting begins. We pray with the "four species." we decorate our outdoor temporary homes in the wilderness, our sukkot, with all kinds of fruit. and we start setting ourselves up for plentiful gentle rains. Not all seeds can be held in a hand. In our sukkot, living and eating under the open sky for seven days, we are already making provision, through prayer and ritual, for gentle rains to start the next growing season.

The day after we take down our *sukkah*, we celebrate completion of another season with the most joyous holiday of all: *Simchat Torah*. The minute we finish reading the last words in the last *parshah* of Deuteronomy, Moses' reiteration of the Torah's behavior manual, we start again at the beginning, re-rolling our

Torah scrolls – again in community, as a group, never alone – starting our weekly readings with the first words of Genesis, *Bereshit Barah*. And we dance, holding the Torah.

On *Rosh HaShanah*, we celebrate the birthday of the world and the creation of humanity. The wheel keeps turning. As years go by and we celebrate our own and the world's birthdays, we see clearly that there is no beginning and no end, to life or to Judaism. Some of us will receive a light sentence on *Yom Kippur*; others will be gifted with a joyous year of health and prosperity. Still others will encounter serious challenges, or leave this plane of existence altogether, becoming sparks once again, waiting for another turn at *tikkun olam* and self-repair.

L'Shanah Tova. May all of you be written and sealed in the Book of Life for a sweet and wonderful new year. *>*

The Lulav and the Etrog:

Water, Rain, Unity, and Joy

by Gloria Avner

For Sukkot, the Torah instructs us to collect "arba minim," fourspecies, including the etrog (a citron), and the lulav, a bouquet of

tree branches - palm, myrtle and willow. It does not really specifywhat to do with them.

Jewish tradition, hundreds of years old, inspired the Sages to haveus shake them towards the four cardinal directions and to-

wardsheaven and earth. I am struck by the similarities between thisancient tradition of ours and all early, even aboriginal, earthbasedcultures. Unspoken is the seventh sacred direction – within – as we stand in the center, holding the minim, doing the shaking.

In the shapes of the "four kinds," we also have explicit symbols of the masculine and feminine - the tall, erect species coupled with

the rounded, womblike citron, united as one as are all parts of the Jewish world as we perform the mitzvah of living as our ancestors

did, on the earth and under the sky, in total trust. We can have more space above us than substance (as we are instructed to in making the roof of our shelter), because in our sukkah we are living within the embrace of Shekhina, the divine presence.

The most intuitive explanation of lulav and etrog, though, relates to water – a central theme of Sukkot. The rainy season in Israel begins at Sukkot time. This is when we start saying the sentence in the prayer book that asks for rain. In Temple days, one of the most important ceremonies observed on Sukkot was "water drawing," in which the altar and its surrounds were splashed with water. Unlike all other holidays, when wine is the libation offered, on Sukkot the libations are water.

In each of the four species there are differing degrees of moisture. The palm core is on the dry end of the scale, the willow is waterneedy (and withers over the course of the week), themyrtle holds its water well, retaining its fresh appearance all week, and the

aromatic etrog is the ultimate fruity reservoir of moisture.

When the lulav is shaken, its rustling makes the sound of rain. Perhaps the waving ceremony is meant as a sympathetic ritual of power, inspiring the urge to rain, from the sky to the earth, filling well, rivers, and lakes, allowing fertility and assuring the abundance necessary for survival.

It is especially propitious if you do not get rained on while you are living in your sukkah, but it is the best of all worlds if rains begin

immediately afterwards. Apparently, we are to be joyous in our outdoor dwelling, and discomfort hampers joy. Asked the question"how much rain must fall before we can leave the sukkah and go inside," the teaching responds, "when your cereal gets soggy."

May each of us experience every level of joy and blessing as we break bread together and wave the four species in our sukkah.

What to do with a leftover etrog

Slice the etrog after Sukkot and put the slices into a bottle of vodka. Put the bottle into the freezer until the following Sukkot and use this liquid to make a "l'chaim" toast in your sukkah! <

When the lulav is shaken, its rustling makes the sound of rain.

- A Closer Look at Bible Figures -

JONAH

Each year on Yom Kippur, toward the end of a long day of introspection and suppression of hunger pangs, the afternoon haftarah - the teachings and perspectives, with an occasional dollop of finger-pointing, of one of the ancient Biblical prophets – is read aloud. It is always the story of Jonah. This seems an unusual choice for the haftarah, in that its meaning is not readily clear among the often spectacular, cinematic details that we associate with the story; its drama also does not seem to fit, somehow, with the otherwise

quiet and serious mood of the day. It is also the only book of or by any prophet that contains no, well, prophesies, but instead offers an almost picaresque narrative of its hero's spiritual journey. Yet, as is almost always the case, a careful look opens up the story's importance, and why the rabbis chose to include it on the Jewish year's most revered day.

With this look at the life and mission of Jonah, Chai-Lights begins a new series exploring different characters in the Bible, some of them very familiar, some a little less so, but all with more to their story than is revealed by a casual reading.

Almost all of us, when hearing the name "Jonah,"

instantly do a memory/familiarity/association search and think, "yes, of course...Jonah and the whale. I know that story. It's from the Bible." Yes, that's true, but in Judaism the whale is really a minor player in the Jonah story, some would say not really a character at all but merely a device – though a memorable one – to help the story's protagonist begin to see the things that are really the heart of the story. (The whale is far more important in Christian theology, probably because Christian thinkers see in Jonah's ingestion

and subsequent forceful expulsion by the whale a symbolic death and rebirth, a central tenet of their faith. And the Bible's story doesn't say it was a whale. But more on that later.)

Few of us have been taught to associate the Jonah story as the embodiment of the teaching that God will always forgive those who repent; that they needn't do it perfectly, or even consistently, only sincerely. But this is what the rabbis say is the true meaning of the Book of Jonah, and why reading it is always part of the service on Yom Kippur.

In the story's first sentence we learn that Jonah is the son of Amittai. (Whose name, in one of



Jonah preaching to the Ninevites, by French illustrator/engraver Gustave Doré. (Ninevah did not likely have Greek architecture.) those "hmmm" factoids, is derived from the Hebrew "emet," or "truth.") According to the Talmud, Amittai was of the tribe of Zebulon, with Jonah's mother being of the tribe of Asher. Jonah was from the city of Gathhepher, in the northern kingdom of Israel in the region of Galilee. (Another element more important to Christians. It's also interesting that Jonah is the only minor prophet Jesus mentions by name in the Christian Bible.)

Was Jonah a real historical figure? We don't know for certain, but maybe. The Book of Kings does speak of him as an actual person. Josephus, the Roman-Jewish historian (and virtually sole source of a great deal of

information believed to be factual) regarded him as real. We're told, by II Kings, that lonah lived in the northern kingdom of Israel during the reign of leroboam II (c.785 - 744 B.C.E.). It was not a happy or tranguil period for the ten northern tribes. In the approximately two hundred vears from the time King Solomon had died and Israel ended its affiliation with the southern kingdom of Judea, Israel had been rent with internal intrigue. Military rumblings were regularly heard and felt from warring would-be empires emanating from Mesopotamia to the north. Queen Jezebel had persuaded her husband King Ahab to allow the cofew short years until, in 722 B.C.E., Assyria would overrun Israel, obliterate its armies, and disperse its ten tribes to the winds of history.

About ten years before that, Jonah must certainly have known about the dire, virtually inevitable shadow of Assyria looming over Israel. The capital of that young and aggressive empire was Ninevah, which was very near what is today the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

So put yourself in Jonah's position. According to the Talmud, he was a devout follower of Mosaic Law, dutifully going three times a year to Jerusalem, even though a rival religious center had been established at Be-



Michelangelo's depiction of Jonah on the Sistine Chapel ceiling. Notice the "great fish" just off his left leg.

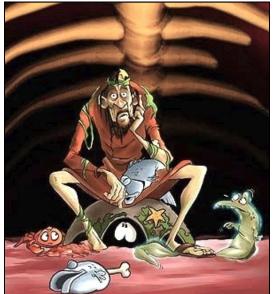
establishment of the cult of Baal in the kingdom, thereby introducing idol worship and practices, such as ritual prostitution, that were anathema to the disciplined and austere defenders of the way of life mandated by the laws of Moses.

Emerging from the boiling stew of Mesopotamian contenders, Assyria asserted its dominance under Tiglath-pileser III and became the region's great power. It was only a thel in the northern kingdom. He saw - everyone had to have seen - the precarious state of his home country, both because of the threats from abroad and the increasing rot from within. As a man of strict principles, one could comfortably say zealotry. Ionah would not have been particularly tolerant of the license and idolatrous lifestyle in Ninevah. And besides, why would he want to help or even save Ninevah? They were Israel's enemy. Any time now they'd be marching south with their hordes, and Israel would be powerless to stop them. Yet it was to Ninevah, that very same Ninevah, where God commanded that Ionah should

go and warn the people that without repentance they would face God's punishment.

With this context, it makes a lot more sense that Jonah tried to resist God's command and seek escape by ship to Tarshish. (The actual location of which, by the way, is not at all agreed upon. Some sources say it was in Spain, others that it was the city of Carthage in today's Tunisia, others that it was on the Arabian coast. Either way, it was a long boat ride from Acre or God's Temple in Jerusalem.)

According to rabbinic commentary, this event -God instructing Jonah to go warn the city of Ninevah that without repentance and reform it would be destroyed - is the only place in the Jewish Bible where any descendant of lacob is commanded to actively preach to those who today we would call Gentiles. There were many outsiders who chose to join in - such as Ruth - and a promise to Abraham that through his descendants God would bless the nations, but there was no other directive to go out and forcefully speak to nonbelievers in God's name.



With time, the Jonah story has become so familiar that it's now grist for cartoonists.

the King James Bible.) It is after the familiar elements of the Ionah story that we come to the important parts, the parts the rabbis want us to study. Not willingly, but because he is not given much of a choice by God, Jonah does go to Ninevah and delivers God's warning. Though his heart isn't in it, he must do a pretty good job, because virtually all of Ninevah begins to reform and repent. It's clear they don't do it to lonah's standards. but they do move in the right direction. Jonah, the commentary savs, was zealous for punishment, but God

It is at this point that the familiar elements of the Jonah story begin: the storm at sea, the admission that the storm is God's punishment for him and urging the ship's crew to throw him overboard, the sojourn inside the "whale." (The original Hebrew describes the creature as a "dag gadol," which unambiguously means "big fish." The Greek Septuagint translates this phrase into Greek as "ketos megas," where the term "ketos" itself means "huge fish." In Greek mythology this term was closely associated with sea monsters or serpents. This phrase later became "piscis granda" in the Latin Vulgate version of the Bible. but with "ketos" translated as "cetus" in Matthew 12:40. It's not certain when "cetus" became synonymous with "whale," though the study of whales is certainly today called cetology. The Englishman William Tyndale did translate the phrase from Jonah 2:1 as "greate fyshe," but also translated the word "cetus" from Matthew as "whale." This translation was later incorporated into the Authorized Version of 1611 -

was willing to forgive a repentant Ninevah. Jonah was avid to seek to neutralize a potential threat to his home kingdom, but God makes it clear that repentance and atonement can forestall prophesies of doom for all of humankind, not just the chosen people of Israel or Judah. If sincere repentance is offered, a sentence of doom can be annulled. God is listening and is always willing to offer mercy. Ultimately, stubborn and resistant though he is, Jonah understands.

So near the end of a very long day of prayer, of particular phrases and themes repeated verbatim over and over, the central message of Yom Kippur – t'shuvah – is delivered a different way, via a dramatic story of disobedience and attempts to flee and violent storms and being both swallowed by and spewed out from a "great fish" and finally, at God's insistence, going to the house of your mortal enemy to offer them salvation from destruction. Mercy, after all, is preferable to strict and cold justice. And it's not available only to some; it's available to everyone. \diamond

Tishrei Tidbits

No month in the Jewish calendar has more dates important to the ritual and continuance of Jewish life than Tishrei, which this year begins on September 29th. Almost half of all Tishrei's days have special religious significance, a total of thirteen. There are seven holidays on which work is not permitted.

Since it is the beginning of the civil year – there are four different new years on the Jewish calendar, remember – Tishrei begins, of course, with Rosh Hashanah. Then eight days later comes Yom Kippur. Five days after that comes Sukkot. The last of Sukkot's seven days (yes, it's seven days, not eight) is Hoshana Rabbah. Then the next day is Shemini Atzeret. If you're in Israel, Shemini Atzeret is also Simchat Torah. Those of us in the Diaspora, by rabbinic tradition, do not combine Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, but celebrate them on consecutive days. Whew.

Detailed religious tracts are far (far) beyond the scope of Chai-Lights. But we have compiled what we think is information (okay, factoids) about Tishrei's holidays that you'll find interesting, or stimulating, or even amusing, such as the results of a 2000 survey, which showed that only 46 percent of all Jews affiliate themselves with a synagogue, but 59 percent fast on Yom Kippur. Or that Tishrei itself is a Babylonian word; before the Babylonian exile, the month was referred to, in 1 Kings 8:2, as

Ethanim.

