

January 2014

29 Tevet - 30 Shevat 5774

Lighting the KJCC Chanukiah - page 21 Westley Silverman's Bar Mitzvah - page 25 Gloria Explains Tu B'Shvat - page 31

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com January 2014

29 Tevet - 31 Shevat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Men's Club Game Night 7:30	2	3 Yardena Kamely Richard Knowles Arlene & John Line	4
5 Sisterhood Meeting 9:30 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10 Steve Hartz & Steve Steinbock Patti & David Gross	11
12 KJCC Board Meeting 9 a.m.	13	14	15	16 Tu B'Shvat	17 KJCC Religious School and Teachers Shabbat Dinner 6:30	18 Torah Learning Service w/ Rabbi Agler 10 a.m.
19 Tu B'Shvat seder & tree plant- ing at KJCC	20	21	22	23	24 KJCC Sisterhood Service <i>Carol & Steve</i> <i>Steinbock</i>	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Erica Lieberman- Garrett 6:30 Service	

2013 - 2014 Officers and Board

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Newsletter Lisa Richardson Rutherford

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 Bernard Ginsberg

am writing my column today with a sore back from dancing at Westley Silverman's Bar Mitzvah party. It's good to have little aches that are earned by performing mitzvahs like this celebration. Our little synagogue has been hit by plenty of tragedies lately, but great Bar Mitzvahs, like Westley's, Will Pollack's and Zach Schrader-Grace's. balance the scale of happiness and sadness and even push us toward the happiness (simcha) side of the scale.

It was great to see the Silverman and Berman families having a great time, and have them pack the synagogue with family members who knew a thing or two about how and when to say the Brochas and answer amen and participate in a Torah service. It is obviously from family that Westley got his inspiration. As I mentioned in my remarks at the service. he even taught me something about the stained-glass windows in our sanctuary, pointing out that the depiction of a dove with an olive branch was not merely a sign of peace (as I had thought), but an illustration of a teaching brought out by Joyce Peckman's son Daniel when he led services a few weeks before. Daniel recalled the legend that Noah decided to open his Ark after the great flood only after a dove he released came back with an olive branch with olives on it.



Noah then was said to have pressed those olives into oil that was hidden and passed down amongst the Jews until it was needed for lighting the lamp in the Temple for the first Chanukah.

Westley showed that he could not only learn, but learn from and *expand* on what he'd heard in the synagogue. When the Hebrew school student can teach the synagogue president. you know that we are doing something right in our reliaious school. This is the best reward for our efforts: to know that we are producing young people who will continue the story of our people and faith into the future. Unfortunately we recently lost founding member Stephan Ban, but I am sure that he and all our deceased founders are looking down from on high. They are undoubtedly happy with the dividends their investments in the KICC have made, culminating in a Bar Mitzvah like Westlev's.

If you missed our group menorah (chanukiah) lighting, you missed something else very special. I thank all of Sisterhood, especially Erica Garrett and President Barbara Knowles, for your efforts at this and all our wonderful synagogue functions.

Happy New Year, Bernie

Nosh

KJCC Scholarships

If your child has been a student in our Religious School and is applying to an institution of higher education, he or she may be eligible for a KJCC Scholarship. Applications and guidelines are now available. Completed applications must be submitted between January 1st and April 1st; awards will be announced in May. KJCC wants to give our students a helping hand in their first year. Call David Gitin, Scholarship Chairman, at 305-393-4979 for applications and more information. Applications can now also be downloaded from the KJCC web site, keysjewishcenter.com.

BOOK PLATE

In honor of my mother

Bianka Kirschenbaum

by Medina Roy 2013

Oneg Sponsors for January 2014

January 3rd - John and Arlene Line to celebrate the birthday of Crue Lamarche. January 10th - David and Patty Gross to honor Alvin Gross. January 17th - An Anonymous Donor is

sponsoring the pre-Shabbat dinner. January24th - Steve and Carol Steinbock to celebrate Carol's birthday.

Meditation Garden Brick

MARIANNE CIMKOWSKI LOVING MOTHER OF CAROL ANN STEINBOCK & STEVE STEINBOCK 3/24/1917 - 11/19/2013 LINDA & JOEL POLLACK WILL TRAVIS POLLACK BAR MITZVAH HONORS WITH LOVE FROM GRANDMA AND GRANDPA POLLACK

Rabbi Agler's January Torah Service

The great gift to KJCC of Rabbi Richard Agler's monthly Torah Learning Services will continue on Saturday, January 18th at 10:00 a.m. in the KJCC sanctuary. For those of you who haven't been able to attend, there is a brief Torah service followed by a spirited discussion of that week's Torah portion based on the probing questions and learned guidance of Rabbi Agler. Many have quietly told us that they miss the majesty of Torah readings, since the Torah isn't brought from the Ark on Friday nights. Well, to those lamenters, here's your chance.

The 2014 Directory is Nigh

We've recently received a number of e-mail changes from members. Since we're close to going into production on the new KJCC Membership Directory, now would be a good time for all of you to make sure we have your most recent address(es), phones, e-mail and even (hey, it happens) name or marital status changes. Please send any changes to Bernie at president@keysjewishcenter.com by the 15th.

A Shabbat Dinner on January 17th

Sisterhood will be sponsoring and hosting another of their wonderful Shabbat Dinners prior to services on Friday, January 17th. Dinner will begin at 6:30, followed by services at 8:00. Due to a sponsorship, there is no charge to members. The cost for all non-members will be \$15. Contact Joyce Peckman for reservations and to arrange to contribute a covered dish. Also see the ad on page 10 for further details.

January Birthdays

l st	Jerry Olsen
lst	Justin Wade Gilson
lst	Laura Goodman
2nd	Sherrie Willner
2nd	
3rd	Crue LaMarche
4th	Howard Gilson
4th	Randi W. Freundlich
6th	Janice Gorson
6th	Stanley Margulies
8th	Jessica Hernstadt
8th	Matthew Barrett
8th	Roger Levy
9th	
9th	
9th	Sarah Kamely
10th	
10th	
l l th	Michelle Zinner
I2th	
I 2th	
13th	Amy Nobil
15th	
15th	
15th	
15th	Jill Taksey
l6th	
l 6th l 7th	
17th	
17th	
18th	
19th	
19th	Mark Kanarek
19th	Sandy Seder
20th	
20th	Sv Gelbard
22nd	Sheila Olsen
24th	
26th	
26th	
27th	
27th	
28th	
29th	
29th	Jeffrey Boruszak
30th	Kristen M. Schur

January Anniversaries

Years

lst	Sanford & Nancy Yankow	.24
4th	Steve & Amelia Kasinof	33
8th	Steve & Luzviminda Levine	6
l2th	George & Muriel Swartz	34
l7th	Alan & Elaine Schulberg	21
23rd	Marvin & Ivy Blumenfeld	65
26th	David & Pamela Marmar	29

Meditation Garden Brick

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARIANNE CIMKOWSKI MOTHER OF CAROL ANN THE KNOWLES FAMILY

Yahrzeit Plaque

In Loving Memory of My Father Jose (Pepe) Cohen Charaf October 8, 2013 Jenny Cohen Margulies and Stanley Margulies

Meditation Garden Brick

IN MEMORY OF ROSIE BISKAR, MOTHER OF SAM VINICUR. A TALENTED ARTIST WHO WILL BE MISSED BY ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AT KJCC.

BOOK PLATE

In honor of Gloria Avner by David Gitin The KJCC offers its deepest condolences to Eva Ban and Judy, Frank, Kelley, Susie and Katie Greenman and their families plus the legion of others who loved him on the death of Stephan Ban, Holocaust survivor and a founding member of KJCC.

Our New Tanakhs Need Sponsors

During the portion of Rabbi Agler's Saturday services when we discuss the Torah portion, we always put aside our Siddurs and pick up the Tanakhs that we keep in the sanctuary bookshelves so we can all read the Biblical text together. But lately we've developed a very nice problem. Attendance at Rabbi Agler's services has been growing so quickly that we no longer had enough Tanakhs to go around. So Gloria, our Ritual Committee Chair, ordered twelve more books. If you'd like to sponsor one (or more) of the books, the cost is \$36 each (the actual cost of the book); as with our Siddurs, your donation will include the bookplate text of your choice inside the front cover. Please use the form on page 24 for your order(s), or contact Gloria or Linda Pollack.

Celebrate Tu B'Shvat on January 19th

On Sunday, January 19th, the KJCC Religious School students will conduct their annual Tu B'Shevat seder, celebrating one of the four New Years of our tradition - did you know there were four? - this one for the trees. A new fruit tree will be planted in the students' nascent orchard. All KJCC members are invited to attend and join in the festivities. Gloria has also written about the wonderful trees in this issue. Her article begins on page 31.

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman at 305-664-3316.

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 Stuart Sax, 305-586-8729.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-852-6152, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC which was commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman at 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT 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 Georgia Landau, 305-393-9885.

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. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

Hebrew Classes Plus Lecture Series

Yardena has given us the schedules for both her Hebrew Classes and annual lecture series.

First, Hebrew classes: at least initially, there will be two scheduled classes. On Friday mornings from 9:30 till 11:00 there will be Intermediate Hebrew reading and understanding of the Siddur. On Sundays from noon till 1:30 she will offer a Hebrew beginners crash course. No advanced Ulpan class is scheduled at this point.

Her lecture series this year will build off last year's, continuing "The Three Abrahamic Religions." Part One will explore the history of Jewish communities under Islamic rule, from 500 - 1500 C.E. This covers the period known as "The Golden Age of Judaism," the Karaite revolt, and the period that produced Judah Halevi, Rashi and Maimonides. Part Two will offer two lectures focusing on the challenges of pluralism within the Abrahamic faiths. The dates will be January 26th, February 2nd, February 23rd, and March 2nd. All lectures will take place Sunday evenings from 7-9 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Please contact Yardena directly if you wish to sign up for Hebrew classes.

Leaf on the Tree of Life

To honor Rosie Biskar Our Mah Jongg Friend 10/19/2013

Meditation Garden Brick

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MICHAL KAMELY MOTHER OF YARDENA, URI AND DAPHNE YOU WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AS OUR INSPIRATIONAL TEACHER YOUR KJCC MISHPOCHA

Birthday of the Trees

I love a religion that celebrates the birthday of the trees

grow an orchard year by year avocados pomegranates mangoes soursop limes

shovels ready children plead may I dig now it's my turn next bring the soil manure the mulch the hose the prayer book

we sing and dance our water song raise arms to sky in supplication move in move out shout mayim mayim mayim mayim millennia of tent dwellers new moon watchers

we bless the trees hold hands dirt under our fingernails make a home for future fruit our children-to-be

Gloria Avner, December 2013



Nemoriam Sanuary 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Talia Agler

By Richard & Mindy Agler

In Memory Of

Annette Bitton

By Michel Bitton & Sylvie Coeurjoly

Bernice Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

In Memory Of

David Pearlman

By William & Donna Bolton

<

Laurie Beth

By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

In Memory Of

Emma Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Rita Z. Cline

By Meredith A. Cline

In Memory Of

By Thomas & Renee Brodie

In Memory Of

Irving Kulick

Betty Weinstein

By Dick & Rita Bromwich

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Carolynne H. Cline

Miriam S. Marks

By Meredith A. Cline

In Memory Of

Yetta Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

In Memory Of

Nathan Weisberg

By Gerri Emkey

In Memory Of

Judy Lombardi

By Marilyn Greenbaum

By Meredith A. Cline

In Memory Of

Lola Rosenberg

By Robert & Joni Sages Dandrea

In Memory Of

Sofia Ojeda

By Mark & Sofy Wasser

In Memory Of

Alvin S. Gross

By David & Patti Gross

In Memory Of David Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

In Memory Of

Henry H. Rubin

By Foster Davidson & Carol Laskin

In Memory Of

Marvin Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

In Memory Of

Iris Jackson

By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman

Chai-Lights January 2014 9

On Memoriam Sanuary 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Louis Hartz

By Steven & Jan Hartz

In Memory Of

Sylvia Emsig

By Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs

Daniel Harvey

By Mitchell Harvey

In Memory Of

Bernard Kaminstein

By Beth Kaminstein

Ernest Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

Irving Rosen

By Harvey & Joan Kay

In Memory Of

Samuel Neubauer

By Jackie LePree

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Goldie Schweitzer

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

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Walter Hankin

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

John Evans

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

In Memory Of

Eta Brownstein

By Pauline Roller

In Memory Of

Joan Kaminsky

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of

Sally Sussman

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Sydney Zinner By Donald Zinner

Nat Gulkis

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of

Joseph Cohen

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Karen Hayhurst

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock

Betty Weinstein

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

In Memory Of

Bea Gulkis

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of

Ellen Kutner Sklar

By Miriam R. Sklar

In Memory Of

Abraham Raij

By Salomon Terner

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.

Bookplates Ginsberg, Bernard Gitin, David Roy, Medina mothe

In Honor of KJCC Gloria Avner mother Bianka Kirschenbaum

Count Your Blessings Peckman, Joyce Pollack, Joel & Linda Sax, Stuart & Lauren Gelbard, Sy Barefoot, Rosemary Landau, Georgia

General Fund Kaufman, Michael & Lorena Nelson, Darling J. Wasser, Alan & Arlene with the Keys Community

General FundIn Memory ofFoley, Dr. RobertRosie Biskar, Ron LevyIslamorada Firefighters Benevolent Assoc.Ron LevyRoller, PaulineMarianne CimkowsiStone FamilyGerald Hirsch

Holidays Rose, Skip

Meditation Garden In Honor of Pollack, Joel & Linda brick - Will Pollack's Bar Mitzvah

In Memory of
Rosie Biskar
brick - Marianne
Cimkowski
rick - Marianne Cimkowski
Rosie Biskar
Peter F. Steinberg

Scholarship Fund	In Memory of
Bloom, Marc	Michal Kamely
Roy, Medina	Ron Levy

Sisterhood Pollack, Joel & Linda In Honor of Will Pollack's Bar Mitzvah

Sisterhood Oneg Fund Pollack. Linda In Honor of Joel's birthday

Sunshine Fund Roy, Medina In Memory of Muriel Cantanese

YahrzeitsIn Memory ofBoruszak, JoanJulius Kohlenbrener, Burton BoruszakColtman, BarneyRobert Coltman, Eva LevineRubin, Mike & MyrnaMilton ApplebaumGrossman, StuartSylvia GrossmanKreitman, MarciaGary KreitmanCohn, NancyDavid Cohn

Yahrzeit Plaques Margulies, Stanley & Jenny In Memory of Jose Cohen Charaf

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs.

Tree of Life Leaves: We have two beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love.

Garden Bricks: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message.



Sisterhood Barbara Knowles



ell, December is here and I am looking forward to January when KJCC high season hits full stride. I hope everyone who attended our Chanukah Dinner on Friday, November 29th, enjoyed themselves. We worked hard to make sure there was an abundance of food, especially latkes. to eat. Kudos to Erica Garrett for running this dinner and helping in the kitchen and basically doing everything from start to finish. I also want to send a special thanks to our president, Bernie Ginsberg, and to Erica, Nettie and Jules Seder for spending their Thanksgiving day at the KICC laboring over the hot stove making "lots of latkes" for the rest of us to enjoy. Thanks go to everyone who helped contribute to the success of this event, especially to Joel and Linda Pollack for sponsoring all of our Chanukah dinners for as long as I can remember.

It's great to welcome the remainder of our snowbirds back, which means that until it gets hot again, we'll have all our *mishpocha* here to visit with. Since everyone's here, allow me to remind everyone that we still have plenty of open dates for sponsoring an oneq. If you want to celebrate a mitzvah, anniversary, birthday, homecoming or anything at all, contact Joyce Peckman to make arrangements. And speaking of Joyce. Sisterhood will be having a covered dairy dish dinner on Friday, January 17, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Joyce is coordinating, so call her at 451-0665, to arrange your covered dish and to reserve your spot. This dinner has been sponsored so there is no charge to members. (There will be a \$15.00 charge for all non-members.)

We all enjoyed the recent Bar Mitzvah of Westley Silverman on Dec. 14th. His hard work showed and paid off. He truly did an awesome job. And his family was awesome, too.

As I write, the special weekend of beautiful cantorial singing and rabbinical teachings and therefore multiple treats for our ears, intellect and spirituality are less than two weeks away. After the 10 a.m. Shabbat morning and Torah service by Rabbi Richard Agler and visiting Cantor Irwin Gelman, Sisterhood will be hosting a catered Kiddush brunch in the Richardson Social Hall. Then, shortly after brunch, those interested have been invited to Burton Memorial Church to experience the peace service by the visiting Buddhist monks. Please let me know how you felt about any or all of it.

I thought since our Northerners are back, I'd send out a friendly reminder that Sisterhood meets at 9:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of every month in the KICC Ruth Richardson Hall. Sisterhood plays a very important part in the everyday functioning of our synagogue. There is never a separate membership fee and every female member of KJCC is automatically welcome at the breakfast meeting. I think you'll find it well worth your time, and we need you. Our meetings are mostly about planning activities, events and services we provide KJCC, and we also enjoy each other's company while we're there. We've had a lot of great ideas in our recent meetings, and we'd love to have your input, too. So please join us.

A group from Sisterhood will be conducting services on Friday, January 24th, 2014, led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett, so we look forward to a good attendance by all. By the time you read this, Richard, Moira and I will have just returned from a five-day cruise. But before we go I will print off some extra copies of Sisterhood's "Count Your Blessings" fundraiser and leave them on the back table. Whenever you feel particularly grateful, please fill one out and send in your donations.

Together let's make January "A Great Month!" 0

Keys Jewish Community Center Adult Ed Program

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JEWISH REFUGEES FROM ARAB COUNTRIES

Date: Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014

XX

Time: 7:00 pm at the KJCC

DVD: The Forgotten Refugees

Running Time: 49 minutes

XX

"The Forgotten Refugees" of the Arab-Israeli conflict is an untold story of the Middle East.

"The world has long recognized the Palestinian refugee problem, but without recognizing the other side of the story – the 850,000 Jewish refugees of Arab countries."

> Ronald S. Lauder, President World Jewish Congress

Discussion and light refreshments to follow. Questions: Contact Medina Roy hiitsmedee@gmail.com

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World Jewish Report

Medina Roy

He's "lust a Regular lewish Kid"

Max Levin, 16, from Voorhees, New Jersey makes more money just sitting in his math class than most people make in a day at the office. His grandfather, a day trader in New York City, started teaching him how to pick stocks when he was just 11. Two years later. Levin used his Bar Mitzvah money to buy and sell stocks every school day in between classes. To honor his grandfather, who died in 2012, Levin launched StockPick101.com, a website devoted to helping young people learn the fundamentals of stocks including investing and trading. The young man currently writes weekly articles using the name "StockPick Whiz Kid" for MainStreet and TheStreet, two online publications connected to Jim Cramer, the host of CNBC's Mad *Money.* Levin says that when he's not trading stocks, he's just "a regular Jewish kid." He plays lacrosse and is a member of the debate and mock trial teams at his high school. He attends Congregation Beth El in his hometown. His future plans? He'd like to start his own hedge fund. (The Forward, 11-19-13)

"A Chanukah Miracle"

Chanukah may be over, but the Israeli Mission to the United Nations received what they are calling "a Chanukah miracle" when, in early December, the UN passed an Israelisponsored resolution on a bill dedicated to sustainable agricultural advancements for developing nations. The bill saw a record number of member states - 138 in total - voting "ves" on the resolution, making this the third time in its history at the UN that Israel has passed a resolution by a majority vote. The mission said the bill emphasizes the introduction and use of agricultural technologies specifically by young people and women in Africa. Bolivia was the only country to vote "no." The resolution had 105 cosponsors with Israel. (www.ipost.com, 12-6-13)

IDF in the Philippines

The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) emergency medical team left the Philippines 11 days after arriving there on November 13th to aid victims of the November 8th typhoon. The 148-person medical team brought 100 tons of humanitarian and medical supplies. They treated more than 3,000 patients (including 800 children), performed 52 surgeries and delivered 36 babies, most of them premature. The mother of one baby named her son Israel. At the time of this writing, the official death toll from the gigantic storm was 5,700. Accompanying the Israelis home were also two Filipino children with cleft palates, who were to be treated at Schneider Children's Hospital. (www.jta.org, 11-25-13)

Making a Final Push

Thanks to efforts by the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC), there's been some success trying to find the last remaining Nazi war criminals and bring them to justice. Just recently, four cases were brought to the Center's attention through its Operation Last Chance campaign, an initiative to raise awareness among the international community on the need to find and try these criminals before it's too late. The four cases include two suspected camp guards who have been handed over to German authorities. an individual connected to a massacre in Oradour, France, and a suspect accused of weapon profiteering. SWC Director Efraim Zuroff said that 110 names of suspects - 81 in Germany - have already been culled from nearly 300 tips. (www.ispace.com, 11-26-13)

Austria Honors Vienna Native

Theodore Bikel, who fled the Nazi occupation of his native Vienna for pre-state Israel, Chai-Lights January 2014 15



was honored by the Austrian government in November on the 75th anniversary of *Kristall*nacht, the 1938 pogrom in Germany and Austria. Bikel. 89. accepted the country's highest honor in the arts and then gave an hour-long concert of mostly Yiddish songs, concluding the concert with Zog Nit Kayn Mol. known in English as the "Song of the Partisans." The song, often referred to as the anthem of Holocaust survivors, was written in 1943 by Hirsh Glick, a young lewish inmate in the Vilna Ghetto. Bikel is best known for his Broadway portraval of *Tevve* in the musical "Fiddler on the Roof," or possibly as the wry Russian submarine commander in the film "The Russians are Coming, The Russians are Coming." He is currently producing and starring in the documentary film "Theodore Bikel in the Shoes of Sholem Aleichem." (You can find Zog Nit Kayn Mol performed by Israeli singer Chava Alberstein on YouTube. (www.jewishjournal.com, 11-7-13)

An "Unprecedented Finding"

After 100 years of exhaustive excavations throughout Jerusalem's City of David, archeologists have finally found a structure from the Hasmonean period in an area near the Temple Mount. The building, which dates back to the second century BCE, was found with dozens of ancient silver and bronze coins still lying on the floors. The structure, very likely a public space, was found in the Givati parking lot, located by the walls surrounding the City of David National Park. The Hasmonean dynasty, descendants of the Maccabees, ruled Judea and surrounding areas from 141-37 BCE. In 37 BCE the Hasmoneans fell to the Romans and Herod, and the Herodian dynasty began. Vivid descriptions of the Hasmonean city can be found in the works of Flavius Josephus, Dr. Doron Ben-Ami, one of the directors of the excavation, called the finding unprecedented, saying, "We are filling a gap in the sequence of periods in Jerusalem's history. We know it is well documented in different texts that it flourished in the 2nd century BCE, but there has been almost nothing found there until now." www.jpost.com, 12-3-13)

Anti-Israel Campaign Has a Small Problem

According to an investigation by the United Kingdom's Zionist Federation (ZF), organizations looking to boycott Israel are finding it difficult to practice what they preach. Several websites that advocate BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions) of Israel are programmed using the Tel Aviv-based software platform *Wix*. The website of Cornell University's branch of "Students for Justice in Palestine," whose campaigns include advocating the boycott of skincare products, soft drink manufacturers. hummus. and. even more ironic, the website of the "Palestinian Holocaust Museum," were among many BDS websites built with Wix. Listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange, Wix claims 40 million users around the world. (www.alaemeiner.com, 11-18-13)

Crypto-Jews Light Up for Chanukah

More than 100 descendants of lews who converted to Catholicism during the Spanish Inquisition celebrated the eighth night of Chanukah at the infamous Steri Palace prison in Palermo, Sicily, a place where Jews were routinely tortured from 1601 to 1782. "Centuries after the Steri Palace prison was used to try to extinguish the light of Israel, we came here to show that the flame of Judaism continues to burn," said Michael Freund, chairman of Shavei Israel, a Jerusalem-based organization that reaches out to "lost" Jews and works with them to strengthen their ties to Israel and the Jewish people. Jewish life flourished in Sicily for centuries. In the 14th and 15th centuries, Sicilian Jews were forced to live in ghettos, subject to increasingly cruel treatment and pressure to convert to Catholicism. In 1492. King Ferdinand and Oueen Isabella of Spain issued the Edict of Expulsion, which forced more than 37,000 Sicilian Jews who refused to convert to leave the country. (Sicily was then controlled by Spain.) Large numbers of conversos (lews who chose or were forced to convert) remained and suffered under the Inquisition. Their descendants are known as Crypto-lews. (www.tabletmag.com, 12-5-13)

The Jewish Nobel Prize

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg was the first recipient of the Genesis Prize, an award established in 2012 by the Genesis Philanthropy Group, a consortium of wealthy philanthropist-businessmen from the former Soviet Union, the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel and the Jewish Agency for Israel. Bloomberg said that he will use the money (he'll receive \$1 million in May 2014) to promote economic ties between Israelis and Palestinians. The plan is for the Genesis Prize, known as the "Jewish Nobel Prize," to be awarded annually to "an accomplished, internationally renowned professional who is a role model in his or her community and can inspire the younger generation of Jews worldwide." Bloomberg is in his third and final term as mayor of New York. He was selected for the award from among more than 200 nominees worldwide. (www.jta.org, 12-3-13)

Massachusetts...Home Away From Home

According to a new study, companies with ties to Israel (more than 200, up from 78 three years ago) added \$6.2 billion to the Massachusetts economy last year. Governor Deval Patrick said, "Massachusetts has become a home-away-from-home for Israel's innovation economy." The businesses, which range from information technology to life sciences and software, employed more than 6,600 people in 2012. The study found that Israeli entrepreneurs are attracted to Massachusetts because of its top academic and research institutions, a highly educated workforce, and the concentration of high technology industries. Nearly one-third of the Israelifounded companies were started by Israeli alumni of Massachusetts colleges. (The Forward, 12-7-13)

In Memoriam

• Arik Einstein, considered by many to be Israel's greatest singer, the voice of his generation, has died. He was 74. The multitalented Einstein (singer, songwriter and composer) was said to have held an "unparalleled place" in the history of Israeli music. Some have compared him to Bob Dylan, emerging in the 1960s and linking Israel's traditional folk music with the birth of Rock & Roll. At the height of his popularity, and after performing for more than four decades, Einstein became a recluse. Advertisers and concert promoters offered him millions, but Einstein was not interested. (www.tabletmag.com 11-26-13)

· Saul Kagan, founder and longtime executive director of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, has died. He was 91. Commonly referred to as the Claims Conference, the organization was established in 1951 and has become the main vehicle responsible for negotiating with Germany and Austria over restitutionpayments to Holocaust survivors. During his 47 years at the helm of the organization, Kagan secured billions of dollars in restitution payments. He was born in Vilnius. Lithuania, and ultimately fled to New York. His father survived the war in the Soviet Union, but his mother, brother and grandparents were killed by the Nazis. Kagan, who spoke six languages, served as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Air Force. In 1952 he played a key role in the landmark Luxembourg Agreements, when representatives of Israel, Germany and the Claims Conference met to work out a reparations agreement for the crimes of Nazi Germany. (www.jta.org, 11-12-13)

Did You Know...

• This past November, over 100 Muslim and Jewish students from Rutgers University joined forces to prepare and distribute 500 meals to the homeless in the Newark, New Jersey area. The joint event was called *The People of Abraham United Against Hunger*. Some 125 events took place simultaneously in 26 countries, organized by Manhattan's Foundation for Ethnic Understanding. (World Jewry Digest, November 2013)

• After a rash of threats and violent attacks on a London mosque, leaders of a Jewish group, the "Shomrim," (Hebrew for guardians) have volunteered to provide security for the Muslim congregation. A spokesman for the "Shomrim" called it "the beginning of a longterm partnership between the two communities." (World Jewry Digest, November 2013) \$

Photo Gallery

On November 22nd, to help get over the nerves of standing before the entire congregation (think it's easy? try it yourself), Westley Silverman led services along with Gloria. Parents and grandparents were there for support.





That same night we also celebrated the birthdays of Gloria Avner and Georgia Landau at the Oneg. Yes, they did manage to extinguish that one intrepid candle.







The two photos at left are both in celebra-

tion of Chanukah. At far left are Jeremy and Brittany Schur, among the grandchildren of Lee Schur, in Chicago. In the center photo, Gloria had gone to West Palm to visit her mother Bea for Chanukah at the assisted-living facility. She ended up leading both the candle-lighting prayers and a rousing sing-along of familiar Chanukah songs, of course. For weeks afterward Bea basked in the reflected glow of celebrity. Mitzvah accomplished.





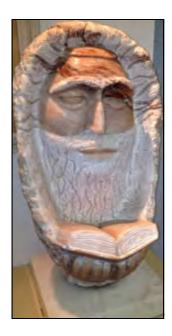
All the photos on this page were taken on November 29th, as KJCC celebrated the third night of Chanukah with a Sisterhood-sponsored feast prior to services at 8:00. Westley, Moira Knowles and Pauline Roller (one of the other kids) helped Bernie and Yardena lead the candle-lighting and prayers. You can see at left that Michael and Lorena Kaufman brought baby Sean. How many shuls can brag that their attendance includes a living age span of 98 years?





At top, Linda Perloff lights all nine candles at KJCC on the last night of Chanukah. At right is the fountain that Susan Gordon donated to the KJCC Meditation Garden. Garden architect Steve Steinbock had a slab installed and then had it tiled. It's all working perfectly. Listen for the gentle tinkling next time you're here.





At top is a sculpture created by Alex Avner (Gloria's father, who discovered his own artistic ability late in life after a business career). Gloria has donated the alabaster sculpture, appropriately titled "A Man of the

Book," to the KJCC library.

At left the KJCC contingent stands with Judy Greenman and two of her daughters, Susie and Kelley, at the funeral service for Judy's father Stephan Ban, one of the founding members of KJCC. At Judy's request, Gloria had led the service.



-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 are responsible for the Black Death that wipes out a third of Europe. 1600 - The 400 Jews of Verona complete 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, later to author "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 which 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 Jews," 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. >

Chanukiah Lighting at KJCC

It was the fifth night of Chanukah. We had twelve chanukiot. A full classroom of happy revelers included guests from Paris, Morocco and three very special ones from Chile.

by Gloria Avner

Forty Chanukah celebrants of all ages assembled at KJCC on the fifth evening of Chanukah to "*light the lights.*" A "live tradition," in the words of a great poet, was "captured from the air and made

new." Our celebration this year, instead of being hosted at a grandparent's home. took place in the KICC's David Kamely classroom. It was noisy, delightful, filled to capacity, delicious, musically entertaining and international.



Pauline, our matriarch, was once again our honored host. Michaela Bitton played *dreidel* with Yardena's four-year-old twin granddaughters (visiting from Chile with Yardena's son, Eitan), Jane Friedman demonstrated her *dreidel* spinning techniques, and the *Shabbatons* were particularly tuneful and boisterous.



Guests from Paris, Morocco, and Chile carried on simultaneous conversations with all of us (but mostly the French Canadian Bittons) in French, Spanish, Hebrew and English. We even sang a song in Ladino – a language

close to Portuguese, traditionally spoken by Sephardic Jews called



"Ocho Candelikas." All joined in the singing, the laughter, and the *latka*-eating. *"Souvganiot,"* traditional jelly-filled donuts, homemade by Sylvie Bitton with Michaela's help, provided dessert.

There was something moving about





watching our families light their chanukiahs this year. (Yes, technically the plural should be *chanukiot*.) Twelve beautiful, individual candle-







for generations to some Look at the faces

for generations to come. Look at the faces. (The ones you don't know are our international visitors.) A great time was had by all. Let's do it again next year. \Diamond

holding sculptures with five candles and a *shamash* (or "helper") in each sat ready at the table. Though unplanned, it seemed perfectly appropriate that we lit twelve *chanukiahs*. With the electric lights out,



Our thanks to Richard Knowles and Gloria Avner for the photos.

our table glowed with symbolism as well as candles. We became the twelve tribes of Israel, rededicating ourselves in a perfect place, the room where we educate our children and set in motion Judaism's survival





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Westley Silverman's Bar Mitzvah a Memorable Day at KJCC

by Gloria Avner

ne look at the KICC parking lot would have told you something very special was happening that Saturday morning, December 14th. More than six months of hard work was about to reach a crescendo and bring heartwarming rewards to the entire trans-oceanic Silverman clan. Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends from all over the globe, with a high concentration of British Islanders, had gathered to celebrate Westley's rite of passage.

Cousins were excited about their coming honors. Young friends were planning candy-passing





strategies. (They were about to throw candy at Westley after his haftorah reading, a ritual that symbolizes the assembled congregation's wish for the Bar Mitzvah boy to have a sweet and happy life.) Special green *varmulkas* were given to the congregation. Jane's beautifully created booklet gave an impressive introduction to what was about to happen. Westley and the Rabbi made lastminute adjustments and read a few words of Torah in anticipation of the coming call to chant.

Westley not only looked handsome and relaxed. He gracefully moved into his new persona, and inhabited it well. He read English passages with clarity and read the Hebrew of V'a-

Our deep appreciation to Richard Knowles for helping us to tell this lovely story through the use of his professional photographs.



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ingful to him to read from a Holocaust Torah that had been saved from the Nazis and then loaned to KJCC by the synagogue his family belonged to in London, he meant it.

He was sincerely moved by the work that the Keys' Children's Center does, and will continue to support them, taking his Mitzvah project beyond the realm

havta with care and precision as he stood with proud teachers Yardena Kamely and Gloria Avner. His chanting was so strong and tune-



ful one could almost get the meaning by rhythm and melody. Many eyes looking at Westley were moist in wonder. His parents' prayers for him are already being realized. This sensitive, humorous young man worked hard for his honors and deserves the praise heaped upon him. We all learned from him as much as he learned from us.

When Westley said it was especially mean-





of "requirement." We are proud of this kind, witty, smart, and enthusiastic boy -turned-young-man. He graduates from student to tutor now and will pass on what he has learned to our younger students, including his equally bright, engaging younger brother, Cole. Dr. Bernie's words said it best: When a young man

like Westley emerges from our school with such character and accomplishment, we can



breathe a little easier about Judaism surviving into the future.

The Silvermans are a fine example of a supportive family. Living at great distances, they

managed to work together to create a meaningful event for their child with lots of extendedfamily participation. It was a privilege to be a part of the process, tutoring Westley in

Torah trope and seeing his confidence grow. *Chazak, chazak, v'nitchazayk*. As we shouted in unison at the end of Westley's *maftir*, the last





verse in the Book of Genesis: "Be strong, be strong, and may we be strengthened." Mazel Tov

to the entire extended Silverman family from the entire KJCC *Mishpocha*. Thanks for joining our synagogue, placing your boys in our educational hands, and inviting us to the delicious Kiddush after the event. As

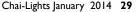




you can see from the photos, the party went on into the night, concluding with a bonfire on the Ocean Reef Beach, the toasting of marshmallows and the eating of S'mores. Despite "becoming a

man" there are still lots of things to enjoy as a kid. S'mores, and dancing in Conga lines wearing Mexican hats, is all part of Bar Mitzvah joy. ◊











"Etz Chaim Hee" Happy Birthday, Tree of Life

Celebrating Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of the Trees

by Gloria Avner

When spring arrives and you first see a fruit tree burst forth with blossoms, there is a blessing we are told to say: Baruch Atah Adonai Elohainu Melech ha-Olam shelo hasair ba-olam kloom, ubara bo b'ri-ot tovot v'ilanot tovot l'hanot bahem b'nei adam: Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, Who did not cause any lack in this world, but created in it good creatures and good trees that

all may enjoy them." As Jews, we are nothing if not constantly attentive to "firsts" and grateful to be alive to celebrate them. Witness all the occasions we begin with "Shehechiyanu." But this particular prayer, and these trees, are even more special. The Kabbalah teaches that the blessing upon blossoming fruit trees, Bircat Hallanot, can redeem souls.

T is Shabbat morning. We're getting ready to take out the Torah. Rabbi chants: "L'dor va dor." We echo with gusto: "L'dor va dor," from generation to generation. There is pride in our ongoingness, and in almost every mention of continuity there is metaphor. It goes deeper yet. In every metaphor, at bottom, is a tree.

As children we learn to count growth rings to tell the age of a tree. When we want to document our personal ancestry, generation to generation, we make a graph of continuity and call it a family tree. Awe sets in early when we discover that trees use the carbon dioxide waste we exhale to make their food,

The day is not just a birthday, but also the beginning of a New Year for the trees, one of the four distinct New Years that Jews celebrate over the course of one calendar year.

and the by-product of metabolism they then release to the air is oxygen. We breathe their air, eat their fruit, and plant their seeds to make new trees. The linkage between trees and man, physically and metaphorically, ex tends throughout every field of study from biblical history to anthropology, art, poetry, philosophy, biology, and mysticism. The deep -rooted fascination (pun intended) crosses

> cultural boundaries, continents, and centuries. On the 15^{th} day (the number *Tet Vav*, pronounced *Tu*) of *Sh'vat*, the Jewish take on trees comes to life.

Because *Tu B'Shvat* marks the last of the winter rains in Israel, it also marks the time when life force in the form of sap begins to rise from earth, roots, and tree trunk to the growing tips of branches. Seasons transition from death-like winter stasis to a promise of spring and

budding fruit growth. The day is not just a birthday, but also the beginning of a New Year for the Trees, one of the four distinct New Years that Jews celebrate over the course of one calendar year.

For us, the tree is a double symbol, representing both Man and Torah. From the psalmists we hear "...a man is as a tree of the field." From our liturgy on Shabbat morning, we sing "Etz chaim hee": Torah is a "tree of life" for all who cling to it. Both man and Torah have roots, trunk, branches, and fruit, all the major elements of a tree.

The roots of man, the Jewish people, are

our ancestors, our matriarchs and patriarchs, the whole book of Genesis. The trunk is the whole body of the Jewish people, the "signers -on" to the covenant at Sinai, who received the Torah and entered the Promised Land, the cast of the Book of Exodus.

In Hebrew, the word for tribe is *Shevet*, a word close to *Sh'vat*, the name of this month and also the exact word for branch of a tree, a word that evokes beautifully all who came before us, survived oppression, and nurtured coming generations in the ways of Judaism. Our tribes are our branches, spreading out from but still attached to the trunk, with subbranches from original branches reaching all the way to and throughout the Diaspora.

What is the fruit? The fruit of Man and the fruit of the Torah are the same: the good deeds of every living soul. When Rabbi Agler talks on a Shabbat morning of those deeds that we cannot do too much of – visiting the sick, honoring our parents, consoling the bereaved, celebrating with bride and groom – studying Torah is the last act mentioned, and said to be the greatest, because, as the verse goes on, the study of Torah leads to them all.

One interpretation of Torah's roots, trunk, and branches are its inner secrets, the concealed mother and father principle explored

What is the fruit? The fruit of Man and the fruit of the Torah are the same: the good deeds of every living soul.

in Kabbalah, and the body of written and oral Torah with all the different methods of commentary. Torah's fruits can be seen as new insights that flow to those who devote themselves to its study and share those insights with the

world, resulting in tikkun olam actions.

People, Torah and trees. There are very specific laws (*Halacha*) that interrelate the three. We are instructed not to harvest the fruit of a tree until it is three years old. Even

in war, it is forbidden to cut down a fruit tree. There are laws about gleaning. And numerology (*gematria*) adds even more mystical depth.

The period from Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat to

Tu B'Shvat falls exactly between the two holidays of Chanukah and Purim. From the last day of Chanukah until Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat there are 29 days. From the 2nd of Shevat until Tu B'Shvat there are 14 days. Following Tu B'Shvat. from the 16th to the day of Purim, there are again 29

Sample fifteen varieties of fruit with us, listen to stories, drink four cups of "wine," pure white to rose to russet to red.

days. Two times 29 (58, the *gematria* value of the word *chen*, "grace" and "symmetry") plus 14 gives a total of 72 days, the value of *chesed*, or "lovingkindness." We come back to the fruits of Man and Torah, *"gemilut chasadim,"* the doing or giving of varied acts of lovingkindness.

From the fruits of kind deeds we move to fruits we can eat. The holiday of Chanukah is the holiday of pure olive oil. The holiday of Purim is the holiday of wine. All of the seven species and fruits of the land of Israel are contained within and encompassed by these two primary fruits.

Join us in the KJCC schoolroom and orchard on Sunday, January 19th. Together let us celebrate the mystical seder devised more than five centuries ago in Tzfat, Israel, during the time of the great Kabbalist, Ari. Sample all fifteen varieties of fruit with us, listen to stories, drink four cups of "wine," progressing from pure white to rose to russet to red, symbolizing each season of the year. Help us plant a tree, sing and dance and say the blessings from the Torah. May we each be, as the psalm describes: "...like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in season; our leaves shall not wither; and whatsoever we do shall prosper." \diamond

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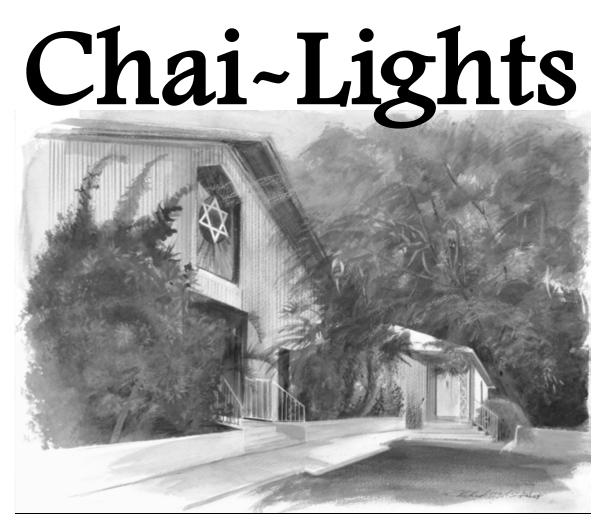
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Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

February	2014
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1 Adar 1 - 28 Adar 1

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Italicized n	ote leaders of Frid ames are Oneg spo y Friday at 8:00 p where noted.	onsors. Ser-				1
2 Sisterhood Meeting 9:30 a.m. Adult Ed lecture 7 p.m.	3	4	5 Men's Club Game Night 7:30	6	7 Joyce Peckman Linda Pincus; Erica Lieberman- Garrett	8
9 KJCC Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. Annual Meeting 11 a.m.	10	11	12	13	14 George Swartz & Yardena Kamely Steve & Barbara Smith; Joel & Linda Pollack	15
16 Movie 7:00 "Jewish Refugees From Arab Countries"	17 President's Day	18	19	20	21 Bernie Ginsberg <i>Bonnie & Dave</i> <i>Greenberg</i> Advertisers Dinner 6:30	22 Rabbi Agler & Torah Service 10:00 a.m.
23 Adult Ed lecture (part 4) 7 p.m.	24	25	26	27	28 Gloria Avner & Sam Vinicur 6:30 Service Joyce Peckman	

2013 - 2014 Officers and Board

President Bernard Ginsberg

Executive Vice President Sam Vinicur

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner – Susan Gordon – Steve Hartz

> **Treasurer** Linda Pollack

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> Librarian Medina Roy

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Newsletter Lisa Richardson Rutherford

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 Bernard Ginsberg

T ime passes quickly, and though it seems I was just elected yesterday, my term of office will soon be half over. Our present officers and directors have graciously volunteered for the customary second year of service; we will be adding Linda Kaplan and Sy Gelbard as directors and Dave Mont as financial secretary.

I want to thank each and every officer and director, plus the Sisterhood, for their yeoman service keeping our little synagogue going. We are progressing in the right path, following the example and innovations of all our previous presidents.

We have had wonderful Sisterhood dinners, and rousing Torah services led by Rabbi Adler. The weekend with visiting Cantor Irwin Gelman and Rabbi Agler reached the epitome of what a synagogue should accomplish. We were spiritually uplifted and educated in Judaism. not just painlessly but enjoyably. Adult education in Hebrew is going on at all levels of Hebrew language skills, led by morah (teacher) Yardena. Her lectures on lewish history will also give us a very well rounded adult Jewish experience. But what about the children?

Our religious school is alive and well, here at the far end of world, and it has helped us produce *B'nai*



Mitzvah children of whom we can be truly proud. However, it is not just from school that a lewish education comes. If not for the respect given Jewish tradition by each generation the parents and grandparents there would be no B'nai Mitzvah. I personally kvelled with pride at the Bar Mitzvah of Westley Silverman, but much of the credit belongs to grandparents like KJCC members Ivy and Marvin Blumenfeld (Jane's mom and dad), and all the other grandparents of our congregation. I also honor all our forebears, stretching back through the years, who provided the environment in which their children and grandchildren would learn to value education, and Jewish education in particular.

Please come to services and participate in the life of our little shul. Each attendance at synagogue events is a victory in the battle for Jewish survival. Lead a service, help someone else learn to lead a service, welcome a prospective new member, help Sisterhood set up for dinner, think of some new activity that will endear Judaism to our younger generation - it all will add to the odds that there will be a Jewish civilization for our great-grandchildren to benefit from

With love of Israel, Bernie Chai-Lights February 2014 3

Nosh

A Successful Book Swap

Thanks to all who participated in the Book Swap at KJCC on Sunday, January 12th. Some twenty or more KJCC friends brought well over 150 books to trade. We had fiction and nonfiction, cookbooks, books on stress reduction and yoga, just to name a few. Several books had Jewish themes and will be incorporated into the growing KJCC library. The consensus was that we should make this an annual event. It's a great way to recycle books no longer needed and to free up shelf space for new books.

-Medina Roy

Yardena's Lecture Series Continues

This year's Adult Education lecture series continues, with the next session on February 2nd. Additional sessions will be February 16th, February 23rd and the final on March 2nd. The February 2nd lecture will conclude the topic of Jewish communities living under Islamic rule. The final two lectures will be titled "Religion and Violence, Schism and Sectarianism: The Challenge of Pluralism Within the Abrahamic Faiths, Past and Present." Light refreshments will be served.

The February 16th session will feature a movie, "Jewish Refugees From Arab Countries," with discussion afterward led by Yardena and Medina. For more detailed information about the movie, please see the ad on page 10.

Oneg Sponsors for February 2014

February 7th - Linda Pincus and Erica Lieberman Garrett to celebrate birthdays.

February 14th - Steve and Barbara Smith to honor Rebecca Smith Strasser's birthday; Joel and Linda Pollack to celebrate their anniversary.

February 21st - Bonnie and Dave Greenberg because they are glad to be part of the congregation.

February 28th - Joyce Peckman, in memory of Fred and Dorothy Ross

Letter from Nyan Feder January 7, 2014

Hi, Gloria!

I was hoping that you could pass this along to the rest of the scholarship committee in addition to my previous email with my grade update! Thanks so much!

It's Nyan here to thank you again for awarding me with your scholarship! It has helped me tremendously in school this past semester and I know it will be just as helpful in the semester to come! Not having to constantly stress about my financial situation really helped me stay focused on my work and on my transition into college, and for that I am truly grateful! College is a blast and I'm having the time of my life meeting new people and living independently for the first time! And on top of all of that, our football team just won the BCS national championship game! Go Noles!

I am so glad to be part of such a wonderful community in the KJCC and I hope that I can eventually give back to you as thanks for what you have given me!

Thank you again!

Best, Nyan

(ed. note: the KJCC Scholarship Committee is chaired by David Gitin.)

BOOK PLATE

(for new purple Tanakhs)

In honor of the

КЈСС

by Bernard Ginsberg, M.D.

December 2013

February Birthdays

l st	Evan Grossman
l st	Roy Pollack
	Caeleigh Stuart
	Dick Bromwich
	Leslie Janowitz
	Rebecca Smith Strasser
	Evan Harvey
	Erica Lieberman-Garrett
	Larry Jacobs
	Linda Pincus
	Ron Garrett
l 2th	Johnny Knowles
	Paul Roberts
	Jerrold Benowitz
	Debbie Madnick
l 5th	Judith Weber
	Beth Hayden
	David J. Marmar
21st	Stephen Harris
	Harry J.C. Friedman
24th	Suzie Greenman
25th	Rita Conklin
26th	Jim Williams
	John D. Schur
	Betsy Grossman
	, Árlene Line

Our Advertiser Dinner is February 21st

In what has now become an annual KJCC tradition, we will be inviting all our advertisers, as well as new and prospective members, to join us for the KJCC dinner on February 21st. Please see the ad on page 16.

Meditation Garden Brick

RON LEVY MULTI-TALENTED LEADER 1947 – 2013 ALWAYS REMEMBERED. MURIEL & GEO. SWARTZ

Yartzeit Plaque

Dr. Joseph Goldberg Beloved Husband & Father June 23, 1946 - February 25, 2013 by Susan Goldberg

Meditation Garden Brick

IN HONOR OF KJCC LOVE, THE BUFFALO GELMANS

Rabbi Agler's February Torah Service

Continuing what has become one of the most eagerly anticipated aspects of the religious life at KJCC, Rabbi Richard Agler will offer his monthly Torah Learning Service on Saturday morning, February 22nd at 10:00 a.m.

If you know the Torah cold, and have it, along with all the centuries of rabbinic commentary, at the tip of your mind, therefore able to selfdiscuss all aspects of Jewish law, you probably won't get much out of these discussions. For everyone else they're a many-layered treasure.

February Anniversaries

		Years
9 th	Uri & Liliam Kamely	22
llth	Joel & Linda Pollack	52

BOOK PLATE

(for new purple Tanakh)

In honor and memory of my mother, **Rosie Biskar,** who didn't believe any of this.

Update on the KJCC Library

We are most grateful to Stan and Jenny Margulies for their recent donation of a full set of Encyclopedia Judaica to the KJCC library. This I6-volume set, plus a number of annual yearbooks, which (for those who remember such things) added new entries and updated others, represents the leading reference source for information on the Jewish people, the Jewish faith and the State of Israel. Although our new set is old (published in 1971), it is still considered an authoritative source on Jewish life, culture and history. The encyclopedia was edited by famed British Jewish historian Sir Cecil Roth (1899-1970).

We also extend our thanks to Elaine Solas and Mort and Gene Silverman for their recent donations of books to the library. And at Bernie's instruction, we also recently moved our complete set of the Kabbalah's main text, the Zohar, from the sanctuary to the library. Come and browse.

-Medina Roy

KJCC's Annual Meeting is February 9th

The KJCC by-laws, filed as part of our articles of incorporation, mandate that each year a general meeting be held to which all members in good standing are invited and encouraged to participate.

The primary order of business at the Annual Meeting is the final vote for and swearing-in of this year's Officers and Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, again as charged by the bylaws, has already approved the slate being presented. But membership has the final say. You must, though, be present in order to cast a vote.

The Annual Meeting will begin at approximately 11:00 a.m. Prior to that, the monthly KJCC Board Meeting will convene the same day at 9:00 a.m. All members in good standing are always encouraged to attend Board Meetings.

Sisterhood will serve a light lunch following the installation. For additional information, please see the formal announcement on page 37.

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman at 305-664-3316.

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 Stuart Sax, 305-586-8729.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-852-6152, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC which was commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman at 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT 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 Georgia Landau, 305-393-9885.

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. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

⊗n Memoriam √february 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Sue Steinberg

By Richard & Mindy Agler

In Memory Of

Kitty Nyman

By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

Lou Roazen

Sunnie Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

By Sylvia Berman <><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Ted Nyman

By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

<

In Memory Of

Marvin Galanty

By Marc Bloom <><><><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Eve Greenstein

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Reuben L. Zalk

Sarah P. Zalk

By Meredith A. Cline

By Meredith A. Cline

In Memory Of

Robert Kinney

In Memory Of

By Gerri Emkey

In Memory Of

Manya Gelbard

By Sy A. Gelbard

In Memory Of

Dr. Joseph Goldberg

By Susan W. Goldberg

In Memory Of

Nicholas Goldenberg

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Barry Feinberg

By Arthur Feinberg

In Memory Of

Rose Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

In Memory Of

Joseph Gorson

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

Robert Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

By Barnet O. Coltman

In Memory Of

William Feinberg

By Arthur Feinberg

In Memory Of

Charles Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

In Memory Of

A. James Weiss

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

llona Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

⊗n Memoriam √february 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Chalom Haviv

By Leo Haviv

In Memory Of

Lillian Janowitz

By Sam & Leslie Janowitz

Fannie Phillips

By Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

Pinchas Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Isaac Jacobson

By Melvin Jacobson

In Memory Of

Sylvia Kay

By Harvey & Joan Kay

In Memory Of

Joseph Kaufman

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Samuel Marmar

By David & Pamela Marmar

Joseph Krissel

By Michael Krissel

In Memory Of

In Memory Of Irene Nobil

Sara J. Cohen

By Lynn Nobil

In Memory Of

Malka Frank

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

John A. Schur

By Lee Schur <><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Ann R. Kapulskey

By George & Muriel Swartz

By Lynn Nobil

Shirley Horowitz

By Pauline Roller

In Memory Of

Miriam Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

In Memory Of

Morris Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

In Memory Of

William Pollack

By Joel & Linda Pollack

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 Memoriam February 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

David C. Willner

Morris Feinberg

Samuel Wolfe

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014 6:30 PM

COVERED DISH ~ FLEISHIG

(CHICKEN, BEEF, OR LAMB; ANY VEGETABLE DISH THAT HAS NO MILK, CHEESE OR ANY DAIRY PRODUCT IN IT.)

8:00 PM

SERVICES

ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014, JEWS ALL ACROSS THE U.S. AND CANADA WILL COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE SHABBAT. JOIN US!

Contact Barbara @ (305) 772-0503, iweddu@bellsouth.net, to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish.





DONATION: MEMBERS \$18 NONMEMBERS \$25 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER @ NO CHARGE

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.

Bookplates Vinicur, Sam

Count Your Blessings Bofshever, Joel & Toby Kamely, Yardena Steinbock, Steve & Carol Weber, Judith

Chai-Lights Plutzer, Arthur Plutzer, Arthur

Chai-Lights Plutzer, Arthur

General Fund In Honor of Bennett, Jeff & Shelley Pauline Roller's 99th birthday Cline, Meredith Will Pollack's Bar Mitzvah Cline, Meredith Joel & Linda Pollack for their longtime support of me Cline, Meredith 34th anniversary of George & Muriel Swartz and for their longtime support of me in appreciation of Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin Dr. Bernard Ginsberg Greenberg, David & Bonita Nelson, Darling Pollack, Joel & Linda Westley Silverman's Bar Mitzvah General Fund In Memory of Avner, Gloria Alex Avner Avner, Gloria Marianne Cimkowski Avner, Gloria Stephan Ban Avner, Gloria Clayton Rakov Avner, Gloria Ron Levy Avner, Gloria lose Cohen Cline, Meredith Rosie Biskar Cline, Meredith Marianne Cimkowski Cline, Meredith **Bob Freundlich** Cline, Meredith Dr. Joseph Goldberg Cline, Meredith Jerry Hirsch Cline, Meredith my Morah, Michal Kamely Cline, Meredith Ron Levy Cline, Meredith Rene Rose Gessley, Debora Clayton Rakov Goodman, Jamie & Laura Stephan Ban

In Memory of Rosie Biskar

In Honor of Joel & Linda Pollack Pauline Roller

> In Memory of Al Roller

Stephan Ban

General Fund Horn, Ron & Dorothy Pollack, Joel & Linda Pollack, Joel & Linda Pollack, Joel & Linda Pollack, Joel & Linda Wolden. Diane

Holidays Steamer, Donald & Ellen Eiss

Meditation Garden Ellner, Susan Gelman, Irwin & family Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Swartz, George & Muriel

Rabbi and Cantor Fund Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin

Sisterhood Oneg Fund Eisenstein, Judith Ellner, Susan Friedman, Steve & Jane Gedrich, Amy Greenberg, David & Bonita Knowles, Richard & Barbara Peckman, Joyce

Sunshine Fund Sax, Stuart & Lauren

Sunshine Fund Sax, Stuart & Lauren

Yahrzeits Boruszak, Joan Dandrea, Robert & Joni Sages Dandrea Emkey, Gerri Olsen, Gerald & Sheila Tallen, Lillian Taramona, Hermine

Yahrzeit Plaque Goldberg, Susan In Memory of Stephan Ban Paul Busker Bob Feldman Clayton Rakov Allan Berry Stephan Ban Clayton Rakov

L'Chaim

In Honor of bricks - 2 brick - honor of KJCC Sally Sussman brick - Ron Levy, always remembered

> in appreciation of Rabbi Agler

In Honor of Joan Boruszak, speedy and complete recovery

In Memory of Marianne Cimkowski

Emma Kohlenbrener Lola Rosenberg Nathan Weisberg Betty Weinstein Morris Estrin Norma Robinson

Dr. Joseph Goldberg

Greenman, Frank & Judy

Here we are in January of a new year and it seems like the minutes are already flying into hours, hours into days, and days into months. I want to remind everyone that we still have lots of opportunities in our calendar for you to sponsor an Oneg after services on one (or more) of our upcoming Friday nights. Won't you please consider sponsoring? Please contact Joyce Peckman or myself if you're interested. We're delighted to help you celebrate (and share with you) a "mitzvah" or any other occasion you wish.

I hope all who attended our weekend with Cantor Irwin Gelman and Rabbi Richard Agler found it as spiritual and delightful as everyone who's spoken about it to me. The visit to our shul by the Tibetan monks was a treat. It was special when they blessed our Torah and offered it a sacred prayer scarf. The interfaith peace service at Burton Memorial Church will be remembered for a long time.

Looking at our gift shop the other day, I noticed that we have a lot of great stuff and great gifts for not a lot of money. So, stop by and see Susan Gordon or myself; we'll be happy to show you something you just can't live without.

On January 17th we had one of our wonderful Sisterhood Shabbat dinners, followed by the KJCC Children's Hebrew class and their teachers leading Friday night services. The kids work extremely hard all year with their teachers practicing for this. (I know this because my daughter, Moira, sings her songs nightly in the shower to let me know what she's learned.) The children contribute so much to our synagogue. And whenever you're enjoying one of our dinners, I hope you'll take a moment to appreciate all the love that Sisterhood puts into them.

The other week, guided by gardener supreme Steve Steinbock, the students all planted vegetables. Now, every week during class, they nurture and take care of them and

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles

watch for them to sprout. Thanks, Steve. The children also celebrated Tu

B'Shvat, with a seder and planting of trees, which has become a KJCC tradition. So everyone in our *mishpocha* contributes to the rich life at KJCC.

Did I mention that Sisterhood as a group – led by Erica Garrett – conducted services the week after the KJCC students? We try to do many things and mix things up to always keep things interesting.

On February 9th at 11 a.m. we will have the installation of our new Officers and Board Members at our Annual Meeting. Afterwards, Sisterhood will be hosting a brunch full of plenty of goodies.

On February 21st at 6:30, Sisterhood will host this year's dinner appreciating our advertisers and new members. It's also the perfect time to invite prospective new members to join us, to feel the energy of KJCC. I will be co-chairing this dinner with Erica Garrett and (hopefully) help from others.

On March 7th at 6:30, Sisterhood will be co-hosting, along with Ritual Committee, a *flei-shig* covered-dish dinner celebrating "Shabbat Across America and Canada." On March 9th from 11-2, Sisterhood will be hosting a Pass-over/Purim Bazaar in connection with The Chosen Gift Shop. March 16th will feature our annual Purim celebration around noon. Wow. So much happens here during High Season.

Contact Joyce Peckman if you'd like to attend "Spamalot" at Actors playhouse in Coral Gables on March 23rd.

March 30th will be Sisterhood's Women's Seder, time to be announced. Lastly, the second night of Passover will be celebrated at The Islamorada Fishing Club on April 16th at 6 p.m. Mort and Gene Silverman have graciously offered to host us this year.

Let's make February a Great Month!! >



Keys Jewish Community Center Adult Ed Program

XX

XX

JEWISH REFUGEES FROM ARAB COUNTRIES

Date: Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014

XX

Time: 7:00 pm at the KJCC

DVD: The Forgotten Refugees

Running Time: 49 minutes

XX

"The Forgotten Refugees" of the Arab-Israeli conflict is an untold story of the Middle East.

"The world has long recognized the Palestinian refugee problem, but without recognizing the other side of the story – the 850,000 Jewish refugees of Arab countries."

> Ronald S. Lauder, President World Jewish Congress

Discussion and light refreshments to follow. Questions: Contact Medina Roy hiitsmedee@gmail.com

XX

YEDA VE'TORASHA Yardena Kamely



Gender and Judaism

t our Shabbat Service last month, led by the students and teachers of our Religious School, we commented on *Parashat Yitro*. The *Parasha* tells of the continuing experiences of our ancestors after they had left Egyptian slavery. It was now two months since they had become free people, and Moses prepares them for the receiving of the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai. Now, the greatest event in all of Israel's history is about to take place.

In Exodus 19:9-13, God tells Moses to instruct the people to prepare to receive the law. But when Moses gives instructions in verse 15 he adds the words "do not go near a woman." The implication seems to be that, for Moses, the community of Israelites that God wanted to address consisted only of the men. When we read about this event some women are reminded that they feel excluded by parts of our tradition.

In Orthodox liturgies of the Birchot Ha-Shachar (morning blessings) that are recited first thing in the morning, men say: Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam, She'lo Asani Isha. "Blessed are You, Adonai, Our God, King of the Universe, Who Did Not Make Me a Woman." Women say: Baruch ata Adonai.....She'asani Kirtzono. "Blessed are you.....Who Made Me According to His Will." A long-standing question from women is where does this saying, "She'lo Asani Isha," come from? Is being a woman less than being a man? And when we say Baruch She'asani Kirtzono, why don't we say, "Blessed are You for creating me a woman?"

Some Rabbis say that the blessing comes from the interpretation that the man is obligated to do *mitzvot* more than the woman, more than the gentile, and for that he should be more grateful. The idea behind this thinking is that the woman is made with inner

"perfection," that she needs to do less tikkunim (repairs), and that she is therefore not obligated with the weight of mitzvah as much as the man. The Talmud makes it clear that the Bracha (blessing) "she'lo asani isha" is related strictly to men's greater obligation in commandments - not to any inherent added value or worth men have over women. The question is, how much of marginalization of women in Jewish practices can be justified by the arguments that women

are more educated, spiritual, "holy," "perfect" and therefore don't need to do all the *mitzvot* like men have to do?

Non-Orthodox versions of the liturgy are trying to change the egocentric tone of this *Bracha* and two other *Brachot* (blessings), "...*She'lo Asani Goy*" and "...*She'lo Asani Eved*" ("...Who Did Not Make Me a Non-Jew;.....Who Did Not Make Me a Slave"). Non-Jews are assigned only basic ethical obligations under Jewish law, and slaves are ex-

A long-standing question from women is, where does this saying, "She'lo Asani Isha," come from? Is being a woman less than being a man? empt from a range of obligations, too. Some liturgies omit these three blessings (e.g. the British Reform and Liberal movements) and some adapt them. The American Conservative and Reconstructionist Siddurim (prayer books) give them as: "... She'asani B'Tzalmo" (Who Created Me in His Image, a reference to Genesis 1:27); "... She'asani Yisrael" (Who Created Me as a Jew); "... She'asani Ben-Khorin" (Who Created Me Free).

In the Israeli *Masorti* (traditional Conservative) *Siddur*, the *Bracha* that women say in the traditional liturgy ("... According to His Will") replaces all three mentioned *Brachot*,

with an explanation that the others should be assumed to be included in this, and so new blessings need not be added.

Two very interesting discoveries are studied by the scholars in relation to this topic. There is a 15th-16th century *Siddur* for women, which is now in the Roth collection at the library of the University of Leeds. It is written in a dialect of *Provençal* in Hebrew characters and Hebrew, and uniquely contains the blessing "...*She'lo Asani Ish*" (Who Did Not Make Me a Man). Also, an Italian *Siddur*

from 1471 contains the blessing "Baruch She'asani Isha ve'lo Ish" (Who Made Me a Woman and Not a Man.) This Siddur is housed in JTS's library archives; the original of this Siddur can be seen online at www.jtslibrarytreasures.org.

In an article in *The Forward*, "Siddur: 'Thank God for Making Me a Woman," (January 4, 2012), Elana Sztokman writes: "Equality for Jewish women is not a 20th century invention. A *Siddur* from the year 1471 contains an alternative text to the much abhorred "*she'lo asani isha*" ... a text that assumes ... that the person holding the prayer-book is male. In this 15th century book, the text reads, "*Baruch she'asani isha v'lo ish*," (Thank God for making me a woman and not a man.) According to Professor David Kramer of the Jewish Theological Seminary,

In an article in The Forward... Elana Sztokman writes: "Equality for Jewish women is not a twentieth century invention."

the *Siddur* was produced by the rabbi and scribe Abraham Farissol for a groom to give to his bride in 1471. Farissol lived in Italy from 1451–1525. The article's author, a feminist, thinks that the medieval Italian rabbi was pre-modern, pre-feminism, and even preindustrialism. "And yet," she writes, "he executed what was arguably a great feminist act."

Change is difficult, is slow. Orthodox rabbis often tell women that change takes time, that we cannot rush history, that social understandings have to evolve at their own natural pace. In modern times of Jewish his-

> tory the Reform movement, the Reconstructionists and the Conservative movement have accelerated changes in Jewish practice concerning women. The Reform branch ordained its first female rabbi in 1972. According to surveys and anecdotal evidence, women do seem to be more involved in religious affairs nowadays. Interestingly, on average, American women (Jewish and non-lewish) are more religious than men. Rebecca Tulus-Deubrow comments in an article titled The End of Jewish Men?: ".....men are scarce in pews and

adult education classes, and boys are known to flee after their Bar Mitzvahs If religion is a universal human need, then men are tragically missing out"

These comments make me think that maybe, in these modern times, if men could include in their blessings a *Bracha* like "*Baruch..... she'asani ben-zug l'isha*" (a partner to a woman), then both men and women could engage in religious and spiritual life with equality for women. Compared to the medieval times of Rabbi Farrisol, modernity gives us, both men and women, many freedoms: the freedom to choose our Jewish identity, the option to guide our life by *yeda ve'torashah* (the name of this column) from Judaism, the freedom to make choices, and ultimately, to make thoughtful changes to how we observe and practice Judaism. ◊

World Jewish Report Medina Roy



A Welcome Recognition

In mid-December, the 20-state council of the Center of European Nuclear Research (CERN), voted unanimously to accept Israel as a full member. CERN, located in Switzerland, is the largest and most respected center in the world for the study of atomic particles. Israel had been an associate member since October 2011 and is now the first and only country outside Europe to be granted full member status. Currently some 40 Israeli scientists, along with 44 doctoral and postdoctoral students, divide their time between Israel and CERN. "Israeli membership in the organization will make it possible for our scientists to have access to some of the most advanced infrastructures in the world." said Yaakov Peri, Israel's Science, Technology and Space Minister. Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman called it "a proud day for Israeli science.

(www.worldjewishcongress.org, 12-13-13)

Vienna Philharmonic Rights a Wrong

At the annual meeting of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra held in late October, all ensemble members agreed to strip six former senior Nazi officials of honors awarded them by the orchestra. Historian Oliver Rathkolb led the research that discovered the orchestra's close cooperation with Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels and other top Hitler officials after Germany's 1938 annexation of Austria. Included in the revocation of honors were both a former governor and a mayor of Vienna. Under the Nazis, thirteen musicians with lewish roots were fired by the orchestra and five died in concentration camps. By the end of World War II, about half of the Philharmonic's members had joined the Nazi party. The research also revealed that Helmut Wobisch, the former head of the orchestra, was a member of Nazi Germany's elite paramilitary SS and collaborated with the secret police. In addition, the Austrian Academy of Sciences has now acknowledged that many of its scientists were members of the Nazi party and that some of its students served in the SS. Excluded from the Academy during World War II were twenty-one Jewish scientists, including three Nobel laureates. Out of those twenty-one individuals, nine were murdered by the Nazis. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 12-20-13)

She Came in at Number 3

As is widely known by now. Time magazine has named Pope Francis its 2013 person of the year. Coming in third place was Edie Windsor, a new icon of the gay rights movement. (Edward Snowden was second.) The magazine called her an "unlikely activist of a battle she never thought she would wage." Windsor, 84, fought against the United States government and eventually won a landmark victory for gay marriage in the Supreme Court. Windsor's battle began in 2010, when she sued the government for a refund of the estate taxes (which totaled over \$360,000) she was required to pay when her wife, Thea Spyer, died in 2009. The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), a federal law passed in 1996, forbade recognition of the couple's legal marriage in Canada in 2007, resulting in the disqualification of any federal protections, including the estate tax exemption for surviving spouses. The Supreme Court decided 5-4 in Windsor's favor in June 2013, declaring DOMA unconstitutional. (DOMA excluded gay married couples from some 1,000 federal provisions - one being filing joint tax returns). The decision marked the first time the United States formally recognized marriage between partners of the same sex.

Windsor was born to Jewish immigrants from Russia. Her mother taught her that if a boy called her "a dirty Jew," she should "pull his hair and run home." She began master's studies in applied math at NYU in 1955, learned to program computers and started working on the Atomic Energy Commission's UNIVAC computer. In 1958, she went to work for IBM. She and Thea had been together some 40 years when they married in 2007. (*TIME magazine, 12-23-13*)

One Voice at a Time

During the course of filming "Schindler's List" in 1994, director Steven Spielberg had the opportunity to meet and get to know many Holocaust survivors. Recognizing that they were aging and their stories dying with them. Spielberg established the USC (University of Southern California) Shoah Foundation, whose mission is "dedicated to making audio-visual interviews with survivors and witnesses of the Holocaust and other genocides a compelling voice for education and action." Spielberg himself contributed millions of dollars to get the foundation started, videotaping as many testimonies as possible. He called it a race against time. Twenty years have now passed and there are almost 52,000 eyewitness testimonies, with more than 105,000 hours collected from all over the world. The archive was recently expanded to include eyewitnesses of genocide in Rwanda. (www.latimes.com, 12-8-13)

Lesbian Penguins: A Love Story

Luckily for two penguins, this story comes out of Israel and not Russia. Suki and Chupchikoni are two South African Jackass (also known as black-footed) penguins living at the Ramat Gan Safari Park. Penguins pair for life, choosing their mate during adolescence, and they return to the same nesting site year after year. Safari employees figured that Suki, the smaller one, was female, with Chupchikoni a male when the two moved in together. (According to park spokeswoman Sagit Horowitz, there is no way to distinguish between male and female penguins just by looking at them.) And no one at the park ever doubted that Chupchikoni was a boy; (as a matter of fact, in colloquial Hebrew the word "chupchik" is the diminutive word for penis). As it turns out, an Israeli veterinary student was doing research and took blood samples from the penguins, which showed that Chupchikoni, too, was a female. Tamuz Setti, head of the Safari Avian Department, believes that even though there are available male penguins in the exhibit, Suki and Chupchikoni chose to be together. The two are not the only "gay" animals on record. This type of behavior in penguins was observed as far back as 1911. More recently, the same thing happened with Roy and Silo, two male Chinstrap Penguins in New York's Central Park Zoo. Their true story, "And Tango Makes Three," was told in a 2005 children's book by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson. (By the way...since its publication by Simon and Shuster in 2005, "And Tango Makes Three" has topped the lists of the American Library Association's 10 Most Challenged Books between 2006 and 2010. Several school districts have had it removed from their collections.) (www.haaretz.com, 12-19-13)

In Memoriam

· Edgar M. Bronfman, Sr., billionaire philanthropist, staunch supporter of the State of Israel and long-time president of the World Jewish Congress (1981-2007), died in December. He was 84. Canadian-born Bronfman was the son of Eastern European Jewish immigrants. Bronfman took control of the Seagram Company from his father. Samuel Bronfman. who had founded the liquor company in 1924. The elder Bronfman had made his fortune during Prohibition, when Bronfman liguor found its way to American customers through bootleggers. During his tenure as leader of the World lewish Congress (WIC), an umbrella group of Jewish organizations in some 80 countries, Edgar Sr. increased the organization's activism on behalf of Jewish communities around the world and worked to improve Jewish relations with the Vatican. He took the lead in exposing the Nazi past of Kurt Waldheim, the former secretary general of the United Nations who later became president of Austria. As president of the WJC, Bronfman became the first-ever Jewish leader to address the United Nations General Assembly. He spearheaded the efforts to get reparations for Holocaust survivors and their heirs – a sum reported to total over \$11 million – from European banks. In 1970, Bronfman participated in a delegation to Russia to lobby the Kremlin for greater rights for Jews in the Soviet Union. In 1999, President Bill Clinton awarded Bronfman the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. In the citation, Bronfman was heralded for working "to ensure basic rights for Jews around the world.

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 12-22-13) • Ariel Sharon, one of Israel's most important and controversial leaders, died in mid-January after eight years in a coma. He was 85. Among the last of Israel's founding fathers, Ariel Sharon fought in every Israeli military conflict in the country's first three decades. He was born Ariel Scheinerman to Russian-speaking parents in the moshav *Kfar Mala* in the central part of pre-state Israel. His parents had met while at university in Tbilisi, Georgia, his father Shmuel studying agronomy and his mother Dvora studying medicine. They immigrated to Palestine in 1922.

As a teenager, young Ariel (or his nickname "Arik") began to take part in the armed night-patrols of his moshay. In 1942, at the age of 14. Sharon joined the Gadna, a paramilitary youth battalion, and later the Haganah. His bravery in the battle for Jerusalem in Israel's 1948 War of Independence, where he was shot in his stomach and groin, made him a legend at the age of twenty. It was about this time that David Ben-Gurion gave him the name "Sharon." In September 1949 (at 21), Sharon was promoted to company commander of the Golani Brigade's reconnaissance unit and in 1950 to intelligence officer for Central Command. He then took leave to begin studies in history and Middle Eastern culture at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. A year and a half later, on the direct orders of the Prime Minister. Sharon returned to active service in the rank of major, as the commander of the new Unit 101, a special forces

unit created to undertake reprisal operations in response to Palestinian fedayeen attacks.