It's believed (or at least taught) that 1 Tishrei was the day that Adam and Eve were created, on the sixth day of creation. The first day of Tishrei was also the day that Noah sent out the dove on its third mission, the one when it returned bearing an olive branch, which is how Noah knew the flood was receding. One of the seminal events of lewish history, the binding of Isaac by his father Abraham in preparation to follow God's command and sacrifice him. also is believed to have occurred on 1 Tishrei. This is also the day that Sarah died – not surprisingly; imagine hearing such a thing was about to happen while at the age of 127 - and was the first to be buried in the cave at Machpelah in Hebron. It was on 3 Tishrei that Gedaliah, the Jewish governor of Judea appointed by Baby-Ionian King Nebuchadnezzar, was assassinated, which gives us, each year on that date, the little-known Fast of Gedaliah. (It's observed on 4 Tishrei this year because the 3rd is Shabbat.) More on Gedalia below.

The Fast of Gedaliah

When Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylonian army defeated Judea and destroyed the First Temple, he didn't totally disperse or exile the population as the Assyrians had with Israel 136 years before. He only deported the elite, the educated and wealthy and powerful, to Babylon. Most of the impoverished masses were allowed to remain, to farm and generate revenue for Babylon from the new vassal state. To manage the Jewish peons, Nebuchadnezzar appointed a Judean, Gedaliah Ben Achikam, as governor. Some stability was actually established, and many Jews who had fled actually returned. This stability and relative prosperity displeased the King of nearby Ammon, who dispatched an aggrieved descendant of the royal house of Judea, Yishmael Ben Netaniah. to murder Gedaliah. Gedaliah received Yishmael warmly, even though he had been warned of the murderous plot, which he dismissed as mere lashon hara. The reports had been true, alas, and Yishmael did murder Gedaliah, along with many of his court plus a goodly number of Babylonians left behind by Nebuchadnezzar. Many Judeans, fearful of angry reprisals from Babylon, fled once again, this time to Egypt. (Nebuchadnezzar eventually invaded and laid Egypt to waste, so that hadn't been the ideal choice of places to go.) With no governance or economy, Judea lapsed into poverty, and to remember the horrid event – likening the death of a righteous man to the actual burning and destruction of the Temple – the sages instituted the Fast of Gedaliah, what in the early literature was called "the Fast of the Seventh," meaning Tishrei, the seventh month.

Yom Kippur

-This holiday, to many the most important of the Jewish year, was mandated in the Torah, in Leviticus 23:26.

-Prayers and atonement on Yom Kippur, what the Bible calls "afflicting your souls," only apply to sins relating to God. To atone for sins against another person, we are instructed to first seek out that person and attempt to right any wrongs we have inflicted on them. This must all be done *before* Yom Kippur.

-Yom Kippur is a complete Sabbath. Most know that all work is prohibited on that day.

But the Talmud also specifies other restrictions: it bans washing and bathing, anointing one's body (with oil, apparently, but also with cosmetics and deodorants), wearing leather shoes and engaging in sexual relations.

-All restrictions are relaxed where there is a threat to life or health. Children under nine and women in labor or who have given birth within three days are not permitted to fast.

-It has become customary to wear white on the day, to symbolize purity and reflect the promise made in Isaiah that our sins "shall be made as white as snow."

-The Kol Nidre prayer, where we request God to nullify any vows we may make in the next year, was for many years held up by anti -Semites as proof that lews are not trustworthy (we don't have to keep our yows). For this reason the Reform movement actually removed the prayer from their liturgy for a while. But both were incorrect. The vow stems from the opposite point, that lews take any vows so seriously that they feel bound to honor them even when they are coerced. This praver actually gave great comfort to lews in Europe forced to convert to Christianity, and who had been made to swear fealty against their will. Because of this history, the Reform movement has reinstated the prayer.

-However individual atonement is intended to be, in synagogue prayers all sins are confessed in the plural. (It is always "we" who have sinned, not "I.") This emphasizes the communal nature of the Jewish ethos.

-It is stressed during the "Days of Awe" that an initial unfavorable decision by God can be reversed, by specific actions on the part of the individual. Those actions are *teshuvah*, *tefilah* and *tzedakah* – repentance, prayer, and deeds of charity.



-A mere five days after Yom Kippur, on 15 *Tishrei*, we are instructed by Leviticus to begin the very different holiday of Sukkot.

-The themes of Sukkot have clearly been of great importance to the rabbis and sages. Sukkot is referred to in rabbinic literature as simply *HaChag* – "The Holiday."

-Sukkot represents the only time that Jews are instructed to build a structure as part of a holiday's observance. And it is specifically mandated that any *sukkah* be a temporary structure.

-Why is a *sukkah* so often decorated with fruit? To remind us that Sukkot was the time of the annual fruit harvest in Temple times. As one of the three mandated pilgrimage holidays, along with Pesach and Shavuot, Isra-

elites were instructed to bring the first of their harvest to the Temple. The whole nation would gather to celebrate the harvest. (By traveling to Jerusalem, everyone would once again be staying in temporary housing.)

-We're instructed to invite others to share our meals in the *sukkah*. This isn't mandated just to be nice. It's to remember that for many years after the Exodus we were homeless and wandering. We often asked for help from neighboring tribes and nations but were usually turned down. We are also required to more than remember the con-

cept of compassion; we're required to act on it.

-Being so firmly tied to the Temple in Jerusalem, the celebration of Sukkot was actually suspended during the Babylonian exile. When they returned, Nehemiah describes them rushing en masse to observe Sukkot, building booths and rejoicing.

- One of the other names by which Sukkot is also known is *Z'man Simchateinu*, "the season of our joy." What joy? Well, there's freedom, and gratitude for a bountiful harvest. (The holiday is also known, as a nod to its agricultural roots, as *Chag HaAsif*, the Festival of Ingathering. Yet another name is the Feast of Tabernacles.) But there's also the

Sukkot is the last of the pilgrimage festivals, though it comes first on the calendar.

more penetrating notion that to live in temporary, flimsy huts is to be forced to remember how interdependent we truly are, how our vulnerabilities are also reminders of our need for one another, and how those vulnerabilities foster cooperation instead of distance.

-The Book of Leviticus very clearly says, "You shall live in booths seven days." But there's no actual evidence of the fleeing or wandering Israelites actually living in booths, or God commanding them to do so. The only actual mention of "sukkot" is in Numbers 33, and there it's a *place*. ("The Israelites set out from Rameses and encamped at Succoth.")

Rabbi Akiva interpreted the verse literally, claiming that if the Torah says so, and Leviticus implies it, then there were huts. Rabbi Eliezer, however, claimed that the "sukkot" of the verse referred to "clouds of glory that accompanied the Israelites in the desert."

-Sukkot is the last of the three pilgrimage festivals (though first on the calendar). Unlike Passover and Shavuot, which also have both historical and agricultural bases, Sukkot does not take place during generally pleasant weather. In Israel it's at the beginning of the rainy season. -The Zohar says that a suk-

kah generates such an intense concentration of spiritual energy, a divine presence, that it attracts from the Garden of Eden the souls of the seven shepherds of Israel, called *Ushpizin*, the Aramaic word for "guests." On each of the seven days each will in turn visit each sukkah – Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Joseph and King David. In some Sephardic communities, there is a "minhag" (custom) to decorate and dedicate a chair on each of Sukkot's seven nights, in honor of that evening's special guest.

-The Book of Ecclesiastes, traditionally believed to have been written by King Solomon, is read on Shabbat during Sukkot. The book's theme, that we should concentrate on eternal things instead of transient and temporal pleasures, is derived from the same ideas that instruct us to make a *sukkah* out of flimsy materials through which we can be rained on but also see the sky and stars and think of something more important than our material comforts.

-Each Ushpizin, say the mystics, corresponds to one of the seven spiritual pathways (sefirot) through which the world is nourished and perfected. Abraham represents love and kindness; Isaac represents restraint and personal strength; Jacob represents beauty and truth; Moses represents eternality and dominance through Torah; Aaron represents empathy and receptivity to divine splendor; Joseph represents holiness and the spiritual foundation; David represents the establishment of the kingdom of heaven on earth.

-Despite its attention to the spirit, Judaism as always remains grounded in the importance of human actions. As far as sharing with others the food and drink that graces each of our sukkahs, Maimonides makes it clear: "While eating and drinking himself, one is obligated to feed the stranger, orphan, and widow, along with the other unfortunate poor...One who does not is not enjoying a mitzvah, but rather his stomach."

Hoshana Rabbah

-According to the Mishnah, in Temple times, during the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot), huge willow branches were placed around the altar, while worshipers recited "Hoshanah" (*save us*). With the Temple gone, the scene shifted to the synagogue, where worshipers would hold the four species and make circuits around the bemah, all the while reciting similar Hoshanah prayers and hymns for God to save them.

-Though not well known to modern Jews, this holiday was thought by the rabbis to be a mini-Yom Kippur. Why? Because, as most know, it is on Rosh Hashanah that God's judgment is rendered. On Yom Kippur it is sealed. But it's on Hoshana Rabba that the final judgment is actually *delivered* to the Book of Life. So there's still time after Yom Kippur to affect the year's outcome. But not after Hoshana Rabba.

-It has become customary on Hoshana Rabbah to exchange the Aramaic greeting "piska tava," meaning "a good note." This refers to the actual action of writing the final inscription in the Book of Life.

-During the six previous days of Sukkot the Torah is placed on the bemah, while the congregation circles it once, shaking their *lulav* and *etrog* in a processional called the *hakkafah*. On Hoshana Rabba, however, instead of one hoshana, seven *hashanot* are recited and seven *hakkafot* are made around the sanctuary.

-There's a further ritual after the seven hakkafot, again taken from one performed in the Beit HaMikdash, the Temple in Jerusalem. Branches of a willow (aravot) are struck upon the ground five times. It is another symbolic gesture of casting away sins, hoping to influence God to include us in the Book of Life. The day is also known as "the day of the beating of the aravah." No blessing is recited over the beating of the aravah, since doing so is not a mitzvah but merely a custom.

-Hoshana Rabba is the last day we are required to fulfill the mitzvot of the four species and of dwelling in the sukkah.

-It has become customary to read the whole of *Tehillim* (Psalms) on Erev Hoshana Rabba. It has also become customary to read all of Deuteronomy the next night. The point here is twofold: first, Deuteronomy is a minisummary of the rest of the Torah; and second, this assures that the reading of the Torah is complete before Simchat Torah two days hence.

Shemini Atzeret

-22 Tishrei, the day immediately after the seventh day of Sukkot, is Shemini Atzeret.

Though proximate, it is a wholly separate holiday, translating literally as "the assembly of the eighth day." (Which would tend to imply it is indeed part of Sukkot, in fact its eighth day. But the rabbis say it isn't.)

-The sukkah now being put away, pleasant weather is no longer required. But it's time to nurture the new plantings, so rain is required. The most significant element of ritual on Shemini Atzeret is the Geshem prayer. ("Geshem" is Hebrew for rain.) From this moment on, a brief mention of rain is included in the Amidah prayer until Passover. The Mishna teaches that on Shemini Atzeret the world is judged for water, or rainfall. So it was a very important day in an agricultural society.

-The Shemini Atzeret prayer for rain parallels the prayer for dew on Passover. And, in fact, these two holidays are the bookends of the agricultural growing season.

-Shemini Atzeret is mandated in the Torah, with the required offerings clearly stated. But once the Temple was destroyed, all that was left to distinguish the holiday was the prayer for rain.

-It was probably in the early middle ages that Shemini Atzeret began to be associated with the end/beginning of the cycle of Torah readings. It's considered likely that Simchat Torah, which follows the day after Shemini Atzeret, developed from what was originally the second day of Shemini Atzeret.

-In rabbinic literature, Shemini Atzeret is also seen as a day to underline the special relationship between God and the Jewish people.

-Yizkor is said on Shemini Atzeret. It is clearly the least-known of the four holidays connected to Yizkor.

Simchat Torah

-Simchat Torah translates as "rejoicing with (or of) the Torah." The celebration marks the end of the cycle of Torah reading and the seamless beginning of a new cycle. -The main celebration takes place during evening and morning synagogue services. In many synagogues, this is the only time the Torah scrolls are removed from the Ark and read at night.

-In the evening, all of a synagogue's Torah scrolls are removed from the Ark and carried around the entire sanctuary in a series of seven *hakafot* (circuits). These circuits are often accompanied by singing and dancing, which have been known to go on for hours and spill out into the streets. With the Orthdox, of course, only men carry the Torahs and do the dancing, certainly that which spills out into the streets. Women and girls are sometimes allowed their own small dancing circles.

-After the hakafot and the dancing, three different scrolls are read from. From the first is read the last parshah from Deuteronomy, V'Zot HaBerachah. Then the first chapter of Genesis is read from the second scroll.