From 1958 to 1962, Sharon served as commander of an infantry brigade and studied law at Tel Aviv University.

Sharon's offensive strategy at Abu-Ageila, during the 1967 Six-Day War, led to international commendation by military strategists. Researchers at the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command studied Sharon's operational planning and lauded his innovations.

At the start of the Yom Kippur War in October of 1973, Sharon was called back to active duty along with his assigned reserve armored division. On his Negev farm, before he left for the front line, Reserve Commander Zeev Amit said to him, "How are we going to get out of this?" Sharon replied. "You don't know? We will cross the Suez Canal and the war will end over there."

Under cover of darkness Sharon moved his armored forces to a point on the canal that had been prepared before the war. Bridging equipment was thrown across on October 17th, between two Egyptian armies. Sharon headed north, intent on cutting the Egyptian Second Army's supply lines. Abraham (Bren) Adan's division passed over the bridgehead into Africa, advancing to within 101 kilometers of Cairo. His division managed to surround Suez, cutting off and encircling the Third Army. This complex ground maneuver. designed by Sharon, is regarded as a decisive move in the Yom Kippur War, undermining the Egyptian Second Army and encircling the Egyptian Third Army. He was widely viewed by Israelis as responsible for Israel's ground victory in the Sinai. (from various sources.)

Did You Know....

• Major Oshrat Bachar has become the first woman to lead a combat battalion in the IDF (Israel Defense Forces). She will head a field intelligence battalion operating along the Egyptian border. Women have served in the past as battalion commanders in the education corps and in logistics units, but until now not in combat units. (www.haaretz.com, 1-2-14) \diamond

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SHABBAT DINNER

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014

6:30 PM

COVERED DISH DINNER

~DAIRY~

Once again, we are inviting our Chai-Lights and Directory advertisers to join us for dinner to thank them for their support. We are also extending a special invitation to our newest members. And we are encouraging you, our Members, to encourage prospective members to join with us also.

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Sponsored Dinner - no charge

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Photo Gallery

As is now an annual tradition (rapidly closing the gap on Chinese food), Christmas Day to KJCCers means Open House at the home of Carol and Steve Steinbock. All was festive, all was right.







Then came New Year's Eve. Ken Atlas had patrol duty, but sent us this shot of fireworks on Blackwater Sound taken from his patrol cruiser. The next two photos were taken at the party

> thrown by the Feders. Nyan was home from school, so there was lots of music. Joining Dave and Nyan on stage is Robert Werthamer on keyboard. (Who knew?)

The four photos at bottom were taken at the home of Jeff and Patty

Schocket.









We have lots of New Year's Day photos. At top left, Gloria waves from the shallows of Anne's Beach on Lower Mate-



The photo above isn't exactly about New Year's, but it does celebrate a new life, one connected to KJCC. Bea Graham's granddaughter Shyella and husband Amit welcomed their son, Negev Shaviv Shuker, to this world on December 22nd. Warm congrats to all.



cumbe. Grandma Ellen watches as Madison Rose meets her first puppy. At upper right, Lee Schur arrives for brunch at Snappers with children Paul and Karen Schur. At center left, Marshall and Myra Kaplan pose with Bella. Drew, Anna and Alyssa Shulman, visiting Marathon grandparents Marsha and Stephen Harris from Dublin, Ohio, learned how to wake board.

At bottom, the new Sisterhood officers pose at their installation breakfast on January 5th.



Photos courtesy of Gloria Avner



On Sunday, January 5th after Sunday School, the KJCC students began an organic vegetable garden under

the ever-watchful eye of Steve Steinbock. Steve had brought everything necessary — soil, tubs, pots, seeds and wire racks — to KJCC ahead of time. After class it was time to get hands into the dirt. We'll let you know when it's time for the harvest.



ust before Shabbat on Friday, January 10th, a lot of KJCC members were strolling the grounds of The Banyan Tree in Islamorada, admiring and supporting the work of four KJCC artists on display. The event was



called "A Playground for Orchids," and the hand-crafted clay orchid holders by the four were inventive, useful, and lovely. *Mazel Tov* to Barbara Bernstein, Medina Roy, Marcia Kreitman, and mentor Beth Kaminstein. *Keys*

to Peace was also at the event, selling raffle tickets for the Peace Bell I created on an old dive tank, one of several painted by local artists. The orchid holders and tickets for the bell can still be purchased at The Banyan Tree. The drawing for the bell will be held in early March.

-Gloria Avner



One of Bernie's goals as president is to involve our students as much as possible in the life of KJCC. In that spirit, the Sunday School, with a little help from two recent graduates, led services on January 17th.



Teachers Yardena and Gloria asked all mothers of participating students to come to the bimah for a special prayer, above.



It was also a busy night in the Social Hall. Sisterhood had provided a scrumptious dairy dinner before services. Then after came the blessings of the wine (or for some, grape juice) and bread, the oneg and the customary schmoozing and spirited conversation.





Tu B'Shvat was celebrated at KJCC on Sunday, January 19th. First there was the seder. (How many of you know that there's a Tu B'Shvat seder?) There are special prayers and blessings for this New Year of the Trees. Trees, after all, give us food.





Photos courtesy of Gloria Avner

Tu B'Shvat isn't just for our KJCC students anymore. More and more of our adults are joining in the celebration, which



begins with the seder inside and then shifts outdoors, where each year a tree is planted. Prez Bernie, below, prepares to go outside to brave the cold and winds visiting the Keys courtesy of the dreaded Polar Vortex.



The KJCC students plant a fruitbearing tree each year in celebration and honor of Tu B'Shvat. (This New Year of the Trees always takes place during the rainy season in Israel. It was cold here, but not raining.)

This year was a special planting, not just for the students but for all of KJCC. Mort and Gene Silverman have donated and are tending (well, Mort does the tending) what will become a delicious and beautiful KJCC orchard of avocado and mango trees.





Our thanks to Richard Knowles, Gloria Avner and Susan Gordon for the Tu B'Shvat photos.

So one of the Silverman Orchard trees was planted in honor of Tu B'Shvat. Prayers were said, pictures were posed for, and Yardena even led an impromptu Israeli dance around the new tree. (A short video has been uploaded to the KJCC web site.)

Below right, benefactors Gene and Mort stand with Gloria before the newest KJCC tree. In a few years we'll have mangoes and avocados!





Warm Memories of Ellen Coltman

by Mara Koven-Gelman

What does one do if you do not snorkel, scuba dive or shop for either key lime products or shells in Key Largo, Florida? One Shabbat while visiting the Keys, my husband Irwin Gelman and I attended warm services at the Keys Jewish Community Center.

We were invited to go "Chaiyaking." I love kayaking and our visit to the Keys became much more interesting.

One lady I met fit neither the category of visitor or native. All the older lewish women I know aren't willing to kayak and resist wearing make-up foundation or shorts. Her skinnv leas were covered in sun spots. The spots continued up her thighs, jumped onto her arms and up to her face. But her eyes were blue and sparkling - no spots. Ellen and husband



Barney sent us

these personal

photos of Ellen

(and him, too, of

he said she loved

ing in the Carib-

bean. and the

snorkeling, travel-

Georgia Bulldogs,

all in evidence here.

course). In his note

doesn't seem a life worth living.

But Ellen paddled in the front of their twoseater, top-loader kayak on the day in May I met her. She paddled through choppy waves with a smile and focus. We headed towards John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, the

> country's first-ever undersea park. We all paddled towards a small inlet, passing bathers on a small patch of sandy shore. Approaching the shore, we spied a bridge over thick mangrove forest. The path narrowed to allow only two passing kayaks – no large motorboats allowed. The only sounds sanctioned were talking tourists and the wind. Ellen's eyes were brightening. We paddled in a jumble of mangroves, their tree roots tangled and exposed above the water, their thick



vines ending in a flourish of wide green leaves.

"I'm getting in," she declared, and with a couple of quick flips she was in – "ahhhhhh, this is soooo good." How do I describe that sound of happiness? It was the kind of sound

one might hear from someone eating a good meal after fasting, or drinking cool water on a blistery hot beach day.

Her eyes went from sea to metallic blue, made brighter by the pure white of her sclera. Her husband wrapped his arms around a mangrove branch in a strong embrace to steady their kayak. Ellen struggled to raise her torso up to the level of the kayak and screamed, "Hold on, Barney, hold on!"

Ellen and husband Barney, originally from Coney Island in Brooklyn, had migrated to Lake Lanier in Buford, Georgia after their children left home. Their dream was to get closer to the Atlantic in retirement. "I'm just not happy if I can't slip into the ocean at least once a day," Ellen said.

Nearing age 70, she was the antithesis to my mother, for whom a day without yoga class, a week without a manicure and a month without a visit to Williams-Sonoma just She maneuvered in the inviting shallow waters, not gracefully, but anyone who is skinny never looks bad doing anything.

Both my husband and I chuckled to ourselves when out of earshot of Ellen and

Barney. We knew neither of our 70something mothers would *ever* jump into a mangrovelittered ocean canoe path or even wear above-the-knee shorts. One mom is Boca-bound, the other mom Tucsonbound for winter months.

Their lexicon includes words like walking sticks (not canes), facelifts, and Lactaid.

Ellen has metastatic lung cancer. She told me that in an offhanded way

when I shared that my husband Irwin is a cancer researcher. Many people share their cancer stories when they find this out. They wonder if maybe Irwin knows of a new therapy or, at least, could lend a sympathetic ear; and, by association, might I, too?

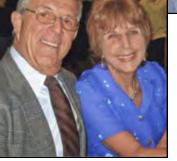
"I just finished chemo... that's why I have a hat on." She lifted up the edge to show spotty baldness with half-dyed patches of hair. Maybe that explained her thinness or her sheer delight in ocean water surrounding her body. Did the water make her weightless, easing the pain, the fear or the future?

Ellen's cancer had returned, after her first cancer diagnosis four years ago. That's as much as she shared, and went no farther; she did not follow the pattern of needing to talk or seek sympathy with which I was so familiar. We had all returned from the outing, tired after a choppy, windy return. Ellen smiled, her eyes still reflecting the blue ocean. "It was nice to meet you, Mara. I look forward to seeing you next time you come back to the Keys."

I hoped that that would happen - that I

The photo at left is from the KJCC seder in 2011, the same year they attended Taschlich during High Holidays, center. The photo at bottom is dated 2006; the event is uncertain, but someone in back is wearing a kippah. might return to the Keys and get to see Ellen's sparkling blue eyes... again.

When we returned to the Keys over the holidav break this year, with Irwin having been invited to KICC to act as weekend cantor. I immediatelv asked about Fllen and was saddened to hear that she



was gone. But special people are never really gone. Ellen Coltman's incredible energy and positive *neshama* will always be part of those who met her, if only for a brief afternoon of

kayaking. Irwin and I will never, ever forget those incredible blue eyes. May her memory always be a blessing. \Diamond

Mara had originally written this after their first visit to KJCC in 2011. When here in December, she asked if we'd be interested, and the answer, of course, was yes.



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 three 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.

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

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Winner to be drawn April 15, 2014 at Second Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club You do not have to be present to win

> Contact Barbara Knowles @ 305-772-0503 or email weddw@bellsouth.net

A Loving Tribute and Farewell

n Sunday, January 5th, just before 12 noon, it started to rain. No, it started to *pour*. With the permission of our president, Bernie, I had planned to have a memorial service for my mother, Marianne Cimkowski, in the Meditation Garden, but that was not to be. Then I remem-



then my wonderful husband Stephen read the Mourner's Kaddish. As a tribute to my mother,



Carol with her mom Marianne, above, at a KJCC Sisterhood luncheon event in 2011.

in addition to old friends, the receptionist from her beauty parlor was there, as well as a few people from Silver Shores (where she had lived), including the very sweet couple who are renting my mom's place, and who had just arrived in the Keys that morning.

I am so fortunate to have the KJCC members as my "family." You have surrounded me, comforted me, been there for

bered that my mother loved the rain.

Pouring rain and all, people arrived, greeting me with



hugs and warm, kind words. We all went into the Ruth Richardson Hall and Father Edward Olszewski, a retired priest who is no stranger to the KJCC and who knew my mom, led the service. Father Ed's words gently blended the

two religions. He asked the Lord's blessing on my mother, we heard the 23rd Psalm and



me through thick and thin. You welcomed my parents when they came to the KJCC, you were there for them (and me) when they were ill, and vou helped me lay them to rest. I will never forget your kind and generous hearts.

-Carol Steinbock

Thank vou.

Father Ed, a long-time friend of both

Marianne Cimkowski and KJCC, gives the eulogy. At left, Carol regales those who came to honor her with stories about her mom.

PASSOVER/PURIM BAZAAR!

Keys Jewish Community Center

Join us for a very special day of shopping, friends, food, raffles & refreshments!

> SUNDAY, March 9, 2014 11:00am to 2:00 pm at the KJCC MM 93.5

You may have shopped at The Chosen in Miami over the years. The owners are bringing their on-line store merchandise to the KJCC. Check them out online -THE CHOSEN GIFT http://www.thechosengift.net

We are hosting an exclusive one-day sale at the KJCC in order to bring you many beautiful Passover and Purim items and exciting gifts from THE CHOSEN GIFT

(A portion of all proceeds will benefit the KJCC Sisterhood.)

We will also have a Raffle for Holiday Merchandise! (All raffle proceeds go to the KJCC sisterhood)

A Memorial for the Keys Homeless

by Joyce Peckman

Each year on December 21st, the shortest day with the longest night of the year, a small group gathers at the open wooden shelter in Settlers' Park, Tavernier. This year, for the first time, I went, accompanying Gloria Avner.

On a picnic table were sixty-six wax and LED candles, one for each soul that passed away this year, homeless in the beautiful Florida Keys. The oldest was 96. There were three infants.

Rev. Pam Feeser of Baptist Hospital opened the program by speaking about how, for most of us, these people are faceless. We don't see them because we turn away from a problem that we feel distant from, or powerless to tackle, or fearful to approach. She related how many of these people's lives began like ours, but were shattered by sickness, divorce or other tragedies from which they did not have the resilience to recover.

Four girls, The Keys Pipers, joined Pam for a flute melody, music for meditation. Then Reverend Kerry Foote of Burton Memorial Methodist read each name and age, while Father Cannon of St. James Episcopal gave a short prayer for each, and a participant then lit a candle for him or her. Each of us, not in any order, stepped forward to light a flame, as a name was recited and the prayer read. The act of choosing to take a step is meaningful, and hopefully symbolic of future action. Winter Solstice

wind whips Atlantic waves onto Settler's Park Beach sky brilliant blue over big grassy patch and only Charley stays the other homeless people in the park split want no part of us the one hour one day out of 365.

seventy died three were infants we who remember them bless them say kaddish stand on the round wooden platform under a shading roof light a candle for each of the homeless who died this year in the Florida Keys in Paradise we were twenty counting the dog

Gloria Avner

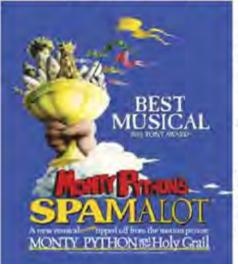
The service ended with the KJCC representatives. Carol Steinbock read a beautiful poem, and then there was a group recital of Kaddish, led by Gloria in Hebrew and Carol in English. \diamond

The interfaith group (almost half from KJCC) who gathered to honor the homeless on December 21st in Tavernier's Settlers Park.



Chai-Lights February 2014 33

Keys Jewish Community Center



Date: Sunday March 23, 2014

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Actors Playhouse, Coral Gables

SPAMALOT is the musical comedy sensation lovingly ripped off from the film classic Monty Python and The Holy Grail. Hysterically retelling the tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, this Tony Award winning Best Musical will spread laughter and cheer throughout the Kingdom of South Florida. Featuring a bevy of beautiful showgirls, not to mention cows and killer rabbits, SPAMALOT has been hailed by all as "a no-holds-barred smash hit."

For tickets and information about carpooling, contact Joyce (305) 451–0665 or Susan (914) 907–3993.

Donation \$45

Purim Katan

by Joyce Peckman

We all know about Purim, celebrating the story of Queen Esther and her Uncle Mordechai, and how the looming disaster in Persia was turned into a victory for the Jews. In the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, on its thirteenth day ... on the day that the enemies of the Jews were expected to prevail over them, it was turned about: the Jews instead prevailed over their adversaries. And they gained relief on the fourteenth, making it a day of feasting and gladness, i.e. Purim. But how many of us have heard of *Purim Katan*?

Purim Katan, which translates as "little Purim." can also be considered a celebration of our special lunar calendar. As we know, the civil calendar used by most of the world is based upon Earth's revolution around the sun, abandoning a strict correlation between the moon cycles and the month, and arbitrarilv setting the length of months to 28. 30 or 31 days, based upon which political leader or Roman deity the month was named after. The Hebrew calendar, on the other hand, is lunar. The problem with strictly lunar calendars is that there are approximately 12.4 lunar months in every solar year, so a 12-month lunar calendar is about 11 days shorter than a solar year and a 13-month lunar year is about 19 days longer than a solar year. (Because of that, since they also use a lunar calendar. Muslim holidays like Ramadan can fall out in any season.)

To compensate for this drift, the Jewish calendar uses a 12-month lunar calendar with an extra month occasionally added. A year with 13 months is referred to in Hebrew as *Shanah Me'uberet*, literally: a pregnant year.

In the fourth century, Hillel II established a fixed calendar based on mathematical and astronomical calculations, which was fully codified by Maimonides in the *Mishneh Torah* in the 12th century. This calendar, still in use, standardized the length and addition of months over the course of a nineteen-year metonic cycle (named for its discoverer, the

Greek mathematician, astronomer, geometer, and engineer Meton of Athens.) At the end of each of these cycles the same phase moon appears in the sky at exactly the same place. at the same longitude and against the same constellation, as it had nineteen years before. Which means that right then the lunar calendar is realigned with the solar years. So, seven times during this 19-year cycle, we get a second month of Adar to balance out the days. (In a very unusual confluence this year, the first of Adar I is also February 1, and the first of Nissan is April 1. Both April and Nissan have 30 days, so they match completely. March includes the end of Adar I along with all of Adar II, allowing its surrounding months to match completely. Thus, the 18th of February is 18 Adar I, and March 18 is the 18th of Nissan.)

All of this causes headaches for Alan Beth and me, as we try to make certain that everyone gets their *Yahrzeit* letters on time. However, it does ensure that Passover always occurs in the spring.

Which brings us to the question: what to do about Purim, which occurs during Adar, when we have two Adars?

It was decided (by the rabbis) to celebrate Purim in the second Adar, in order to link the redemption of Purim to the redemption of Pesach. The 14th of Adar I became *Purim Katan*, the only time we have a minor festival preceding the actual festival.

Although we do not read the *Megillah* or give gifts on *Purim Katan*, the rabbis decreed that the holiday should be celebrated with food and drink, and there should be no mourning or fasting. The *Midrash* also states that "any man, and especially the inhabitants of a city to whom a miracle has happened, may make that day Purim." Thus the Jews of Frankfurt, Germany, celebrated Adar 20 as *Purim Vinz*, commemorating the execution in 1616 of Vinz Fettmilch and six others after they had stormed and partially destroyed the Jewish ghetto. In regard to other double-Adar issues: Bar Mitzvahs follow the Purim rule, celebrated during Adar II, unless the child was born in Adar I in a leap year. And no, Adar II babies don't have to wait until they are 20 years old to be Bar or Bat Mitzvah. An Adar I date will work just fine.

If you observe a yahrzeit during Adar, as I do, take note. It can get complicated. Sephar-

dim follow the Bar Mitzvah rule cited above. However, among Ashkenazim there is a difference of opinion. Most observe the yahrzeit during Adar I, but many, like me, observe in Adar II, and some even say *kaddish* and light candles *both* Adars. Keep your KJCC calendar handy. Happy *Purim Katan*!

My thanks to website Judaism 101 for much of the astronomical information. \diamond



For further information contact: Susan Gordon (305) 766-3585

Sanctuary in Shanghai

by Joyce Peckman

n January 6th, Susan Ellner picked up Lee Schur and me to attend the opening night of Holocaust Education Week in Miami. As we drove north on the stretch. I thought to ask Susan if she had called Yardena. who had given us the information and motivation to begin with. She hadn't, so we called. Yardena dropped whatever work she was doing, and told us to pick her up. It was a good thing she was in the car, because she kept us from going astray when detours confounded the GPS system. So the four of us headed to Urban Studios at FIU Miami Beach. We did not imagine that we would also be taking an excursion to Paris, Russia and Shanghai.

We had planned to stroll along Lincoln Road beforehand, but after parking and looking for our destination, we had less than an hour for dinner. Then we noticed, on the corner of that very block, a lovely French bistro named "Paul," and so we dined in Paris! The sandwiches were so good, and the pastries looked so inviting, that we returned after the exhibition for dessert.

Our destination was an Art Deco building, with a beautiful Art Deco lobby and mezzanine. We took the classic elevator to the fourth floor and found sleek, modern workspaces. Suddenly Yardena was hugging someone...it was Dr. Miriam Kassenoff, Director of the Holocaust Teachers Institute at the University of Miami and the Holocaust advisor to Miami-Dade County public schools, who Yardena has worked with for years.

We found first- and second-row seats in the small recital room, which quickly became standing room only. The Amernet String



The KJCC contingent of Susan Ellner, Yardena Kamely, Joyce Peckman and Lee Schur surround Mark Weiner, who has been instrumental in taking the exhibit to cities around the United States.

Quartet, nationally known and currently FIU's Ensemble in Residence, played music composed during the period of the Holocaust,

The word the Chinese used for "Jews" is You Tai Ren, which translates to "people with brains." several by Shostakovich and his students. At least two of the composers had perished, one in Theresienstadt. Comparing the music to 18th & 19th century Classical, I initially found it "edgy." Then I considered the lives of these composers, and I valued it.

Dr. Kassenoff welcomed us and introduced Mark Weiner, who had helped take this exhibit about sanctuary for European Jews in wartime Shanghai to cities around the United States. Mark told us how, at the University of Alabama, he had stumbled into a course on ancient Chinese history. (It was the only class that fit into his pro-



gram.) He apparently so impressed the teacher that he was invited to spend the following vear studying law in Shanghai, where he learned about the lews who

As Chinese Consul in Vienna, Dr. Ho Feng Shen issued thousands of humanitarian exit visas to desperate Jews.

took refuge there, and roomed with the future attorney general of Shanghai. He told us that the word the Chinese used for "Jews" is *You Tai Ren*, which translates to "people with brains."

The exhibition room walls were covered with posters and stories. Mark brought us to the poster dedicated to Dr. Ho Feng Shen, who at the beginning of World War II was the Chinese Consul in Vienna. Acting against the direct orders of his Berlin-based superior, and ignoring threats by German officials, Dr. Ho Feng Shen issued thousands of humanitarian exit visas to desperate Jews. By 1941, Shanghai had accepted more than 18,000 Jewish refugees, who came by ship from Europe, or by rail across Russia. They were met and supported by two groups of Jewish merchants who had settled there years before: the Sephardim, including the wealthy Sassoon family, and Eastern Europeans. Unlike earlier settlers, the refugees were confined to one part of the city, but freely traded and socialized with their Shanghai neighbors, also suffering the deprivations of wartime. (Japan had first invaded China in 1931, fully ten years before.) The Jewish refugees set up homes, shops and schools (including the entire Mir yeshiva) and built a little Europe in Shanghai.

When Japan finally conquered Shanghai, things took a turn for the worse. Yet the Japanese refused the German demand to exterminate Shanghai's Jews. As a compromise, they were removed to a crowded internment camp, where they remained until the end of the war. Most then found their way to America or Israel, or went back to Europe. A few brought Chinese spouses with them. Many in later years returned to visit those in Shanghai who had been so kind to them during trying times. \Diamond

Note: As is often the case with traveling exhibits and non-profits, this event had many mothers. With too voluminous a genealogy to include in the first paragraph, Holocaust Education Week described itself as "a communitywide program, presented by the Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach, a committee of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation." This year there were eight separate presentations at various greater Miami locations. The event described above was co-sponsored by the FIU Urban Studies Program, The Pan Sino Group and the Jewish Refugee Museum of Shanghai.



Lee and Yardena stand at the entry to the exhibit next to the poster created by the exhibition's sponsors.

Keys Jewish Community Center, Inc.

P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070 · 305-852-5235 · keysjewishcenter.com

To all KJCC members:

The KJCC Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 9, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. in the KJCC sanctuary.

The February Board meeting, in the Ruth Richardson Social Hall, is scheduled for 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 installation of Officers and the Board of Directors. According to our by-laws, nominations from the floor can be accepted at that time.

A light lunch will be served by Sisterhood to all present immediately following the installation of Officers and Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee has met as required and selected the following slate of 2014-2015 Officers and Board Members. This slate was approved at the January 12th, 2014 Board Meeting:

President – Bernie Ginsberg Executive Vice President – Sam Vinicur Vice Presidents – Gloria Avner, Susan Gordon, Steve Hartz Treasurer – Linda Pollack Recording Secretary – Beth Hayden Financial Secretary – Dave Mont Corresponding Secretary – Joyce Peckman Directors:

> Marc Bloom Sy Gelbard David Gitin Linda Kaplan Skip Rose Medina Roy Gene Silverman

(Note: Past presidents are automatically voting members of KJCC's Board.)

Respectfully submitted by the 2014 Nominating Committee: Sam Vinicur (chair), Steve Steinbock, Linda Pollack, Bernie Ginsberg

A Weekend to Remember

by Gloria Avner

full KJCC parking lot is always a barometer of success for a special event. On December 28th, the last Erev Shabbat of 2013, it was full to overflowing. The occasion was neither High Holidays nor a free dinner. All had come to attend a unique Friday night service led by visiting Cantor Irwin Gelman from Buffalo, New York.

The "specialness" continued non-stop

for the next 24 hours. Thanks to Cantor Gelman's magnificent voice, the generosity and stimulation of Rabbi





Cantor Irwin Gelman at Kiddush after Friday's service, with Gloria, Bernie, daughter Maya and wife Mara.

Agler's teaching/Shabbat service the next morning, a Sisterhood luncheon after morning services, and our participation in a multicultural "Peace Blessing" event with Tibetan monks at Rev. Kerry Foote's Burton Memorial Church later on Shabbat afternoon, we were spiritually uplifted in every dimension. In KJCC President Bernie Ginsberg's words, this "mini-shabbaton" (a special "seventh day" gathering for rest and spiritual exaltation)





was a treat for the mind, the soul, and body.

Rarely have we had a cantor lead a Friday night service for us, unless the High Holidays fell on Shabbat. We like our lay leaders, the variety of their approaches and special skills, but on this night we were treated to a special voice and a warm, *haimische* educator as well. Cantor Gelman, a respected can-

cer genetics scientist (at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute. a famed research center in David's and my home town of Buffalo) as well as trained chazzan (fourth generation. no less) walked unannounced into our synagogue a year ago and then, merely by chanting Kaddish, left an impression that lasted. He accepted our invitation for a return visit and the response was electric. You could hear it in the congregation's responsive



singing, as service leaders Bernie and Cantor Gelman led us seamlessly through the liturgy. Hearing the *Hashkivenu* chanted in the mode of the old classical cantors (as his mother liked it, said Cantor Gelman) was particularly moving. (Yardena is still *kvelling* about it, saying she hadn't heard the *Hashkivenu*



chanted that movingly in many years.) It was good to see many faces, some we don't see often, there to enjoy this opportunity. And those holiday visitors who came by simply because they'd seen our sign were given a special gift. Over 80 people joined voices that night, often fully and happily as one.

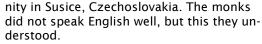
In the morning, both Rabbi Agler *and* Cantor Gelman guided us. Attendance doubled our previous Shabbat morning record. (More than 60 people came.) Both the music and learning were intensely appreciated. The *Parshah* and Rabbi

Agler's discussion were about freedom, how one prepares for it, deals with insecurities, and retains faith in the midst of adversity. We talked of Moses, the challenges of his role, the ten plagues, and how Pharaoh's heart was continually hardened against the Jews as Moses pleaded for his people to be "let go."

from the Torah. Cantor Gelman took on the *Aliyah*. Rabbi Agler paused and then quietly invited the monks, in their maroon and saffron robes, to join him and the Cantor on the *Bimah*. Once there they were transfixed, looking at the words on a parchment not so visually unlike their own hand-calligraphied su-



tras or scriptures. Rabbi Agler explained our prized Torah's significance, that it had been saved from the Holocaust and entrusted to us in exchange for our prayers for those who perished from its home commu-



When the Torah was placed gently back in the Ark, the senior monk stepped forward with a white silk scarf, called a *kata*. In Tibetan practice, a *kata* is given as an offering

Rabbi Agler, in his trademark informal, inclusive style, brought out animated participation. As it does so often under his guidance, Torah came alive in discussion of core issues, both ancient and modern. And then the Tibetan monks walked in.

We were just finishing discussion of *Parasha Va'eira*, and it was time to chant





to a revered teacher. The teacher blesses it and gives it back, placing it around the giver's neck. I have seen many *kata* ceremonies, in this country as well as in India and Bhutan, but never anything like this. Having Tibetan monks, living in exile from their homeland – their monastery, where they educate young monks in an attempt to keep their culture alive, is in southern India –



join us as we discussed our own tribe's struggle to escape oppression and return to our promised land, could not have been more synchronous. It seemed *bashert*. To present the offering of a *kata* to the Torah as teacher was an act of both reverence and



Kamanetz. Years ago he accompanied a group of Jewish spiritual leaders to a conference with the Dalai Lama, who wanted to know how the Jews did it. How do you keep a culture alive in diaspora? How can one be apart from your homeland and still keep your belief systems and practice intact?)

With the Rabbi's blessing, the Cantor's soaring voice and the monk's offering all



echoing within us, we were off to a delicious brunch prepared by Sisterhood. Animated conversation, with old friends and new, filled both the schoolroom and the social hall. Many thanks to Barbara Knowles for a magnificent job coordinating the delicious and welcome Sisterhood effort. After dessert, many of us trooped off to Burton Memorial United Methodist Church next door for an

respect, beyond the boundary of language.

After Rabbi Agler blessed us in our going forth from the service, he invited the Tibetan monks to say their own blessing for us. With deep sonorous voices, a very different vibration

filled the sanctuary. In explanation afterward, the monks used the phrase *"Tashe Delek,"* often translated as good luck, but which like our words *Shalom* and *Mazel Tov*, has many layers of meaning. They were blessing our house and the work of our hands, our people, our building, our scriptures, and our future. (There is a wonderful book in the KJCC library called "Jew in the Lotus," written by Roger



interfaith event, the blessing of a peace park. Rev. Foote spoke of St. Francis and said a prayer; all

the monks chanted in full regalia; and KJCC with Mikhaela Bitton, myself, and Susan Gordon holding up signs with the three Hebrew words of lyric - led everyone in song:

Shalom Chaverim, Shalom Chaverim, Shalom Shalom. L'hitra'ot L'hitra'ot, Shalom, Shalom.

particular weekend to be able to say and sing this blessing to each other many, many times.

And then we say: L'hitra'ot. ("See you



again, soon.") Perhaps at another *Shabbaton.* ◊

There were still more activities, masked dances to watch, both the Yak and the Snow Lion, a symbol of freedom and joy, the central figure on the Tibetan flag, banned for 50 years in China. But the KICC Shabbaton could well have ended on the last note of our song, where we say hello to our friends, strangers and *mish*pocha (family) by wishing each other *peace*, on every level reached by that wonderful word. We say it at KJCC every Friday night, and were fortunate enough this

Selver 1



As host for the Keys to Peace event, Rev. Kerry Foote of Burton Memorial Methodist opened the remarks, and introduced Wayne Scaturro, below, whose original diving bell art will be a permanent fixture at the park. After Gloria led the KJCC part of the ceremony, both prayer and song, Rev. Foote presented the monks in full regalia.







Photo at left of the KJCC contingent at the Burton Memorial Keys to Peace event courtesy of Paula Vieceli.



Our great appreciation to Jan Hartz for all the photos on this page.

After the blessing of the park, the monks added multi-culturalism to the interfaith nature of the afternoon by displaying important icons of Tibetan culture. The fierce fellow dancing below left is a yak. The knowing feline below is a snow lion, as Gloria described, an important symbol of freedom and joy to Tibetans.



The elegant poodle girl below is named Lisette. She's almost fifteen, and is the beloved companion of Jan and Steve Hartz. The monk, after blessing her, nicknamed her "snow lion."







Despite their lives of contemplation and prayer, the monks clearly have personalities. Jan captured these priceless photos of one monk blessing a lizard.

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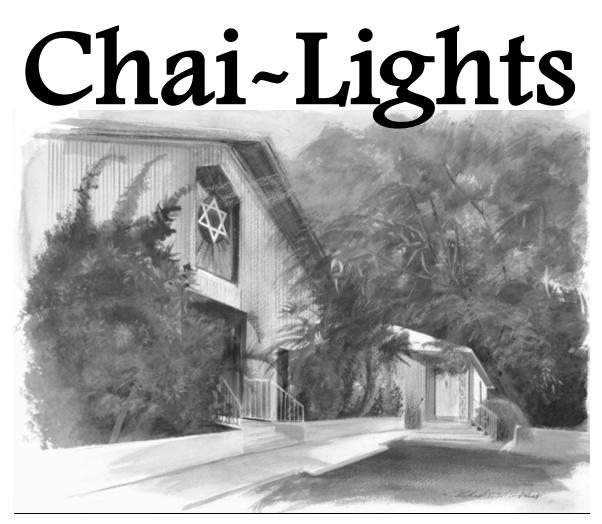


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March 2014

29 Adar I - 29 Adar II 5774

Another Weekend to Remember - page 23 Medina On KJCC's Expanding Library - page 29 Gloria on The Meaning of The Amidah - page 33

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com March 2014

29 Adar I - 29 Adar II

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Sisterhood Meeting 9:30 a.m. Yardena 7 p.m. lecture	3	4	5 Men's Club Game Night 7:30	6	7 Shabbat Across America Sy Gelbard & Gloria Avner Steve & Barbara Smith Steve & Carol Steinbock	8
9 KJCC Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. Purim Bazaar 11	10	11	12	13 Ta'anit (Fast of) Esther	14 Richard Knowles & Yardena Kamely	15 Rabbi Agler Torah Ser- vice 10:00 Caesar Beware!
16 Purim At KJCC 10:30 a.m.	17	18	19	20 First Day of Spring	21 Men's Club David & Patti Gross	22
23 Spamalot 30 Women's Seder	24 31	25	26	27	28 Medina Roy & Jane Friedman 6:30 Service Joel & Linda Pollack Marc & Ellen Bloom	29

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Executive Vice President Sam Vinicur

Vice Presidents Gloria Avner • Susan Gordon • Steve Hartz

> Treasurer Linda Pollack

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Newsletter Lisa Richardson Rutherford

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 Bernard Ginsberg

Just prior to writing my column for this month, I was sworn in along with the sitting board members for the second of the traditional two-year terms. Also sworn in were new Directors Linda Kaplan and Sy Gelbard and Dave Mont in the position of Financial Secretary.

One's mind turns at these landmark occasions to consider what has been accomplished.

In my first president's column for Chai-Lights, I said my greatest emphasis in leadership would be in two areas: 1) The education of our children; and 2) Making all our programs rewarding and fun.

With the help of all of you, we have done well. The Religious School is running smoothly and the KJCC dinners and events are full of fellowship and good cheer. I thank you for the honor of being chosen president, although the job has been harder than I thought. It is difficult enough to maintain the basic services of our synagoque. let alone advance our services and activities. Steve Hartz and I have not yet figured out how to use computer technology to multiply the effect of our Religious School teachers and get the results of a five-day-a-week school in a mere two hours on Sunday. (But we're working on it!) Richard Knowles has been working feverishly as House Committee chairman to keep our old



building serviceable.

The fun and fellowship is present, with the help of Barbara Knowles of Sisterhood and Erica Garrett, Joyce Peckman, Medina Roy and all the Sisterhood and Board members. We have had some great Shabbat dinners and luncheons. We have had inspiring. spiritual Havdalah services. great Bar Mitzvahs and Rabbi Agler's monthly Shabbat Torah services. We had a wonderful Shabbaton weekend with a visiting Cantor. By the time you read this, we will already have enjoyed our February 21st Sisterhood Shabbat dinner for advertisers. On March 7th we will be having another dinner to celebrate, along with thousands of other shuls, "Shabbat Across America and Canada."

I am satisfied, but not complacent. We need more income to cover our increasing services and a reserve fund for our aging building. To this end, we will be staging a concert with Dave Feder and musical friends the evening of Wednesday, April 9th. Sisterhood is sponsoring a fundraising raffle of "Dream Vacations." (See promos elsewhere in this issue.)

I want to thank all the members for their support, and may we go together "from strength to strength."

B'Shalom, Bernie Chai-Lights March 2014 3

Nosh

Welcome to New Members

KJCC is delighted to be able to welcome a veritable gang of three new members this month. (Well, actually two new members and one batshuvah.) Mah jongg brought us Nelson and Roberta Chester, of Islamorada and Geneva, Illinois. We also welcome Andrew and Randi Grant of Islamorada and Cooper City, and applaud the return of Rachel Rubin of Key Largo, a long-time student of Yardena's. We happily offer all of you the richness that is KJCC and trust that you will all make your own unique contributions to that richness.

Torah Learning Services With Rabbi Agler

Plan now for your spring spiritual replenishment. New growth is everywhere. Our fruit trees are flourishing, and the Sunday School container gardens are overflowing with tomatoes and peppers. We, too, can be growing, in Torah knowledge. Here are the dates for Rabbi Agler's last Shabbat morning services of this season. If you've attended one previously and enjoyed the warm, informal, stimulating discussion, you know you won't want to miss any of them. The March service will take place on Saturday, March 15th. (What a good thing to do on the Ides of March. If only Caesar had been in shul instead of wandering around the Roman Senate.) The following month's services will be on April 12th and May 17th. All services begin at 10:00 a.m. - Gloria

Oneg Sponsors for March

March 7th - Steve and Barbara Smith in honor of Thomas Smith's birthday. Steve and Carol Steinbock to celebrate Steve's birthday.

March 21st - Dave and Patti Gross in honor of their anniversary.

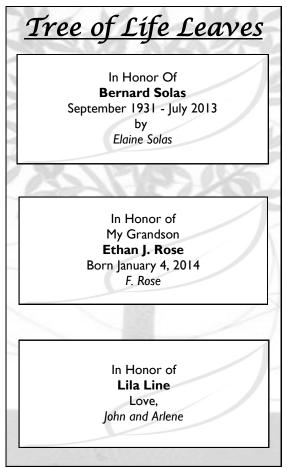
March 28th - Linda and Joel Pollack to mark Joel's birthday. Marc and Ellen Bloom for Madison Rose's baby naming.

Scholarship Deadline is April I

Scholarship Committee chairman David Gitin asks that we send out a final reminder: all applications for KJCC college scholarships need to be in the hands of the committee by April 1st..

Shabbat Across America and Canada

Sponsored by the National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP), this is a celebration that has exploded in popularity the last few years. KJCC is a registered participant in this event, where millions of Jews enjoy Shabbat dinner together. Invite any you know to experience the joy of erev Shabbat with us on March 7th. It will be a meaty night, both the food and the significance. For details, please see the ad on page 7.



March Birthdays

•
l stMelvin L. Jacobson
IstSasha Dutton
3rdStephen Steinbock
6thBea Graham
7thHannah Feig
7thToby Goldfinger
9thPearl Jacobs
10thKate Horowitz
10thThomas Davis Smith
l I thBryan Schur
I I thSandy Yankow
I2thHeath Greenbaum
13thCarl Roy
l 3thIra Stein
I4thJenna Lane
14thRandi Grant
l4thSeth Horowitz
I 5thAllan Boruszak
15thJohanna Willner
l6thMarsha Harris
l6thSteven Nobil
I7thAndrew Grant
17thDaniel E. Friedman
19thMichelle Palacino
20th
20thSusan Sachs
21stBarbara A. Calev
21stJames Nobil Jr.
21stJoseph Palacino
23rdKen Atlas
24thDoug Graham
25thJoe Gould
25thStephanie Coeurjoly
25thSylvia Berman
26thSylvia Berman 26th.
27thMichelle E. Denker
28thRoger Vorcheimer
29thJoel Pollack
30thDavid VanArtsdalen
30thLee Schur
31stJane S. Friedman
31stSari Elizabeth Goldstein

March Anniversaries

Years

lst	Jerry & Sheila Olsen55	;
2nd	Joe Gould & Marla Berenson	
7th	Joseph & Susan Sachs49	,
l 6th	Frank & Gerri Emkey6	
22nd	David & Patti Gross	
24th	Joel & Toby Bofshever46	,

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of Henry Rubin by Carol Laskin & Foster Davidson

Yahrzeit Plaque BELOVED PARENTS HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Manya Gelbard Feb. 29, 2012 Moritz Gelbard June 13, 2010

Love, Sy, Ruth, Sandy

A Memorial Service for Jim Nobil

Dear Family and Friends,

We will hold a memorial service for our dear Jim on Sunday, March 9th, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. at Temple Beth El in Boca Raton, 333 SW 4th Avenue. Please mark this date on your calendars. All are welcome. If you wish to speak about Jim during the service, please let me know.

Love, Lynn and the family

You're invited to the Baby Naming for Madison Rose on March 28th

Parents Rachael and Chris plus grandparents Marc and Ellen Bloom cordially invite KJCC to attend the mitzvah of Madison Rose receiving her Jewish name, Maayan Shoshana, on March 28th, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. A celebratory oneg will follow services.



The KJCC offers its deepest condolences to John and Arlene Line

on the death of John's mother

Lila Line

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of Bernard Solas September 1931 - July 2013 by Elaine Solas

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of Clayton Rakov Father of Neal Rakov by Muriel and George Swartz

Get Ready For the Big Dave Feder Concert

Dave Feder and musical friends will be live in concert at KJCC on April 9th. Please make your plans now, as this will be open to the public. For more info, please see the ad on page 26.

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman at 305-664-3316.

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 Stuart Sax, 305-586-8729.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-852-6152, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC which was commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman at 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT 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 Georgia Landau, 305-393-9885.

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. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund. KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA



FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014

6:30 PM

COVERED DISH - FLEISHIG

(CHICKEN, BEEF, OR LAMB; ANY VEGETABLE DISH THAT HAS NO MILK, CHEESE OR ANY DAIRY PRODUCT IN IT.)

8:00 PM

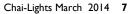
SERVICES

ON FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014, JEWS ALL ACROSS THE U.S. AND CANADA WILL COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE SHABBAT. JOIN US!

Contact Barbara @ (305) 772-0503, iweddu@bellsouth.net, to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish. ///



DONATION: MEMBERS \$18 NONMEMBERS \$25 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER @ NO CHARGE



Tn Memoriam March 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Harvey Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Robert Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Robert Berman

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Louis Abraham Weinstein

By Dick & Rita Bromwich

Dorothy Stanlake

By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

In Memory Of

Hilda Dorf

By Barry & Natalie Dorf

In Memory Of

Maxine Kaplan

By Marsha Garrettson

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Maurice Field

By Carol Field

In Memory Of

Harry Kaplan

By Marsha Garrettson

In Memory Of

Selma Greenspan

By Mrs. Marty Graham

In Memory Of

David Harvey

By Mitchell Harvey

In Memory Of

Leo Grossman

By Sam & Leslie Janowitz

In Memory Of

Luba Tuchman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

, Lillian Melnick

By Mrs. Marty Graham <><><><><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Harry Phillips

By Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

Rachamim Levy

By Yardena Kamely

In Memory Of

Marian Rose Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

In Memory Of

Arlene R. Brenner

By Marilyn Greenbaum

In Memory Of

Eleanor Sonn

By Sam & Leslie Janowitz

In Memory Of

Monroe (Monty) Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

In Memory Of

Samual Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

8 Chai-Lights March 2014

In Memoriam March 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Irving Line

Lori Mills

By Bunny Lohmann

By Jonathan & Arlene Line

> In Memory Of Louis Weinstein

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

In Memory Of

Dorothy Ross

By Joyce Peckman

In Memory Of

Cissie Rose Lang

By Skip Rose

In Memory Of

Isadore Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Theresa Steinbock

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock ~~~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of

Alice Weber

By Judith Weber

In Memory Of

Anne Temkin

By Robert Temkin

In Memory Of

Nate Schulberg

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of

Ida Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Abe M. Reider

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Deborah Eichler

By Judith Weber

In Memory Of

George B. Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman In Memory Of

Oscar Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

In Memory Of

Denise Moss

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Esther Schur

By Lee Schur

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 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.

A fundraiser for the Keys Jewish Community Center

GET OUTTA TOWN

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 three 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 fire-course dinner for two at Commander's Palace Restaurant.

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

Winner to be drawn April 15, 2014 at Second Seder at the Islamorada Fishing-Club You do not have to be present to win.

Contact Barbara Knowles & 305-772-0503 or email weddu@bellsouth.net

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I hope everyone who attended the Annual Meeting felt the warmth and heartfelt thanks from KJCC President Bernie Ginsberg for all everyone does to make our little shul such a big success. The food afterwards was plentiful and was presented beautifully by one of our former Sisterhood presidents, Nettie Seder. Kudos and thanks to Nettie and Carla (our friend who works so hard in the kitchen), my husband Richard, who ran around to different stores, and all those who helped from start to finish with this brunch.

I want to encourage everyone who hasn't bought a ticket for the "Get Outta Town" Sisterhood fundraising raffle to do so. It will be Sisterhood's major fundraiser of the year. All tickets are \$100.00, and we're only selling 100 tickets. So everyone will have a great chance to win and choose between three spectacular trips:

1) A New York Weekend, which will include three nights at the Hilton New York, dinner at one of three top restaurants and a Broadway experience for two.

2) A Sonoma, California VIP Wine Experience, which includes lodging at the Fairmont Sonoma Inn & Spa with limousine service to a privately hosted tour of the Jacuzzi Family Winery.

3) A New Orleans Jazz & Dining Package, which includes three nights at the Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel, VIP seats at Preservation Hall and five-course dinner for two at Commander's Palace Restaurant.

All packages are for two and include air travel and lodging. Travel times and itineraries are flexible. The winner will be drawn April 15, 2014 at KJCC's Second Seder. You don't need to be present to win. Tickets will be available at KJCC before and after Friday services or by contacting me directly, at iweddu@bellsouth.net.

Here are the major events planned for the rest of the season: on Friday, March 7^{th} , KJCC

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles



will be hosting a "Shabbat Across America" dinner at

6:30 p.m. This is a coordinated international event, for Jews all across the U.S. and Canada to come together to celebrate Shabbat. Please join us. Contact me at iweddu@bellsouth.net to reserve your place and coordinate the dish you'll be contributing. It's to be a *fleishig* dinner. Donation is \$18.00 for members (no charge for children 12 and under) and \$25.00 for all non-members.

On Sunday, March 9, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. we will have our Passover/Purim Bazaar, once again featuring The Chosen Gift Shop, who will bring in lots of Passover and Purim items. This should be an exciting day of shopping.

On Sunday March 16, at 10:30 a.m., the KJCC Sunday School students and teachers will present a Purim play, we will all read The *Megillah*, and then Sisterhood will provide a Potluck Brunch. Tzedakah donations will be accepted.

We have a group of tickets for the Sunday, March 23 performance at Actors Playhouse in Coral Gables of Monty Python's "Spamalot." The show starts at 3 p.m.; tickets are \$45.00. For information, tickets and carpooling, contact Susan Ellner, (914) 907-3993.

On Wednesday, April 9, from 8-10 p.m., KJCC's own, internationally renowned Dave Feder and musical friends will perform live at KJCC, to formally dedicate the new sound system (that Dave recommended). Donation is \$25.00 per person, and tickets will be sold to the general public. Please contact me to reserve your seats.

The final major event of the season will be KJCC's Annual Family Passover Second Seder and Dinner, again to be held at the Islamorada Fishing Club. Please see the ad on page 26 for all the details.

Together, let's make March "A Great Month"!!

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.

Bookplates	In Memory of	Schur, Lee	Lee's birthday
Benovitz, Dr. Burton	Madge Klein Benovitz		
Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskir	n Henry Rubin	Tree of Life	In Honor of
Swartz, George & Muriel	Clayton Rakov	Rose, Frank	Ethan Rose
General Fund	In Honor of	Tree of Life	In Memory of
Nelson, Darling J.		Line, Jon & Arlene	Lila Line
Rapp, Marilyn	Russ Wayne Rolnick	-	
Rose, Frank	Éthan Rose	Yahrzeits	In Memory of
Stein, Richard		Coltman, Barney	Eve Greenstein
		Emkey, Gerri	Bob Kinney
General Fund	In Memory of	Friedman, Ingrid	Max & Flora Rosenthal
Hartz, Steve & Jan	Marianne Cimkowski	Isenberg, Patricia	Fannie Phillips
Pollack, Joel & Linda	Lila Line	Krissel, Michael	Joseph Krissel
		Marmar, David & Pamela	Samuel Marmar
Meditation Garden	In Memory of	Schulberg, Alan & Elaine	Nathan Gulkis, Bea Gulkis,
Peckman, Joyce	Marianne Cimkowski	U	Joan Kaminsky
		Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy	Morris Feinberg,
Sisterhood Oneg Fund	In Honor of	- , . , ,	Samuel Wolfe
Bofshever, Joel & Toby	Joyce Peckman	Zwerdling, Sherry	Jerry Oshinsky
Ellner, Susan	5-7	8, /	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Greenberg, Mike & Bonnie		Yahrzeit Plagues	In Memory of
Harris, Steve & Marsha		Gelbard, Sy	Moniek & Manya Gelbard
Knowles, Richard & Barbara			
Peckman, Joyce			

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the treasures that lie between these covers."

Tree of Life Leaves: We have two beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

Garden Bricks and trees: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the tree of your choice as the ultimate forever tribute.

YEDA VE'TORASHA Yardena Kamely



Judaism - Religion, Nationality, or Culture?

In the Jewish calendar, when the month of Adar comes it is time to celebrate Purim. The story of Mordechai and Esther is told in the Book of Esther, *Megillat Ester*, which is included in the TaNaKh, the Hebrew Bible. The story takes place in ancient Persia (5th century B.C.E.). We celebrate Purim with feasting and rejoicing, because it is a happy event we are commemorating, the saving of all the Jews in Persia and their territories from being killed.

Why was the Book of Esther included in the Hebrew Bible, but the Book of the Maccabees was not? Why do we commemorate the destruction of the Temple (*Tisha B'Av*), but do not celebrate the construction of the Second Temple? The construction was the work of Ezra and Nehemiah. after the lews were allowed to return to Ierusalem from the Baby-Ionian Exile. Cvrus the Great (576 BC-530 BC), founder of the Persian Empire, conguered Babylonia about two generations after Babylonia had conquered and decimated Judea. Cyrus and his successors encouraged the Jews to return to Israel and restore their culture. (King Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon had conquered ludea in 586 B.C.E. and destroyed the First Temple. In 539 B.C.E. Judea became part of the Persian Empire.)

Historians and Jewish scholars say that Cyrus' Edict of Restoration actually influenced the forming of the Jewish religion. The combined Biblical books of Ezra and Nehemiah tell of the successive missions to Jerusalem of Ezra and Nehemiah – one an able administrator, the other a learned priest and scribe – and their efforts to restore the worship of the God of Israel and re-establish a purified Jewish community. The Persian Emperor's decree was that those who return to their homeland (not just Jews, but all conquered people) must live under ancestral law. Which caused the returnees to ask: what IS our ancestral law? They didn't know, or did not remember. It was Ezra (the priest) who took religious leadership and looked for the Torah, the Five Books of Moses, remembering that the Torah told of laws and traditions to be carried out by the Jewish people.

Fzra and Nehemiah decided to introduce the Pentateuch. The news was spread that on the Jewish New Year's Day (Rosh Hashanah), the Five Books of Moses, written by Moses, would be read aloud to all the people. On that eventful day Jews from all over the empire came to Jerusalem. Because people had already begun to forget Hebrew, interpreters were there to explain in Aramaic all difficult passages. Aramaic, a language spoken by the Middle Eastern melting pot of Semitic peoples, had become the everyday language of the Jews. The idea of having interpreters proved popular and became a permanent institution in Jewish life. Because it was decreed that no part of the Bible could remain unclear, a school known as *Midrash* (meaning "exposition") developed. These expositors of the Bible became highly respected members of every Jewish community, and later founded the yeshivas. So that the people would not forget the Law of Moses. Ezra and Nehemiah also decreed that the Pentateuch had to be read in every synagogue throughout each year on the Sabbath day and twice during the week.

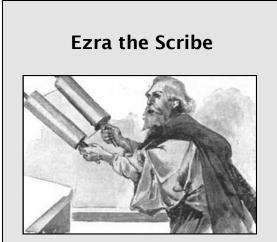
Ezra's mission, according to the Book of

Nehemiah (Chapter 8) was to apply "the Law of Moses" in Jerusalem, which he does by reading a "book of the Law of Moses" (a "scroll" in Hebrew) in a marathon public session. The question is, what was this lawbook? Some scholars have suggested it was some form of Deuteronomy; others have proposed that it was the "Priestly Writing," which probably dates from the Persian period; a third suggestion, and most popular, is that it was a form of the Torah. as it was clearly associated with Moses and contained both elements from Deuteronomy and Priestly Writings. There is also a fourth view, that Ezra's law-book is lost to us and cannot be recovered. If true, this last would be the saddest, because a vital link to our past would be lost.

Eight hundred years after the death of Moses, the Jewishness of the Jew had been established as a result of reforms, the doctrines of the Prophets, and the innovations of Ezra and Nehemiah. Judaism was being formed during the time of Ezra; all law in today's Judaism goes back to this period of return from exile, where the question was: what laws are we Jews going to observe? Which holidays, traditions, commemorations, fasts and celebrations will we observe and practice?

In her book "How Judaism Became a Religion," Leora Batnitzky writes that there were times when a Jew's life was totally defined by lewish law, which was religious, political, and cultural in nature. Modernity, she explains, adds modern questions of definitions of Jewishness. "Is Judaism a religion? Is Jewishness a matter of culture? Are the lews a nation?" In former times, prior to modernity, the guestion of how to define lewishness never arose. because Jews lived in a wholly Jewish world. In a lewish community all members were lews, they lived by lewish law, praved according to Jewish ritual, and had political autonomy. Each community enjoyed this wholeness, and together they formed an even larger whole, "klal Yisrael", 'the collective people of Israel,' they saw themselves as one united people.

For Batnitzky, modernity is the age of fracture; beginning with the French Revolution, wholeness and unity began to come apart. It is fascinating to read in her book about the different communities, how they confronted these modern questions about Judaism and searched for ways to express and practice Jewishness. She writes about the German Jewish philosophy and Reform Judaism; the experience of Eastern European Jews with Hasidism on the one hand, and Yiddish literature and secular culture on the other; about Zionism in its various forms, religious, cultural, and political Zionism (a national liberation movement), as an attempt to adjust Judaism to modernity. \diamond



Ezra, who led the return of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel after the Babylonian exile (423 - 353 BCE), oversaw the building of the Second Temple, canonized the 24 books of the Hebrew Bible and, as head of the "Great Assembly," the *Sanhedrin*, legislated a series of laws and practices (including formalized prayer) which left a strong imprint on Judaism to this very day, passed away on the 9th of Tevet of the Jewish year 3448 (313 BCE), 1,000 years after the "Giving of the Torah" on Mount Sinai. The passing of Ezra marked the end of the "Era of Prophecy."

World Jewish Report

Medina Roy

One Word, Six Million Times

"And Every Single One Was Someone," a book by Phil Chernofsky, does not have much of a plot. Instead, the 1,250-page book consists of a single word: *lew*, written in small type and printed six million times(4,800 times on each page.) According to the author, the book, which weighs 7.3 pounds, is meant to be a "conversation-starter and thoughtprovoker." "That's how the Nazis viewed their victims," Chernofsky said. "These are not individuals, these are not people, these are just a mass we have to exterminate." The idea for the book is not entirely original. Over ten years ago, eighth grade students in Whitwell, a rural town in Tennessee, collected six million paper clips meant to show the anonymity of the victims and the scale of the destruction. Their project was chronicled in the 2004 documentary, "Paper Clips." (By the way..... Rose Marie Gordon, daughter of KJCC Vice President Susan Gordon, is now teaching at Whitwell Middle School). Some Holocaust educators consider the book to be a gimmick; the book's supporters do not deny its gimmickry, but feel it makes a powerful statement. The idea began in the late 1970s when Chernofsky taught at the Yeshiva of Central Queens in New York City. One year, he was in charge of the school's bulletin board for Holocaust Remembrance Day. He gave his students blank papers and had them write the word *Jew* as many times as possible in 30 minutes. When the time had elapsed they counted 40,000 words - "nothing," noted Chernofsky. For twenty years, Chernofsky has been the editor of *Torah Tidbits*, a weekly booklet produced by the Orthodox Union (OU) containing a variety of commentaries and explanations of the Torah portion. (Not surprisingly, he always lists the number of sentences in the week's Torah portion.) (www.nytimes.com, 1-25-14)

A Tribute to Other Victims

A monument to victims persecuted by the Nazis because of their sexual orientation was dedicated in Tel Aviv in early January, the first of its kind in Israel. The memorial is located in *Gan Meir* near the municipal community center established in 2008 for the gay community. Eran Lev, an activist in the gay community and a former city councilman said, "It's important to me that people understand that persecution of gay people was not the usual story of the Holocaust... This is a different story... but still an important one." The Gestapo had a special unit dedicated to homosexuals, keeping secret files on about 10,000 individuals. The exact number of gay victims of Nazi persecution is not known, but it is believed that 15,000 were sent to concentration camps and more than half were murdered. Medical experiments were carried out at Buchenwald attempting to "cure" homosexuality. (The Forward, 1-14-14)

Jewish History for Tour Guides

The municipal tourist office in Toledo, Spain, is in the process of providing its fifty city tour guides with advanced classes in Jewish history. Toledo's local Sephardic Museum will teach the course. Prior to the Spanish Inquisition of the late 1400s, which oversaw mass expulsions of Jews, Toledo boasted five Talmudic schools and ten synagogues. In the past few years, tourism officials have been trying to attract lewish tourists by promoting the nation's lewish history. In addition to Toledo, some two dozen Spanish cities are participating in an effort to preserve and promote Jewish cultural history. (World Jewry Digest, January/February 2014)



Shimon Peres Sets a New World Record

In early February, Israeli President Shimon Peres delivered the largest-ever online civics class in the world. The lecture originated from Cisco Israel headquarters in the city of Netanya and was viewed by 9,000 Israeli high school students in 215 classrooms across Israel, setting a new world record. The President's lesson lasted 35 minutes and covered the role of citizenship, public service, democracy and the importance of contributing to society. Marco Frigatti, senior vice president of Guinness World Records. told the Israeli president that he now is the holder of *two* world records: at the age of 91, Peres is also the oldest formal head of state in the world. Peres, speaking to Jewish, Arab, Bedouin and Christian students, encouraged them to take their studies seriously. "Don't stop learning, don't stop dreaming," he said. (www.quinnessworldrecords.com, February

2014)

"Lost Jews" to Make Aliyah

The Israeli government is arranging the relocation of 899 *Bnei Menashe* from India to Israel by the end of 2014. The *Bnei Menashe* claim descent from one of the ten lost tribes of ancient Israel, who were sent into exile by the Assyrian Empire more than 2700 years ago. The Knesset recently agreed, by unanimous vote, that these "Lost Jews," will have the right of return. Some 300 of the *Bnei Menashe* already arrived in Israel in 2013. Their relocation was assisted by *Shavei Israel*, an organization devoted to helping assimilate Jews newly arriving to Israel. (World Jewry Digest, January/February 2014)

A New Program for French Jews

The Israeli government has launched a program hoping French Jews will immigrate to Israel. The initiative, "France First," makes this the first time in Israel's history that the Jewish state is making a direct, concerted effort to bring Jews to Israel from a western nation. The program includes a significant increase in public relations campaigns targeting Jews in France and the incorporation of specific procedures that will expedite their absorption into Israeli society. The government is also expected to provide housing and employment opportunities, hoping that the new arrivals will stay permanently. "France First" was prompted by the recent wave of French Jews leaving for the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and other countries due to the deteriorating economic situation in France and a noticeable spike in anti-Semitism.

Recently, a massive anti-Semitic rally was held in Paris, "the likes of which haven't been seen in Europe since the 1930s," according to a report by the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv*. About twenty thousand people screaming anti-Semitic slogans attended the rally. (www.algemeiner.com, 1-31-14)

For Book Lovers

The National Jewish Book Council has announced the winners of the 2013 National Jewish Book Awards. Now in its 63rd year, the award is given in 17 categories, among them fiction, history, poetry and scholarship. Here is a sampling of the awards:

• "Like Dreamers: The Story of the Israeli Paratroopers Who Reunited Jerusalem and Divided a Nation," by Yossi Klein Halevi.

• "FDR and the Jews," by Richard Breitman and Allan J. Lichtman.

• "My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel," by Ari Shavit.

• "Between Friends," by Amos Oz.

The prizes will be awarded March 5th. For a complete list of winners, go to www.jewishbookcouncil.org/2013-national-jewish-book-award-winners. (*The Forward 1-15-14*)

Six Jews Win Nobel Science Prizes

Of the twelve individuals awarded Nobel Prizes in 2013, six were Jews - including two Holocaust survivors. François Englert, a Belgian Jewish scientist, won for physics. He shares the prize with Peter Higgs (of the Higgs Bosun particle). They are credited with "the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles." Arieh Warshel, Michael Levitt and Martin Karplus won the prize for chemistry. The three-man team was recognized for their findings in the development of "multi-scale models of complex chemical systems." The Nobel Prize in medicine went to another three -man team, two Americans, James Rothman and Randy Schekman and German-born researcher Thomas Suedhof. They won for their discoveries of "machinery regulating vesicle traffic, a major transport system in our cells." Englert and Karplus are the two Holocaust survivors.

(World Jewry Digest, January/February 2014 and www.nobelprize.org, 2-4-14)

In Memoriam

· Mike Flanagan, a former British soldier who deserted and smuggled two Cromwell tanks to the Haganah in 1948, supplying Israeli troops with their first armored vehicles. died recently at the age of 85. Flanagan will be honored by the IDF for his contribution to the nascent Jewish state's efforts during the War of Independence. Flanagan fought in the British army during World War II and participated in the liberation of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945. After the war. he was stationed in British Mandate Palestine as a technician in the armed forces. In lune of 1948, Flanagan, along with his friend and tank commander Harry McDonald, broke into a military base near the Haifa airport, stole two tanks and drove them to Tel Aviv where Haganah operatives were waiting. The two men joined the Israeli troops fighting in the Mahal volunteer unit during the War of Independence. During his service, Flanagan met fellow soldier Ruth Levy, converted to Judaism and the two married. Flanagan lived in Israel with his wife until her death, later relocating to Canada. Flanagan was buried in the Sha'ar HaAmakim cemetery in northern Israel alongside his wife and son.

(www.timesofisrael.com, 2-2-14)

• Sam Berns, a Jewish teen from Foxborough, Massachusetts and subject of the HBO documentary film "Life According to Sam," died in January after a lifelong battle with progeria, a rare genetic disorder. He was 17. Progeria causes rapid aging and children diagnosed with the disease typically don't live past the age of 14. Rabbi Harold Kushner, author of the book "When Bad Things Happen to Good People," lost his son Aaron to the same disease. Coping with his grief is what prompted him to write the bestseller. The documentary film was on the short list for an Oscar nomination and was voted Best Documentary at the 2013 Boston Jewish Film Festival. Sam's parents, both physicians, established the Progeria Research Foundation in 1999 after their son was diagnosed with the disorder. The research team has been able to isolate the gene that causes the condition and has developed a drug treatment prolonging the lives of children with the disorder. (www.jta.org, 1-12-14)

Did You Know...

• In December, billionaire Warren Buffett donated \$10 million to Rambam Hospital in Haifa. The gift was announced by Israeli businessman Eitan Wertheimer during a dinner to celebrate the hospital's 75th anniversary. Wertheimer and Buffett have been friends since Buffett purchased 80 percent of *Iscar*, a Wertheimer family company, in 2006. This past May, Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway purchased the remaining 20 percent of the company. Wertheimer is former chairman of the board of Rambam Hospital's Medical School and Research Institute. *(www.globes.co.il, 12-27-13)*

• Former CNN host Larry King (for many years a radio DJ and talk-show host in Miami) and Israel's Technion Institute of Technology in Haifa have agreed to work together to promote Israeli high-tech. They are establishing the Israel Silicon Valley Chambers of Commerce for the purpose of strengthen ties between Israel and Silicon Valley and to help start-ups. King is financing the project with a \$600,000 investment through a holding company. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 1-28-14)

• Gal Gadot, Israeli-born model, IDF veteran, actress and former Miss Israel, has been cast to play super-hero "Wonder Woman" in the upcoming film *Batman vs. Superman*, a sequel to *Man of Steel*. Gadot, 28, has acted in the *Fast & Furious* films and on the television show *Entourage*. (www.tabletmag.com, 12-4-13) ◊

PASSOVER/PURIM BAZAAR!

Keys Jewish Community Center

Join us for a very special day of shopping, friends, food, raffles & refreshments!

> SUNDAY, March 9, 2014 11:00am to 2:00 pm at the KJCC MM 93.5

You may have shopped at The Chosen in Miami over the years. The owners are bringing their on-line store merchandise to the KJCC. Check them out online -THE CHOSEN GIFT http://www.thechosengift.net

We are hosting an exclusive one-day sale at the KJCC in order to bring you many beautiful Passover and Purim items and exciting gifts from THE CHOSEN GIFT

(A portion of all proceeds will benefit the KJCC Sisterhood.)

We will also have a Raffle for Holiday Merchandise! (All raffle proceeds go to the KJCC sisterhood)

Photo Gallery





On January 24, Sisterhood, as a group, led Friday night services. A full sixteen participated, with Erica Lieberman Garrett at the "rabbi's" lectern and calling each in turn to the bemah.



They ended with a challenge for Men's Club to follow their lead. En garde. The whole Megillah--The real Megillah--The KJCC Megillah--Sunday, March 16, 2014

- Wear a costume -Bring a dish!

10:30 Megillah reading Primarily in English, round robin style.

Our Sunday School students and assorted brave grown-ups will be presenting a play for our enjoyment.

11:30 Brunch - Potluck

Contact Nettie Seder, (305) 852-7283, ngseder@yahoo.com, to coordinate your dish.

Tzedakah donations will be accepted.



The top three photos were taken during Yardena's 2014 lecture series on the three Abrahamic religions and Jewish life in the Islamic empire, which began in late 7th century C.E. and at one point encompassed almost all of the middle east and northern



Africa and also stretched into some of eastern Europe and, of course, most of Spain.



It took us a while to get the photo (yes, that's a Christmas tree in

the background), but since so many of our members are involved with the Coast Guard Auxiliary (including Prez Bernie), we thought you'd enjoy seeing Lee Schur and David Gross at this year's Changing of the Watch



Two-thirds of the Texas contingent of KJCC, Lauren Sax and Joan Boruszak, during the January snowstorm that beset much of the south, includ-



ing the Dallas area. Shayna, Stuart and Lauren's cockapoo, had never seen snow before but loved it. ceremony. The photo below was taken at the February 6th edition of this year's Upper Keys Concert Series. Many of the volunteers and



Keys Jewish Community Center

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Sunday March 30, 2014 5:00 PM @ KJCC Homemade Seder Dinner w/Wine

Come celebrate the 11th Women's Seder Donation: \$18 chai + \$11.00 for 11 years = \$29.00

Join us in celebration as we continue our efforts of Tikkun Olam - repair the world.

Limited seating - Please RSVP by March 16th. Contact -Erica (305) 853-1003 hippiejap@hotmail.com

Another Full Weekend at KJCC

by Gloria Avner

ere we are, just six weeks into the New Year, and another rich, full weekend of activity has filled our synagogue with learning, laughter, meaningful ritual, and inspiration. It began on Friday night, February 7th with the return of Rabbi Ed Rosenthal

and his ten Hillel college students from Tampa (his Scubi Jews club). They came prepared to participate in our prayers and activities while performing their major *mitzvah* work, *Tikkun Ha-Yam.* (The term is a little riff on *Tikkun Olam* that Rabbi Ed invented.

which means Repairing the Sea).

Joyce led her usual thoughtfully prepared service and made room for Rabbi Ed to present us with a special *d'var Torah*, particularly interesting because he posited that the special skins used in construction of the *Mishkan*, the Tabernacle, the sacred enclosure that held the first Torah and that was carried by the wandering Israelites for all forty of their years in the desert, may in actuality have come from...dolphins. (He guoted a Midrash that teaches that

the dolphins had helped escort the Israelites through the perils of the Reed Sea as they fled the Egyptians. When God returned the water to normal as the Egyptians entered in pursuit, the dolphins had been hurled by the turmoil onto land, where they died. To honor their service and spirituality, the Midrash says that their skins were made part of the first





Holy Ark.) After the service, with its blessings, came the blessing of two Oneg birthdays, Erica Leiberman-Garrett's and Linda Pincus's. (These girls

know how to pose.) Their joy shines through. And the cake was appreciated.

All day Saturday, Rabbi Ed's students went diving, working in the

KJCC member

Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, spending the weekend at KJCC with his Suncoast Hillel Scubi Jews diving club (his appellation, by the way) to do reef repair work, joined in the service by providing a fascinating take on an otherwise-hard-to-enliven Torah portion. He then led Kiddush and HaMotzi. (No shofar blowing, though, at which he is the unchallenged master.) coral nurseries to help heal our Upper Keys coral reef. Our KJCC David Kamely Classroom served happily as the students' campground, sleeping bags and backpacks strewn everywhere. That evening, the homey aroma of students cooking matzoh balls in the kitchen greeted us as the rest of us gathered for an-

other ritual experience, Havdalah, the short, sweet service that celebrates the ending of the Sabbath and return to the secular world. We gathered outside in the beautiful gazebo built for us by Alan and Candy, overlooking our wonderful Meditation Garden. Rabbi Ed gave another stimulating talk, this time about why Adam, who named the animals. did not get to name the fish. (The

short ver-

sion: be-

cause land



was mankind's domain; the sea belonged solely to God.) We blessed the wine, inhaled the aroma of the spices, looked at our hands by light of the braided wick candle, and doused the flame in wine. For a moment the scent of the Garden of Eden lingered in the air. Then our voices joined in *Eliahu HaNavi*, just in case this might be the night for *Moshiach* to arrive as we learned more interesting tidbits from Rabbi Ed. (We may have no rabbi at KJCC, but we have two rabbis as members, and both Rabbi Ed and Rabbi Rich Agler deepen us whenever they're here.)

Did the activity and learning stop with the end of Shabbat? No! Sunday morning brought a board meeting, school children rehearsing a play for Purim, the annual meeting of the KJCC membership, plus election and installa-

> tion of our 2014 Board of Directors.

(Congratulate our newest Board Members next time you see Linda Kaplan and Sy Gelbard). Carol Steinbock did a wonderful job as always swearing in our leaders, committing them to

hard, thoughtful work for the good of our congregation. We sealed the deal with a lox and bagel brunch prepared by Sisterhood under the leadership of Barbara Knowles and Erica Lieberman-Garrett.

When everyone was satisfied, and the kitchen and social hall were clean and ready for the next event, chairs were set up in the schoolroom for

Yardena Kamely's latest in her series of lectures about the three Abrahamic traditions. Of course that was after the adult class in beginning Hebrew taught by Yardena.

Our youthful contingent of Hillel friends from Tampa had left the kitchen and schoolroom spotless. We are eager for their next visit. They have become a valued, adopted part of our KJCC *Mishpocha*. Learning on every level for every age group had gone on all weekend at our "little" unaffiliated island *shul*.



The weekend's final event was Havdalah, led by Rabbi Ed outside in KJCC's beautiful Garden gazebo. Olivia, one of the students, held the entwined candle aloft just before it was doused in the plate of wine.

Traditional fulfilling and aesthetically pleasing rituals had been performed. We'd worshipped under the stars and in every part of our building. (The little to-



mato and pepper seedlings, by the way, planted by our students on Tu BiShvat, with Steve Steinbock's generous help, are growing so fast they are starting to look like charac-

ters in the tale of Jack and the Beanstalk.) It was a very good, very blessed, weekend. The photos tell the tale. We are grateful. ◊





Above, Bernie and Gloria stand with both of KJCC's wonderful rabbi members, Ed Rosenthal and Rich Agler. At left, Bernie and Rabbi Ed mug with the assembled group of Hillel Scubi Jews. The students camped out in KJCC's classroom, but left it a cleaner place than when they arrived. Dave Feder and Friends present

Original Music by Dave Feder

"Hillbilly Flamenco"

Concert Presented by The Keys Jewish Community Center

ar

Wednesday, April 9, 2014 Time: 8:00 pm Location: KJCC, MM 93.5 Oceanside For tickets and information contact Sam at (305) 852-8741 @sev165bellsouth.net Apres Theater Refreshments



Artwork by Gloria Avner

General Admission \$25 Special Sponsorships Available w/Preferred Seating

Four Hundred Miles to Freedom

A movie, plus a description of one man's painful journey.