-It is considered a great honor to read the last aliyah from Deuteronomy. The person receiving that honor is called the *Chatan Torah* (groom of the Torah) or *Kallat Torah* (bride of the Torah). It is also considered an honor to be allowed the first aliyah from the Book of Genesis. That person is called *Chatan B'reishit* (the groom of Genesis) or *Kallat B'reishit* (the bride of Genesis).

-In recent times Simchat Torah has become a very child-centered holiday. Many synagogues invite all children up for a group aliyah, and give them all flags to carry and wave as they march around in their own hakafah.

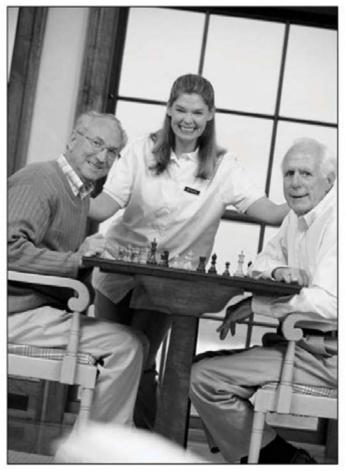
-The name Simchat Torah does not appear in the Torah. Its use is actually relatively recent. In the Talmud it is considered the same as Shemini Atzeret.

-The custom of dancing during Simchat Torah apparently comes from the gaonic period in Europe. The custom of holding Torahs and marching around the bemah probably began in the 16th century.

-In the 20th century, Simchat Torah came to symbolize the public expression of their Judaism by Soviets, often celebrating en masse on the streets of Moscow. ◆

The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

| The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living |
|--|
| The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center |
| The Palace at Home / Home Health |
| |

VERONICA'S ART AND GLASS STUDIO

Stained Glass Custom Pieces • **Restoration and Repairs** • **Mosaics** • Fused Glass Jewelry • **Classes** • Materials and Supplies

Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist (305) 304-9411 veroagutierrez@vahoo.com

DeClue's Art Printing and Framing

Simply Extraordinary, Creative, **Quality Picture Framing.**

82200 Overseas Highway, Islamorada 305-664-9385 - marciadeclue@gmail.com Barbara Knowles

Photography and Video Destination Wedding Planner

Officiant, All Events, Portraits Real Estate, Corporate **Custom Packages**

www.FLKeysWeddings.com

305-772-0503

305-853-5653

iweddu@bellsouth.net

Richard Knowles **PhotoVideo** 305-942-4488 flkeys@bellsouth.net

> Ari B. Oberstein Licensed Funeral Director

florida keys periodontics and

implantology

the pink plaza 103400 overseas highway Suite 229 key largo, fl 33037

Deli & Baker

92330 Overseas Hwy.

Ste. #5, Tavernier FL 33070

Ship To:

paul e. berger, d.d.s. "A DICNIFIED AI

Owner / Operator

Phone 305-853-5566 · Fax 305-853-0018

Email: chadsdelibakery2@bellsouth.net

tel: 305.453.1811 4051 Laguna Street fax: 305.453.1889 Coral Gables, FL 33146

office hours by appointment

phone: (305) 852-3219 fax: (305) 852-9016

OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S. JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A. ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D.

91750 OVERSEAS HIGHWAY TAVERNIER, FL 33070

(cca Cela

den Funeral Service

for the BUDGET MINDED**

www.edenfuneralservices.com

Miami-Dade 305.257.8110

Broward 954.366.2591

Fax 305.774.1890

866.975.EDEN

(3336)



Bill To:

P. O. Box 874

Tavernier FL 33070





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

975 Baptist Way Suite 101 Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Highway Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932 Please join Sylvie and Michel Bitton at their new French café in the heart of Islamorada. You will be enchanted by the specialties de la maison: Gelato, espresso, crêpes, melt-in-your-mouth French baked goods, gourmet sandwiches and salads. Plus free wi-fi.



"A little oasis of French charm in Islamorada." Bitton Bistro Café - 82245 Overseas Hwy Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036 - MM 82 - 305.396.7481 bittonbistrocafe@gmail.com • www.bittonbistrocafe.com Open 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. 7 days a week.

Do you know all the amazing things Sisterhood does for KJCC?

Things like The Annual KJCC Fundraiser, Shabbat and holiday dinners, the after-service Onegs, the annual Second Seder...and so much more. They do a great job for the KJCC, but they need your help! Please consider volunteering. They are experts at matching your skills and talents with the many tasks and events.

For more information, contact Lauren at Sisterhood@keysjewishcenter.com



DOE WINSLOW

88511 Overseas Highway Showroom - Suite 10 Tavernier, FL 33070 305-852-4302 - Fax 305-852-4303 kitchenandbath/¥terranova.net

Jews don't keep the Sabbath. Sabbath keeps the Jews.



GARRETT CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER, P.A. 9 holiotic heading conter

DR. ERICA LIEBERMAN-GARREPT, ascare Over 25 Years experience Calcoprace : (Genile/Manual) Yoge/Modication Massage Therapy Saysical: Therapy Acopuncture/ Homeopathy

305-853 1003 MM 903 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net







Shawn W. Tolley, C.P.A., P.A. Certified Public Accountants

Shawn W. Tolley, C.P.A. Senior Partner

9350 South Dixie Highway Penthouse V Miami, Florida 33156 Tel: 305.670.1001 Fax: 305.670.1888 stolley@tolleycpa.com 97665 Overseas Highway Key Largo, Florida 33037 Tel: 305.852.9898 Fax: 305.852.9997 Cell: 305.608.8898 www.tolleycpa.com

Please patronize the advertisers in Chai-Lights, and while there kindly say



to them for supporting our publication and our synagogue.

This ad sponsored by Steve and Carol Steinbock.

Did You Know ???

...that you can place an advertisement in Chai-Lights for an *entire year* for only \$120?

... that you can remember a loved one with a yahrzeit plaque? A candle will be lit on the memoriam date and at Yizkor services four times a year including Yom Kippur.

Contact Linda Pollack at 852-8575 for more information .



Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice litigation and other cases of significant damages.



TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, Florida 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, Florida 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

BOCA RATON

Wells Fargo Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, Florida 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, Florida 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

FT. LAUDERDALE

Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866

Chai-Lights



December 2011

5 Kislev - 5 Tevet 5772

YEDA Ve-Torasha - page 9 Gloria On the Power of Gratitude - page 27 Zoe's Wedding in Photos - page 30

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

December 2011 5 Kislev - 5 Tevet

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|-----|--|---|
| | es denote leaders
licized names are | of Friday services
Oneg sponsors. | | 1 | 2
Bernie Ginsberg &
Jeff Schocket
<i>Lauren & Stuart</i>
<i>Sax</i> | 3 |
| 4
Sisterhood
Meeting 9:30
lecture on
Jerusalem
part II—7 pm | 5 | 6 | 7
Men's
Club
Game
Night at
KJCC 7:30 | 8 | 9
Sisterhood
Service
Joan Boruszak | 10
Men's Club
Movie Night
at KJCC
7:00 p.m. |
| 11
KJCC Board
Meeting
9 a.m. | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16
Joyce Peckman
Barbara &
Richard
Knowles | 17
Torah
Learning
w/ Rabbi
Agler 10
a.m. |
| 18
Yardena's
lecture on
Jerusalem,
Part III,
7 p.m. at
KJCC | 19 | 20
1st Candle
lit in the
evening | 21
1st Day of
Chanukah | 22 | 23 Gloria Avner
& Susan Gordon
Steve & Barbara
Smith, Steve &
Amelia Kasinof
Hanukkah
Shabbat Dairy
Dinner 6:15 | 24
"Chai-
Yaking" w/
Dave Mont
1 p.m. |
| 25
Steinbock
Christmas
Day Open
House
1-6 p.m. | 26 | 27
8 Candles
lit in the
evening | 28
8th Day of
Chanukah | 29 | 30
Erica Garrett
& Family
6:30 Service
The Lieberman
Family | 31
New
Year's Eve |

2011 - 2012 Officers and Board

President Stuart Sax

Executive Vice President Bernie Ginsberg

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Marc Bloom – Susan Gordon

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

Recording Secretary Beth Hayden

Financial Secretary Rene Rose

Corresponding Secretary Joyce Peckman

Directors

Joan Boruszak – David Gitin – Steve Hartz Kurt Kluger – Dave Mont – Medina Roy Gene Silverman – Sam Vinicur

> Sisterhood Lauren Sax

Men's Club Steve Friedman

Adult Education Yardena Kamely

Historian Mary Lee Singer

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen Robert Faeges Ronald Horn Lester Nieman Irving Stein Myron Rubin Bea Graham George Swartz Susan Horn Jim Boruszak Joel Pollack Jeff Schocket Steve Steinbock Alan Beth

Newsletter

Lisa Richardson Rutherford Editor

CHAI-LIGHTS is the monthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Stuart Sax

Don't let it ever be said that this house goes unused. It is incredible the number of events that have taken place in the past month and those that are planned for this month.

Within a matter of two weeks our gazebo in the Meditation Garden was used for a prayer service, a Sukkot celebration, and a wedding. We have welcomed several new members into our mishpocha and have seen an increase in those attending our game nights, movie nights, and kavak adventures. The attendance at our Veterans Shabbat dinner and service was amazing and our Sisterhood is to be congratulated for this delicious and patriotic event.

This month we will have more of the same plus a Sisterhood Shabbat service and more of Yardena's presentation on the historic transformation of Jerusalem over the centuries. Rabbi Agler will again lead us in a special Saturday Torah service and informal discussion on December 17th. We will all celebrate Chanukah with a family dinner and a presentation in the sanctuary.

If all of this were not enough, our entry hall now proudly honors our past presidents of both the congregation and Sisterhood. Our sanctuary and front entrance are now protected with new storm-resistant

windows and shutters. Our Meditation Garden has a new perpetual fountain and water access, along with many new bricks added to the walking path. We have a new canopy above our entrance and our parking area is being upgraded. A major leak in the roof over the social hall was found and repaired both outside and inside. And the major force behind all of these improvements is Jim Boruszak, who accomplished all of this in addition to making several trips to Texas for medical treatments. lim is one of the KJCC's true Unsung Heroes.

There is one area of involvement that needs improvement: Yahrzeits and the Aleinu. Each week at our Shabbat services we read a list of those we remember and honor with the reciting of our first Kaddish praver. At the end of each service we read the names of those celebrating a birthday or anniversary. Alan Beth and Joyce Peckman spend hours preparing these lists and contacting families with reminders of these occasions. Jerry Oshinsky is relentless at making sure the proper lights are illuminated on our memorial boards. Please make an effort to thank them for their diligence by participating in these special seqments of our weekly service. >

Nosh

New Members

KJCC is pleased to welcome a wonderfully large group of new members this month: Michael Berman of Key Largo, Jerrold and Roos-Mary Benowitz of Key Largo, Linda Pincus of Islamorada, Joe Gould and Marla Berenson of Islamorada, and (it's okay to be the caboose in a mitzvah list) Mimi Gillespie of Tavernier. Your timing is perfect, as KJCC is heading into its most active period. We hope to see all of you often, at services and also at the many other exciting things going on here.

Yardena's Lectures on Jerusalem Continue

Parts Two and Three of Yardena's lecture series, "Jerusalem: A City and Its Complexities and Conflicts," will take place at KJCC on December 4th and December 18th, both Sunday nights, both from 7 - 8:30. The lectures, derived from a variety of resources, texts, personal accounts and maps, are exploring the four chapters in Jerusalem's history: Biblical, Christian, Muslim and today's Jewish Jerusalem. It is a holy city, of course, but also one of community life and cultural development. There is no charge to attend.

Oneg Sponsors for December 2011

December 2nd — Lauren & Stuart Sax in honor of Stuart's birthday.

December 9th — Joan Boruszak in honor of Jim's birthday.

December 16th — Barbara & Richard Knowles in honor of loved ones past and present.

December 23rd — Linda & Joel Pollack in honor of the Hanukkah dinner; Barbara & Steve Smith in honor of Steve S's birthday; and Amelia & Steve Kasinof in honor of Steve K's birthday.

December 30th — Erica Lieberman-Garrett in honor of her family's visit from Toronto. (They're all cooking and bringing lots of food.)

TREE OF LIFE

Congratulations to Zoe and Joshua from Linda & Joel Pollack 10/23/2011

Zoe & Joshua Moshe

Wishing You Lots of Love & Joy Always Maryon Gould & Mary Lee Singer

We Need Help With Missing Photos

If you haven't noticed, the entrance hallway to KJCC now features, in addition to photos of our past presidents, photos of the past presidents of Sisterhood. But we're missing photos for three previous leaders: Miriam Tirrel, Evelyn Deaton and Jan Faeges. If you have a photo of any of these women, or know someone who would, please contact Carol Steinbock, at 305-393-1205 or cac147@gmail.com.

December Anniversaries

Years

| 5th | Ron Levy & Beth Kaminstein | 22 |
|-------|------------------------------|----|
| 8th | Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs | 58 |
| llth | Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner | 46 |
| llth | Jamie & Laura Goodman | 6 |
| l 4th | David & Pat VanArtsdalen | 30 |
| l7th | Roger & Jessica Hernstadt | 5 |
| l7th | Larry & Stephanie Gilderman | 45 |
| | | |

Steve and Carol's Christmas Open House

Once again this year, Steve and Carol Steinbock invite all members of KJCC to their annual Christmas for Jews Open House, from I till 6 p.m. at their Plantation Key Colony home, 147 Gardenia Street, Tavernier, MM 90 Bayside.