Israel.

bv Lee Schur

n Wednesday, January 29th, four of us - KICC president Bernie Ginsberg, Holocaust Committee Chair Yardena Kamely, Susan Ellner, and I - traveled to Mi-

ami's Koubek Center to see a documentary film titled "400 Miles to Freedom." It's a film about the brutal kidnapping of co-director Avishai Mekonen. who was then ten vears old. He and his Beta Israel family had escaped violence and dictatorship in Ethiopia and were living in a Sudanese refugee camp, from where he was violently taken and, along with other children. drugged by child traffickers

From left, Susan Ellner, Bernie Ginsberg, Yardena Mekonen and his wife. Sheri Rothfarb Mekonen.

to help erase their sense of memory or prior ties. He was rescued several weeks later by an Ethiopian now thought to have been working for Israel's Mossad. He was reunited with his family, and, through Operation Moses, resettled to Israel along with others in the

camp. The Beta Israel had lived as Jews in the northern part of today's Ethiopia for 2,500 years. Though it certainly touches on his kidnapping, the documentary really focuses on the culture shock, and difficulties in assimila-

In addition to Mekonen - and his wife, codirector Sheri Rothfarb Mekonen, with whom he now lives in New York with their two children - all in attendance met and had a chance to talk with Chaim Shacham, Israel's Consul General to Florida, Cuba and Puerto Rico, and Deputy Consul Revital Malca.

tion, of a cloistered group of black Jews con-

fronting the complex mixture that is modern

Mekonen, who was there (see photo),

After leaving, we four of KJCC reconvened at Versailles on Calle Ocho, the selfproclaimed "best Cuban restaurant," to continue to discuss the film and its issues over delicious empanadas and café leches. ◊

Kamely and Lee Schur pose with co-directors Avishai



talked about his decision to break his 20year silence. and how his kidnapping and subsequent experiences in Israel have affected his life. We watched. in the film, his struggles to clarify his identity, his Jewishness. and his Israeli citizenship. One particularly riveting moment was when he interviewed Israel's Chief Ashkenazi rabbi.



Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

For information and reservations contact: Barbara Knowles 305-772-0503, iweddu@bellsouth.net Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.

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



Donations:

Members: Adults \$50; Children 12 and under are our guests. Non-Members: \$75

Travel Around the World. Meet Fascinating People.

Debate the Great Ideas of Jewish History.

All without ever having to leave KJCC or your easy chair

by Medina Roy

You've won a free trip around the world! Ancient Israel, Prague, a visit with a Pope, contemporary Jerusalem, the Catskills...

OK.....so now that we've got your attention, it's time to take another look at the KJCC library. Here's an annotated list of some of the titles that have been added over the past several months:

• The Five Books of Miriam, by Ellen Frankel. By weaving together Jewish folklore,

Yiddish fables, Midrash and her own imagination, Frankel explores what the Torah means to women. All aspects of a lewish woman's life: her connection to G-d plus her place in the Jewish community and in the world are presented here. The book adds a rich discussion to the ongoing conversation between Jewish



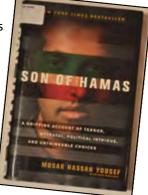
women and Jewish tradition. Donated by Gloria Avner, this book is located in the Judaic Studies section (JUD).

• The Jews in the Greek Age, by Elias J. Bickerman, is written by one of the greatest authorities on the ancient world. It is a vivid account of the Jewish people from the conquest of Palestine by Alexander the Great in 332 B.C.E. to the revolt of the Maccabees. The book traces Jewish social, economic and intellectual life and explores the relation between the Jewish community and the Hellenistic rulers and colonizers of Palestine. This title was donated by Bernie Ginsberg and is located in the History section (HIS).

• Son of Hamas, by Mosab Hassan

Yousef. The author is the oldest son of Sheikh Hassan Yousef, a founding member of Hamas, and has had an inside view of the

notorious terrorist group. Assisting his father for years, he was groomed to eventually take power but, instead, he turned away from terror and violence. Mosab reveals information about Hamas and his painful separation from family and homeland, his move to Christianity and belief in the mandate to



"love your enemies" as the only solution to Middle East peace. Location: Biography (BIO)

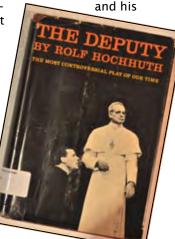
• Bete'avon! A Collection of Recipes, by Hillel Community Day School P.T.A. This cookbook contains recipes for traditional Jewish dishes of many countries combined with the diversity of distinctly American foods. All recipes are kosher. Location: Cookbooks (COO)

• Ancient Israel, by Harry M. Orlinsky, is a concisely organized account of the society that produced the Torah. Orlinsky traces



the highs and the lows of the Israelites between the years 2000 and 300 B.C.E. The author shows the reader how Jewish religious concepts developed in the context of actual historical situations. This book was donated by Stan Margulies and is housed in the History section (HIS). • *The Deputy*, by Rolf Hochhuth, translated from the German by Richard and Clara Winston. When this book was first published in 1963, it met with a lot of controversy. The subject matter is Pope Pius XII – the "deputy"

of Christ on earth failure to speak out against the mass murder of six million Jews during World War II. Hochhuth was 32 when he wrote the book (it is written as a play) using actual events that were still fresh in the memories of the audience. The book was said to "touch



Daughter's Marriet Boursel

the raw nerve of Christian

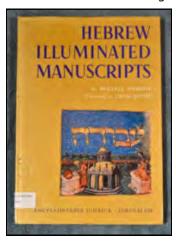
conscience," focusing on the role that supposed moral leaders must play in times of humanitarian crises. Donated by Elaine Solas, this play is located in the Literature section (LIT).

• Irving Berlin: A Daughter's Memoir, by Mary Ellin Barrett. In this book, Irving Berlin (1888-1989) comes

to life as a father. a husband and a friend - as well as one of the most beloved songwriters of the 20th century. The memoir is written by Berlin's oldest daughter. Barrett tells of growing up with the composer (and lyricist) of some of America's most popular songs. including "White Christmas."

"God Bless America," "There's No Business Like Show Business," and "Easter Parade." Barrett details her parents' well-publicized romance and marriage, which scandalized her mother's family. She describes life in a household with a Catholic mother from one of the country's wealthiest families and a lewish father whose parents were penniless Russian immigrants. She describes a storybook childhood, homes in Los Angeles, the Catskills and New York City and daily contact with the rich and the famous. But there was also a dark side: the death of the Berlins' infant son. "dry spells" when Berlin could not write, and periods of depression for both him and his wife, culminating in his later years as a virtual recluse. Location: Biography (BIO).

• Hebrew Illuminated Manuscripts, by Bezalel Narkiss. This magnificent, oversized



volume by Bezalel Narkiss (1926-2008)contains 60 Hebrew illuminated manuscripts in full color. Each manuscript is introduced and described by Narkiss, an Israeli art historian and an expert in illuminated Medieval Latin and

Hebrew manuscripts. Narkiss was the illustrations consultant to the *Encyclopedia Judaica*. This book was donated by Stan Margulies and is housed in the Art section (ART).

• Shield of David: The Story of Israel's Armed Forces, by Yigal Allon. Allon (1918-1980) – born Yigal Paicovitch in pre-state Israel – was an Israeli soldier and politician. He was one of the first commanders of the Palmach, an elite branch of the Haganah. Allon entered politics in 1955, when he was elected to the Israeli Knesset (parliament) and served briefly as acting prime minister in 1969. The book chronicles how a small country like Israel, with less than three million lews (and surrounded by nearly fifty million Arabs), managed to create, in twenty years, an army which military experts even today agree is one of the best in the world. Donated by Yardena Kamelv, this book is in the

SHIELD OF DAVID

the Story of Israels Armed Forces

YIGAL ALLON

section about Israel (ISR).

 \cdot Prague Winter: A Personal Story of Remembrance and War. 1937-1938. bv Madeleine AIbright. This

is a memoir by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright of her formative years in Czechoslovakia. She discusses the tumult of Nazi occupation, World War II, fascism, and the onset

AGUE WI

MADELEINE

ALBRIGHT

of the Cold War. Albright was 59 when she learned from a reporter and other sources that her ancestral heritage was Jewish and that more than two dozen of her relatives had died in the Holocaust. This revelation shook her deeply ingrained sense of identity.

and prompted her to seek answers to guestions that she had never before thought to ask. That search began with visits to the small towns in Czechoslovakia where her parents had grown up and to the ancient synagogue where the names of Holocaust victims are enshrined. Location: Biography (BIO)

• The Fight for Jerusalem: Radical Islam, the West, and the Future of the Holy City, by Dore Gold. Former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations Dore Gold discusses the 3,000-year history of Jerusalem. He covers the role of the Holy City in the evolution of Judaism, Christianity and Islam and the modern-day diplomatic battle for its custody. Gold's perspective is that only Israel can preserve Jerusalem's holy places and keep it an open, free city for

Dore Gol

The Fight for Jerusalem

Christians. lews and Muslims. Location: Israel (ISR) \cdot Home Lands: Portraits of the New Jewish Diaspora, by Larry Tye. In his travels overseas as a reporter for The Boston Globe. Larry Tye

tells the story here of a renewed Jewish diaspora. Tye picked seven diverse lewish communities around the world. In each one he zeroes in on a single family or congregation whose tale reflects the wider community's history and current situation. What he discovered is what these different communities have in common - lewish customs and rituals. This book was donated by Yardena Kamely

and is located in the section labeled Jewish World (JW).

LARRY TYE

• It is no Dream: The Life of Theodor Herzl. This DVD was produced by the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The documentary film explores the life and times of the man considered the father of the modern State of Israel. Narrated by Academy Award winner Ben Kingsley, the film examines how Herzl, a journalist, playwright and assimilated Budapest-born Jew, organized and led a worldwide political movement to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine. This DVD was donated by Stuart and Lauren Sax. It is housed in the Audio-Visual section (AV). when you're done. It's that simple. And just remember.....you don't have to worry about late fee charges.

So come and check it out. Bet you'll find something that interests you. And by the way, as you can see from some of the books mentioned here, donations are always welcome. See you at the library! \diamond

There are several other categories, not reflected in the titles described above, such as children's books (JUV), books for young adults (YA), the Holocaust (HOL). Festivals (FES), Halacha (lewish Law) (LAW), Philosophy (PHI), Spirituality (SPI) and Kabbalah (KAB), to name a few.

The KJCC library operates on the "honor" system. Procedures for borrowing library material and a guide to how the material has been cataloged can be found in a vellow folder located on one of the book shelves in the area near the KJCC gift shop. All you need to do is leave a written record of what vou're borrowing and return the material



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> For further information contact: Susan Gordon (305) 766-3585

Standing Up at Sea A Closer Look at the AmiDAH

by Gloria Avner

Picture this. David and I are sitting in the cruise ship *Eurodam's* nearly empty late lunch dining room. Out every window is an endless sunlit expanse of water. Sharing old stories, David mentions his rabbi grandfather. Suddenly two shyly smiling women ap-

pear at our table. "Excuse us, but a friend on board needs to say *Kaddish* for his father. Do you think you could join us at 5:30 in the little piano bar on deck two? If we get a *minyan*, we will have an *erev Shabbat* service." They had overheard the word "rabbi." We say yes. It feels *bashert*.

So we get to this tiniest of venues ahead of time and see a table to the left

spread with challah, wine, and a platter full of *gefilteh* fish, across from a large piano with barstools that takes up half the room. People keep pouring in. It is difficult to close the door so we can begin. There are thirty-six of us, and this is the first time in the thirteenyear history of this cruise that permission has been granted and a *minyan* achieved. Even more unexpected, we have a rabbi officiating (the husband of Janis Siegel, lead singer of Manhattan Transfer) and a cantor (father of a voung Miami drummer we met and liked on our first day, first concert). I am grateful and thrilled to be celebrating Shabbat in the middle of an ocean on a jazz cruise. Everyone knows the songs, belts out the prayers, almost all of them the same melodies we use in our own little *shul*. I can't help thinking/ picturing (ok, I am a little *ferklempt*) that we, my Keys home congregation and my ship

board community, are observing together, linked despite distance by our voices and intent.

Finally, we are asked to rise. It is time for the silent prayer, the *Amidah*. (Please put the accent on the *last* syllable so we pronounce



Kaddish-man thanks David for joining the impromptu shipboard minyan.

correctly the Hebrew word for "standing," the position in which we pray.) Each week our KICC service leader refers to this series of silent pravers (also referred to as Sh'moneh Esrei, the "eighteen" blessings, especially by Bernie, our preserver of all things Ashkenazi) as the "core" of the service. Do we know why these pravers are so revered and important? The story of how the Amidah prayer came into being

as essential Jewish worship is a good one, a journey worth exploring.

We begin over 2,500 years ago with the destruction of Solomon's Temple in 586 B.C.E. Our leaders of the time, the Men of the Great Assembly, an ancient group of prophets and scholars, guided us through the exile in Babylonia and Persia and the return to Israel. Without a central place to call our own, many of the mitzvahs (the last syllable is stressed here as well) prescribed by the Torah - like the three pilgrimages to the Temple to offer animal and seasonal produce sacrifices - could no longer be fulfilled. With the days of Diaspora waiting in the wings, our wise men knew we needed a new form of observance - something crucial, significant, personal yet shareable that could be performed wherever Jews gathered, both to teach and maintain the Jewish way of life. They codified the most important of prayers, including

stage directions and choreography. "The words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart" became the new sacrifice acceptable to G-d: sincere prayer.

At first the prayers were not rigidly structured. Sincerity of personal prayer was the order of the day (and is still an option), but, bit by bit, a structure evolved, a teaching tool as well as an organized credo of Jewish religion and values.

The prayers of *Amidah* (often called *HaTe-fillah*, or The Prayer, with a capital T) are organized into three sections, and model for us how one should pray for anything. From praise to petition to thanksgiving, the sections include everything one could possibly pray about, personally and communally, including the prayer for rain which is said continually from *Shemini Atzeret* to Pesach, the one season of rain in the dry holy land.

First we acknowledge the goodness and generosity of our creator. Then we ask for what is lacking. Finally, we express our gratitude. There are enough life lessons here to give us all the guidance we need. After all, *Tefillah* is one of

the three pillars on which Judaism stands, along with *Torah* and deeds of loving kindness. And why did (and do) we need this guidance? We have been dispersed for millennia, scattered by the wind like far-flung seeds. How would Jews in Babylonia – and later in Persia, Russia, France, Spain, Malaysia, China, Iraq, Poland, Morocco, Yemen and India – retain and keep track of their heritage without a core of prayer that contained behavior guidelines and ritual practices?

Here are some answers, too, if you have ever wondered about the bowing and the steps backwards and forward. The first section, called the *Avot* (and *Imahot*), acknowledges our ancestors (fathers *and* mothers). We praise God for "remembering their good actions, and by implication, ask God to hear our prayer favorably" because of our predecessors' merit. The blessing begins and ends with a "formal bow at the knees and hips, symbolically demonstrating our subservience to God." The choreography comes in again at the beginning and end of the prayers. One takes three steps back and three steps forward when beginning the *Amidah*, showing respect when approaching God, as one would approach and take leave of a mortal king. When ending the *Amidah*, the three steps back and forward are taken again, respectfully departing before returning from the divine to the world of the mundane. (Cantor Neil Schwartz from Canada taught me that the bowing to left and right was to acknowledge rows of angels, who also listen to petitions.)

The Men of the Great Assembly knew that

fluency of language would be lost. The languages of many nations would be spoken, so Ezra (who along with Nehemiah led the return of Jews from Babylon to Judea) and his court couched the prayers in simple language and created an order that would be repeated several times each day and remembered. When the people returned to build the Second Temple, they brought the *Amidah* and its prayers with them. It made Jewish prayer possible in every community by every

individual, no matter where he or she was.

And where were we – thirty-six individuals, David and I and the rest of the shipboard minyan, crammed into a weeny piano bar, in the middle of a large ocean, standing on no nameable nation's shores? Whatever our location, we were a *mishpocha* in the moment, a community sharing language, culture and values, asking for our needs to be fulfilled, personal and communal, especially for peace, and saying respectful thank-you's. Linked vertically through time and historically through space, we Jews are a united tribe, and a lot of the credit goes to those who created the *Amidah*.

A *D'var Torah* followed, not directly about the week's *parshah* but a meditation on freedom and its lack, on the high seas. What must it have been like to have escaped from Germany, be enthusiastic about the possibilities of new life in Cuba or America, and then to be refused entry and turned back toward Europe?

The Amidah is one of the three pillars on which Judaism stands. Did the voyagers on the S.S. St. Louis in 1939 have a Shabbat Service, too? How fervent were their *Amidah* prayers, and what must their bitter disappointment have been, knowing they would ultimately be sent to their deaths, refused safe harbor in the name of politics?

Not all petition works, but we end with gratitude because gratitude is still of value.

We sang this evening on the jazz cruise. We prayed, and remembered the lost. A very grateful man got to say *Kaddish* for his father. A heartfelt *L'chaim*, a little *challah*, handshakes all around, and off we went, to dinner and our next concert, uplifted, knowing that our tribe is everywhere, standing up regularly for principles, beliefs, and to say the *Amidah*. \diamond

Note: to delve deeper, and in more detail, into the Amidah and its Kabbalistic aspects, there are several good articles, one at myjewishlearning.com, the other at morashasyllabus.com.



One Jazzy Artist

Those of you who know David Gitin know he used to hang out in Greenwich Village during the 50s and 60s, earning a life-long love of jazz. (He did a radio show in California for years.) So he and Gloria go on this jazz cruise in January.



All art on this page created by Gloria Avner.

Smulyan; male singer is Kurt Elling; on flugelhorn is Randy Brecker; the guitar man is John Pizzarelli, son of famed Bucky.





Gloria takes her iPad, and starts to doodle during the performances. What resulted was so fabulous we thought

they should be shared. The standing bass player is based on David Finck; bongo player is Sanchez; piano top is legendary Hyman; pianist dreads is Gerald ton; trumpeter is Sandoval; on big tone sax is little



Poncho guy at Dick with Clay-Arturo bari-Gary











"Shechinah" Among and Within Us

by Gloria Avner

Yes, we know that Pesach isn't until April, and that Purim comes first. But this year's Women's Seder is March 30th, and Gloria's giving you a little thought-food here to prepare for its mystical side. Some tidbits about Purim follow on the next page.

Women'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 Jewish 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 lewish 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 Shechingh 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. \diamond

Purim: 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, scrupulous study of the text by our rabbis has yielded a rich literature, many layers of understanding, and some difference of opinion. We dug 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.

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.

A person cannot free himself, through his gifts to the poor on Purim, from the general obligation of *tzedakah* (charity) 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.

The four mitzvot for celebrating 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.

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, and his view was accepted in the Talmud.

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

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40 Chai-Lights March 2014





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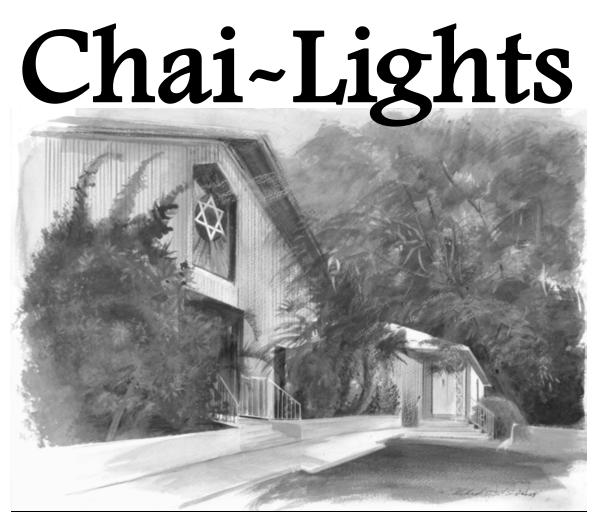


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April 2014

1 Nisan - 30 Nisan 5774

Joyce on the KJCC Women's Seder Origins - page 24 Purim at KJCC in text and photos - page 33 Gloria Thinks About the Passover Table - page 39

Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com Chai-Lights April 2014 1 April 2014

1 Nisan - 30 Nisan

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Men's Club Game Night 7:30 p.m.	3	4 Ken Atlas Marsha & Steve Harris	5
6 Sister- hood Meeting 9:30 a.m.	7	8	9 Dave Feder Concert at KJCC 8 - 10 pm	10	11 Erica Lieberman -Garrett Barbara & Richard Knowles	12 Rabbi Agler Torah Learning Service 10 a.m.
13 KJCC Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.	14 Erev Pesach 1st Seder eve.	15 Passover First Day KJCC Family Seder 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18 Joe Shabathai <i>Susan Ellner</i> Yizkor Service	19
20	21	22 Eighth Day of Passover	23	24	25 Yardena Kamely, Muriel Swartz and Medina Roy 6:30 Service Erica Lieberman- Garrett	26
27 Yom Hashoah	28	29	30			

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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 Bernard Ginsberg

Our Religious School's recent presentation of a Purim play (*shpiel*) telling the story of Esther after the manner of Humphrey Bogart's *Casablanca* was a great success. It was light-hearted and enjoyable for the adults, but was an experience that will create happy memories at religious school for our students that will remain with them for life. We hope that such memories will help to keep them joined to the Jewish people.

I want to thank everyone who was involved: teachers Gloria Avner (who also directed), Yardena Kamely and Susan Gordon; Richard Knowles, Marc Bloom and Erica Garrett for joining in the acting, Jules Seder for a fantastic (and evil) Haman and Sisterhood, who arranged the after-*Megillah*luncheon.

In the last month, Rabbi Agler has continued his enlightening Saturday Torah services and Rabbi Ed Rosenthal brought his Eckerd College Hillel divers and graced us with spiritual *Havdalah* services and *Divrai Torahs*.

Of course, regular Friday night services are ongoing. We had a Sisterhoodsponsored "Shabbat Across America" dinner, and regular religious school and adult Hebrew classes. Sisterhood had a successful Passover/ Purim bazaar, where I got some presents for the *ainichklach* (grandchildren). Right around the time you're



reading this there will be

a very successful Woman's Seder and also a Sisterhood theater trip to the Actors Playhouse in Coral Gables.

Our KJCC Second Seder will be 6:30 p.m. April 15th at the Islamorada Fishing Club. It has become a beloved synagogue tradition.

It takes money to continue these activities, so I urge all of you to purchase a Sisterhood "Get Outta Town Raffle" ticket for \$100 to support our programs. We are also having a musical evening fundraiser April 9th with our own Dave Feder (and friends) playing Dave's unique and electrifying music. Tickets are \$25; "Angel" level sponsorships are \$500. and regular sponsorships are \$250: both include two tickets plus other benefits. Many of you have already purchased tickets for these fundraisers as soon as you heard about them. I thank you personally for not making me and our other board members "twist your arm" to get the donations. Our ancestors felt that charity collectors were to be honored because they enable those they solicit to get the mitzvah of donating. Still, it's hard to ask: vet someone has to do it.

It is my fervent wish that G-d grant each and every KJCC member a Happy Passover.

B'Shalom, Bernie Chai-Lights April 2014 3

Nosh

Rabbi Agler's April Torah Service

The season is winding down, as are the scheduled dates for Rabbi Richard Agler's gift to KJCC of monthly Saturday morning Torah Learning services. This month's service (the second-tolast scheduled) will be on April 12th, at 10 a.m.

So what's so special about these services, that Keys-ites (Keysists? Keysers? KeysMOTs?) should forgo a morning of fishing or diving to attend? Well, for one thing, it's Shabbat morning,, so we read from the Torah (if only briefly), an act that carries with it a certain majesty and high purpose. (The Torah, of course, is THE BOOK we're the people of.) But the true attraction is when we put down the siddurim, pick up our purple Tanakhs and explore not prayers but the actual words of that week's Torah portion. We look at the people, the events, the conflicts. Who are these people? Are they always holy? Are they always wise? Are they always worthy of emulation? What meaning can we find in seemingly innocuous or simple narratives? How would we feel about one of these larger-than-life figures if they were, say, a neighbor and not a Bible star? One of Rabbi Agler's gifts is always managing to get a spirited discussion going. (Well, that and his unabashed willingness to be lead singer for the prayers, but I digress.)

If you think that Torah discussions are dry and legalistic, you haven't been coming. So join us. Feel the best that Judaism has to offer. Shake off the memories of crusty old monotonal teachings that years ago caused you to stop going. We guarantee you'll head to the oneg full of questions and ideas and a happy reactivation of the Jewish lobe in your brain.

To Our Departing Snowbirds

Most of our Snowbirds will soon head back north for the summer. Unless we have your schedule on file, we won't know where to send Chai-Lights. (It doesn't get forwarded.)

A Table for the Meditation Garden

As most of you know, Steve Steinbock is the architect and prime steward of the beautiful KJCC Meditation Garden. He and Carol decided that the Garden needed a table, not just benches. So they bought one. They're dedicating it to Joel and Linda Pollack. Here's the inscription to be engraved on a plaque for the table:

May All Who Come to This Table Ponder and Appreciate The Innumerable Gifts of Joel & Linda Pollack to The KJCC and its Members Over the Years — as Officers and Benefactors and Warm Companions, and as Role Models of an Honorably Lived Life.

With Love From Your Friends, Steve & Carol

Oneg Sponsors for April 2014

April 4th — Marsha and Steve Harris - Thanks for the Welcome.

- April 1 Ith Barbara and Richards Knowles in honor of Richard and Moira's Birthday.
- April 18th Susan Ellner to mark a birthday.

April 25th — Erica Lieberman-Garrett, honoring the great work Sisterhood has done this season.

KJCC Meditation Garden Bench

In Honor and Memory of Rene Rose (Also Known As Momsi) Love — Della, Steve and Johnathan

April Birthdays

let	Bennet Beinfest
	Harvey Kay
3rd	Justin L. Lebofsky
	Larry Weber
	Lauren Lane
	Thomas Brodie
6th	Faychesca Graham
	David Feder
	Gene Silverman
	Abigail Everson
	Addison Greene-Barnett
	Ilese Vorcheimer
l l th	Miriam Sklar
I 2th	Richard Knowles
I 3th	Moira Knowles
I 3th	Samantha Lebofsky
13th	Shawn Borisoff
	Toby Bofshever
	Dave VanArtsdalen
	Katie Greenman
	Susan Ellner
	Jennifer Garrett
	Lauren Sax
	Ionathan Nobil
	Robin S. Denker
	Susan Temkin
	Lynn Nobil
	Susan Gordon
	Tiffany McNew
	Shirley Stein
	Beverly Robins
	Elinor Grossman
	Joni Sages Dandrea
	David Goldfinger
	Linda Pollack
	Jason Sherman
30th	Rachel Barrett

A Correction to the 2014 Directory

Lauren and Stuart Sax have let us know that part of their Texas address is incorrect in the 2014 KJCC Directory. The correct street address should be 1675 Garrison Drive. Everything else is accurate. Please mark your copies.

April Anniversaries

Vaama

		i Cai S
3rd	Jules & Nettie Seder	48
7th	Salomon & Mary Terner	21
l 8th	Rick & Roberta McNew	33
25th	Murray Rapoport & Barbara Osde	r18
30th	Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz	7
30th	Morton & Gene Silverman	59

April Sisterhood Events Deadlines

Don't forget that Sisterhood's Family Seder is Tuesday, April 15th. That same night they'll draw the winning ticket for the "Get Outta town" raffle. Also, on April 1st they're opening seder seats to the general public. If you haven't reserved your seats or bought your raffle tickets, please do so very quickly. Call or e-mail Barbara.

The KJCC Garden Needs Red Mulch

We're always asking Steve Steinbock what the Meditation Garden needs. Right now, he says, he could use a twenty or so bags of red mulch, for spring beautification. You don't have to help spread it, but that would be nice, too.

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of Madge Klein Benovitz

> by Dr. Burton Benovitz

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of

Lila Line,

Mother of John Line. by Muriel & George Swartz Dear KJCC Mishpocha,

While it is important for every person to have regular checkups and testing, this note is targeted to the men of KJCC. Through the government's V.A. program, I have annual blood tests for everything from cholesterol levels to diabetic indicators. One of the tests is a PSA, which charts the condition of the prostate. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) tells us that testing should begin by age 40 if there is any family history of prostate issues and, if not, then no later than age 50.

Within a period of nine months my PSA count went from an acceptable 1.77 to a questionable 7.63. After further tests, I recently learned that I have stage two prostate cancer. The treatment options vary from active surveillance to radiation therapies or the removal of

the gland. I have already started hormone therapy to reduce the prostate and in mid-April I will begin nine weeks of daily radiation therapy.

The good news is that with this treatment regimen, my form of cancer has a ninety percent cure rate. I am extremely optimistic and send this note as encouragement for everyone, especially as we get older, to have your vitals checked so that if something develops you can catch and treat it in the early stages. More information is available from the NCI website at cancer.org, WebMD, or consult your physician.

Please take care of each other and yourselves and know that we think of y'all frequently.

With love from Texas,

Stuart 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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman at 305-664-3316.

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 Stuart Sax, 305-586-8729.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-852-6152, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC which was commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman at 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT 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 Georgia Landau, 305-393-9885.

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. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam April 2014 In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of **Bozsi Schon Grunhut** Clara Bloom Nat Feldblum By Eva Ban By Marc Bloom By Marc Bloom In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Jean Blumenfeld Audrey Pearlman **Baruch Epstein** By Marvin & Ivy Blumenfeld By William & Donna Bolton By Joan Boruszak In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Joseph T. Cline Ellen Coltman Mark Hitzig By Meredith A. Cline By Barnet O. Coltman By Wes & Rita Conklin In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Frances Wolfe **Bill Gordon** Marty Graham By Michael & Suzanne Gilson By Susan Gordon By Mrs. Marty Graham In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Sylvia Grossman Stella Hartz Michael Janowitz By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman By Steven & Jan Hartz By Sam & Leslie Janowitz In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Gertrude F. Kaplan Nathan Klein Fred Klimpl By Marshall & Myra Kaplan By Harvey & Judith Klein By Michael Klimpl In Memory Of In Memory Of In Memory Of Marilyn Janet Barr George Nobil Erwin Moss By Michael Klimpl By Lynn Nobil By Joel & Linda Pollack

Sn Memoriam April 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Rabbi Milton Greenwald

Louise Folks Baker

Sam Sax

By Paul & Susan Roberts By Joseph & Susan Sachs By Stuart & Lauren Sax

In Memory Of **Dolores Feldman** In Memory Of

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of Sally Shabathai

By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai

Richard Schulberg

By Jeffrey & Patty Schocket ~~~~~~~~~~~~

In Memory Of

Ginger Lewis

In Memory Of

Louis S. Smith

By Robert Silk By Steven & Barbara Smith

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Ida Tallent

Benjamin Terner

By Lillian Tallent By Salomon Terner

> In Memory Of Charles Kram

In Memory Of

Hilda Mazur

By Sanford & Nancy Yankow By Sanford & Nancy Yankow

In Memory Of

David Wernicoff

Cantor Alex Chapin

In Memory Of

By Steven & Barbara Smith By Donald Zinner

> In Memory Of Irwin Cutler

In Memory Of Luis Terner

By Donald Zinner By Salomon Terner

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 email 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. Or email Bernie at president@keysjewishcenter.com

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles



I hope everyone who was able to attend our Purim play and *Megillah* reading had a good time. Our Hebrew students, along with many adult volunteers, did a great job. The food afterwards was, as always, plentiful as well as delicious. Kudos to Nettie and Carla for their hard work. Thanks also to Director Gloria and the teachers. All of you together made this, from start to finish, another successful event. We raised a full basket of *tzedakah* (one of the *mitzvot* of Purim), which will be going to Burton Memorial's food pantry to help feed the hungry.

We also want to give a heartfelt thanks to Toby and Joel Bofshever for their donation of a beautiful Purim basket. It was raffled off and won by George and Muriel Swartz. Let's not forget the massive amount of Hamantaschen that was consumed yesterday. Thank you to Steve Hartz who "special delivered" lots of it and to all you wonderful ladies who made them and brought them in. And then there was the special, yummy group handmade by our Sunday School students the previous week.

The "Get Outta Town" fundraiser is well on its way to selling out. I want to encourage everyone who hasn't bought a ticket for Sisterhood's fun-and-fundraiser raffle to do so. To increase your chances, since I'm only selling a total of a hundred tickets, why not buy two, three or maybe even four?

It will be Sisterhood's major fundraiser of the year. Tickets are \$100 each, and the winner will be offered a choice of three great trips:

• A New York Weekend, which will include three nights at the Hilton New York, dinner at one of three top restaurants and a Broadway experience for two.

• A Sonoma, California VIP Wine Experience, which includes lodging at the Fairmont Sonoma Inn & Spa and limousine service to a privately hosted tour of the Jacuzzi Family Winery. • A New Orleans Jazz and Dining Package which includes three nights at the Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel, VIP seats at Preservation Hall and a five-course dinner for two at Commander's Palace Restaurant.

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

The winner will be drawn April 15, 2014 at KJCC's Family Seder. You don't need to be present to win. Ticket Sales will be available at KJCC before and after Friday night services or by contacting me directly:

iweddu@bellsouth.net. You can also mail your checks (specify how many tickets, please) to KJCC Sisterhood, Attention: Barbara Knowles, P.O. Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.

Well, here are some more of the events happening at the KJCC in April: On Wednesday, April 9th, 2014, from 8 - 10 p.m., our very own Dave Feder and his musical friends will be doing a full concert (something Dave doesn't often do) to formally dedicate our new sound system. Donation: \$25.00 per person. There are upgraded categories of support available and it should be a great event. Please contact Sam Vinicur, email: sev165@bellsouth.net for ticket reservations. There will be refreshments served immediately afterwards.

Tuesday, April 15th, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. will feature KJCC's Annual Family Passover Second Seder. It will be again held at the Islamorada Fishing Club. Members are \$50.00 each; member children 12 and under are our guests. All non-members are \$75.00 each. Please mail your checks to KJCC Sisterhood at P.O. Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070. Your check is your reservation. For more information, please contact me at iweddu@bellsouth.net.

Together, Let's All Make April "A Wonderful Month"!! $\, \diamond \,$

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.

Bookplates Solas, Elaine	In Memory of Bernard Solas	Sisterhood Oneg Fund Grobman, Marc	In Honor of
Swartz, George & Murie	el Lila Line	Grossman, Herb & Elinor Steinbock, Steve & Carol	Anniversary Steve's birthday
General Fund	In Honor of		7
Lewis, Phil & Arleen	You have a great congregation!	Tree of Life	In Memory of
Main, Ron & Judy	Shirley Boxer's 95th birthday	Solas, Elaine	Bernard Solas
General Fund	In Memory of	Yahrzeits	
Foley, Robert H.	Ruth Richardson	Boruszak, Joan	Robert Kohlenbrener
Ginsberg, Bernard	Dr. Michael Markowitz,	Elson, Neil	Selma Elson
-	brother of Toby Goldfinger	Harvey, Mitchell	David Harvey
		Isenberg, Patricia	Harry Phillips
Meditation Garden	In Memory of	Olsen, Gerald & Sheila	Louis Weinstein
Rose, Della	Rene Rose	Temkin, Robert	Anne Temkin
Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Sara J. C			
Steinberg, Richard & Sh	eila Sally Sussman		

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the treasures that lie between these covers."

Tree of Life Leaves: We have two beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

Garden Bricks and trees: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate forever tribute. An outdoor plaque is included in the price.

YEDA VETORASHA Yardena Kamely



Stories of Holocaust Survivors

Y om Ha'shoah will be commemorated this year on April 27th. I think a good and effective way to commemorate, to remember, and in my case as an educator, to teach about the Holocaust is through reading or hearing stories, testimonies of Holocaust survivors. As I was searching for stories of children in the Shoah, I came upon an interesting book: "How We Survived: 52 Personal Stories by Child Survivors of the Holocaust" by Marie Kaufman, Michael Berenbaum and Sarah Moskovitz, Ph.D (2011).

Each author is a member of the "Child Survivors of the Holocaust, Los Angeles," an organization that was founded in 1983 after the publication of the book "Love Despite Hate" by Sarah Moskovitz, which consisted of interviews with child survivors of the Holocaust as adults. This organization was one of the first child survivors' support groups formed in the world. Today they have more than 500 members. They are affiliated with the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust, representing nearly twenty thousand child survivors around the world.

On the organization's website you can read: "We were Jewish children, up to 18 years of age at the end of the Holocaust. We were persecuted during the Nazi era in ghettos, in concentration camps, in hiding, or passing as non-Jews, wandering about in forests and other places on the run or forced to leave Nazi-occupied Europe.

"We pursue [our organization's] objectives by telling the stories of our survival in schools and other places, by community interaction, education, and by holding conferences and organizing support groups."

In the book "How We Survived," 52 authors tell their story of survival in the Shoah as children. Each story describes one child's experience, whether in the ghettos, the camps, in hiding, or fleeing from one place to another throughout Eastern Europe. Each survivor speaks of situations no child should ever go through: living daily with uncertainty, anxiety, insecurity, fear, pain and losses. The losses of family were the most traumatic experiences. And all this trauma is told by the survivor as seen through that survivor's eyes as a child.

From the introduction in the book, we learn that many of the authors have given oral testimony to museums and to the Shoah Visual History Foundation. They shared with other survivors the "mission" imposed on them to tell the story, to tell what had happened to the Jews in the Shoah. But 15-20 years later they have become aware that, for various reasons, they have not told every part of their story. There are many reasons: some survivors felt guilt for not having done enough to save other family members. Others felt ashamed for having being "weak," afraid, helpless. Another group harbored feelings of anger and hate. This book gave the survivors an opportunity to tell their "secrets," the parts of their story they had never spoken about before.

We might ask ourselves, how accurate are the memories of these child survivors? Experiences such as being taken away from one's parents, hiding for prolonged periods of time, starving, witnessing death and being threatened with death and destruction, are very intense and traumatic. As a psychologist, I have treated a few Holocaust survivors and also children of Holocaust survivors. In the course of psychotherapy we often help patients reconstruct early childhood memories and feelings. How accurate the actual memory is may not be as important as its meaning, the way the child perceives (or perceived) the experience. I believe that the memories of these authors, because of the extremely traumatic experiences involved, are likely quite accurate. Reflect back on your own three or four earliest childhood memories. It might be helpful to choose an event which had an impact on you, something that happened to a parent or to a sibling, an accident (even if small), an injury, a death or tragedy; or think of a famous event such as the assassination of IFK or the landing on the moon, etc. Often the event that you recall will be about something negative, or will have something to do with a conflict. You'll see that you can clearly remember events that happened at an age of five years or less.

There is another important reason that inhibited many of the child survivors from telling their story. Many were hidden children who had to assume non-Jewish identities, sometimes having several different gentile names, as young children during the war. Each time they learned that *under no circumstances* were they to reveal their Jewish identity, as this could mean death to them and their adopted families. So even after they were liberated, reunited with any surviving families and were beginning new lives, many still would not readily talk about their Jewish identity, especially with strangers.

As mentioned above, the loss of parents and other family members was the hardest experience for most of these children of the Holocaust. The fate of their Jewish parents was often death. While many of the child survivors intellectually came to understand that the decision to try to hide them allowed them to live, the full emotional understanding of this act on the part of their parents did not come to them until many years later. It was often when their own children were of the age at which they had been put into hiding that they fully understood and appreciated 12 Chai-Lights April 2014 the sacrifice that was made for them. For some this realization did not occur until they had grandchildren who reached that age.

As was the case of many adult survivors of the Holocaust, these child survivors spent many years trying to forget and not to look back. They were building a new life and did not want their own children to be haunted by such terrible experiences. As they moved on to a "normal life," the child survivors were not inclined to talk about the Shoah. But in their stories in "How We Survived," many tell of a dramatic unburdening feeling when they attended their first meeting of child survivors. The intensity of that feeling and the realization that so many other children had gone through similar events changed the course of their lives. Perhaps because they themselves had been helped by strangers (many of whom have been honored in Yad Vashem as the "righteous gentiles" or "righteous among nations"), they chose a helping profession themselves. A high percentage seem to have become social workers, therapists and teachers. Others have become artists and poets, finding expression of their feelings and experiences in their work. In "How We Survived" we can read poems that are part of the narratives.

How these children coped during and after the Shoah, and how they recovered to live meaningful lives, is a highly moving story of strength and courage. ◊

Some significant Holocaust survivors, and their ages at liberation

Robert Clary — 19 Roman Polanski — 12 Bruno Bettelheim — 42 Elie Wiesel — 16 Jerzy Kosinski — 12 Primo Levi — 26 Robert Maxwell — 22 Simon Wiesenthal — 36 Rep. Tom Lantos — 17 Abraham Foxman — 5 Ruth Westheimer — 17 Viktor Frankl — 40

World Jewish Report Medina Roy



The Bank of Israel has introduced the design for its new fifty-shekel note. The note includes the face of socialist Hebrew poet Shaul Tchernichovsky (1875-1943). Born in Crimea. Tchernichovsky was a physician who settled in mandatory Palestine in 1931. He is best known for his poem "Ani Ma'amin" ("1 believe"). Both sides of the note contain guotes from his poems. Tchernichovsky is seen as an icon of the original spirit of the founders of Zionism. He loved classical culture, translating Homer's *lliad* and *Odyssey* into Hebrew. Tchernichovsky is one of four Hebrew poets chosen to appear on future Israeli currency. The others are Rachel Bluwstein ("Ve'ulai" - "And Perhaps"), Leah Goldberg and Natan Alterman ("On a Silver *Platter*"). Some Israeli civil rights leaders are pushing to have Tchernichovsky's "Ani Ma'amin" as an alternate national anthem, instead of or alongside "Hatikvah." (Note: One of the most memorable moments for me on the KICC trip to Israel was listening to Rich Agler tell us the story of Alterman's poem "On a Silver Platter" when we visited the graves of Israeli soldiers at Mt. Herzl. You should have been there.) (The Forward, 3-2-14)

JNF: Planting "Water" in Israel

Thanks to the visionary non-profit *Jewish National Fund* (JNF), donations from generations of Jews in the Diaspora have made it possible for some 240 million trees to have been planted in Israel over the last 113 years. When the JNF was established in 1901, Israel was under Ottoman rule. The country was neglected and infested with malaria. The JNF came up with a long-term plan to turn things around. (By the way, Israel is the only country in the world to have a net gain of trees in the last 100 years.)



The focus of the INF has now shifted to water. The organization has helped build (in Israel) some 180 dams and water reservoirs, established about 1,000 parks (many of which feature hiking trails around water) and cleaned up the polluted Alexander River. At a recent water technology conference in Tel Aviv, the JNF showcased its expertise for countries experiencing conditions similar to those in Israel. Having dealt with water scarcity for the past few decades, the JNF has plenty of experience knowing where the rain flows, which trees can tolerate water stress, and how to make non-arable land better suited for people and agriculture. One of INF's biggest achievements in this area includes the reclamation of the Hula Valley. The swampland in northern Israel was once drained to rid the country of malaria-carrying mosquitoes, but recently ecologists helped persuade authorities to re-flood the swamp, since it offers a special ecosystem for wildlife as well as a refuge for millions of migratory birds. The JNF financed the project. As a result, some animals thought to be extinct. such as the Hula painted frog, have made a comeback. (www.israel21c.org, 2-5-14)

It's a Beginning...

For the first time ever, the Reform Movement in Israel has received money from the government to pay the salaries of four community rabbis. This comes eighteen months after Israel's Supreme Court approved a measure to allow non-Orthodox rabbis who lead congregations to be paid, as their Orthodox counterparts are, by the government. Under this new agreement, Reform and Conservative rabbis in Israel's regional councils (but not in large cities where most serve), will be recognized as "rabbis of non-Orthodox Chai-Lights April 2014 **13** communities." The agreement was driven by a lawsuit filed in 2005 by Rabbi Miri Gold. Previously, only Orthodox rabbis received funding from the state. With this new agreement, the rabbis must be employed full-time and be present at their congregations for at least forty Sabbaths each year. This arrangement provides full-time wages only to rabbis of congregations with at least 250 members; those leading smaller congregations (50-250 members) may receive half a salary, even though they'd be required to work full-time. Rabbi Gilad Kariv, director of the Reform Movement in Israel said. "This is a historic and important step in the long struggle toward pluralism, religious freedom and the recognition by the State of Israel of all branches of Judaism. The Reform Movement will continue to act to redefine the relationship between religion and state in Israel..." (www.haaretz.com, 1-1-14)

Open to All Visitors (Except Israelis)

Miami-based Norwegian Cruise Line has dropped Tunisia from its itineraries after the country recently refused to allow Israeli citizens to disembark when they arrived at the Port of Tunis. About 20 Israelis were told that they were not welcome "because of a lastminute decision by the Tunisian government." (Jewish passengers who were not Israeli were permitted to disembark.) An official from the Interior Ministry said the Israelis did not have visas and "did not meet the legal conditions for entering our country." CEO of Norwegian Cruise Line Kevin Sheehan said, "We want to send a strong message to Tunisia and ports around the world that we will not tolerate such random acts of discrimination against our guests." The subject of relations with Israel is not a well-received topic in Tunisia. In January, the country's Tourism Minister was forced to resign just hours after being sworn in because of a trip she had made to Israel for professional reasons. Tunisia ended relations with Israel in 2000 in protest of Israel's response to the Second Intifada. The lewish presence on the island of Djerba, in the Mediterranean off the far southeast coast of Tunisia, is believed to date

back some 2,500 years, to the first exile in the 6th century B.C.E. (In the wake of this recent incident, the Tunisian Tourism Minister said that the country is open to all visitors. Israeli tourists may enter Tunisia with "prearranged papers.") (www.israelnationalnews.com, 3-12-14)

A New Interactive Map

Jean-Luc Pinol, a French historian, has created an interactive online map that charts the deportation of children from France to concentration camps during the Holocaust. Based on data collected by Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld, the map shows the origin of every child deported from France between July 1942 and August 1944. Some 11,400 children were among the 76,000 lews deported from France and sent to death camps during those years. Red circles on the map vary in size, indicating the number of children deported from that particular location. Users can zoom in on a circle and see the exact location where a child was taken for deportation. The map is part of an exhibit on display outside the Conservatoire National des Arts et Metiers (National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts) in Paris. At that very site, 577 Jewish children were deported. To check out the map, go to tetrad.huma-num.fr Tetrad*mao_Enfant_France/* (www.tabletmag.com, 2-20)

A Major Torah Rescue

One hundred and three Torah scrolls looted from Hungarian Jews during World War II and stashed in a Russian library were recently discovered by Rabbi Shlomo Koves, executive rabbi of the Unified Hungarian lewish Congregation. Koves found the scrolls and other pieces of Judaica in the Lenin Scientific Library in the town of Nizhniy Novgorod. 240 miles east of Moscow. Numerous Hungarian artifacts, including the scrolls, were looted from the country by the Russian army in the years after World War II. The Torah scrolls, some of which are several hundred vears old, need to be restored before they can make their way back to Hungary. Koves called the discovery historic and plans to take them on a world-wide tour once they are restored. More than 500,000 Hungarian Jews died in World War II, most of them deported to concentration camps in only a two-month period in 1944. The Jews of virtually every city in Hungary (except for Budapest) were wiped out. Only some 100,000 Jews, mostly in the capital, escaped the deportations. Budapest has since rebounded and today is home to one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe. (*The Forward, 2-18-14*)

A Flea Market Find

Some 500 pages from the Nuremberg Trials, including documents used to convict top Nazis, were sold at auction to an American collector for \$10,000. The documents were found at a flea market in Israel. The papers arrived in Israel for the auction after being on public display at the Berlin Chabad Center as part of International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27th. The documents are said to be a part of a collection that belonged to Isaac Stone. Stone headed the Berlin Document Center and the U.S. Foreign Service Office in the 1940s. (www.ap.org, 1-30-14)

In Memoriam

 Alice Herz-Sommer, believed to be the world's oldest Holocaust survivor and a renowned concert pianist, died in late February. She was 110. Her life was the subject of the thirty-eight minute documentary film "The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life." She died one week before the film won the Academv Award for Best Short Documentary. "I am Jewish but music is my religion," she's quoted as saying. Herz-Sommer was born into a German-speaking Jewish family in Prague when it was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 1943, the Nazis sent her and her young son Raphael to the Theresienstadt concentration camp where they spent two years. Nearly 35,000 prisoners died there. Fortunately, mother and son managed to remain together in the camp. (Both Herz-Sommer's husband and her mother did not survive World War II.) She became a member of the camp orchestra and gave more than 100 recitals. Raphael was one of only a handful of children to survive

the camp. Mother and son were liberated in 1945 by Red Army troops and returned to Prague. Four years later, they immigrated to Israel. There she taught at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and performed in concerts often attended by Golda Meir. In 1986, after 37 years in Israel, she followed her son to London. Raphael, himself an accomplished cellist and conductor, died in 2001 at the age of 64. Herz-Sommer claimed that her devotion to music is what sustained her in the camp. (The unofficial title of the world's oldest Holocaust survivor now belongs to Yisrael Kristal, an Israeli confectioner from Haifa, who celebrated his 110th birthday in September 2013.) (www.worldjewishcongress.org, 2-24-14)

 Sid Caesar, pioneer of television sketch comedy during the 1950s, died recently. He was 91. Caesar enjoyed a career in TV, film and on stage for six decades. He is best known for his work with comedienne Imogene Coca (she died in 2001 at the age of 92) on "Your Show of Shows," 90 minutes of live, original comedy which aired every Saturday night, 39 weeks a year (1950-1954), on NBC. (He was, at the time the show began, 28 years old.) The program is widely considered the prototype for every TV sketch comedy series that followed, including "Saturday Night Live." Professor von Votsisnehm, one of Caesar's most popular characters, allowed the comic to display his talent for mimicking foreign languages, having it sound authentic when it was merely gibberish. The son of Jewish immigrants, Isaac Sidney Caesar got his start playing saxophone and performing comedy on the "Borscht Belt" circuit in the Catskill Mountains in upstate New York. He served in the Coast Guard during World War II. Caesar struggled with a 20-year addiction to alcohol and pills (and food, apparently, since he occasionally ballooned to over 300 pounds), but pulled himself out of it in the late 1970s. "Your Show of Shows" and "Caesar's Hour" helped launch the careers of a number of important and enduring comedy writers, including Neil Simon, Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, Larry Gelbart (M*A*S*H), and Woody Allen. (www.reuters.com, 2-12-14) \diamond

A fundraiser for the Keys Jewish Community Center

GET OUTTA TOWN

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 three 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.

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Includes lodging at the Fairmont Sonoma Inn & Spa and Umousine 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.

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

Winner to be drawn April 15, 2014 at Second Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club You do not have to be present to win.

> Contact Barbara Knowles @ 305-772-0503 or email iweddu@bellsouth.net

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Photo Gallery

The photos taken on this and the next two pages are from what has now become an annual KJCC tradition: each year we schedule a dinner and invite all our Chai-Lights and Directory advertisers, to let them know how much we appreciate their support. This year's dinner took place on February 21st. That's Dr. Bob Foley and partner Carol Chandler (the tall one and at far right) from Upper Keys Veterinary Hospital alongside KJCC members Rebecca Boehling (far left) and Mark Lipkus. Rebecca is a history professor and Holocaust scholar, and is currently Director of an international Holocaust archive in Germany. She was only in town for a week.





Rabbi Agler was kind enough to lead the Kiddush, explaining to our guests the meanings of some pre-meal Jewish rituals, such as the blessings of the wine and bread.









Whenever possible, Bernie likes to include KJCC's younger members in the rituals, the theory

being that if you do it it becomes something you do. Harry Friedman often is asked to slice the challah for the hamotzi. On this night he just barely got

to KJCC from his boy scout meeting. When's the last time you saw someone in a boy scout uniform wearing a kippah? Linda Pollack insisted on the

> photo below right. She thought that Jonathan, our young guest, looked like Alan Beth. So she asked for a picture with the two together. What do you think?







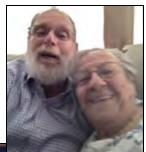
Above, Susan and Leslie Janowitz take their turn helping in the kitchen. Below, Zoe Moshe was in town, so we captured her along with Bea Graham, Yardena Kamely and Elaine Solas.





After dinner it was time for services. Bernie was leading, and he asked new member Bobbie Chester, at left, who'd brought her mother as a guest, and Leslie Janowitz to light the Shabbat candles. It was, in many ways, a warm and nourishing evening at KJCC.

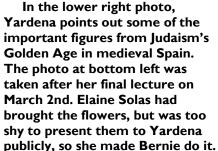




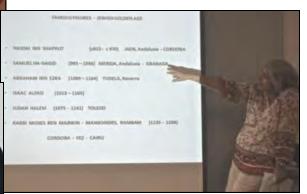
The top four photos were taken at Rabbi Richard Agler's Torah Learning service on February 22nd. Assisting with the prized KJCC Holocaust Torah, on the right, is Joel Bofshever, who along with wife Toby drives in from

their Davie home especially to be part of these Saturday services. At left and above with old friend (no pun intended) Pauline Roller is New York's Arthur Plutzer, a long-time KJCC supporter and

occasional visitor.



Elaine was certainly right about one thing: they were well deserved.













The three photos at top feature Joyce Peckman, Gloria Avner (with her new glasses!) and Pauline Roller along with one of the musicians from the last of the Upper Keys Concert Series, managed by Joyce



with lots of help from KJCC volunteers. If you look carefully at the end-ofseason picnic photo on the left, you'll see that about half of all the Concert Series volunteers are familiar KJCC faces.

The two photos at bottom are of KJCC member Natalie Dorf and the painting she entered in the big Purple Isles Art Guild Show. Here's what Gloria had to say when submitting the photos to Chai-Lights: "Tonight Jon Landau handed out the awards at the Purple Isles Art Guild Show. Yay, Natalie Dorf!! A truly





wonderful painting of her grandson, moody and evocative, didn't win the blue ribbon in acrylics as she'd hoped. NO!! It won BEST OF SHOW!! Bravo KJCC artist extraordinaire!"







All photos this page courtesy of Gloria Avner.







theatrical and gustatory), KJCC's Sunday School students helped make home-made hamantaschen, adding the fruit themselves and then curling the dough into little tricorner shapes. They had lots of help, and a little supervision, from some adult bakers, especially Nettie Seder and Luz Levine, plus their teachers that day, Susan Gordon and Gloria Avner.



Rabbi Ed Rosenthal's Eckerd College Hillel Scubi Jews had once again camped out in KJCC's David Kamely Classroom the night of March 8th, here as part of their ongoing Tikkun Olam project to help repair and restore the Keys reefs. When the KJCC Board showed up for its monthly 9 a.m. meeting (after having also lost an hour of sleep to daylight savings time), the students were gone, the room spotless. But one of them, Galit, left something behind, a drawing on the classroom's white



board as his way of saying thanks. You can probably make out the word "shalom" on the drawing's left side.

The other four photos on this page were taken at pot-

tery-making sessions at Beth Kaminstein's studio in preparation for the Women's Seder. As Joyce notes in her article on page 24, creating usable pottery began with the very first Women's Seder. This year is the eleventh. In the photo at top, left to right, are



Photos courtesy of Gloria Avner.

Susan Ellner, Joyce Peckman, Barbara Bernstein, Susan Gordon, Gloria Avner and Marcia Kreitman. (Beth took the photo.)





The five top photos were taken at Rabbi Agler's Saturday Torah Learning service on March 15th. That's Paul, Joshua and Barbara Bernstein helping



with the Torah reading and then returning the Torah to the Ark.

If the four photos at bottom look like winter, they are. They're from Alan and Candy's annual winter trek to their house on Michigan's

Upper Peninsula. That's Candy pointing to the sign noting that Miami is almost 2,000 miles away. That's also Candy on skis at the entrance to their house, which Alan said was about three feet below the



snow line. There are famed sled races there annually, which this year had far more snow than Alaska's Iditarod.

The temp? Minus 15 in Copper Harbor at the northern tip of the U.P. on Lake Superior (not counting wind chill).



Eagle Harbor

Houghton

tiami Fla





After the Sisterhoodled service on January 24th, a challenge was issued for Men's Club to also lead a service. The challenge was met on March 21st, proctored by Steve Hartz and Prez Bernie.

Why the big time gap between the two services? The men knew well that the more time allowed to elapse, the less bad they'd

look by comparison. Men might not always be overly bright, but they did have this one scoped out. Now they can preten...er, claim that the competition was a draw.





At evening's end, David Gitin snapped this photo of Gloria alongside her dad



Photos courtesy of Gloria Avner and Susan Gordon.



Alex's alabaster sculpture that she'd donated to KJCC and that now resides in the KJCC lobby. It was his first attempt at fine arts after a long business career. Talent rules. Great genes rock.

The Genesis of the KJCC Women's Seder

by Joyce Peckman

bout eleven years ago, Beth Kaminstein came across a book, "The Jour--ney Continues: The Ma'Yan Passover Haggadah," by Tamara Cohen. It was a collaborative *haggadah* with a dual focus: *tikkun* olam (repairing the world) and women's contributions to the story of liberation through the ages. This version was not meant to replace the traditional hagaddah, but rather to add a way of looking at the history, much as our Purim play enhances, rather than replaces, the *Megillah* reading. It featured gender-inclusive and feminine blessings, with a focus on the "Shechinah," the feminine aspect of G-d, and called on us to work towards freedom from hunger and fear for everyone in our time.

Beth was enthralled. At about the same time, Lee Schur, who had participated in

women's seders in Chicago, brought the idea for a Women's Seder to Sisterhood. Beth was very enthusiastic and loved the idea, which then went to the Sisterhood Board for discussion. A few were against the idea and some were lukewarm. feeling that Sisterhood's main goal was to support the KICC and to run its annual Second Seder. But most liked the idea. A majority voted yes, and agreed to form a committee. Meredith Cline, Joan Stark, Muriel Swartz, Gloria Avner, Beth Kaminstein and Suzie Feder took Lee's suggestion, and in

her words, "They ran with it!" A seder was planned around the Ma'Yan Haggadah. The committee condensed the book into something that would not last all night.

The Ma'yan Haggadah included short biographies of important Jewish women, and suggested mentioning or honoring some of them in the service. Our group decided to honor women closer to home. Our first local honoree was Shaloma Shawmut-Lessner, who, at age 17 worked in the underground evacuating Holocaust survivors after World War II and had then been a pilot and trainer in the infant Israeli Air Force. She had been formally recognized by the State of Israel for service Beyond the Call of Duty. In later years, a second, historical honoree was added. The names of our honorees, and some of the historical ones, can be found in the KJCC lobby,

on the magnificent quilted wall hanging created by Marcia Kreitman and her team.

I stood before the quilt the other day with Gloria, who will be this year's honoree. It struck us that a number of those whose lives we had celebrated have themselves passed into history: Elaine Hirsch, Michal Kamely and Rene Rose. Then I considered that each of the historical figures we honored - Rebecca Gratz, Henrietta Szold – were in their time, two very different times, honored as living women. Our historical honorees



The Women's Seder quilt of honorees, hanging prominently in the KJCC hallway.

this year will be the untold number of female artists and artisans who have decorated ritual objects through the centuries. Their tradition lives on right here in our artists, whose paintings, *shofar* holders and tapestries adorn our walls. The chain of past, present and future is real and resonant.

Beth, a professional potter, envisioned each woman bringing a hand-made pottery goblet to the seder. She opened up her studio, and patiently gave lessons in coiling, molding, shaping and glazing. Her encouragement made each person feel that their

work was admirable. Thus began a wonderful tradition that continues, and has produced platters, bowls, cups, candlesticks and mezuzah hold-



ers, as well as a special camaraderie that comes from working together with clay.

I have been asked why we need a women's seder. Isn't a total of two more than enough each year? I initially asked the same question. For many women, this is a stressful time of year: cleaning, cooking, dealing with extended family. My memory includes constantly getting up to provide salt water, washing water, towels...then most of the second half of the seder spent in the kitchen cleaning up. The stories in the traditional haggadah are full of men: rabbis staying up all night, rabbis expounding on Midrash, four sons one who is wise, etc. I discovered at the first Women's Seder I attended that many women had never been given the opportunity as children to participate at all. The youngest boy asked the four questions. The men did the reading, sometimes only in Hebrew.

At the planning sessions, we talked about how, with a few notable exceptions, the Bible is male-centered. The Woman's Seder helps to rectify that. This Seder also allows us a break from family, to show off our culinary accomplishments, yet also to sit and be served, to share our rituals with friends in the larger community and, most importantly, to celebrate and draw strength from the lives of women in our history and in our neighborhood. It is a chance for women to take a once -a-year break from family and synagoguecentered ritual, and create a ritual including and celebrating women in the population beyond the KJCC. From the beginning, it was to



include raising funds for charities that serve women and children in the larger community. That tradition continues as well. Among

the Keys charities we have donated to over the years are the Domestic Abuse Shelter, Burton Memorial Food Bank, Healthy Start Coalition, Voices for Florida Keys Children, and the KJCC Scholarship Fund. ♦

Modern hagaddot clearly show the growing inclusion of women at Passover. The drawing at top is from a 2004 hagaddah by Tamar Messer, a Haifa artist. The watercolor just above is from a hagaddah illustrated by New Yorker Leonard Baskin.



Tuesday, April 15, 2014 6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

For information and reservations contact: Barbara Knowles 305-772-0503, iweddu@bellsouth.net Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.

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



Donations:

Members: Adults \$50; Children 12 and under are our guests. Non-Members: \$75

On Cavern Diving in the Yucatan

by Sy Gelbard

his has been the most personally rewarding trip that I've had in years. But first let me explain what a *cenote* is. It is a Mayan word used to describe a "place of accessible water." It is a cavern or sinkhole. The "ground" in much of the Yucatan and other parts of the world (including northern Florida) is actually made up of limestone, a very porous material.

Because of this, rivers actually run underground, because water has seeped through the porous

limestone over the eons and created these rivers. Over long periods of geological time there have been instances where the limestone caves in and crashes into these underground rivers, leaving a hole above.

Rain then fills these holes and they become their own pools.

What is most interesting, though, is what is underwater, in these rivers. As one leaves the open-to-the-light pool area and enters the dark cavern underneath, one sees enormous chunks of limestone. Huge boulders and what



fifty feet, though there are *cenotes* several hundred feet deep. One marvels at the absolute clarity of the water, due to the natural filtration of rainwater at the surface seeping down through the limestone over time.

There are some moments of nearterror at being underwater in total dark-

ness in an inescapable "no overhead" (scuba talk for no air overhead) environment. I catch my breath and realize that, in the very unlikely event that my regulator were to fail, I have another diver within about six feet of me and could (hopefully) be able to "buddy breathe" my way back to the surface. It is not a situation I'd like to find myself in, but cave and cavern divers take meticulous care of their equipment, so there's probably a much greater statistical possibility that I would break my neck trying to avoid the potholes

looks like debris are scattered all around, chillingly reminiscent of those images we all saw after 9/11. As you proceed into complete darkness (happily, we always carry high-intensity flashlights), you enter what are ap-



propriately called "rooms," some the length of a football field, and you marvel at the limestone stalagtites and stalagmites and other incredibly shaped objects.

Our dive depth rarely reaches more than

and uneven streets while walking in Playa Del Carmen than there is having a catastrophic regulator failure in a *cenote*.

Anyway, the episodic feelings of terror morph into an absolutely thrilling feeling as I journey, weightless, through an environment that seems

From Sy's notes, the light in the above photo is from a lantern; the light below is from the surface. He took the photos. The diver featured was his dive partner. more extraterrestrial than anything of this Earth.

As you fin through underwater tunnels and archways you will see what I believe to be the most incredibly beautiful sight imaginable – rays of light, colored in greens and movement of the amateur photographer that I am. The videos comprise dives in five separate *cenotes*, each having its own "personality" and qualities. I hope to edit these videos to at least convey some sense of the magical enormity I experienced there. \diamond



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several hours of video,

much of it

herky-jerky

with the

The Wealth of Our KJCC Weekends

Shabbat Across America

by Gloria Avner

ou can never tell what you will learn during one or our increasingly full KJCC weekends. It might happen at a dinner, a Saturday morning service led by Rabbi Agler, or during a *Havdalah* service with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal. Scuba Jews from Eckerd College, here once more on their *Tikkun*



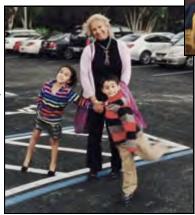
Take the weekend of March 7 - 9. We began with a full fleishig dinner sponsored by Ritual Committee and Sisterhood in celebration of the crosscontinental event. "Shabbat



HaYam (repair of the Sea) project, working underwater to restore the health

across America and Canada." This is the fifth year we have taken part in this National Jewish Outreach Program, and each time the

sharing reinforces connection to each other in our own *haimishe mishpocha* and to our larger community as well, the extended *mishpocha* of Jews from "sea to shining sea." We imagine and feel the tens of thousands of other Jews celebrating along with us, simultaneously nourishing body and soul. And how appropriate that this year we were joined by our young friends, the Hillel





of our endangered coral reefs. Led by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal (young-atheart, though wise of spirit), they come from far-flung U.S. cities and bring us the youthful, young adult energy we don't have enough of on Friday nights. "Do you need any help?" These were their first words as they walked in during dinner. Their generosity of spirit is always refreshing and heartwarming. On Saturday night, Rabbi Ed led all of us in a candlelit *Havdalah* ceremony in our own Meditation Garden. The talk before *Havdalah*



They fasted and they prayed for three days. (All of them, including Esther and even her maids.) Though God's name is

never mentioned



in the entire story, the rabbis teach that God's hand works for us when





"This

is not a children's holiday," says Rabbi Ed. "What?" we think.

Yes, we sing, drink, eat, wear masks and act crazy on Purim, with its seemingly simple, joyous story. But the deeper meaning behind and within the story turns out not to be simple or lighthearted at all. The Jews of Shushan, King Achashuerosh's seat of power

in Persia, did escape slaughter. This was a rare event in Jewish history, especially when a strong man with the ear of a all-powerful king hated Jews. Yet the real point of the story, according to Rabbi Ed, is that the Jews of Shushan were saved by one thing only — unity.



KJCC joined the intimate Shabbat dinner of tens of thousands for "Shabbat Across America and Canada" on March 7th. As Bernie likes to say, if you feed them they will come. We fed them. They came.

we are united as a community and trust in God. This kind of unity did not exist during the time of the Holocaust. We are stunned by Rabbi Ed's final revelation about the connection between the hanging of the ten sons of Haman 2500 years ago in Persia and the post -Holocaust hanging of ten Nazi war criminals Sunday School students, guided by Nettie Seder (also known as Nana Nettie), prepare dough, fill, bake, and eat many cookie sheets worth of Hamantashen, also known as "the ears of Haman." A board meeting proceeds in half the schoolroom, while in the other half the children, along with brave adults, practice

at Nuremburg, the last of whom, an odd man named Julius Streicher, glared at the witnesses, uttered a piercing scream of "Heil, Hitler" and with his last human



for their *Purimspiel* play the next weekend. Sisterhood meanwhile is in the Social Hall providing a festival shopping experience with The Chosen for all who need supplies for Purim and Passover. The Hillel kids left just that morning, but the schoolroom (their weekend camp-

utterance shouted from the top steps of the gallows: "Purimfest, 1946!" He must have seen himself as Haman.

Unity among all Jewish communities is not the case now,





either. There is a huge lesson here. Once more we are brought back to the theme we embraced in our Shabbat dinner and service on Friday night, March 7^{th} and which continues on Sunday morning. Our ground) is spotless. At the end of the weekend, we are filled and fulfilled. Unity in community is our



strength. Through continued learning, celebrating, and, um, eating, may we continue to grow from strength to strength (and have a good time doing it). Yasher Koach. ◊

Once again, Rabbi Ed led Saturday night's Havdalah ceremony in KJCC's Garden gazebo. He talked of Purim. This time it was Alison who held the candle aloft just before its dousing.



Purim 2014 at KJCC

by Joyce Peckman

"The King's Place" was Casablanca-in-Persia (in the Keys, no less) for Purim this year. The *Purimspiel*, by playwright Larry Smith, was nominated for Best Comedy of the Decade, directed by Gloria Avner, and starred Wesley Silverman as King Ahasverosh, Natalie Werthamer as Queen Esther, Moira Knowles as Mordechai and Jules Seder as a villainously

despicable Haman. Up for best supporting actors were Cole Silverman ("You played it for her, you can play it for me..."), Mikhaela Bitton as Queen Vashti, Marc Bloom and Richard Knowles as courtiers/ attendants Bigthan and Teresh, Erica Garrett as Miss Chaldea and Susan Gordon as Miss Babble-On and Vashti's friend. Up for cutest extra was Rachel Levine, who played a

Shushan Girl and raised the sign cueing us when to boo. Up for most versatile prop were

the bottles of root beer, which not only inebriated the king and cohorts, but also served as microphones and the weapon of royal execution.

After the audience finished laughing and



Ginsberg began by showing everyone







above each use of the words *Ha-melech*, Hebrew for "the king." Bernie chanted the first several sentences from the *Megillah*,

then led us collectively in the prayers before the reading. Many rabbis have said that listening to

the entire

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applauding.

was read in

dent Bernie

Megillat Esther

earnest. Presi-



Megillat Esther is one of the most important mitzvot of the year. We fulfilled that commandment roundrobin style, in English, many



was his personal favorite – drinking! To that end, wine, beer and Slivovitz (plum brandy, for the maybe two or three of you who might not yet know) were provided. The second *mitzvah* is to send *Mishloach manot* (gifts of food) to friends. The Sunday School provided goody bags, but since we

were having a potluck brunch, every-

one who brought food was included in this mitzvah. In addition, Joel and Toby Bofshever donated a beautiful basket, filled with fruit, beer and hamentashen,





of us still in costume, including a do-rag-clad Rabbi Agler. As a community, we read and heard every word.

When we finished reading, Bernie pointed out the remain-

ing mitzvot of the holiday: The first





which was raffled off by Sisterhood. (Muriel and George Swartz were the lucky winners.) The third mitzvah is to provide food for the needv. Rachel helped to pass the basket around, and \$85 was raised for the food bank next door at Burton Memorial Church. The fourth *mitzvah* is



and more. Sylvie Bitton and Erica Garrett brought cheesecake, and there was a variety of delicious homemade and store-bought hamentaschen.

It takes a village to properly celebrate Purim, and we did! \diamond

to have a joyous feast, and we did! Nettie Seder was kitchen

queen, and wants to thank everyone who helped to set up and clean up. (You too, Carla.) The table was loaded with scrumptious dishes and desserts. Among the more notable dishes were Medina Roy's vegetable soup, Barbara's Knowles' mac &

cheese, Nettie's quiche, Linda Pollack's famous corn soufflé, Elinor Grossman's bulgur salad.





Muriel & Susan Ellner's blintz soufflés, my watermelon barley salad, Jane Friedman's tortellini with pesto, and Luz Levine's homemade hamentashen and mandel bread. Thanks to everyone else who brought salads





After the play, it was time to fulfill the mitzvah to read the Megillah. Bernie showed everyone our actual megillah (scroll) of Esther, with all its special markings, and began by reading from it.

















George and Muriel Swartz, seated, with the Purim basket they won in the raffle. To fulfill another mitzvah, all the money collected went to charity.



Pesach and the Power of Place

Shulchan, not Shul

by Gloria Avner

The Yiddish word for synagogue is "shul," our well-tended house for ritual objects and also communal gathering place for prayer, education, and celebration. On Passover, the holiday observed by more Jews than any other, the "people of the book" gather not in *shul*, but around the family table, the *shulchan*.

We not only look forward to this holiday more than any other, no Jew of any stripe wants to miss it. Let's add a fifth question to the *mah nishtana* our youngest children will be chanting. Why are we so drawn to and happy to celebrate this holiday?

Answer: The Passover *Seder* tells OUR story, a panoramic nation-shaping story, the Exodus. Each of us has a ritual role, a significant part in a cast of thousands. Our lives are intertwined with our ancestors' in this story of struggle, redemption, and transformation. "The retelling" (the English translation of the Hebrew word *hagaddah*) that happens around the table takes us inside each layer of the tale by involving all our senses.

The *hagaddahs* next to our plates help us fulfill the commandment to share the story with our children, this year and every year. The words are the bones, a skeletal guide to which we add personal improvisation. We insert ourselves, encouraged to act, think, remember, and behave as if the tale of slavery, exodus, and struggle toward freedom is happening to all of us that very moment.

So there we sit, young and old, in comfortable, homey surroundings, around a dinner table with family and friends, Jew and (often) non-Jew alike. Stage and table are set with all the props we need to trigger and reinforce the story; we read out the list of events to come, the overture to our musical. Songs, serious and silly, madrigals, ritual foods to be described and blessed, a delicious meal, and games all work to unfold the story. Ears, eyes, tongues, hands, and stomachs are full participants as we touch, taste, see, sing, hear, bless symbolic foods, dip pinkies into wine as we recount the ten plagues, and talk. (Legs and physical movement come into being, too, as children run around the room looking for the *afikomen* to be ransomed for a gift, helping keep them awake and interested in the *seder* until it is over.)

We sing songs about our transition from slavery to freedom (*Avadim Hayinu*) and in praise of God's generous gifts (*Dayenu*). The "Who Knows One" song (*"Echad Mi Yodea"*) is an amazing teaching tool that summarizes all the basic principles of Judaism – one God, two tablets, three patriarchs, four matriarchs, five books of Moses, and on and on until we return to the oneness of the Creator who brought us



out of "our tight places." On each table are the mnemonic devices that paint symbols into our souls. We taste bitterness in herbs and are brought to tears by fresh ground horseradish. It is springtime and everything acknowledges renewal, from the baby lettuce to the hardboiled egg. The roasted lamb shank bone re-

This illustration of the four sons is from the Szyk Hagaddah, created during World War II by acclaimed Polish illustrator Arthur Szyk, called by Sir Cecil Roth "the greatest illuminator since the 16th century." minds us of the blood painted on the doorposts of our homes that allowed our children to live (*paseach*). The explanation of *matzoh*, the "bread of affliction," as it is held up, a focal point for all to see, makes real the haste of our departure and keeps the story in our consciousness for eight days.