December Birthdays

| | December Birtilda |
|-------|-------------------------|
| lst | Bob Freundlich |
| lst | Paul Hudson |
| 2nd | Joseph Burke Grossman |
| 2nd | Marshall A. Field |
| 3rd | Ashley Berk |
| 3rd | Cammie Berk |
| 3rd | Jackie LePree |
| 4th | Jan Hartz |
| 4th | Judith Klein |
| 5th | Joseph Beth |
| 5th | Stuart Sax |
| 6th | Gerald Hirsch |
| 6th | Haley Borisoff |
| 6th | Kevin Gershowitz |
| 6th | Leslie Boruszak |
| 6th | Neal A. Jacobson |
| 7th | Franklin Rose |
| 8th | Alan Stocking |
| 8th | Leslie Dillon |
| 9th | George Swartz |
| 9th | Jim Boruszak |
| l 0th | Harvey Robins |
| l 0th | Susan Greenbaum |
| llth | Sara Rose Friedman |
| l 2th | Lilian Forbes |
| l 3th | Robin Margulies Juenger |
| l 3th | Sarah Boruszak |
| l 3th | Susan Widrich |
| l 5th | Stephan Ban |
| l 6th | Diana Lal |
| l 6th | Samuel Klimpl |
| l7th | Bruce Forman |
| l7th | Jeffrey Schocket |
| l 8th | Emelyn Anne Juenger |
| l 8th | Jerome Horowitz |
| l 8th | Lily Chen |
| l 9th | Aaron Stuart |
| l 9th | David Gitin |
| l 9th | Lorena Kaufman |
| 20th | Alan Schulberg |
| 20th | Jennifer VanArtsdalen |
| 20th | Teresa Kwalick |
| 22nd | Laura Molly Friedman |
| 23rd | Roger Hernstadt |
| 25th | Lori Kay |
| | |

| 26th | Steven Smith | |
|--------|--------------------|--|
| 27th | Steve Kasinof | |
| 28th | Elaine Schulberg | |
| 28th | Emily Sherman | |
| 28th | Ira Krieger | |
| 28th | Michael Klimpl | |
| 29th | Joan Stark | |
| 30th | Ellen Bloom | |
| 3 st | Elliot S. Schenker | |

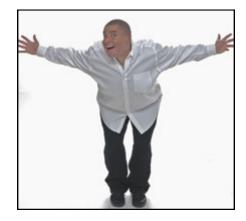
Coming to the KJCC March 10, 2012

Hilarious Comedy!

Powerful Vocals!

Diano Virtuosity!

Professional Acting!



It's SARGE! The Entertainer. Sisterhood's Major Fundraiser of the Season.

Event Chairperson: Nancy Kluger — 305-393-2129

A Note of Thanks from Gerri Emkey

The 60-mile Walk For Breast Cancer started October 27th in Tampa and went on for three days. I finished, walking 20 miles each day.

It was a great event. Many of the members made contributions to help find a cure for breast cancer. My twin sister Terri came with me to the event, to offer lots of support. We both had a great time. I would walk forever to find a cure for this disease.

I want to thank all the members who donated to this cause.

Love, Gerri

Need to Contact Chai-Lights?

The simplest way is through our e-mail, which is chailights@keysjewishcenter.com. But you can also get a message to us when you're writing Stuart, at president@keysjewishcenter.com; He'll happily forward your comments on to us.

Two Invitations from Erica

I'd like to invite all of you to the Holiday Open House Celebration at Garrett Chiropractic and Wellness Center. I like to call it "Holistic Happy Hour." It'll be Thursday, December I from 4-7 p.m. We're at MM 90 Bayside. Please call, 853-1003, to let us know you're coming.

In honor of the end of the (secular) year, and the Lieberman family visit to the Keys (twelve people in all), I will be leading services on Friday, December 30th, along with my family.

I am excited to introduce the KJCC to my family, and the Shabbat service will be in their honor. Two rabbinical students will also be visiting the Keys during that weekend, and we will be privileged to have them lead a discussion of that week's parshah. The Lieberman family will also be sponsoring the Oneg and bringing delicious food in celebration of the new year.

We hope that you will all join us. -Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 305-852-3959.

Cemetery Information – If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 305-852-0214.

Picture Postcards - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 305-852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor – To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **Meditation Garden** – Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 305-394-0143. **KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** – Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 305-852-6152.

JNF Trees In Israel – A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 305-852-4353. *Chai-Lights Mitzvah* – Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-852-6152 to make your donation.

Advertisement In Chai-Lights or Directory - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights and/ or annually in the Directory. Call Gene Silverman 305-664-3316 for rates.

Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.

In Memorian December 2011

| On Memoriam Specember 2017 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| Alex Avner | Frances Bader | Rose Beth | | | |
| By Gloria Avner | By Ivan & Jean Bader | By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake | | | |
| | | | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| Daniel Birnbaum | Arnold Biskar | Joseph M. Bloom | | | |
| By Norbert Birnbaum
<><><><><>> | By Rosie Biskar
<><><><><>> | By Marc & Ellen Bloom
<><><><><><><> | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| Burton V. Boruszak | Julius Kohlenbrener | Leatrice Tomor | | | |
| By Jim & Joan Boruszak
<><><><><> | By Jim & Joan Boruszak
<><><><><>> | By Barbara A. Calev
<><><><><><> | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| Eva Levine | Morris Hitzig | Edward Sandberg | | | |
| By Barnet & Ellen Coltman
<><><><><><> | By Wes & Rita Conklin | By Murray & Claire Cooper
<><><><><><> | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| David M. Orans | Harry J. Friedman | Harry Wolfe | | | |
| By Carol Field
<><><><><><> | By Stephan & Jane Friedman | By Michael & Suzanne Gilson | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| Jeanne Schneider | Edwin Jackson | Sylvia Sarah Grossman | | | |
| By Maryon Gould | By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman | By Stuart Grossman
<><><><><> | | | |
| In Memory Of | In Memory Of | In Memory Of | | | |
| Herbert Gontar | Dinah Levy | Barbara K. Silverberg | | | |
| By Robert Hermann
<><><><><>> | By Michal Kamely
<><><><><>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> | By Erwin & Barbara Kantor
<><><><><><> | | | |

In Memoriam December 2011

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

William Kay

Anette Foosaner

Joseph L. Shawmut

In Memory Of

Claire Lempel

By Linda Pincus

In Memory Of

Sylvia Lessner

By Howard & Shaloma Lessner

In Memory Of

Hannah Oser

In Memory Of

Samuel Lessner

In Memory Of

By Howard & Shaloma Lessner

Ruth Greenwald

By Marjorie Present By Paul & Susan Roberts

In Memory Of

Rhonie Lee Klipper

In Memory Of Sylvia L. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer By Mary Lee Singer

In Memory Of

Peter F. Steinberg

In Memory Of

Murray Blinder

In Memory Of

Steve Cimkowski

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg By Stephen & Carol Steinbock

In Memory Of

Raymond Martell

By Steven & Barbara Smith By Skip & Rene Rose

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Iris Werthamer

Bernard Swartz

By Robert & Heide Werthamer

By George & Muriel Swartz

Mishebeyrach List

For those of you who might not make it to services regularly, each week we read aloud the names of those we know to be ailing so that we may include their names in a special supplication to G-d to heal them. Our printed list is read, and then the leader asks if anyone in the congregation has names to add. If you can't be at services. and would like someone you care about to be included in the *mishebey*rach prayer, call or e-mail and let us know. We'll happily include any name (or names) you tell us about. The KICC number is 852-5235. Or e-mail Stuart at president@ keysjewishcenter.com.

8 Chai-Lights December 2011

Sisterhood Lauren Sax



I fit's December, it must be season. I would like to welcome our snowbirds back. It has been very quiet without you and we are thrilled you are all returning. Sisterhood has been busy planning for our upcoming season. Judging from our full calendar, there should be something for everyone. The main focus this year is our major fundraiser in March. Please don't be shy when it comes to volunteering. We can use everybody's help; it doesn't matter how much or how little of yourself you can give. (Wouldn't you enjoy that big recliner or satin couch in heaven mentioned in that poem praising volunteers in October's Chai-Lights?)

As usual, Erica Garrett worked her magic, and our first-of-the-season Shabbat Dinner was a great success. It was a chance to welcome our new members into our *mishpocha*. The buffet tables were overflowing, and many thank-yous to all who helped with the set-up, clean-up and cooking. It is no easy task to clean up and reset tables for our oneg sixty minutes later, and I truly appreciate everyone pitching in.

I hope you have all noticed the newly improved picture wall in KJCC's entrance foyer. A huge thank-you to Candy Stanlake, who has been working on this for guite awhile. Poring over our archives to ensure we included all the Sisterhood Past Presidents, with their years of service noted, proved to be no easy task. Candy logged in many miles shopping and schlepping in and out of stores looking for just the right frames and shelving. Carol Steinbock had the plates engraved, and Jim Boruszak coordinated the painting of the wall and the installation. Stuart Sax and Steve Steinbock assisted with the actual installation, and voila!! What a lovely way to honor all those who have given of their time and talents to all of KJCC; and places of honor await

those who will follow in the future.

December 9th is the date of our next Sisterhood Shabbat Service. This time we will be able to involve our snowbirds. Some of you have already contacted me, but for those who haven't and are interested in either participating in the service or baking for the oneg, please contact me ASAP. I would love to be able to involve as many ladies as possible. As they say, "the more the merrier."

Our Hanukkah Dinner is scheduled for Friday, December 23rd and is being sponsored by Linda and Joel Pollack. Erica is taking reservations for this one as well, so make sure you contact her to reserve your seat and to also let her know what you will be bringing. If cooking or baking is not your thing, we can always use help for set-up or clean-up. We are looking forward to a good turnout; there might even be a dreidel-spinning contest this year! All Sisterhood events are listed on the KJCC website, so make sure to check the calendar regularly.

Finally, I am sure you have all received my volunteer letter asking for help on any of Sisterhood's many committees. In order for Sisterhood to move forward and continue its thirty-year legacy, we need people to step up and help those of us who are continually giving of our busy lives. Come to a meeting and see what we are all about. January 22nd we are getting together at the gorgeous home of Nancy and Kurt Kluger, which overlooks the bay and is the perfect setting for a relaxing and purely social afternoon. The plan is to kick back and just relax that day. Why not join us? And you know what they say: "Try it, you might like it." \diamond

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

Chai-Lights Peckman, Joyce

| General Fund
Avner, Gloria | In Honor of
Joshua Bernstein's Bar Mitzvah | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Avner, Gloria | Zoe & Joshua Moshe's wedding | | | |
| Begam, Delores | pray for us | | | |
| Borzak, Don Jim & | Joan Boruszak's 1st great-grand- | | | |
| child and | d Allan Boruszak's granddaughter | | | |
| Ginsberg, Bernard | Zoe & Joshua Moshe's wedding | | | |
| Kamely, Yardena | Zoe & Joshua Moshe's wedding | | | |
| Kwalick, Teresa | Zoe & Joshua Moshe's wedding | | | |
| Oshinsky, Gerald | | | | |
| Pollack, Joel & Linda | speedy recovery Gloria Avner | | | |
| Pollack, Joel that | nks to Alan Beth for carrying me | | | |
| OV | er the 5K Bridge Walk finish line | | | |
| Rosenbach, Michael and Arlene | | | | |
| Schocket, Jeffrey & Par | tty Zoe & Joshua Moshe's | | | |
| | wedding | | | |
| Steinbock, Stephen an | d Carol Zoe & Joshua Moshe's
wedding | | | |

General Fund Pollack, Joel & Linda In Memory of Steve Richardson

Holidays/Seats Anonymous Coltman, Barney & Ellen Foster, Michael Levine, Dorothy Sonstein, Joseph & Lindsay

Meditation Garden Denenberg, Nancy/Steven Osder Friel, Patricia Hirschlein, Sharon McMahon, Mike & Maggie

Leonard Roberts Leonard Roberts Leonard Roberts Leonard Roberts

| Tree of Life
Gould, Maryon | to honor Zoe & Joshua | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pollack, Joel & Linda | to honor Zoe & Joshua | wedding
Moshe's
wedding |
| Singer, Mary Lee | to honor Zoe & Joshua | 0 |

| Yartzeit Contributions | In Memory of |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Avner, Gloria | Uncle Perry Gerber |
| Dorf, Barry and Natalie | Jack Dorf |
| Isenberg, Henry and Patricia | Helene Tulsky |
| Kamely, Michal Re | ebekah Levy, Leah Kamely |
| Kamely, Michal | David Kamely |
| Kwalick, Teresa | Irene Becker |
| Kwalick, Teresa | B. Kwalick & J. Carryl |
| Steinberg, Richard and Sheila | Saunders Cohen |
| Steinberg, Richard and Sheila | Joel Cohen |
| VanArtsdalen, David & Patric | ia Dick Jacob |
| Wolfe, Larry and Dorothy | Diana Wolfe |
| | |

Yartzeit Memorial Plaques Coltman, Barney & Ellen In Memory of Reserved for Eve Greenstein

Yiskor Book Friedman, Stephan and Jane Ginsberg, Bernard Steinberg, Richard and Sheila

YEDA VETORASHA

Yardena Kamely



A Scholar Looks Anew at Hanukkah

The post-Biblical holidays (those not mandated in The Torah) are festivals and are not sanctified with Sabbath-like atmosphere. However, various religious observances have been instituted to reflect their special historical significance. The most important of those post-Biblical occasions are Hanukkah, Purim and Tisha B'Av.

On the 25th of Kislev are the days of Hanukkah, which are eight...these were appointed a festival with Hallel [prayers of praise] and thanksgiving.

-Shabbat 21b, Babylonian Talmud.

Hanukkah commemorates the historic victory of the Maccabees following a threeyear-long uprising against the ruling Assyrian -Greek regime and their Jewish Hellenist supporters, who had imposed restrictions against Jewish religious practices. The uprising culminated in the recapture of the Temple of Jerusalem and the restoration of its traditional Jewish rituals. The victory also restored - if only for a few generations – Jewish political sovereignty over the land.

In Hebrew schools across the country, the Hanukkah story will usually be told like this: The wicked king Antiochus IV Epiphanes attacked the innocent and pious Jews of Judea, imposed Greek ways, restricted the observance of Jewish practices and profaned the Temple of Jerusalem. Judah the Maccabee and his brothers (known collectively as the Hasmoneans) went to war against Hellenism, against the king and those Jews who sup ported the king and his policies. They triumphed. In 164 B.C.E. they reconquered Jerusalem, put an end to persecution of lews, purified the Temple, and instituted the festival of Hanukkah to commemorate their victory. In an existential struggle between Jews and Greeks, between Judaism and Hellenism, the lews triumphed. But this version of our history is increasingly being challenged. Shaye J.D. Cohen, professor of Hebrew Literature and Philosophy at Harvard, says: "According to this Hebrew school version of the events, which mirrors the popular Jewish understanding, the Hasmoneans saved ludaism from Hellenism." Professor Cohen then turns to some new critics who have recently "turned this story on its head. Whereas every Hebrew school student knows that King Antiochus was the bad guy, and that the Hasmoneans were the good guys, according to these critics the opposite was the case." He then auotes from some in the new school: "Antiochus represents Greek enlightenment. the Hasmoneans Jewish particularism and ritualism." "...the Hasmoneans were simply anti-Hellenist religious fanatics...Hanukkah represents the victory of bloody-minded faith over enlightenment and reason."

Yes, some of what the Hasmoneans did was not pretty; wars and revolutions are usually not pretty. But the fact is that the Hasmoneans were not implacable opponents of Hellenism. The Hasmoneans did not save Judaism from Hellenism so much as they showed the Jews how to live with it.

The Hasmoneans faced two kinds of opponents within Judean society. First were those who completely supported the Greeks, perhaps even to the extent of not objecting when the Greeks introduced a pagan cult object into the Temple and prohibited the observance of lewish laws and customs outside the Temple. These Jews, attracted to the Greeks both politically and morally, are usually called *Hellenizers* in modern scholarship. Professor Cohen then notes the Jews at the other end of the spectrum, who wanted nothing to do with either the Hasmoneans or the Greeks, and who ran off into the desert in order to escape the capital city and its sinful ways. "These Jews, who were anti-Hasmonean and anti-Greek in equal measure, founded the settlement at Qumran near the shores of the Dead Sea, ultimately giving us the Qumran

scrolls. The Hasmoneans searched for a middle course, combining the Hellenism of the Hellenizers and the Jewish orthodoxy of the Qumranites. Their goal was to find a way to live with Hellenism, to combine a secure Jewish identity with Hellenistic culture."

The Hanukkah narrative in the first *Book of Maccabees*, written at the end of the second century B.C.E., illustrates this

point. Perhaps most striking is the institution of the Hanukkah festival itself: Then Judah and his brothers and all the assembly of Israel determined that every year at that season the days of dedication of the altar should be observed with joy and gladness for eight days, beginning with the twenty-fifth day of the month of Kislev.

Cohen asks: how did the Hasmoneans get the idea to institute a yearly festival celebrating their great victory? It wasn't from the Torah; in the Torah God alone gives festivals to the people of Israel; the Israelites do not choose festivals for themselves. Nor could the idea have come from the Biblical histories (Joshua through Kings), which are full of stories of conquest and victory but do not describe a Biblical hero instituting a festival.

Cohen argues that the idea of an assembly of the people having the power to institute an annual festival, and the idea that an annual

The Hasmoneans did not get the idea of a yearly festival celebration from the Torah.

festival is an appropriate way to mark a great victory, are both gifts to the Hasmoneans from Greek culture. He notes other examples of Hasmonean Hellenism in the narrative of *First Maccabees*. In 140 B.C.E. the Hasmonean leaders elected Simon, brother of Judah, as High Priest. This is an un-Jewish idea; the popular election of a high priest is rooted not in Judaism but in Hellenism. As long as the Temple and its rituals, the Law and its requirements, were not touched, the Hasmoneans were not afraid to enrich Judaism by incorporating Hellenistic ideas and practices.

In Israel today, Hanukkah is important in that it is a festival that commemorates a mili-

tary victory, that over the Greek Assyrians who had conquered Israel. It is understandable that modern Israelis would remember fondly a historic victory over an enemy that greatly outnumbered and should have defeated their ancestors. It's interesting that, unlike other holidays, Hanukkah in Israel is celebrated by religious and secular Jews with equal fondness and respect.

Hanukkah is also called Chag Ha'Urim (Festival of Lights). In Jewish spiritualism it says: In the beginning there was light. At the end there will be light. In between there is the history, the evolution of human beings toward the light. On Hanukkah we are looking at one moment in this history of the lewish path through life. So the value of Hanukkah is not merely historic, remembering and honoring the past. In this festival Jewish heroism -G'vurah - of every historical period is honored (including the present time, when the State of Israel was created). But beyond the military successes of the Maccabees, Hanukkah is also a rededication to an enduring faith - Emunah - in the idea of human freedom. That freedom was born at Pesach, and an important aspect of Hanukkah is a hope that such freedom will always be protected from elimination by those who periodically gain political power or empire in this world.

World Jewish Report Medina Roy



Do You Recognize Me?

More than 1 million children perished in the Holocaust. Between 1933 and 1945. millions of others were displaced as a result of persecution by the Nazis and their collaborators. After World War II, relief agencies photographed some of the children who survived in order to help locate their families. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has some 1.100 of these photos and now, more than 65 years later, the museum is reaching out around the world in an attempt to identify and discover the fate of these young survivors. This past March, the museum, taking advantage of social media to find these children and collect their stories. launched a proiect they've called Remember Me? As of this writing, 230 child survivors from eleven countries have been identified through the project. Museum officials hope that after identifying a friend, relative or neighbor, visitors to the website will share the narrative of the child's life-story before the Holocaust and what has happened to them in the decades since. Photos can be searched by name or one can view the gallery. The website has already attracted some 61,500 visitors from 150 countries. To view the site, go to www.rememberme.ushmm.org. (www.jta.org, 11-3-11)

A New Hotline

The Israel Law Center (*Shurat HaDin*) is an Israeli-based civil rights organization focused on combating terrorist organizations and the regimes that support them. Their method is lawsuits litigated around the world. Now the Center has launched a hotline to help Jewish college students who are victims of anti-Semitism on their campuses. According to attorney Kenneth A. Leitner, the Law Center's Director of American Affairs, students will now be able to call the hotline to report anti-Semitic and anti-Israel incidents on U.S. college campuses. The Law Center will then use the data and take legal action against those colleges suspected of breaching the legal rights of Jewish students. "It is time for us to go on the legal offensive," said Leitner, who noted that campus anti-Semitism is growing. Colleges in the United States will also receive a "report card" from ILC grading them according to their commitment to providing lewish students with a safe learning environment. Leitner added that radical anti-Israel groups like Students for Justice in Palestine already have a stronghold on U.S. Campuses. Students can call the Israel Law Center Campus Hotline at (718) 907-9258. To view the work of the center. visit www.israellawcenter.org. (www.jpost.com, 10-16-11)

Oprah and Brooklyn's Chasidim

Oprah Winfrey recently visited an Orthodox lewish congregation in Brooklyn to check out the shul's state-of-the-art mikvah (the ritual bath drawn from natural water sources where Orthodox women go to "purify" after their menstrual cycles before resuming sexual relations with their husbands). Filming a segment of her new TV show, "Oprah's Next Chapter," which will premiere on her OWN Network in January 2012. Oprah visited the Chasidic neighborhood. Her new TV show will feature interviews with spiritual leaders all around the world. (Two interesting asides: first, many in these Orthodox communities know virtually nothing about Oprah or the work that she's done. And in case you were wondering, no, she did not immerse herself in the *mikvah*). (The Forward, 10-27-11)

An "Electric Nose"

Scientists at the Technion Institute in Haifa report progress, including successful testing on humans, of an "electric nose," a device with a series of sensors that can pick up evidence of multiple sclerosis from exhaled breath. In the latest edition of ACS Chemical Neuroscience, the scientists describe the device as a possible breakthrough in the search for a fast, non-invasive and inexpensive test for the disease. Currently, detecting and treating the disease is far less precise yet more cumbersome, and includes expensive MRI exams and invasive lumbar punctures. In their research, the Technion scientists identified "volatile organic compounds in exhaled breath that are linked to multiple sclerosis," and designed the computerized "nose" to detect those compounds. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 10-14-11)

Montel is Impressed

Emmy Award-winning TV personalityturned-patient-activist Montel Williams, 55, was in Israel recently on a fact-finding mission to learn about the lewish state's medical marijuana practices. After meeting with legislators, scientists and physicians, Williams came away impressed with Israel's liberal attitude toward the use of medical marijuana and believes the United States could learn much from the Jewish state. Williams was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1999; he has since been an outspoken advocate of medical marijuana to relieve the pain caused by the disease. Itay Goor-Aryeh, head of the pain management unit at the Sheba Medical Center in central Israel, said that while marijuana use is strictly regulated, many doctors prefer prescribing it to patients who qualify because "it is the lesser of evils," referring to a variety of harmful drugs, one of which is opium-derived morphine. Sixteen states in the U.S. have decriminalized the use of medical marijuana to some extent. Williams said he uses marijuana on a daily basis to ease his pain and he hopes that one day it will become a regular prescription drug. (Associated Press, 10-30-11)

In Memoriam

· Carl Lindner, Jr., one of the largest non-Jewish donors to the organized Jewish community in the United States, has died. He was 92. Lindner once said that an early loan from Sir Isaac Wolfson (1897-1991), British business leader and philanthropist and a maior benefactor of Israel, inspired him to never forget the Jewish people for helping him get his start in the world of finance, through which he became a billionaire. A successful corporate financier and devout Christian. Lindner quietly began donating large sums of money to the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) in the 1960s. In 1978, in recognition of his generosity, the UIA named him Man of the Year. He was also named a recipient of the Tree of Life Award for the lewish National Fund and was recognized as the largest non-lewish purchaser of Israel Bonds. In 1991 the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati honored him at a fundraising dinner for Naharia, a poor town in Israel, which at the time was the sister city of Cincinnati's Jewish community.

Lindner was founder and board chairman of the American Financial Group, a major financial services company. At one time, he was a minority owner of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team and its chief executive officer. He dropped out of school at age 15, during the Depression, to deliver milk door-to-door while attending high school classes at night. He later transformed his milk delivery business into what is now United Dairy Farmers. (www.jta.org, 11-2-11)

• Franklin Kameny, a Harvard PhD in astronomy and one of the leading figures of the gay rights movement, has died at the age of 86. Kameny was discharged from the U.S. Army more than 50 years ago (he was a government astronomer working for the Army Map Service) because of his homosexuality. This incident led to his career of activism for gay rights. Kameny protested his firing all the way to the Supreme Court, marking the first civil rights claim based on sexual orientation. (He lost the case.) Soon after that, he cofounded the Mattachine Society, a pioneering gay civil rights group that organized the first gay demonstration at the White House.