Here is the biggest difference between shul and shulchan: at our family seder we are not davening, but evoking and rehearsing the process of liberating ourselves from both outer and inner oppression. (Remember that "Mitzraim," while the Hebrew name for the country of Egypt, is also the Hebrew word for "tight, restricted places," which we are taught include meanings such as our own bad habits

and harmful situations from which we need to free ourselves.) It is all done within the intimacy and continuity of family.

The description of the four children is full of lessons, but the sin of the wicked son is key. On the surface, he has done no physical harm. But worse, as far as our tribal survival is concerned, he keeps himself apart. By talking about what "you" do he removes himself from our people's story and becomes a self-made outcast, ultimately a liability.

What? A child a liability? We come to the nub of our magical, meaningful event. Every element in this evening is about nothing less than national survival. All the storytelling, songs, discussion, the downing of four cups of blessed wine, is to keep us from assimilating, to remain a people keeping the faith. It takes a village, a host of villages, thousands of dining room tables in dozens of countries to keep a people alive.

The parallels in modern times of threats to our people are omnipresent. It is no accident that the time of *Pesach*, spring renewal, was always associated with pogroms in much of Europe and England. At Easter time, fury would be invoked by those in power who attempted to divert their subjects with a few well-chosen finger-pointing whispers about

The Jews become a people, a society, a religion in the desert experience... not before.

those who "killed our Lord." Even the seemingly innocent "swallowed a fly" song about the "little goat my father bought for two *zuzim*" that we love to sing at *seder's* end – I promise we will sing "Had Gad Yah" from start to finish this year – is actually in code, identifying every empire that defeated or mistreated the Jewish people over the centuries, ending very happily with a victory brought about by none other than our one G-d.

The participants around the table "get" our longevity through the story. The Jews become a people, a society, a religion in the desert experience and not before. The struggle to evolve from captive to free people is not a transition made easily – witness the episode of the golden

> calf. Guarding our families by invoking Elijah, the prophet's words help guide us to the future. We set a place for him and open the door so he might join our table.

So we sit and alternate seriousness with *kibbitzing*, take our time, drink our wine, tell the story in as animated a way as we can so that our children will enjoy themselves and get the message. Whether and how we continue as a people is ultimately up to them, these active young chanters of the four questions.

This is our moment of power to lay groundwork for them and for our future. When we each leave the *seder "shulchan,"* may it be with fullness in our hearts and minds as well as stomachs. And so, looked at broadly, the table is not only a place where we perform one of our most significant rituals, it is also a place upon which we symbolically display our status as a reflective and enduring, continuous people. How significant, then, that the seminal book "The Code of Jewish Law," written in the mystical Israeli city of Tz'fat in 1655 by Yoseph Karo (in whose beautiful synagogue we sat with Rabbi Agler last summer) is known popularly as *The Shulchan Aruch*, "The Set Table."

May we perform our *Pesach* parts well, with zest and commitment. This just may be the year Elijah walks through our door. ◊

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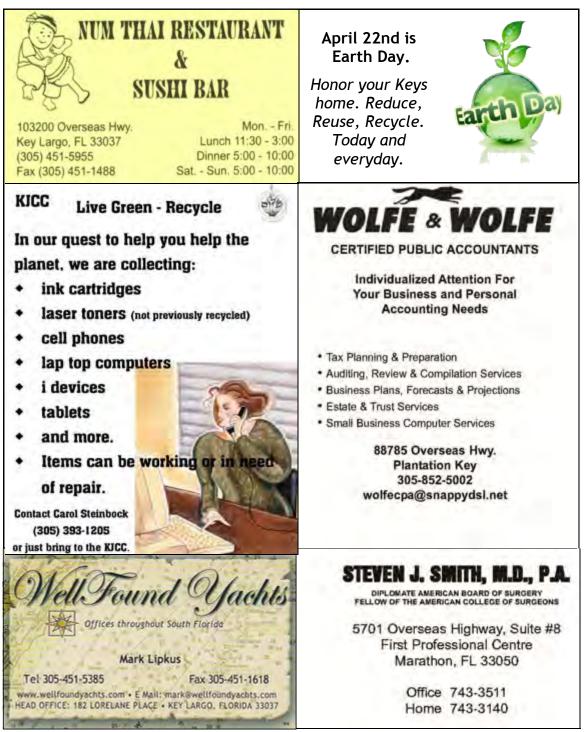
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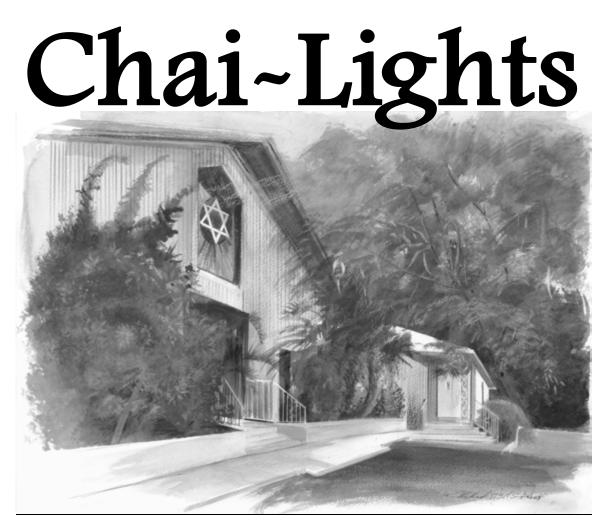
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June, July and August 2014 3 Sivan - 5 Elul 5774

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Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com June 2014

3 Sivan - 2 Tammuz

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Erev Shavuot	4 Men's Club Game Night 7:30 p.m.	5	6 Ken Atlas SteveBarbara Smith Steve & Carol Steinbock Erica & Ron Garrett Yizkor Service 6:30 dinner	7
8 KJCC Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.	9	10	11	12	13 Steve Steinbock Steve & Jan Hartz	14
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20 Sy Gelbard & Gloria Avner	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 6:30 Service	28
29	30	Italicized na	te leaders of Frid mes are Oneg spo 7 Friday at 8:00 p. where noted.	onsors. Ser-	July 4 Erica Lieberman -Garrett Shabbabecue 6:00 Pauline's 99th	

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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 Bernard Ginsberg

We have a lot to be thankful for at the KJCC. This past week, the synagogue was presented with a \$5,000 check from Sisterhood brought in by their conscientious fundraising. Thanks are due to Barbara Knowles and all the ladies of Sisterhood.

We saw in April the presentation of the Joel Cohen Fellowship Award to Yardena Kamely, a fitting tribute to her long years of service to KJCC, educating both our children and adults and teaching all of us more about the difficult subject of the Holocaust. No one could deserve the honor more. Our other morah (teacher), Gloria, was just the honoree at our Women's Seder, another greatly deserved reward and recognition of her vital work as Ritual Chair.

We have also had a resignation from a hard-to-replace synagogue position because of other commitments. Sam Vinicur will no longer be continuing as editor and publisher of Chai-Lights. He has taken our little newsletter up to professional magazine quality over his years of dedicated service, but now it's time for someone else to come forward. Please let me know if you have the commitment and ability to try your hand as editor.

Sisterhood is planning a dinner to go with services on Friday June 6th. Services that



night will also include Yizkor for Shavuot and a Tikkun Leil Shavuot learning session after the Oneg as is traditional for this complex and multi-faceted holiday.

On Friday July 4th we will celebrate a truly unique KJCC tradition, the "Shabba-be-que," an evening barbeque with hot dogs and hamburgers (some vegetarian, too!) before services, in honor of American Independence Day and Pauline Roller's 99th birthday.

Planning is starting even now by the Officers and Directors so that we will have very beautiful High Holiday services. We have engaged a new cantor, Paul Goldstein. Chazzan Goldstein was trained in the conservative tradition. His wonderful voice and spirit will surely match Rabbi Agler's spiritual gifts to give all of us a totally uplifting experience.

Note that the Holidays come late in September this year. Please let me know your preferences for services, as we want to reflect the desires of the Congregation. Should we have more Hebrew or more English? More singing or more prose readings? Shorter or longer services? Anything you think we should add back in or cut out? We need input from everyone.

With love, Bernie

Nosh

See You in September

As is our custom, the June issue you're holding is officially the June/July/August issue. We publish Chai-Lights ten times a year, skipping the slow summer months. The next issue you'll see will be September, preparing for High Holidays and the beginning of KJCC's new season. Our email will still work, of course, so you're welcome to send photos or articles or comments. They just won't appear until the September issue. Here's to a happy and healthy summer for all.

Todah Rabah to Rabbi Agler

On Saturday morning, May 17th, thirty KJCC members and friends gathered for this season's last Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Agler. As always, we were inspired, stimulated, challenged, and elevated by his teaching, the discussion, and the service itself. There is some magic in the combination of informality, sincerity, intelligence and humor that are infused in each of Rabbi Agler's learning sessions. For those who come regularly, there is a cumulative effect. Anticipation and enjoyment grow stronger with each service. Rabbi Agler assures us that he will begin monthly Shabbat morning services again after the High Holy Days. We are immensely grateful. - *Gloria*

Oneg Sponsors for Summer 2014

- June 6th Steve & Barbara Smith for Carrie Smith's birthday.
- June 6th Steve & Carol Steinbock for their anniversary.
- June 6th Erica & Ron Garrett for their anniversary. June I 3th - Steve & Jan Hartz for their anniversary.
- July 4th Men's Club for Shababaque
- July 18th Steve & Barbara Smith for Brian Smith's birthday.

August 15th - Richard & Barbara Knowles for their anniversary.

Meet our New Cantor

5775 will be a new year for the KJCC in more ways than one. Our team at the helm will have a new addition. We have thanked Cantor Halpern for his many years of service, wishing him and his family well in all their endeavors. The Ritual Committee, after serious searching and interviewing, has hired a new cantor. We think you will be pleased. Meet *Hazzan* Paul Goldstein, who will be working with Rabbi Agler to bring us into the Days of Awe with serious *kavanah* and *ruach* for a deep and meaningful experience.

Cantor Paul's voice is a powerful baritone, thrilling, clear, and traditional enough to feel like

home. He will stir you and add his love of chanting *Torah* and *Tefillah* to the mix of Rabbi Agler's dynamic service-leading and interactive teaching style. For the past three years, Cantor Goldstein has been *Kol Bo* (Spiritual Leader, acting as both cantor and rabbi) at Temple Ohev Shalom in New Tampa, Florida, and for the three years before that



Cantor Paul Goldstein

he was Hazzan at Congregation B'nai Israel in St. Petersburg. He led High Holiday Services for five years at Temple Beth-El in Syracuse, New York, served as Ritual Director at Beth Torah in North Miami Beach, and received his Master's of Sacred Music and Diploma of Hazzan at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1996. We feel fortunate that Hazzan Paul has returned to his roots in South Florida with his wife Cynthia and son Jason, who will be joining us for the Days of Awe.

When your dues package arrives in August, please show your support with the generosity you have shown in the past and make a special additional donation to the Rabbi/Cantor Fund. (Especially those of you who in our survey said you would support having both.) We will all be grateful.

-Gloria

June Birthdays

2nd	Myra Kaplan
2nd	Barbara Osder
3rd	Elanor Forbes
3rd	Abraham Rakov
4th	Alfred Weihl
4th	
5th	Dorothy Wolfe
5th	
6th	Donna Bolton
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21st	
21st	Roberta Chester
21st	
23rd	
23rd	
24th	
24th	
27th	
28th	
29th	
30th	Bob Friedman

June Anniversaries

	Y	ears
l st	Jim & Rita Williams	30
lst	Joel Bernard & Joan Stark	28
5th	Stephen & Carol Steinbock	31
5th	Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Ron Garret	t 20
7th	Richard & Sheila Steinberg	55
8th	Stephan & Jane Friedman	18
l 0th	Mark & Sofy Wasser	19
llth	Medina & Carl Roy	42
l 2th	William & Donna Bolton	21
l 2th	Steven & Jan Hartz	38
l 2th	Harvey & Beverly Robins	57
l4th	Harvey & Joan Kay	44
19th	Richard & Mindy Agler	38
20th	Milton & Joan Wohl	63
21st	Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake.	27
23rd	Stuart & Lauren Sax	40
24th	Robert & Heide Werthamer	19
25th	Herbert & Elinor Grossman	57
28th	Lloyd & Rae Susan Wruble	45
28th	Wes & Rita Conklin	

KJCC Painting to be Part of Exhibit

The Keys History and Discovery Center will be exhibiting a large collection of privately owned artwork by the late Florida Keys artist Millard Wells this month, in conjunction with Millard Wells Day events being organized by the Morada Bay Arts and Cultural District. His original watercolor painting of the formal front of the KJCC, seen in miniature each month on the front cover of Chai-Lights, will be part of the exhibit. Ron Levy originated the idea of commissioning the painting to celebrate our 25th anniversary. Beth Kaminstein and the Sisterhood made it happen and donated the painting to the synagogue. The exhibit of Millard Wells works opens on June 19th and runs through August 10th.

-Gloria

CATHY KAPLAN SISTERHOOD KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

P.O. Box 116 · Tavernier, FL · 33070

May 4, 2014

To the KJCC Board of Directors:

KJCC Sisterhood and the 2014 Women's Seder Steering Committee are proud to present a portion of their *Tikkun Olam* Fund to the Keys Jewish Community Center.

The over-riding goals of our Seder are twofold: to promote strong bonds among the women of KJCC and their friends through creative activity and meaningful ritual, and to raise money to donate to groups making a positive difference in children's and family lives. We do this in our Jewish community, the larger community, and the world.

We are happy to present a check of \$276.80 to the KJCC Scholarship Fund. We will also be sending \$500.00 to the Talia Agler Girls' Shelter in Nairobi, Kenya, and \$250 to Wesley House, an important provider of family services in Monroe County.

Sincerely,

Barbara Knowles, President of Sisterhood

Beth Kaminstein, Gloria Avner, Lee Schur, Erica Leiberman-Garrett and Joyce Peckman, Women's Seder Steering Committee Members

July Anniversaries

Years

2nd	Douglas & Rozi Graham	10
9th	Michel Bitton & Sylvie Coeurjoly	4
l2th	Jason & Debbie Madnick	.19
24th	Dick & Rita Bromwich	.40
30th	Andrew & Randi Grant	25

The Shabba-be-cue on July 4th

It's now a KJCC summer tradition: on the closest Friday to July 4th, we have a cookout/ barbecue (hence the term Shabba-be-cue) for all who are still here. It's one of the few big social events we do in the summer. July 4th is also, much more importantly, Pauline Roller's birthday. This year will be her 99th. She's bringing lots of family. Please contact Bernie or Barbara to let them know you'll be there to join in the eating and celebrating.

July Birthdays

	Chely Markowitz
	Jennifer Gilson
	Nelson Chester
l st	Patti Gross
l st	Alex Hudson
2nd	Elissa A. Denker
2nd	Rabbi Ed Rosenthal
3rd	Max Finkelstein
3rd	Michael Kaufman
4th	Pauline Roller
4th	Mindy Rosenthal
9th	Joyce Peckman
	Lindsay Gould
l l th	Steven Hartz
	Rebecca M. Schur
I2th	Richard Steinberg
I 3th	Dot Brooking
l4th	David Gross
l4th	Paul Eric Bernstein
I 5th	Danna Levy
I7th	Robert Werthamer
	Foster Davidson
I7th	Shira Listman
	Luzviminda Levine
	Carol Laskin
	Roosmary Benowitz
	Joshua Samuel Bernstein
	Arlington Garrett
	Linda Perloff
	Brian Smith
	Carrie Temkin
	Alan Markowitz
	Lance Royce Kaufman
	Carol Field
	Marc Bloom
	Stephanie LaMarche
	Rachael Bloom
	Lila E. Juenger
	Bruce Boruszak
	Mary Lee Singer
	Candy Stanlake
	Molly Bloom
3 st	Drew Nobil

August Birthdays

l st	Nicholas Rivera
	Marc S. Field
	Jessica Forman
	Nissan Mayk
	Delia Grace Smith
	Eric Freundlich
	Enterreundhen
	Enima reig
	Barbara Smith
	Stephan L. Friedman
	Gina Moritz
	Heide Werthamer
	Danielle Zinner
	Patricia Isenberg
	Alan Lindenbaum
	Tom Brennan
	Alison Thompson
	Pamela Friedman
20th	Amanda Nobil
21st	Rachel Zinner
	Dave Mont
24th	Carl McNew
26th	Mikhaela Bitton
27th	Jaimee Marshall
27th	Judy Greenman
	Evan Stuart
30th	Sue Ann Weihl
	Robert Temkin
31st	Ivy Blumenfeld
	•

August Anniversaries

	Years
Larry & Dorothy Wolfe	57
Paul & Susan Roberts	46
Richard & Barbara Knowles	15
Ira & Shirley Stein	56
Stephen & Marsha Harris	13
Jeff & Lisa Miller	37
Franklin & Judy Greenman	32
Israel & Nissan Mayk	42
	Paul & Susan Roberts Richard & Barbara Knowles Ira & Shirley Stein Stephen & Marsha Harris Jeff & Lisa Miller Franklin & Judy Greenman

A Very Special Friday service on June 6th

The Friday evening Shabbat service on June 6th, beginning at 8:00, will have four important parts. First, it's erev Shabbat. (Jews don't keep the Sabbath...Sabbath keeps the Jews, right?) But that particular evening we will also have the Yizkor associated with Shavuot, and a two-part celebration of Shavuot itself. It all begins at 6:30, with a dairy dinner. (It could only be dairy on Shavuot. The donation for members is \$10, for non-members \$15. And, yes, you're welcome to bring friends and family and anyone else interested in not only a great meal but also to learn more about the many-faceted holiday that is Shavuot.)

Then after services we'll re-assemble in the Ruth Richardson Social Hall for Tikkun Leil Shavuot. What's that? Well, if you've attended any of Rabbi Agler's Saturday Torah services, you'll remember him talking often about one of his favorite Jewish ideas: ge-oolah (or geulah), meaning redemption. But it isn't redemption as the secular world thinks of it. He speaks of it in the very specific Jewish way: it comes not from anything in your heart but almost exclusively through your actions. The same goes for the Jewish idea of *Tikkun Olam*, the healing (or, in a way, redemption) of the world. It is what we DO that determines whether the *mitzvot* are followed and therefore the mystical process of healing takes at least a small step forward.

So what will go on that night during Tikkun Leil Shavuot? Well, we'll eat lots of dairy, including cheesecake. We'll read from the Book of Ruth. We'll discuss the many aspects of this holiday that the rabbis say is when the escaping Israelites actually became the Jewish people. (For more detailed information about Shavuot and the dinner, see the articles beginning on page 38 and the ad on page 14.)

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman, 305-664-3316.

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 Bernie Ginsberg, 305-852-9300.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES, BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 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 Linda Kaplan, 305-396-7000. CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-393-1205, to make your donation.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CHAI-LIGHTS or DIRECTORY: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

Tn Memoriam Summer 2014

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

In Memory Of

Louis R. Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

<

Esther R. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

In Memory Of

Leo Finklestein

By Max & Mildred Finklestein

In Memory Of

Moniek Gelbard

By Sy A. Gelbard

In Memory Of

Erik S. Persoff

By Lynn Nobil

In Memory Of

Saul Elson

In Memory Of

By Mrs. Marty Graham

In Memory Of

Ruth Rosen

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

In Memory Of

Esther Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick

In Memory Of

Florence C. Kerman

By Jonathan & Arlene Line

Lucy Kaufman

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

In Memory Of

Emilia Mendez

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

In Memory Of

Bill Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick

In Memory Of

Carl C. Reiff

By Rick & Roberta McNew

In Memory Of

Samuel Schneider

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Celestina Bravo-Mendez

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

In Memory Of

Arthur Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

In Memory Of

William Saul Kerman

By Jonathan & Arlene Line

In Memory Of

Dale Gerber

By Dave Mont & Georgia Landau

In Memoriam Summer 2014

In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Leslie Peckman	Ben Horwitz	Sidney Stark
By Joyce Peckman <><><><><>>	By Pauline Roller	By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark <><><><><><>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Milton Lang	Harold Rosenthal	Robert L. Cline
By Skip Rose <><><><><>>	By Ed & Mindy Rosenthal <><><><><>	By Meredith A. Cline <><><><><><>
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Jan Finer	Beth Schulberg	Rose Goldberg
By Stuart & Lauren Sax <><><><><>>	By Alan & Elaine Schulberg <><><><><>	By Susan W. Goldberg <><><><><>
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Wally Steinberg	Leonard Tobin	Jason Grossman
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg	By Andrew M. Tobin	By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Rose Fine	Irma Weihl	Beulah Grossman
By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe	By Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl	By Sam & Leslie Janowitz <><><><><><><><>
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Rose Graff Rosenfeld	Leon Kirschenbaum	Irwin Kwalick
By Morton & Gene Silverman	By Medina Roy <><><><><><>	By Teresa Kwalick <><><><><><>
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Morris Rose	Leo Finklestein	Paula Travers
By Skip Rose <><><><><>	By Max & Mildred Finklestein	By Michele & Ed Riley <><><><><><><><>

10 Chai-Lights June, July and August 2014

In Memoriam Summer 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Aaron Schmidt

By Judith Schmidt

In Memory Of

Jack L. Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Phyliss Bloom

By Marc Bloom

In Memory Of

Ruth Richardson

By Meredith A. Cline

Abraham L. Blumenfeld

By Marvin & Ivy Blumenfeld

In Memory Of

Sam Fabian

By Martin S. Fabian

In Memory Of

In Memory Of Mollie Z. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

S. Marshall Gorson

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

Milton Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Seymour Werthamer

By Robert & Heide Werthamer

In Memory Of

Joseph Wasser

By Mark & Sofy Wasser

In Memory Of

Seymour H. Levin

By Sanford & Nancy Yankow

Margaret Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg <><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Les Reitman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

In Memory Of

Fred Ross

By Joyce Peckman

In Memory Of

Frank Stanley Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

In Memory Of

Sydney Emsig

By Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs

In Memory Of

Otto Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

In Memory Of

Bob Freundlich

By Linda Perloff

In Memory Of

Morgan Rowen

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Max Gould By Maryon Gould

In Memoriam Bummer 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Franne Alter

By Barry Alter

In Memory Of

Gary W. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Harvey Kelman

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of

Stanley H. Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Sylvia Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

In Memory Of

Bernard Solas

By Elaine Solas

In Memory Of

Mack Swartz

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Ben Steinbock

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock

Dorothy Schafer

By Barry & Natalie Dorf

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Ida Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

In Memory Of

Frieda Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memory Of

Meyer G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Jeanette Gould

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Margaux Rene Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

In Memory Of

Shirley Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

In Memory Of Isaac Cohen Pardo In Memory Of

Erwin Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Alfred Eichler

By Judith Weber

In Memory Of

Henrietta Zinner

By Donald Zinner

In Memory Of

James Nobil

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Erik S. Persoff

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

In Memoriam Bummr 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Joel Reed Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

In Memory Of

Selma Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Isaac Berman

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Sandra Kanarek

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Priscilla Leshin

By Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Robert Davidson

By Foster Davidson & Carol Laskin

In Memory Of

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Samuel Wainer

Harriet Feinberg

By Arthur Feinberg

In Memory Of

Ralph Tallent

In Memory Of

By Lillian Tallent

In Memory Of

Jim Nobil

By Lynn Nobil

In Memory Of

Howard Shutan

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

In Memory Of

Martha Schulberg

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

Richard Gould

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Chanoch Levy

By Yardena Kamely

In Memory Of

Billie Kornbloom

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

In Memory Of

Dorothy Marmar

By David & Pamela Marmar

In Memory Of Jesse Ginsberg

By Bernard Ginsberg

In Memory Of

Henry Kirschenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

In Memory Of

Eva Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

In Memory Of

Max Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

In Memory Of

Gizella Reiff

By Rick & Roberta McNew

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	In Honor of	Scholarship Fund	
Cole, Ronald	love offering	Sisterhood - Women's Seder	r
Boruszak, Joan speed	y and complete recovery		
	- Stu Sax	Yahrzeits	In Memory of
Hudson, Fred & Beth	speedy and complete	Dorf, Barry & Natalie	Emanuel Schafer
	recovery - Stu Sax	Kaplan, Marshall & Myra	Gertrude Kaplan
Sisterhood		Lieberman-Garrett, Erica	Morris Kornbloom
		Roberts, Paul & Susan Rat	bi Milton Greenwald
General Fund	In Memory of	Schur, Lee	Bob Schur
Facchini, Penny	Elaine & Gerald Hirsch	Temkin, Robert	Phillip Temkin
Peckman, Joyce	Carmel Catanese		
Pollack, Joel & Linda	Carmel Catanese	Yahrzeit Plaques	
		Harris, Stephen & Marsha	Lee Harris
Meditation Garden	In Honor of		
Gitin, David	tree - Gloria Avner		

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the treasures that lie between these covers."

Tree of Life Leaves: We have three beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

Garden Bricks: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing cheese blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate living tribute; an outdoor plaque is included in the price.

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles

 $S_{\text{many of our KJCC friends and family are gone. We eagerly look forward to welcoming them back home next season.}$

For the most part, the second-night Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club went flawlessly. Steve Hartz, Gloria Avner, David Gitin, Steve Steinbock and everyone else who contributed to our Haggadah services were terrific. The food was, as always, plentiful and great. Kudos and many thanks to Gene Silverman, who helped me immensely every step of the way. The only way to hold an event at the Islamorada Fishing Club is to be a member there, so we thank Mort and Gene Silverman for being our sponsors.

My meaning, when I stated that "for the most part" everything went great, is that the KJCC got charged for no-shows or for cancellations made on the same day of the event. (IFC had already ordered the food and drink for these people.) So we had to pay for an extra ten people who weren't there. These extra charges caused us to throw money away unnecessarily.

So in the future, all reservations will have to be pre-paid; people can then choose whether to show up or not. Cancellations can be accepted, but must be at least 48 hours ahead of time for us not to be responsible for the per-person charges.

Sisterhood's last meeting was held on May 4th at 11:30, and we had our annual luncheon at the Pilot House. I had invited Bernie, Sam and Marc Bloom since too few Sisterhood women ended up coming. Shortly after Bernie arrived, I presented him – a result of a year's hard work by Sisterhood – with a check to KJCC for \$5,000.00. Needless to say, Bernie was pleasantly surprised.

On June 6th, the Temple will be hosting a *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* dinner. Erica Garrett and Gloria Avner are the contacts for this. The cost is \$10.00 for members, \$15.00 for non-

members.

I am including below the

prayer I recited at the last Sisterhood Meeting, as it says a lot about what Sisterhood means to me:

Sisterhood Prayer

God, we ask You to sanctify and bless this group of women as we come together as a Sisterhood. Grant us the capacity to love and to learn and be open to new ideas. Enable us to share with others both in heart and mind. May You help us to fulfill and use all our abilities as we continue to do mitzvot. Give us the strength and courage to accomplish the hopes, dreams and goals of our organization. *Please help us to find the way to be better* women and to be strong enough to help our synagogue and our community in every possible way. Give us patience and understanding and instill in us knowledge and energy so that we may help others. Help quide us as we travel along on our journeys. Help us to understand, lead and respect each other. Thank you, God, for helping us to become the women we are, and the women we will become. Watch over us and keep us safe. Give us the strength to endure each day in good health and happiness. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help others. Please give us the strength to make a difference.

Please grant us: The wisdom to lead; The patience to listen; The compassion to feel; The tolerance to understand; The courage to change.

We ask for Your strength and guidance in achieving our goals for the good of our community.

In closing, Sisterhood will meet again on July 8th at 6 p.m. for a planning meeting. I will be providing pizza and salad for all who attend. I hope everyone has a great summer!! \$



KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT SHABBAT DINNER

We have been wandering in the desert for 49 days. Omer counting is over and it is time to receive the Torah.

Let's make up for our ancestors who nearly slept through the great moment.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot is the widespread custom of studying Torah on Shavuot night until dawn

(or maybe until 10:00 pm). And we'll have a great Dairy meal before our services and Yizkor.

JOIN US on FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH, 6:30PM

SHAVUOT

CELEBRATION

DAIRY DINNER, SERVICES, YIZKOR, DISCUSSION OF MEGILLAT RUTH, RECEIVE THE

TORAH

Contacts: Erica-hippiejap@hotmail.com Gloria-geetavner@gmail.com to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish.



Donation: Members \$10 NonMembers \$15 Children 12 and under @ no charge

YEDA VETORASHA

Yardena Kamely



A Search for Jewish Roots - Researching Family Genealogy

nusim, meaning "coerced ones" or forced ones," are Jews who were forced to abandon Judaism against their will and in most cases forcibly converted to another religion. We read about Anusim after the forced conversion to Christianity of Ashkenazi Jews in Germany at the end of the 11th century. Rashi, who lived during this period, noted the issue of Anusim in his complex and revered legal opinions. Several centuries later, the mass forced conversion of Sephardi Jews followed. These were Jews of the 15th and 16th centuries with long histories in Spain and Portugal (which together form Iberia, known as Sepharad in Hebrew). Sephardic Anusim are also referred to as "Conversos," meaning converts to Christianity in Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan and Ladino. Conversos suffered discrimination, harassment and suspicion from both the community they were leaving and the one they were joining. Christians and Jews both called them tornadizo (renegade). They did not have legal equality and were attacked in occasional pogroms during times of high social tension as during an epidemic or after an earthquake.

"New Christian" (*cristiano nuevo* in Spanish) was a term used to refer to Iberian Muslims and Jews who converted to Roman Catholicism, and their baptized descendants. The term, not one of warmth or welcome, was used by the 'Old Christians' of Iberia who wanted to distinguish themselves from *Conversos*. They also used other derogatory names for the converting groups, such as *Moriscos* for Moors and *Marranos* for Jews. Throughout the Middle Ages, Jews and Mus lims converted to Christianity, often because of physical, economic, and social pressures. In the 14th century there was increasing pressure against Jews, including riots like the one of 1391 in Seville. These riots caused the destruction of Jewish communities and led to many conversions that continued through the 15th century. Portugal was not much affected by the waves of riots and many New Christians fled from Spain to Portugal. After the expulsion of the Jewish population from Spain in 1492 and Portugal in 1497, the remaining Jewish population in Iberia became officially Christian.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, some Conversos migrated to the Americas, to New Spain (North and Central America) and Peru (South America), where they believed that they would be able to live without persecution. From urban México, there was a migration of Conversos into the Nuevo México Province (today the U.S. state of New Mexico) during the 18th century. An article in 1990 in The New York Times stated that about 1,500 Hispanic families in northern New Mexico had Jewish backgrounds. Large numbers of Conversos, however, remained in Spain and Portugal, despite the large emigration and the fate of many victims of the Inquisition. The New Christians of Portugal, for a few years, had the privilege of being allowed to sell their real estate as well as to leave the country with their families and their property. Many, taking advantage of this, left for North Africa and Turkey. Many New Christians migrated to London, from which their families later left for Brazil, where *Conversos* had settled at an early date, and to other colonies of the Americas. Migrations to Constantinople and

Greece's Thessaloniki – where many Jewish refugees had settled after the expulsion from Spain, as well as Italy, Serbia, Romania and Bulgaria, plus Vienna and Timişoara (in today's Rumania) – continued to the middle of the 18th century.

Many of the *Conversos, New Christians, Marranos* and their descendants, known by the Hebrew term *Bnei Anusim* (the children of *Anusim*), remained behind, where they continued to conserve their Jewish identity and to practice Jewish tradition in secret, hiding from

the brutal persecution of the Inquisition. One of the most famous examples was the converted Jews from Palma de Mallorca, still known today by the name *chuetas* ("pigs," which is also the translation of *Marranos*). Many of the New Christians

in Portugal made great efforts to remain loyal to their Jewish roots, passing down the faith and practices of their ancestors to the next generations. And while many had to pay a heavy price for conserving Judaism, many others somehow succeeded in preserving their Jewish identity. Perhaps the most famous example was the community of Belmonte, in northern Portugal, where some 150 *Bnei Anusim* were restored to the Jewish people two decades ago by a rabbinical court sent from Israel.

When the doors to the New World were opened in the 16th and 17th centuries, Brazil came to play an important role for the *Bnei Anusim*. They looked for ways to distance themselves from Iberia, where the Inquisition was heaviest, and so they joined the colonization and development of the new continent. Brazil offered the possibility of a new life, and the hope of one day returning to the faith of their ancestors. But the long arm of the Inqui-





Above, Bnei Anusim Jews in Tarapoto in the Amazon. At left, Incan Bnei Anusim in Peru celebrate the lighting of Chanukah candles. The photo below is of the Incan Bnei Anusim synagogue.



sition reached America and continued to persecute the *Bnei Anusim*, hunting down those accused of secretly practicing Judaism and re-

maining faithful to the laws of the Torah, especially after Portugal asserted full control of Brazil from the Dutch in 1654. But even the cruelty and ruthless efficiency of the Inquisitors could not fully deter the *Anusim* from being practicing Jews. Thousands of families, especially in the interior of northern Brazil, continued to preserve Jewish rituals and traditions.

Today, descendants of *Bnei Anusim* throughout Spain, Portugal and South America are searching for their Jewish roots. Family stories form an important part of a person's identity – stories about love, childhood dreams, friendship, hardships, triumphs, and the ongoing journey that is life. These stories come to represent a chain that bonds generations and become invaluable to their family's collective identity. A growing number of these descendants are looking to reconnect with the Jewish people and return to the faith that was taken away from their forefathers five centuries ago.

While researching in the Beth Am library for my KJCC lecture series about The Jewish Golden Age in Spain during the Islamic Empire, looking for literature on famous Jewish figures and their family stories, the librarian occasional Jew I met than I did inside a church." At the university, she met another Jewish friend, her interest in Judaism grew, and she took classes in theology and paid special attention to the Jewish topics. She married very young, and only after 16 years of marriage and a divorce did she resume her interest and studies in Judaism. "I began to devour volumes of Jewish books," she says, "on the holidays, marriage, Shabbat, philosophy – anything I could get my hands on." She started visiting synagogues for the first time. Eventually she converted to Judaism, her family not understanding why or what had moved her to walk that path. And then something

took a book from the shelf and told me to read it. assuring me that it would be of interest for my lecture about the lews of Spain. That same evening I started reading this small book and could not stop turning the pages, fascinated by the story of a woman's search for her Converso lewish roots. The book, "My 15



Bnei Anusim Jews in Colombia, South America.

Grandmothers," by Genie Milgrom (2012) is about her search to find the proof that her family's ancestors in Spain were *Bnei Anusim*.

Genie Milgrom grew up in a devout Roman Catholic family with no idea of her hidden Jewish past. Her grandparents emigrated from Spain, first to Havana, Cuba, and then, after Castro's takeover, to Miami when Milgrom was five years old. When she was seven, she attended a summer camp where she met her first Jewish friend. "I was drawn to her like a firefly to light," Milgrom says. "She fascinated me and I stuck to her like glue." During the school year, Genie sought out any connection she could find to Jews and Judaism. "It was inexplicable," she adds. "It made no sense, but I felt more at home with the do the burial immediately!" This struck Genie as strange. The tradition of burying someone as soon as possible is not a Catholic one, but a Jewish custom.

tent. "In our family

tradition. we must

The day after the funeral, Genie's mother produced a box that Milgrom's grandmother had specified be delivered to her granddaughter only upon her death. Genie opened the box and inside was a Star of David earring and a *Hamsa* pendant. "At that moment, I said to myself 'holy moley!" Genie recalls. "My grandmother must have been a *Marrano.*" Other memories suddenly began to make sense. With these clues, Genie Milgrom began a search that would last more than a decade to trace back her Jewish roots. It is a fascinating story. ◆



World Jewish Report Medina Roy



Un-Cancelled

An exhibit entitled "The People, the Book, the Land: The 3,500-year Relationship Between the Jewish people and the Land of Israel," was originally scheduled to open at UNESCO's (United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture) Paris headguarters in January 2014. The event was cancelled due to protests from Arab states. That cancellation brought swift and strong condemnation by the World Jewish Congress (WIC) and other lewish organizations. WIC President Ronald S. Lauder called the action "an outrageous political manipulation of a cultural event." UNESCO has recently announced that the program has been rescheduled and will now open on June 11th. (World Jewry Digest, April/May 2014)

1482 Torah

At an auction in Paris on April 30th, a 15th century Torah produced in Bologna, Italy sold for \$3.87 million, the highest price ever paid for any Hebrew-language book. Three buyers attempted to outbid each other by telephone during the sale. According to Christie's auction house, the book is "in exceptionally fresh condition." Three 16th and 17th century signatures at the end of the book confirm its age. indicating that the scroll was housed in an Italian library until at least the mid-17th century. Christie's listing said, "The volume represents the very first appearance of all five books of the Pentateuch as well as the first to which vocalization and cantillation marks have been added." (www.tabletmag.com, 5-2-14)

A (Famous) Tree Grows in D.C.