Born into a New York middle-class lewish family, Kameny taught himself to read by the age of four. He entered Queens College when he was 15 to study physics. He enlisted in the Army at the height of World War II, just a few days before he turned 18. "I have resented for 67 years that I had to lie in order to serve in a war effort that I strongly supported," he once said. Mr. Kameny devoted his life to increasing acceptance of the gay community in mainstream American society and to gain recognition of their equality under the law. He is credited with playing an important role in several milestone events for all gays, such as when in late 1973 the American Psychiatric Association stopped classifying homosexuality as a mental disorder. He was also instrumental in the executive order issued by President Clinton permitting gavs to be given security clearances. The Federal government issued a formal apology to Kameny in 2009 for letting him go. His civil rights struggle is chronicled in 77,000 pages of papers and memorabilia housed in the Library of Congress. Ironically, Kameny died on October 11th, "National Coming-Out Day," and in the same year when homosexuals were formally allowed to serve openly in the military. (The Forward, 10-12-11)

· Jerzy Bielecki, a Catholic Pole who escaped with his Jewish girlfriend Cyla Cybulska from Auschwitz in 1944 when he was 23, has died at the age of 90. Bielecki, suspected of being a member of the Polish resistance, was arrested by the Nazis and sent to Auschwitz. Three years later, he met and fell in love with a young girl who had recently been transported with her family to the camp. Bielecki used his relatively privileged position as a German-speaking Catholic-Polish inmate to orchestrate the escape. He secretly acquired a complete SS uniform, a stolen pass and a forged document. He pretended to take a Jewish inmate out of the camp for interrogation. For more than a week the couple hid in fields during the day; then walked during the night until they reached the house of Bielecki's uncle.

Soon after, the two were separated when Catholic Bielecki went back to Krakow and Jewish Cybulska hid with a farming family. Through a variety of misunderstandings, they failed to meet after the war, each believing the other had died. Cybulska immigrated to the United States and married another Holocaust survivor. Bielecki remained in Poland and started a family of his own. By sheer chance they were reunited when, one day, Cybulska's Polish cleaning woman heard her story and said she had heard Bielecki on Polish TV telling the same story. She helped Cybulska find Bielecki and, in the summer of 1982. the two were reunited at Krakow airport; Bielecki brought Cybulska 39 roses - 1 for each year they had spent apart. They saw each other periodically and remained good friends. In 1985 Yad Vashem awarded Bielecki the title Righteous Among Nations for saving one lewish woman. (Which, the rabbis say, is the same as saving the world.) (www.haaretz.com, 10-23-11)

Update

In the October 2011 issue of Chai-Lights, World lewish Report reported on a story about Coney Island Bialys & Bagels, closing after 91 years. Turns out the store, which was owned by Steven Ross and is the oldest bialy store in the country, has been saved by two Muslim businessmen who leased the space. Peerzada Shah and Zafaryab Ali (Ali worked with Ross at the shop for ten years) reopened the store and plan to build on Ross's kosher wholesale business, which supplies bialys to Staten Island, Brooklyn and New Jersev. Both Ali and Shah grew up in Pakistan and moved to New York, where they became taxi drivers. The two say they intend to keep the kosher shop's offerings the same, thereby preserving its history, and that the store will remain kosher. (And the key to peace in the Middle East is...food?) (The Forward, 11-2-11)

Did You Know...

Vice President Joe Biden's future son-inlaw, Howard Krein, is a Jewish doctor (no, that isn't redundant) at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia. Krein is an ear, nose and throat specialist. Ashley Biden, 30, is a social worker. (www.jta.org, 11-2-11) >>



-This Month in Jewish History-December

519 B.C.E. - Supported by the prophets Haggai and Zechariah, the foundations for the Second Temple are laid during the second year of the reign of Persian ruler Darius The Great. It will take four years to complete the project.

220 C.E. - Rabbi Judah Hanasi (Judah the Patriarch) dies. Born in Fretz Israel in 138 (three years after the last rebellion against Rome, the one led by Bar Kochba), Judah's greatest claim to fame is as the compiler of the Mishna, the compilation of Oral Law, which will serve as the basis for both the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds. It served, and still serves, as a code for regulation of all lewish life. Some of his more famous sayings include: "Be as punctilious in observing a light as a weighty commandment, for you do not know their relative reward." And the favorite of all who teach: "I have learned much from teachers, more from my colleagues, but most from pupils."

321 C.E. - A letter from Emperor Constantine the Great regarding special taxes provides the first evidence of Jews living along the Rhine in central Europe.

771 - Charlemagne becomes sole Frankish king upon the death of his brother, King Carloman. Contrary to typical historical patterns, the consolidation of political power in the hands of one monarch actually helps the kingdom's Jews. Charlemagne is favorably disposed to his Jewish subjects, even to the point of defying edicts of powerful prelates.

1254 - Pope Innocent IV dies. During his papacy, Innocent denounces Blood Libels against the Jews as "unfounded." In 1247, Innocent issues a declaration on behalf of Jews stating that the Talmud is an absolute necessity for the Jews, if Judaism is to continue to exist as a separate religion; and that burnings of the Talmud are to cease. This is not a position taken by many medieval Popes.

1655 - Oliver Cromwell convenes a gathering of English notables at Whitehall to decide if the Jews should be readmitted to England. Cromwell is a strong proponent of readmission, as are most of Cromwell's military and government leaders. Opposition comes from merchants and the mainline Christian clergy. The council is stalemated, and eventually disbanded. But conferees do agree that there is no legal reason not to re-admit the Jews since they had been expelled by royal decree and not by an act of Parliament.

1787 - Delaware becomes the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. It abolishes all religious tests for public office in 1792.

1847 – Solomon Schechter is born in Rumania to a Chabad Chassidic family. His Chassidic upbringing does not satisfy him, and in 1879 he goes to study at the Hochschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums at the University of Berlin. He quickly rises to prominence as a rabbinic scholar and spokesman for Jewish traditionalism, gaining international fame as a scholar when he discovers and brings back to London more than 100,000 pages of rare manuscripts from the Cairo Geniza. In 1913 he is instrumental in founding the United Synagogue of America, the umbrella organization of all Conservative congregations. Though a staunch traditionalist, Schechter admits that there can be change in modern ludaism. He is supposedly quoted as saving. "Gentlemen, in order to be a success in the American rabbinate, you must be able to talk baseball "

1861 – An edition of the *Louisville-Nashville Courier* gives the following details concerning the burning of a bridge at Whippoorwill on the Memphis Branch Railroad: "A detachment of fifty or sixty federal soldiers under the command of a Dutch Jew peddler named Netter fired a volley of over one hundred rounds from Sharp's revolving rifles" at the Confederates guarding the bridge. "Netter" is probably Gabriel Netter, a French-born Jew (not Dutch) living in Kentucky, who within a year would rise to the rank of Lt. Colonel before being killed in fighting near Owensboro.

1864 – A meeting is held in Philadelphia, which results in the establishment of the first Jewish theological seminary in America. The seminary is established under the joint auspices of the Hebrew Education Society and the Board of Delegates of American Israelites, and is named Maimonides College. The school begins operations in 1867. It ceases operations in 1873 due to lack of support and funds.

1864 – William Tecumseh Sherman's Union Army reaches Savannah, Georgia in what history will call "Sherman's March to the Sea." Fighting alongside Sherman is Major General Frederick Knefler, a native of Hungary who is the highest-ranking Jewish officer in the Union Army during the Civil War.

1875 - Father Bernhard Lichtenberg, antifascist German priest and outspoken defender of the Jews of Germany, is born. After Kristallnacht. Lichtenberg is the only prominent Church figure to raise his voice publicly and fearlessly against Nazi brutality. "We know what happened vesterday, we do not know what lies in store for us tomorrow. But we have experienced what has happened today: Outside burns the temple. This is also a place of worship." He is arrested in 1941, but continues to speak out. In 1943, Lichtenberg asks to accompany the lews being sent to the Ghetto at Lodz, Poland. The Church refuses, but the Gestapo orders him sent to Dachau. Not yet seventy, Lichtenberg dies while awaiting shipment to the concentration camp.

1889 - Poet Robert Browning dies. Browning's poem "Rabbi ben Ezra" is based on the life Abraham ibn Ezra, a leading figure in the Golden Age in Spain and second only in fame to Rashi as a Torah commentator. The poem begins with the famous line "Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be..."

1891 – Rachel Sasoon Beer, granddaughter of David Sasoon and daughter of Sasoon David Sasoon, is named editor of *The Observer* in London, making her the first female editor of a national newspaper. During her tenure *The Observer* achieves one of its greatest exclusives: the admission by Count Esterhazy that he had forged the letters used to condemn innocent Jewish Captain Alfred Dreyfus to Devil's Island. The ensuing international outcry leads to the release and pardon of Dreyfus and court-martial of Esterhazy.

1915 – Albert Einstein publishes the general theory of relativity, from his seat as Director of Theoretical Physics at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Berlin. He is 36.

1917 – British troops under General Allenby fight their way into Jerusalem, defeating the Ottoman Turks and freeing the ancient Jewish homeland from hundreds of years of Ottoman rule. The whole city turns out to greet the General, as do the Chief Sephardic and Ashkenazi Rabbis. The Jaffa Gate is opened after years of disuse to enable Allenby to enter on foot, but also to enable him to enter the city without having to use a gap in the wall created for Kaiser William in 1898.

1917 - Corporal Louis Isaac Salek, a Gallipoli veteran from New Zealand entering Jerusalem with General Allenby, hoists and flies the first Jewish flag to fly over Jerusalem since the city's fall to the Romans almost two thousand years ago. The flag is made by an Egyptian-Jewish department store owner named Moreno Cicurel with the assistance of a tailor from Alexandria named Eliezer Slutzkin. Salek's flag design is blue and white - the top half blue, the bottom half white - with a Magen David in the center. Salek plants Moreno's flag atop the Tower of David - the Citadel - where it flies for twenty minutes before being removed by the British. ◆

Photo Gallery

The three night photos at top were taken on Friday, October 14th, as our beautiful Garden gazebo, already decorated as the KJCC sukkah, served as the

site of our Oneg after services. (What other shul in the country was having outdoor evening Onegs in October?) Thanks to Mary Lee for the photos.

All the photos be low were taken on Sunday, October I 6th by Richard and Barbara Knowles,



As the KJCC Sunday School celebrated Sukkot. Everyone got to handle and inhale the aroma of the lulov and etrog.





All the photos on this page are from the Simchat Torah celebration on Friday, October 21st. Bernie and Gloria led us through the religious rituals, and then eve-

ryone took turns carrying one of our three Torahs around the sanctuary. As you can see, a spirited good time was had by all.

> The final part of the celebration was to re-wind the Torahs back to the beginning. The yearly cycle of reading had ended, and the next week we would begin anew with **B**'rei-

shit. Our thanks to Richard and Barbara Knowles and Marc Bloom for the photos. The Knowleses also celebrated two family birthdays by sponsoring the Oneg.



FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM AT THE KJCC MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7

ALL KJCC MEN ARE AUTOMATICALLY MEMBERS ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

> Light Snacks (Potluck) Beverages Provided Worst Player Prize!

FUN AND EXCITEMENT FOR ALL!

For Additional Information Contact: Steve Friedman, sfried@ix.netcom.com, 305.720.1681







The photos on this page are from Rabbi Richard Agler's morning service on Saturday, October 29th. If you haven't been to one of Rabbi Agler's discussion groups, you're

missing out on the kind of insights and moments of discovery that can only come from a special teacher. The day was also memorable for another reason: Joe Sha-



bathai stood at the bemah and chanted the same haftorah he'd chanted fifty-plus years ago at his Bar Mitzvah in London.



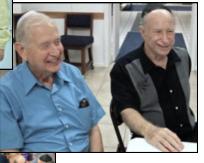








ner provided by Sisterhood. Stuart then led a service he dedicated to all



veterans, inviting his friend Dave Magidson past National Com-

the fabulous din-

mander of Jewish War Veterans of the USA and also Past President of the National Museum of American Jewish Mili-



tary History — to speak. The photo at top is all the veterans who were here that night (plus Bea). Widows of veterans are pictured just below and left.



On Friday, November 4th, Joshua Bernstein led services along with Gloria. Many of his family were there, in town for his Bar Mitzvah the next morning. (Please see next month's Chai-Lights for photos from the Bar Mitzvah celebration itself.)

Pauline was tempted to leave Alan in the lurch and take his motorcycle to the Bar Mitzvah her-

> self, but then felt rachmones and decided to travel conventionally. (Anyone know if there's a Bubbe Biker Babe calendar?)

Linda and Maryon stopped into Angelika's recently, at left, to see what's new and wonderful in Lauren and Stu's world of fashion. Gerri Emkey poses, below center, just after finish-

ing the 60-mile Walk for Breast Cancer in Tampa October 29th. (Please see her note to the congregation that appears in Nosh on



page 4). Yardena and Muriel stand before this year's Kristallnacht display they created for

the KJCC lobby. Above is the new display of past Sisterhood presidents now gracing the KJCC entryway. Libby Peckman, Joyce's granddaughter, dances with II-month-old Matanel Hai, Bea's great-grandson,

at a Klezmer brunch in New York City.

Chanukah Tidbits, Part II

E ach year we try to bring you a slightly different take on Chanukah, perhaps the holiday whose rituals and story are more familiar to more of us than any other, and whose arrival we welcome more than any save Passover. We've featured stories, and reminiscences, the different practices of different cultures in different eras, and history. (Yardena does a wonderful job in YEDA this month describing a prominent Judaic scholar's new take on the relationship between the Hasmoneans and Hellenism.) This year we thought we'd fill in some things we'd missed. This is Judaism, after all. There's always something.

The word "Chanukah" itself has its etymology in the Hebrew verb *chanooch* - meaning "to dedicate" - with both the initial and final "ch" being the uvula-rattling sounds made in the back of the throat, not the English "ch" as in "cheese." As is so often the case, the exact origin of the word is obscure; but that has not at all stopped those who would find deeper or richly complex or even poetic possibilities from offering learned guesses. One version says the name can be broken down into a Hebrew phrase for "they rested on the twenty-fifth," a reference to the 25th of Kisley, the date when the Maccabee/Greek fighting stopped and the day on which the holiday begins. Another version - our winner for the combined category of creativity plus pious adoration of the great teachers - claims the word is an acronym for a Hebrew phrase meaning "eight candles, and the halakha is like the House of Hillel." This refers to the learned dispute at the beginning of the Common Era between the Houses of Hillel and Shammai as to whether one should begin the lighting with eight candles and go down to one (Shammai) or one candle and build up to

eight (Hillel). Hillel won the argument, of course, hence the phrase and acronym.

The Roman-Jewish historian Flavius Josephus describes the origin of the holiday in his book Jewish Antiquities XII, though he calls the celebration the "Festival of Lights" and does not mention the name Chanukah: "Now Judah celebrated the festival of the restoration of the sacrifices of the Temple for eight days, and omitted no sort of pleasures thereon; but he feasted them upon very rich and splendid sacrifices, and he honored God, and delighted them by hymns and psalms... And from that time to this [*a passage of about 250 years from the actual events to the time Josephus would have been writing*] we celebrate this festival, and call it Lights."

The Talmud mentions the familiar story of the single container of sealed, ritual olive oil found when it was time to re-dedicate the Temple and re-light the menorah. But the Book of 1 Maccabees, in its telling of the story, does not mention the oil at all. (Possibly one reason the Books of 1 and 2 Maccabees do not appear in the Hebrew Bible?) The story of Chanukah is entirely missing from the Mishna. One scholar posits that. since the Mishna was edited just after the Bar Kochba revolt - the third and final lewish rebellion against Rome - that its editors might have feared describing another, and relatively recent, description of a Jewish revolt against a foreign ruler.

Each night after the candles are lit, tradition calls for the singing of the hymn *Ma'oz Tzur*, the Rock of Ages. The song is comprised of six stanzas. The first and last deal with large themes of salvation, but the middle four deal specifically with four episodes of persecution in Jewish history: the Exodus from Egypt, the Babylonian captivity, the miracle of survival in Persia told at Purim, and the Hasmonean victory over the Assyrian Greeks celebrated at Chanukah.

There is ongoing discussion and dispute about just the right way to transliterate the name of the holiday into English. (Possibly exceeded only by the number of wavs American media spelled "Ghaddafi." But he's dead now, so that controversy will certainly wither away; ours won't.) We thought you'd enjoy the discussion by one linguist: "The word Hanukkah is commonly transliterated to English as Chanukah or Hanukkah. the former because the sound represented by 'ch' (similar to the Scottish pronunciation of *loch*) does not exist in the English language. Furthermore, the letter 'chet,' which is the first letter in the Hebrew spelling, is pronounced differently in modern Hebrew (voiceless uvular fricative) than in classical Hebrew (voiceless pharyngeal fricative), and neither of those sounds is unambiguously representable in English spelling. Moreover, the 'kaf' consonant is geminate in classical (but not modern) Hebrew. Adapting the classical Hebrew pronunciation with the geminate and pharyngeal 'heth' can lead to the spelling Hanukkah, while adapting the modern Hebrew pronunciation with no gemination and uvular 'heth' leads to the spelling Chanukah." Much clearer now, right?

Acknowledgement and public celebration of Chanukah is a fairly recent thing in the United States. In 1951 Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion presented President Harry Truman with a Chanukiah. But it wasn't until 1979 when a sitting president, Jimmy Carter (yes, *that* Jimmy Carter...it's a world of ironies) participated in a public Chanukah candle-lighting on Washington's Mall. The first Chanukah candle-lighting ceremony in the White House itself took place in the presidency of Bill Clinton. In 1996 a Chanukah postage stamp was jointly issued with Israel.

For those of you who need reminding, there are three prayers said while lighting Chanukah candles. The Shehecheyanu is said only on the first night: *Barukh atah Adonai*, *Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, shehecheyanu, v'ki*- yamanu, v'higi'anu, laz'man hazeh. (Blessed are You, Lord our God, sovereign of the Universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season.)

The other two blessings are said each night: Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, asher kidishanu b'mitz'votav, v'tzivanu l'had'lik neir, shel Chanukah. (Blessed are You, Lord, our God, sovereign of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with Your commandments and commanded us to light the lights of Chanukah.) And then Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, she'asah nisim la'avoteinu, bayamim ha'heim baz'man hazeh. (Blessed are You, Lord our God, sovereign of the Universe, Who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days at this time.)

A shortened timeline version of how history makes the case that Chanukah led to the Roman conquest of Judea:

167 BCE: Seleucid king Antiochus IV orders Judaism outlawed and an altar to Zeus erected in the Temple. Mattathias, a priest, and his five sons – John, Simon, Eleazar, Jonathan and Judah – lead a rebellion against Antiochus.

165 BCE: the Jewish revolt succeeds. The Temple is cleansed and re-dedicated.

142 BCE: the Seleucids recognize Jewish autonomy, maintain a formal, technical overlordship. The Hasmoneans, the ruling house established by the Maccabees, agree, and establish the Second Jewish Commonwealth. This stability inaugurates a period of great geographical expansion, population growth, and national development.

131 BCE: Seleucid king Antiochus VII dies, and the Hasmoneans formally and finally throw off Syrian rule.

96 BCE: An eight-year civil war erupts in Hasmonean Judea.

63 BCE: Warring brothers Aristobulus II and Hyrcanus II both appeal to Rome, the world and region's new great power, to intervene and settle the Judean power struggle on their behalf. Sensing an opportunity, Rome dispatches its great general Pompey to Judea. Twelve thousand Jews are killed as Pompey enters Jerusalem. Rome annexes Judea. The Hasmonean Jewish kingdom ends. \diamond



KJCC Hannukah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 23, 2011 Dairy Dinner 6:15 PM

Followed by Hannukah program by children

and Services at 8 pm

Contact Erica @ (305) 853-1003 hippiejap@hotmail.com to reserve your spot and coordinate your dish.



The Connecting Power of Gratitude

And the Simple, Complete Prayer That Expresses it Perfectly.

by Gloria Avner

wanted to shout, "WAIT," to stop Rabbi Agler in mid-sentence. "Say that again, please!"

He was talking about prayer, blessings, and thankfulness, the themes of gratitude that run through the early part of Shabbat morning service, an experience quite rare for most of us. The list of things to be grateful for was long. Then, shifting from the *siddur*, he spoke about how we could use these thank-you blessings in our daily lives, with examples. I wanted the Hebrew words, all of them.

It turned out to be unnecessary. I was glad. The answer I'd been looking for was both simple and profound. I love the Hebrew words and will continue to study and learn the blessings, but if I find myself without the Hebrew words and in a state of happy awe or appreciation, I now have "a way."

Just over a week ago, one of our members, someone very active and knowledgeable about ritual, called to ask me a question about prayer. I've been thinking about it ever since.

The question was this: Why is it that many Christians feel comfortable walking into a church any time of day and sitting down to pray? As a Jew, even one with a decent Jewish education, my caller had never done that. He'd prayed only at specific times – in synagogue, in community, and in words of wellestablished liturgy. "Why wasn't I taught," he asked, "to pray directly, to connect with God and feel that connection?" He wanted my opinion on whether this kind of "connecting" or direct experience could even be taught. Many thoughts, as well as more questions, raced through my head. When do I really feel connected to God, I asked myself? Where am I when I feel tuned in to Spirit, at one with, or at least in communion with, the Creator of all that is?

Sometimes it happens in the synagogue. There are special *Yizkor* prayers that move me to a deeper place, as well as some meaningful responsive readings in the *siddur* and enthusiastic songs sung by lots of our children. I almost always get that uplifted feeling while singing that last "V'ne'emar" verse at the end of *Aleinu*, when the musical harmony soars beyond the words.

More often though, it happens for me In Nature, when I am surrounded by beauty having little or nothing to do with the hand of man: paddling through mangrove trails, mesmerized by rippling reflections of sky, leafy boughs and curving roots, the unexpected sight of a ray gliding by, baby snapper flitting in and out of their many-branched nurseries, white herons sudden and majestic taking flight as my yellow "otter" rounds a bend. My mind's eye conjures the brilliant red-orange flowering of Poinciana trees, tropical skies at sunset, a double rainbow.

My thoughts go on: not by Nature alone, they say. There are other "moving" sights that take me to an inner, higher place: the face of a friend appearing after long absence; the sight of a toddler mastering a tiny act of independence; surprising colors in a beautiful painting; evocative images in a poem that leap beyond words; the transporting silence of meditative sitting or the focused concentration of *tai chi*; the ability to do a favor for someone in need, to alleviate another's pain. I want to ask, "What is it about these moments that get us beyond our little selves,

The answer I'd been looking for was both simple and profound. that plunk us into the present moment without a thought to spare for past or future, regret, worry, or anticipation, all the emotions that cause us stress?"

The question brings me back to that *Shabbat* morning service with Rabbi Agler, and the progres-

sion of "thank you's." As Jews, upon arising, we say, "Thank you for returning me to life." Reading from our *siddurs*, we thank God for our bodies, for the ability to see, to walk, to help others, to be free. The list of prayers and blessings goes on and on. And if we are not in *shul* with a *siddur* in hand, we are still encouraged to say "thank you." This is the heart of Judaism. There is a specific prayer and blessing for everything, whether it is the sight of lightning, witnessing a rainbow, recovering from an illness, escaping a disaster, wishing healing for the sick, or observing anything marvelous and worthy of gratitude.

Here is the best part. You don't *have* to know all the Hebrew words. Rabbi Agler gave us the short form: "Baruch atah Adonai." *Blessed are you, our God*. Thank you for this beautiful tree, this loving community, these hands which work so well, the rain that brings fruit and flowers to our gardens, for health. "*Baruch Atah Adonai*" and then a naming of what we are thankful for.

What? Can it be so simple to talk to God? Can "thank you's" really be enough? It's so basic. Look at the bottom of page 11 in our *siddur.* "To offer our gratitude" is one of my favorite readings for beginning an Erev Shabbat service. "We come together with thankful hearts" is the first line; we then proceed to say how grateful we are not just for the *impulse* to worship, but for the *opportunity*, the *freedom*, and the *ability* to worship. Beyond worshipping, we remember to be grateful for all that is important – our lives, our health, our strength, our search for meaning, and our hopes for the future. Look at the first line of the Sabbath Psalm on page 43: "It is good to thank You, O Lord." Praise and gratitude, as I look through our *siddur*, loom large as the two pillars of our worship service. It is certainly true in the *Amidah*, the central prayer of any service, especially in the section on page 73, "Thanksgiving for daily Miracles."

We rarely worship on a Shabbat morning, but when we do with Rabbi Agler, we begin with the traditional "Morning Blessings of Thanksgiving" (page 147). What an amazing list, from the ability to distinguish between day and night to freedom to sustaining the universe and guiding us on life's path. What we are giving thanks for is profound. And what makes it profoundly *Jewish* are the words which appear at the beginning of every line, *"Baruch Atah Adonai."* "We offer praise

to you, O Lord our God..." Thank goodness our ancestors understood the importance of gratitude and laid it out for us in liturgy, in guidance for daily life, hundreds (thousands?) of years ago.

The New Age movement and scientific researchers have Here is the best part. You don't have to know all the Hebrew words.

been catching up in the last decade or two. Dr. Robert Emmons, author and professor at University of California at Davis, says, after eight years of intensive research, that he has discovered what gives life meaning, reduces stress, and adds to personal happiness. You guessed it: The New Science of Gratitude. Emmons found that people who view life as a gift and consciously acquire an "attitude of gratitude" experience multiple advantages. Gratitude improves emotional and physical health, can strengthen relationships and communities, can eliminate loneliness and depression, and do away with feelings of impoverishment. "Gratitude enriches human life. It elevates, energizes, inspires and transforms. People are moved, opened and humbled through expressions of gratitude."

Let's go back to the original question. Some of us do not feel we have been taught how to talk to or connect with God. The seeds of powerful suggestions have been lying in wait for us in our own *siddurs*, in all those readings filled with praise and gratitude. We can be talking to God in shul, reading responsively and singing on a Friday night. "Amidah" would be a perfect time to get quiet and formulate our own grateful thoughts. But we are not limited by time and place, and certainly not limited to when we are together in shul.

We can start saying "thank you" every time we notice something positive in our lives and surroundings. Dr. Emmons suggests (several of my friends have been doing this for years) that we start the day by writing down in a journal five things we are grateful for. Sitting on a dock at the bay might be another good place to start talking with God. Sitting at a suffering friend's bedside would be a good place, too. With strength of heart, you put out a positive vibration; prayers of praise and adoration reinforce what you love about the person. Even when grieving or distraught, we can be thankful for having had the presence of the person in our lives and for the opportunity to bring them, even at this point, some comfort.

Is it necessary to be in desperate straits to pray? Of course not, but when things fall apart, we are more vulnerable and open to help from a Source larger and more mysterious than ourselves. Dark times all have seeds of possibility, growth, and life enrichment within them. The challenge is to see beneath the surface and be grateful for what has been given. There's a famous Kabbalistic injunction to be "grateful for your difficulties."

There are other questions. What does

someone do if they don't feel prayerful? How does one begin? Can you simply summon the feeling of gratitude? Does just saying the words begin a healthy, healing process? If it feels mechanical at first, can it still bring satisfaction, and – most of all – connection?

There is a long line of wisdom teachings from ancient "land-based" cultures, including our own Jewish *chochemim*, the wise ones. Prayer is direct and experiential. Energy flows where attention goes. Noticing good begets more noticing, which begets more good, which begets gratitude. The spirit is lifted. Gratitude and praise are *refuah shleimah* in action.

We live in a rich and wonderful universe. There is much to praise, and we Jews can always start with the phrase, "Baruch Atah Adonai." A better immune system and increased levels of health may be a side benefit. Just knowing how to connect with God directly could be benefit enough. I am grateful for the ancestors who paved the way for us to "get it" by writing down the list of morning blessings for us. May they nourish us throughout the day, whether we say their exact words or our own.

A special thank-you to Rabbi Agler for his inspiration. \Diamond

The Morning Blessings of Thanksgiving From the KJCC *Siddur Chadash*, pg. 147

We offer praise to You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe:

For creating us in Your image; For giving us freedom; For making us Jews; For giving us the capacity to see; For clothing the naked; For releasing the oppressed; For raising up those who are bowed down; For sustaining the universe; For providing for our daily needs; For giving us guidance for life's path; For endowing our people with courage; For crowning our people with glory; For giving strength to those who are weary.

My Beautiful Wedding at KS

by Zoe Moshe

t all began with a phone call from Sari Halpern. "I have someone I want you to meet." Joshua was waiting at their house when I pulled up. He had made salmon niçoise. He cooked for them often. This was the beginning of a delicious relationship. Many of you already know this. We ate, and then walked it off in a light drizzle for the next five hours. Intense topics: Agreements, question marks, cultural differences, melding of seven grown children, settings for a future life, on the other side of young. But there was electricity in the air.

Perseverance. Intense negotiation. Where to live? How to explain? And so, he gifted me a wedding feast for my family.

I called Angelika's to talk to Lauren, and Stuart answered. I asked, "Can you keep a

secret?" He asked, "Who's pregnant?" I said, "Not me...I'm getting married!" Lauren agreed to come in on her day off. She had the dresses and accessories ready for me

when we got there. The very first dress was perfect. In 45 minutes we were out the door. But it took five hours of visual and sensory overload at Dadeland Mall until we





gave up on getting a wedding suit for Joshua and found the collarless shirt similar to one he had seen at Angelika's.

Stuart took on the added responsibility of sending out the einvitations and accepting the responses, so Joshua



had a number to cook for. I ordered flowers, and sat with Lauren to hammer out the

> Jim announced, during the ceremony, that this was the most photographed wedding he'd ever seen.



bought loads of aluminum pans and containers. I never saw so many purple vegetables in one place. There were boxes of *Hatzilim*, on-



ions, tomatoes by the bushel, cans of pickles, huge bushes of dill and parsley. I said I liked baklava and two trays ap-



Before conducting the ceremony, Jim took care of all the paperwork, got in some fatherly advice, and managed to be the first to kiss the bride.



Mark Halpern had two roles — as cantor, of course, but also as proud friend and matchmaker.



details of holding the wedding celebration at the KJCC. Meanwhile, Stuart and Joshua were speaking guy talk. Five days be-

fore the wed-

ding, Joshua took over Joyce's kitchen. Aware of kosher kitchen etiquette, he





peared. Do you have any idea what a 25-pound field bag of chickpeas looks like sitting in the middle of someone's residential kitchen? Shelly and Fernando

weatherman had guaranteed rain for the en-



tire weekend, but God smiled on us. Cantor Mark started chanting beautifully, and Jim looked straight at me and asked, "Is there a groom?" Deep in conversa-

tion, he was grabbed and pushed forward by my KJCC family.

In the ceremony, mixed with the prayers and the hopes of eve-





tering seashells across the tables. People began to arrive, and I was still in shorts!

I got dressed quickly - late as usual - and we all trooped down, like a family rambling along a

country road, to the Meditation Garden. EVERYONE was game. It was a good day! The





ryone, were kind, gentle, nudging jokes, along with fatherly advice. Jim tried really hard to



make me cry. It worked several times.

After the ceremony, our men carried back the chairs that had been set out for our seniors. In the social hall, Kathy Shabathai, in the true spirit of Sisterhood, worked with

Shelly to make sure that everything ran smoothly. Ariela Halpern was hired to play classical music during the feast. I never saw so many smiles. The food was devoured. Bea loved every variety of eggplant and the chocolate cake was delicious.







I was acutely aware and appreciative that the people I care about were there to witness this lovely and magical day in my life. \Diamond



























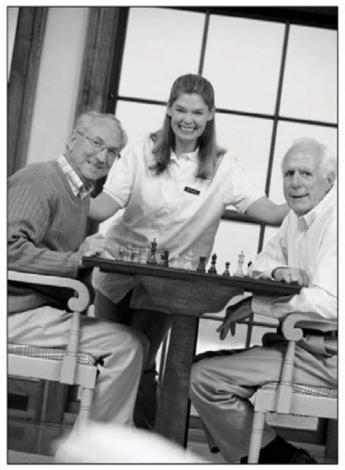
And so a life begins...



Our great thanks to those who took the beautiful photos you see here of Zoe and Joshua's day: Kathy Shabathai, Mary Lee Singer, Alan Beth and Steve Steinbock.

The Palace Gardens Difference

For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens is different from all others.



1. Continuum of Care -

The Palace Gardens is part of The Palace Family of Senior Living Communities which offers accommodations that meet everyone's needs, from Independent Living and Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, and even Home Health. You can rest assured that at The Palace, your needs will be met, no matter what may happen in the future.

2. Palace Training & Education Center

Because our residents come first, every employee must reflect the higher standards of our communities. Based on Ritz-Carlton procedures, a comprehensive orientation program reinforces this focus. Regular training and educational programs continue so that residents will always receive the very best care and services.

3. Local Ownership -

Founded in 1980 by Helen and Jacob Shaham, The Palace is privately owned and locally operated by these self-made individuals who foresaw the need for quality senior living environments. Their constant involvement today ensures the tradition they established for the communities and services bearing The Palace name: only the best.

To see for yourself why The Palace Gardens sets the standard Florida senior living, call or visit our web site.



1351 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, FL 33030 • (305)247-0446 • www.thepalace.org

| The Palace Gardens / Assisted Living |
|--|
| The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center |
| The Palace at Home / Home Health |
| |

| VERONICA'S ART
AND GLASS STUDIO
Stained Glass Custom Pieces •
Restoration and Repairs •
Mosaics • Fused Glass Jewelry •
Classes • Materials and Supplies
Veronica A. Gutierrez, Artist
(305) 304-9411 | Barbara Knowles
Photography and Video
Destination
Wedding Planner
Officiant, All Events, Portraits
Real Estate, Corporate | |
|---|--|--|
| veroagutierrez@yahoo.com
DeClue's Art Printing
and Framing
Simply Extraordinary, Creative,
Quality Picture Framing.
82200 Overseas Highway, Islamorada
305-664-9385 - marciadeclue@gmail.com | Custom Packages
www.FLKeysWeddings.com
305-772-0503
305-853-5653
iweddu@bellsouth.net
Richard Knowles
PhotoVideo
305-942-4488
flkeys@bellsouth.net | |
| florida keys
periodontics
and
implantology
paul e. berger, d.d.s.
the pink plaza
103400 overseas highway
Suite 229 tel: 305.453.1811
key largo, fl 33037 fax: 305.453.1889 | Fax 305.774.1890
866.975.EDEN
4051 Laguna Street (3336) | |
| CHAD GARDNER
Owner / Operator
Deli & Bakers
Change and the state of th | office hours by appointment phone: (305) 852-3219
fax: (305) 852-9016
OSMANI DIAZ, D.D.S.
JOHN L. IZANEC, D.D.S., P.A.
ROBERT WAGNER, D.M.D.
91750 OVERSEAS HIGHWAY TAVERNIER, FL 33070 | |





Dmitry Sandler, DPM, FACFAS

Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery

975 Baptist Way Suite 101 Homestead, FL 33030 Phone: 305.246.4774 Fax: 305.248.4086

91461 Overseas Highway Tavernier, FL 33070 Phone: 305.852.1878 Fax: 305.852.2932 Please join Sylvie and Michel Bitton at their new French café in the heart of Islamorada. You will be enchanted by the specialties de la maison: Gelato, espresso, crêpes, melt-in-your-mouth French baked goods, gourmet sandwiches and salads. Plus free wi-fi.



"A little oasis of French charm in Islamorada."
Bitton Bistro Café • 82245 Overseas Hwy Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036 • MM 82 • 305.396.7481 bittonbistrocafe@gmail.com • www.bittonbistrocafe.com Open 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. 7 days a week.



98175 Overseas Hwy Key Largo, FL 33037

305-852-5252

Mon, Wed, Fri: 8AM-5PM Tue, Thu: 8AM-6PM Sat: 8AM-12PM



GARRETT CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTER, P.A. a holistic healing center

DR. ERICA LIEBERMAN-GARRETT, BSC.D.C

Over 26 Years experience Chiropractic (Gentle/Manual) Yoga/Meditation Massage Therapy Physical Therapy Acupuncture/ Homeopathy

305-853-1003 MM 90.3 Bayside, Tavernier wellnesshealing@bellsouth.net

Island Hammock Pet Hospital® Dr. Martha Edwards & Dr. Suzanne Sigel



Please visit our website at www.IHPHonline.com

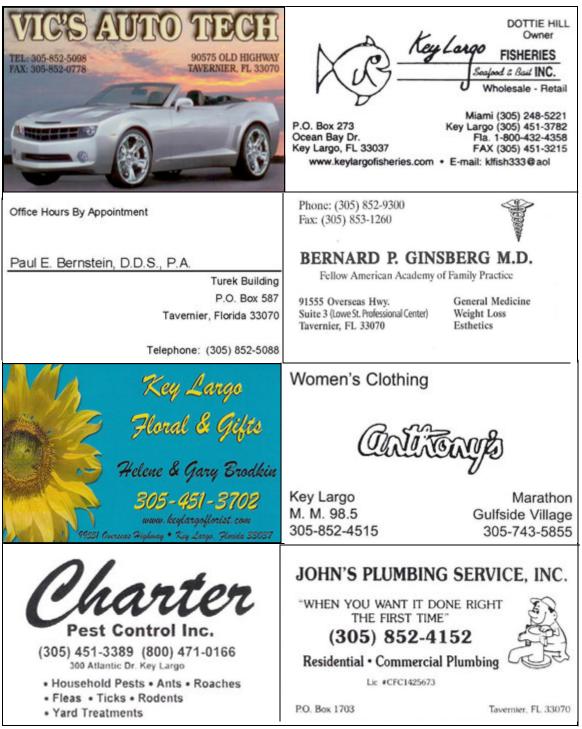
- Dr. Martha serving Upper Keys pets since 1991
- Practicing Preventative Medicine and Wellness
- Providing Comprehensive Medical Services
- 24 Hour EMERGENCY Service
- Dog and Cat Boarding with Medical Supervision
- American Animal Hospital Association Accredited
- Locally Owned, Locally Operated

Island Hammock Pet Hospital® - Passionate about animals, compassionate about animal care









Grossman Roth, P.A. was founded in Miami in 1988 and maintains offices in Coral Gables, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Sarasota and Key West. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of medical malpractice, products liability, aviation, admiralty, commercial litigation, class action and professional malpractice litigation and other cases of significant damages.



TRIAL LAWYERS

GROSSMAN ROTH, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

KEY WEST

509 Whitehead Street First Floor Key West, Florida 33040 Phone: 305.509.7734 FAX: 305.509.7738

CORAL GABLES

2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Suite 1150 Coral Gables, Florida 33134 Phone: 305.442.8666 Phone: 800.206.4004 FAX: 305.285.1668

BOCA RATON

Wells Fargo Plaza Suite 350 925 South Federal Hwy. Boca Raton, Florida 33432 Phone: 561.367.8666 FAX: 561.367.0297

SARASOTA

1800 Second Street Suite 777 Sarasota, Florida 34236 Phone: 941.365.8666 FAX: 941.316.0963

FT. LAUDERDALE

Las Olas Centre II Suite 1120 350 East Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Phone: 954.767.8200 FAX: 954.764.1866