Thanks to Representative Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-Florida), a three-foot sapling grown from the original horse chestnut tree in Amsterdam that Anne Frank saw and wrote about while she and her family hid in the attic for two years, was planted on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC at the end of April. At the planting ceremony, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, who is Jewish, recited in English the shehecheyanu, the ancient Hebrew prayer that celebrates special occasions. (So he couldn't have brushed up on his Hebrew for the occasion?) The sapling is among eleven taken from the original tree, which fell during a storm in 2010. Several have been planted in the United States, including at New York's "Ground Zero." Boston Common in Massachusetts, the Holocaust Memorial Center in Michigan and the Southern Cayuga School District in New York. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 5-1-14)

Spielberg Does it Again

Acclaimed filmmaker and director Steven Spielberg is forming the Center for Advanced Genocide Research at the University of Southern California. Its primary focus will be "to investigate the conditions leading to genocides and how to intervene in time to prevent such mass violence and slaughter." Twenty years ago, following the release of his Oscar-winning film "Schindler's List," Spielberg founded Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation (now known as the USC Shoah Foundation) at the same university. The Shoah Foundation has grown and now contains some 52,000 testimonies, dealing primarily with the Holocaust but also including some eyewitness accounts of the 1994 Rwandan Tutsi genocide and the 1937 Naniing massacre. Material on the Armenian and Cambodian genocides will be added to the archives this year. The foundation also provides numerous educational programs. (The Forward, 4/26/14)

Another Spielberg Story

Steven Spielberg has signed on to produce a film adaptation of David Kertzer's 1998 book, The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara. The book tells the true story of Edgardo, a six -year-old Jewish boy taken by Church authorities from his family's home in Bologna, Italy in 1858, and brought to a monastery in Rome. The boy was seized based on a rumor that he had received an emergency baptism by the family's illiterate housemaid because he was gravely ill. At that time in the Papal States, it was illegal for non-Catholics to raise Catholic children; if baptized, the boy, considered to then be a Catholic in the eyes of the Church, would no longer be allowed to remain in the home of his Jewish family. Edgardo was taken in by Pope Pius IX and raised as a Catholic. He remained a Catholic as an adult and ultimately was ordained a priest. The boy's parents tried to regain custody of their son but failed. They refused to convert to Catholicism in order to get him back. Playwright Tony Kushner (also Jewish) - who previously worked with Spielberg on the films "Munich" and "Lincoln," both Academy-Award nominees - is said to be on board to write the script. Kertzer's book isn't the first depiction of Edgardo's strange case. In December 2013, a painting of the same name by 19th century German-Jewish painter Moritz Daniel Oppenheim was sold at Sotheby's for more than \$400,000 to a private American collector. (www.tabletmag.com, 4-29-14)

Technically, He was Jewish

Mary O'Connor Ward, sister of Cardinal John O'Connor, the late archbishop of New York, recently discovered through genealogical research that their mother, Dorothy Gumple O'Connor, was born Jewish but converted to Catholicism when she was nineteen before she met and married their father. According to *halacha* (Jewish law), anyone born to a Jewish mother is considered a Jew. In addition, it seems a genealogist has found that the cardinal's maternal grandfather was a rabbi in Bridgeport, Connecticut and that he may have been the local kosher butcher and perhaps even the *shochet*, a person trained and li-

censed to slaughter animals as directed by Jewish law. Ward does not know whether her brother, who died in 2000 at the age of 80, knew that their mother had been born lewish. The cardinal had deep connections with New York's Jewish community and was a close friend of the late New York City mayor Ed Koch, with whom he co-authored a book. O'Connor often said that Jews were Catholics' "elder brothers." He visited the Dachau concentration camp in 1975, was active in protest marches to free Soviet Jews in the late 1980s, and often joined lews in commemorating the Holocaust. O'Connor was a strong defender of Israel. In 1994 Pope John Paul II named him archbishop of New York. Koch went to the Vatican to witness his friend's elevation to cardinal in 1985. That same year O'Connor was quoted as saving that anti-Semitism is a sin. (www.tabletmag.com, 5-1-14 and the jewishweek.com, 5-6-14)

A "Jewish" Lost & Found

Some five million people ride New York City's subways every day. According to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), the subway system's "Lost & Found" is loaded with fascinating things New Yorkers leave behind. There are 1,696 "undergarments," 28,000 cell phones and a prosthetic leg. "We get false teeth almost every week," William Bonner, supervisor of the New York City Transit lost-and-found, said. There's even a "Jewish" category – 10 sets of *tefillin*. But there's good news. The MTA boasts a 60 percent return rate.

(www.tabletmag.com, 5-7-14)

In Memoriam

• Jacob Birnbaum, founder of the *Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry* (SSSJ) who devoted his life to campaigning for Jewish causes, has died at the age of 88. Birnbaum was born in Germany. His father, Solomon, a Yiddish scholar, took the family to London when Hitler came to power. After World War II, the younger Birnbaum became involved in resettling what was left of eastern European Jewry. (He was inspired by his grandfather, Nathan Birnbaum, who coined the term "Zionism" in 1890.) Jacob moved to New York in 1964 and, having witnessed firsthand the horrors of the Holocaust, began mobilizing students to put pressure on the Kremlin to stop oppressing Soviet lews. He took careful note of the successful tactics of the American Civil Rights movement and applied them to the plight of the lews in the Soviet Union. More than 1,000 students from Yeshiva University, Columbia, Stern College and other college campuses demonstrated outside the Soviet mission to the United States in a campaign to free the millions of Jews trapped in the Soviet Union. This protest began a world-wide movement that led to a modern Exodus and contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Union. He insisted that every protest rally include posters that read "Let My People Go," the line from Exodus 9:1. He demanded free emigration, not just an easing of restrictions. Ultimately, more than 1.5 million Soviet lews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union. Many moved to Israel. In 2007, the U.S. House of Representatives honored Birnbaum for his efforts on behalf of Soviet lews. (www.nvtimes.com, 4-19-14)

 Gary Becker, economist and a protégé of free-market advocate and economist Milton Friedman, died at the beginning of May. He was 83. Becker redefined the field of economics and applied its principles to a wide range of human behavior. His work won him the Nobel Prize in 1992. He used economic analysis to study subjects ranging from crime to discrimination, addiction, political influence, population and the family, to name a few. He got his doctorate in economics at the University of Chicago in 1955 and two years later published "The Economics of Discrimination." In his early career, leading economists guestioned the validity of his analysis of social problems. In 2011, he said that the United States needed to delay payment of retirement benefits because of huge budget deficits. He suggested that the U.S. Congress consider raising the age of retirement to 70 for people without disabilities. Becker later served as an economic adviser to California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. (The Forward, 5-5-14)

• Al Feldstein, comic book writer, artist and long-time editor (29 years) of *Mad* maga-

zine, died at the end of April. He was 88. Feldstein worked at EC comics from 1948, but left comics to become editor of Mad in 1956, replacing founding editor Harvey Kurtzman. Feldstein gave the magazine its identity. He assembled a team that would define the magazine's irreverent tone -especially popular with teenagers - making it profitable and a commercial success with a satirical look at pop U.S. culture. He made Alfred E. Neuman, the freckled-faced, gap -toothed fictitious young man with the big ears the symbol of *Mad* magazine. Neuman became a household name with his slogan "What - me worry?" Feldstein was born in Brooklyn. He won a poster contest sponsored by the 1939 New York World's Fair. He attended the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan and later took classes at the Art Students League. Feldstein retired in 1984 and settled in Montana. where he focused on a career in wildlife and landscape painting, exhibiting his work in numerous galleries in the west. (www.nytimes.com, 5-1-14)

Did You Know...

• Eric Afriat, 45, of Montreal, missed both Passover *seders* at his mother's home in West Boca Raton, Florida because he was playing in the World Poker Tour/Seminole Hard Rock Poker Showdown in Hollywood, Florida. He considered quitting the tournament to attend the *seders* but decided to keep playing. He won the tournament and took home over a million dollars. (*The Forward, 4-20-14*)

• "The Red Tent," the 1997 best-selling novel by Anita Diamant, is being made into a fourhour miniseries by the Lifetime network. The book explores the lives of women in biblical times and is told through the voice of Dinah. the daughter of Leah and Jacob. (Not much is mentioned about Dinah in the Torah. other than the supposed rape thing, after which two of her brothers, Simeon and Levi, go crazy with revenge and kill the king and half the population of Shechem, but only after they've convinced all the adult males of Shechem to undergo circumcision and attack while they are still "sore.") The book gets its title from the place where women gather and share their stories during the times when they menstruate and give birth. (www.jta.org, 5-11-14) ◊

Photo Gallery

So here is the story – why, beyond the awe-inspiring beauty, I love night-blooming cactus. Twenty-five years ago, living in San Miguel d'Allende, I was traveling to small neighboring towns and cemeteries to visit "Dia de Los Muertos" celebrations. On a mission, I was gathering indigenous folk art for the gallery and stories about the holiday for my own fascination. There was a toy maker that I especially wanted to find, and I eventually tracked him down in a village an hour away. In his studio we talked, both of us using second languages, mine more halting then his. He was Otomi Indian, and when I asked how his people celebrated Day of the

Dead, when the veil between this world and the next is supposed to be thinnest, he said: "we don't." Surprise. I thought everyone in *Mexico went on November 1st and 2nd to the* cemeteries where their parents and loved ones were buried, pulled weeds, decorated the graves with mounds of yellow marigolds and burning candles, brought the loved ones their favorite food, drink, and cigarettes, had a picnic at midnight, sang songs, and got drunk. "Not the Otomi," he said. "We live, die, and bury our people on the rancho. When an Otomi dies, we dia a deep hole in the earth and bury our people standing up. When the hole is covered, we plant a special cactus. Months later, buds appear, and in the dark of night, a beautiful face-sized white flower



So Gloria and David pick up Steve and Carol to go to a concert. Steve's cactus looks normal. Upon their return the cactus looked like this, with magnificent white -with-yellow blossoms. Gloria snapped the photographs.

blooms. Then we know that our relative has come to visit. We sit with them." Seeing that flower last night in Steve's garden, before we left for the concert, when there were only buds, and three hours later, in total darkness, in

full bloom, was doubly moving. The cactus cutting came from a plant of Carol's mom Marianne. Has it been about been three months since she passed? They liked the story. Carol's mom must have been blessing Steve's retirement and their up-coming cruise :-)

-Gloria Avner

The gathering at right was taken April 26th at the Mandalay in Key Largo. They were all there for lunch to celebrate the birthdays of Susan Gordon and Linda Kaplan. And in the center, of course, was Pauline Roller, KJCC's number one party girl.









Each year, the final event of Sisterhood's season is a luncheon, the last few years at the Pilot House in Key Largo. It's a way to say goodbye for the summer to all those who will soon head north. This year Barbara invited some y-chromosome types, since so few women said they were coming. But it all worked out. In the photo at bottom, Barbara hands KJCC prez Bernie Ginsberg a check for \$5,000, representing Sisterhood's fundraising for the past year. Bernie was both surprised and delighted, and very appreciative.





IN HONDR OF OUR FAMILY PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTUR JOEL AND LINDA POLLACK





On Friday, May 9th, Bernie and Medina co-led services in honor of their



joint birthday on the 14th. (Bernie's older.) On the other side of the bemah, leading the singing, were Gloria and Jane Friedman, shown above left. In case you can't read the cake, it says (no graduate of cake-icing school was working at Publix that day, apparently) "Happy Birthday Bernie and Medina." That Sunday was also Mother's Day, so Carol Steinbock brought in two cakes that read "To Mothers With Love." Friday's Oneg must not have been enough, so a group of us met at Num Thai on the 14th, the following Wednesday, to properly celebrate Bernie and Medina's actual birthday. (Don't forget, Bernie's older.)



NO CIT 💭 ETURNET





Gloria had noticed that the engraved messages on KJCC's Meditation Garden benches were fading. So she and David spent a couple of hours there one afternoon. Gloria re-inked; David took the photos. We're blooming!

E B E





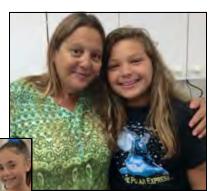
The three photos at top are from the May 17th Shabbat morning service led by Rabbi Richard Agler, his last service until High Holidays in the fall. In the middle photo, Sisterhood president Barbara Knowles presents Rich and Mindy Agler with a check made out to the Talia Agler Girls Shelter of Nairobi, Kenya, part of this year's Tikkun Olam given from the Women's Seder proceeds.

Graduation Day, Pizza Party, Ice Cream Fest and laugh-riot-movie-with-a-message were all rolled into one celebration on May 18th at KICC. Students received Achievement Certificates, parents received certificates of appreciation, friends joined in and all were entertained by a lively movie about the excesses families can go to in the celebration of a Bar Mitzvah. The message that rites of passage are about more than impressing the neighbors was made with humor and warmth. We laughed, and at the end, when family ties were peaceably repaired, some of us cried. It was a great, though highly caloric, way to end the Keys Jewish Community Center Religious School Year. Thanks to all the grown-ups and young-at-heart (yes, we mean you, Pauline) who joined teachers, students and honorary zaydeh, President Bernie Ginsberg, to honor a year of Jewish learning.





The two bottom photos here, and all on the next page, were taken May 18th at the final event of this year's Sunday School calendar. Top photo by Susan Gordon, all others by Gloria Avner. Over a dozen parents and school supporters (or maybe it was the pizza, popcorn and a movie?) were there on a Sunday morning. All the students received their school certificates. And Bernie got to kvell a little to see another example of his teach-Judaismwith-laughter-and-joy concept working so beautifully. Our thanks again to Gloria for the photos.











Mother's Day A Photo Album

In the photo at right, Gloria Avner, along with brother Mark (easy to see the resemblance, right?) stand behind their mother Bea just before lunch at her assisted living facility. (If you go online at some point to see the color version, you'll see that the napkins are all pink.) Gloria and Bea share a kiss and two long-stemmed red roses just below. In the photo below left, Susan Gordon poses with daughter Rose Marie in Tennessee. Daughter has a



full-time teaching job, so that's where mother went so they could spend the day together.







At left, looking serene and wise with years, is Bianka Kirschenbaum, Medina Roy's mother, who is actually two months older than our Pauline. Yes, of course Medina was there; she took the picture.

I was too busy kvelling to do much photography. It was beyond wonderful..the first time in a dozen years that I have been with both sons on Mother's Day...plus my step -mom and 4/6 of my grand kids. My cousin, stepbrother and sister and all of my step-nieces and nephews were there. Eliana met a whole side of the family she didn't know

existed....Representing the KJCC were Susan Ellner, Nissan and Israel Mayk, and Shyella, Amit, Liati and Doron plus children. (Bea is in England.)

No photos of Becca... she was either too busy with babies or friends. or upstairs collapsing afterwards. The mohel was great, a Chabadnik with ten children and many years of experience. He was able to auickly rock the baby to sleep after the event. Another rabbi corralled every available male relative, including my stepbrother and cousin and Becca's dad, into laving tefillin for the first time since their bar mitzvahs. There were about 150 people, many from the community, who for the past five months have been bringing food and helping care for Libby.

-Joyce Peckman





At top, Joyce with sons Daniel, left and Keith. Center, Joyce with extended family. At bottom, Peckmans and Bea Graham's granddaughters Shyella and Liati with their husbands and children.



The top two photos were taken at the Mother's Day brunch at Islamorada Fishing Club. At left, of course, are Mort and Gene Silverman. Gene's camera also captured Elaine & Alan Schulberg there, together with grandson Kyle and his wife.

Linda (& Joel) Pollack's sons — Jeff and Roy, who both live in Texas — made it back to Key Largo for Mother's Day. That's Jeff standing between Joel and Linda at top, and Roy sitting with Joel at right. Many of you will remember that Roy's son Will had his Bar Mitzvah at KJCC not very long ago.



YIZKOR

THE ORIGINS AND PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL JEWISH PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE.

by Joyce Peckman

Shavuot falls at the beginning of this month. We will celebrate the giving of the Torah, the arrival of first fruit, the end of Omer counting, and we will say Yizkor.

What do we know about this emotional memorial prayer, said four times each year and believed to have the power to spiritually elevate the souls of the departed?

Yizkor means "*He will remember*." According to Jewish belief, although the departed can no longer perform good deeds, their souls can benefit from the prayers, actions and acts of charity that others perform in their memory.

We recite Yizkor on four holidays: Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Pesach and Shavuot. Its origin is found in the Midrash *Tanchuma*: "Our practice is to remember the deceased on Yom Kippur by pledging charity on their behalf." The Midrash continues that when charity is pledged, the soul of the departed one "ascends as quickly as an arrow shot from a bow." Yizkor was quickly extended to the three pilgrimage festivals, which had the commandment of offering donations. It

likely became a formal part of the prayer service during the Crusades of the eleventh century, when many Jews were killed as filledwith-fervor Christian Crusaders made their way to the Holy Land. While the earliest mention of Yizkor can be found in the eleventhcentury *Machzor Vitry*, some scholars believe that Yizkor actually was created during the Maccabean period (around 165 B.C.E) when Judah Maccabee and his fellow soldiers prayed for their fallen comrades. (Source: Kolatch, Alfred J., "The Jewish Book of Why.")

It is acceptable to say Yizkor at home in privacy, but for reasons both ritual and so-

It is acceptable to say Yizkor at home in privacy, but for reasons both ritual and social, it is far better to recite the prayer with a community.

cial, it is far better to recite the prayer with a community. It is prayed silently, mentioning each relative by name, and committing (without a vow....think of Kol Nidre) to donate charity in their behalf. After the personal prayers, there are paragraphs for victims of the Holocaust and other martyrs, ending with "El Molay Rachamim"(God, full of compassion), which is recited at a burial or unveiling,

and "Av Harachamim" (Father of compassion).

In most synagogues, children are asked to leave the sanctuary while Yizkor is recited. The reason, while partly to aid focus and decorum, is largely a superstitious one - it was thought to be bad luck for parents to have their children present while the praver is said. Other synagogues do not ask people to leave, both because some of the mourners might be children and because watching others leave might actually enhance any mourner's feelings of isolation. Rabbi Dan Dorsch of Livingston, New Jersey wrote about this issue in the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* shortly after the death of his mother: "I was

able to take some comfort in knowing that I was not alone in my mourning, as for thirty minutes that day our sanctuary was transformed into a community of mourners... Seeing an entire room full of people in mourning, I realized that every person in that room at one point had stood in my shoes and could relate to the depths of my pain. Somehow, they had come out the other side, and so would I."

I hope that, like me, you will draw comfort and strength from the silent remembrances, the vows they inspire, and the friendship of our KJCC community. \Diamond

Yom HaShoah

KICC observed Yom HaShoah — Holocaust *Remembrance Day* — *at our Friday service on* April 25th. The service was led by our standing Holocaust Committee: Chair Yardena Kamely plus Medina Roy and Muriel Swartz. *Here is the text, spoken by Muriel for the* committee, of the few special minutes of Holocaust commemoration that evening

y cousin Marian Felberbaum, a social studies teacher in North Brunswick, New Jersey, had a candle-lighting ceremony as part of the Holocaust Memorial she prepared with her 8th grade students for their community. Yardena and Medina agreed with me that we should also include such a ceremony in our Yom HaShoah observance. The three of us decided each candle would represent different segments of the population lost to us because of the mass murders of the Nazis. Here is the script we wrote:

Tonight we are asking some of the individuals who have given great devotion and dedication to our KJCC to light one of the memorial candles representing those lost to us during the Holocaust:

I ask Skip Rose to light a candle for the six million lews.

I ask Natalie Dorf to light the second candle for all the murdered political opponents, homosexuals, gypsies, and Jehovah Witnesses.

I ask Steve Friedman to light the third candle for the 1.5 million children stolen from us.

l ask Stan Margulies to light the fourth candle for all the rabbis, scholars, and learned individuals.

I ask Linda Kaplan to light the fifth candle for all the partisans, and for those who never had anyone to sav Kaddish for them.

I ask Joe Shabathai to



light the sixth candle for all the Righteous Gentiles who at great risk to themselves and to

their families saved lews from certain death.

) e also liked the idea that Marian



incorporated an honor to the Dutch people who were naturally inclined to "do the riaht thina." Here's the section from their script: "And who would want to forget the Dutch: A people **Righteous** Among the Nations? The Dutch helped save

so many lews during the Holocaust that often a Remembrance Evening will include vases of yellow tulips to honor the people of the Netherlands for their moral courage and goodness in a time when there was little of it."

A few years ago we began displaying vellow tulips on the

bema during our Yom HaShoah observance. Usually Yardena explains the significance of the tulips. Tonight she won't have to. >





Once lit — by Skip Rose, Natalie Dorf, Steve Friedman, Stan Margulies, Linda Kaplan and Joe Shabathai — the six symbolic candles burned brightly and in full view during the Shabbat evening service. Joining the congregation that night were Nancy Lucas and three students from Be The Change, a Monroe County student anti-hate organization founded by KJCC's own Judy Greenman.







As we have for several years, KJCC sponsored the bus that carried Be The Change students from all across Monroe County to Barry University's annual Holocaust Symposium. Once there they get to meet, listen to the stories of and speak with living survivors of the Holocaust. After the service, the three students brought by Nancy — Sacha Franks, Dylan Knauer, and David Diaz — addressed KJCC in the David Kamely classroom to describe their experiences. That's Nancy on the far left, below, beside Sacha, Dylan, David and KJCC Holocaust Committee members Yardena Kamely, Medina Roy and Muriel Swartz.



Holocaust Remembrance, Be the Change and the KJCC

by Nancy Lucas, M.Ed. Be the Change Upper Keys Prevention Coordinator

(Ed note: As the leader of the KJCC-sponsored bus trip to the Holocaust Symposium, we asked Nancy to share some thoughts about the trip and program with KJCC members.)

Created through a partnership of the Keys Jewish Community Center and Be the Change of the Florida Keys, this year's student Holocaust Remembrance exhibit received very good reviews from members of the Upper Keys community. "People said they liked this display better than previous years because it showed the students participating," said Key Largo Library Branch Manager Paulette Sullivan. The Library also posted pictures of the display on their Facebook page.

The display's journey began on Friday, April 25th, when the KJCC commemorated Holocaust Remembrance Dav during and after services. After that the Be the Change student project went to the Islamorada Library for display through Wednesday, May 7th. From May 7th-17th it was displayed at the Key Largo Library. As it has for years, the KJCC had once again sponsored the Be the Change trip to Miami's Barry University in March for the annual Holocaust symposium, where Keys students meet Holocaust survivors in person. The visual display, created by the students and the KJCC Holocaust Committee and hung on several of KICC's professional display boards, is a community-education extension of that deeply personal experience. In all, the display received an estimated 1,600 views in person and 834 views from Facebook posts made by Be the Change.

Three Be the Change students also attended the Friday, April 25th Yom HaShoah commemoration at KJCC. After the remembrance ceremony in the KJCC sanctuary, KJCC members and guests moved to the David Kamely classroom, where Coral Shores High School sophomores Sacha Franks and Dylan Knauer and Freshman David Diaz shared how they worked to end racism and hate this school year through Challenge Day, the Holocaust Student Awareness Day at Barry University and PeaceJam in Tallahassee.

Knauer presented a video he created that captured student and teacher reflection after the Holocaust symposium. Sophomore Sacha Franks opened the student presentation at the KJCC quoting author, Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel: "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference." Sacha talked to KICC about her experience at the Holocaust Symposium with the survivors. As the only student from Coral Shores with a grandparent who survived the Holocaust, she had braved the podium in front of almost 600 students to thank the survivors for sharing their stories. (What she didn't say that night was that on the KJCC-sponsored bus ride home, she had tenderly shared intimate details about her grandmother: her marriage in a concentration camp, her journey through three different camps, and then liberation. Her husband died in Auschwitz, and she had been the sole survivor of her extended family.)

KJCC President Bernard Ginsberg, M.D. thanked the students and addressed the audience saying: "We all worry a little about the state of education these days, and how much important history our young people are learning. But after listening to the sensitive, thoughtful presentations by the three of you I'm confident that we'll be in very good hands when your generation takes over."

Holocaust Committee Chair Yardena Kamely congratulated the students for their professionalism and passion, then said, "And now you are the messengers. This is only the beginning of your work. You must continue to share this story for future generations." \diamond As noted by Nancy, part of the student project this year was to themselves create the Holocaust Remembrance Display that would be shown at Coral Shores High School and also be in residence for a while at both libraries in the Upper Keys, Key Largo and Islamorada. If those display panels look familiar, they should; to create the display, the students used four of KJCC's professional (and very versatile) trade show

display panels. The strip at the bottom center reads "This project was created by the Be The Change students at Coral Shores High School thanks to the

generous support of the Keys Jewish Community Center."



In addition to visiting the Holocaust Symposium locally at Barry University in Miami, the Be The Change students also trav-

eled to PeaceJam in Tallahassee, a program where Nobel Laureates mentor young people in making the world a more peaceful place. The students pose with Peace Prize Laureate Leymah Gbowee of Liberia, above.

The photo at bottom shows the assembled Monroe County group at Barry's Holocaust Symposium. At left, Sacha Franks, the

> only student who is descended from a Holocaust survivor, shows a photo of the grandmother she had just spoken about in front of 600 people.



Travels With Seymour: Part II

by Sy Gelbard

(Note: The text here might lead one to conclude that right now Sy is sitting in Ecuador perhaps at some expatriate bar, with that afternoon's thunderstorm quickly gathering in the distance, a piano tinkling in the background and a mysterious woman smoking languidly at the next table — and sending us dispatches. But no. Even the part below written in the present tense was actually written several weeks ago. He's here now, with us, safe and sound. I could have changed all the verbs, but it has a nice sense of immediacy and intimacy the way it was written. – Ed.)

was in the Galápagos Islands of Ecuador

L last week and had some amazing experiences. Among other activities, I dove near one of the Islands and have footage of enormous schools of fish, white-tipped sharks, the obligatory turtle and imagery of a sea lion coming right at me and

then veering away. Thrilling stuff!

For those who may have forgotten their history, Charles Darwin formulated his Theory of Evolution on his observations while in the Galápagos Islands because the remoteness of this area served as a perfect

laboratory to study various species unaffected by external influences.

(Though incredibly remote, some "fringe" scholars – perhaps the kind who wear *tzitzit* – believe that Darwin also found a few *yarmulkas*, thus perpetuating the idea that we Jews have been everywhere and at all times.)

After Galápagos I flew to the capital, Quito, and found it to be much like other cities in Latin America, with beautiful Spanish Colonial architecture and charming people. However, Quito sits high in the Andes at near 10,000 feet and I got a taste of what altitude sickness is all about. Lethargy, swollen extremities and extreme lack of appetite are common symptoms. Maybe it was part of having insufficient oxygen that led me to think up a business model to present on Shark Tank: A weight-control vacation sending planeloads of corpulent people to spend several weeks in Quito, Ecuador with the by-line of: "Reduce your own Equator." As I said, it might have been a lack of oxygen.

I also visited the Chabad rabbi in Quito and had a very interesting and fulfilling discussion with him.



I am currently in a lodge at the edge of the Amazon Forest in Central Ecuador with the usual cast of characters like monkeys, toucans, tarantulas, piranha and Wi-Fi :). I have descended in altitude by about 8,000 feet and my appetite is back.

I am probably one neighborhood away from guys with bones in their noses and who go food shopping with blowguns. I'll stay right where I am for the next few days, thanks.

I think it was Michael Crichton in his personal experiences with travel, who said that "travel is one-half running away from, and one-half running towards, something."

Having traveled so extensively and so voraciously, I'm still trying to figure out those percentages. ◊



Shavuot – Agricultural, Spiritual, Milchik

 \mathcal{C} havuot, which translates literally as \mathcal{S} "weeks." did not receive much attention in the ancient rabbinic literature. No tractate about it appears in the Talmud. All of its laws are contained in one paragraph of the Shulchan Arukh. This is interesting, since it is one of the three Pilgrimage festivals, when Judeans were expected to travel to Jerusalem to bring crop offerings to the Temple. But today there are many aspects to the celebration of this holiday. It may have begun as strictly an agricultural holiday, but today it is infused with many levels of significance, especially because it is believed to be the moment when, with the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai, the raataa wanderina Hebrews, only a few short weeks ago slaves in Egypt, became the nation of Israel and a major player in world history.

The Agricultural Origins

In Israel, Shavuot is the holiday celebrating the spring harvest season. Even in Biblical times it was a harvest festival. It was known as *Chag HaBikkurim*—literally, holiday of the first fruits—to ancient farmers, who would, in a gesture of thanksgiving, take to the Temple sacrifices of the seven farmed edibles of Israel: wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates.

Farmers would begin their spring harvests with the barley crop at Passover. The harvest would continue for seven weeks (there is much more to come about this notion of seven weeks and its many-layered meanings) as other crops and fruits would ripen. Watching carefully, the farmer would tie a ribbon around the branch of each type of fruit as it emerged. The ribbon marked each as *bikkurim*—first fruit—not to be eaten, but offered in sacrifice.

At Shavuot farmers would gather the *bik-kurim* into baskets and take them to Jerusalem, where they would be eaten. Farmers living close to Jerusalem would bring fresh fruit; those who had to travel long distances would bring dried raisins and figs.

Giving of the Torah

According to the Torah, it took the Hebrews exactly 49 days (seven weeks) to depart Egypt, traverse the Sea of Reeds, wander the Sinai Desert and finally arrive at the foot of Mt. Sinai. Leviticus 23:21 commands "and you shall proclaim that day (the next day, the fiftieth day) to be a holy convocation." That day is Shavuot.

So, here they were, at the foot of Mt. Sinai. The desert was arid, and barren. The mountain, though, was lush and green, covered with grass, flowers and trees. On the third of Sivan, Moses was told to prepare his people for God's descent and visit. On the sixth. three days later, the people were awakened by thunder and lightning. The mountain was shrouded in dark clouds. Sounds of the ram's horn, the Shofar, were heard across the desert. The earth began to shake. Then a voice came out of the clouds, as God spoke. And on this day, Shavuot, the sixth of Sivan, the rabbis calculate that God gave the Ten Commandments to the Jewish people. Which is why Shavuot is also known as Zeman Matan *Torateinu*, the Season of the Giving of Our law.

Observing Shavuot

Many traditions and customs associated with Shavuot are based on legends and stories describing the astounding events said to have taken place at Mt. Sinai. (Just imagine yourself there, a hungry, confused, probably pretty cranky and footsore escaped slave, and witnessing such things.)

According to tradition, everyone actually overslept on the morning of God's visit. To compensate for this astounding communal *faux pas*, Jews have stayed awake ever since from dawn to dusk on Erev Shavuot, reading and studying Torah and Talmud. This custom is called *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*, the Restoration of Shavuot Eve, and symbolizes Jewish commitment to the Torah and to always be awake and ready to receive it.

Most of the more mystical Shavuot practices stemmed from the sixteenth-century group living in Tzfat under the guidance of Isaac Luria. In addition to symbolic apologia for their ancestors at Mt. Sinai, the mystics believed that at midnight the heavens open and are receptive to the prayers of those commemorating the revelation of the Ten Commandments. Moroccan Jews believed that staying up guaranteed you life for the next year.

It is actually the *giving* of the Torah that matters. The entire holiday is referred to as the time of the *giving* of the Torah. We are said to receive it every day; we are constantly in the process of receiving it. But this is the one time it was *given*, a moment to always be celebrated. Passover may have freed us from physical bondage, but the giving of the Torah seven weeks later freed us from bondage to idolatry and spiritual darkness.

Shavuot is also the end of the 49 days of the counting of the Omer. As there are seven days in any week, and the seventh day is Shabbat, the number seven (seven times seven, remember, is 49) has major significance in Jewish measurement of time. Each seventh year is called a *Shemitah*, or sabbatical, year. After seven such cycles (that multiple again) comes a *Yovel*, or Jubilee, year.

From the legend that the Israelites, when being given the Torah, found Mt. Sinai to be green and abloom, has come the tradition to decorate Jewish homes and synagogues at Shavuot with green tree branches and flowers. Some synagogues decorate their Torah scrolls with wreaths of roses. This was apparently an ancient custom, because Haman complained to King Achashverosh about such an observance among the lews. There was once a custom to actually bring trees into the synagogue, but that practice was squelched by the Vilna Gaon, who derided it as being chukot haGoyim, meaning "adopting the customs of the gentiles." (Hanukkah bush, anyone?)

In many synagogues, particularly Ashkenazi, the Book of Ruth is read during morning Shavuot services. There are many explanations for this, none definitive. The most common is that Ruth (Judaism's most famous convert, with Elizabeth Taylor getting honorable mention) came to Israel, following her mother-in-law Naomi ("whither you go, I will go..."), at the time of Shavuot. Some say her acceptance of the Jewish faith was analogous to the Jewish people accepting God's Torah. Still others say that it is because Ruth was the great, great grandmother of King David, who it is believed was born and died on Shavuot.

Shavuot and Dairy

One of the most enduring customs of Shavuot is the eating of dairy foods. The most common explanation is because it was at Mt. Sinai that Jews were first given the dietary laws and, now obligated to follow its teachings, realized that they could not properly prepare meat or their utensils there. So they ate dairy instead.

But food is involved here, so naturally other explanations abound. It is said that baby Moses was placed in the river on the sixth of Sivan (the future Shavuot) and found by Pharaoh's daughter. It is also said that Moses refused to nurse from an Egyptian woman, which led to his sister Miriam's suggestion that Yocheved, his birth mother, be brought in as his wet nurse. Moses, who was to eventually teach all of Israel the tenets of the Torah, could not drink mother's milk from a non-Jew. So the day is commemorated with dairy dishes.

Some believe that this stems from the Torah (given on Shavuot, remember), which speaks in Exodus of a land flowing with "milk and honey." Others say it's because at Sinai the Israelites were as innocent as newborns, whose food, of course, is milk. Some sage noticed that the initials of the four Hebrew words in Numbers 28:26, where the sacrificial meal offering for Shavuot is described, spell *mei chalav* ("from milk"), which suggests that dairy is the intended food for the festival. Mystics have noted that the *gematria*, the numerical value, of the word *chalav* (milk) is 40, the number of days Moses spent on Mt. Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments and other teachings. And that Mt. Sinai itself has eight names, one of which is *gavnunim*, because its appearance resembles that of cheese, which in Hebrew is *g'vinah*.

So when Shavuot comes in a few days, remember that it celebrates the harvest and our gratitude for it, and the end of counting the Omer, and that it's one of the three Pilgrimage festivals, and that you can decorate your house and shul and Torah with greenery and flowers, and that it represents the giving of the Torah, the single act that essentially created the Jewish people.

And then, guilt-free for the only time all year, help yourself to a large, spiritual wedge of cheesecake. \diamond

Tikkun Leil Shavuot 5774

by Gloria Avner

A ncient Israel's economy was based primarily on agriculture. On a purely physical level, the "waves" of grain were offered up every day from Passover to Shavuot as sacrifices in the Temple. But is that the whole story? Of course it isn't. We are talking about Judaism. We take the physical and through it reveal the metaphysical, unearthing everdeeper layers of meaning.

Though *omer* is the proper name of a dry measure, similar to a barrel or basket by which grain was measured, the specific word in Hebrew for measure is *mida* (plural: *midot*); the same word is used to describe personal character traits or emotional attributes. Isn't our ancestral language wonderful?

The word *s'fira* (plural: *s'firot*) also has two meanings. We are familiar with the "counting" definition, but listen to what the famous 16th century Kabbalist RaMak said: "*Sefirah* means both 'mispar,' or number, and 'sipur,' as in story telling. A third root is 'sapir,' or sapphire, a brightly shining translucent crystal. By this root/route, we come to the meaning of 'emanation,' light from a source of illumination."

According to our little booklet, "counting

sefirot illuminates the different aspects of our emotional lives. The days of *sefirah* tell us a story—the story of our souls. The spectrum of human experience divides into seven emotions and qualities, known in plural as *sefirot*. Each of these in turn divides into seven again, making a total of forty-nine."

Here is a very basic description of the seven emotional attributes:

Chesed: Lovingkindness, benevolence; *Gevurah*: Justice, discipline, restraint, awe; *Tiferet*: Beauty and harmony; compassion; *Netzach*: Endurance; fortitude, ambition; *Hod*: Humility, splendor;

Yesod: Bonding, foundation;

Malchut: Mobility, sovereignty, leadership (feminine aspect).

Each person when created is given a certain measure of each attribute, which determines the person's particular personality. It is his or her spiritual work to refine these *midot/sefirot*.

Let's take advantage of these days of counting. They come to a close on Tuesday, the 3rd of lune. We will have completed our 49 days of wandering and introspection. Our feet may be tired but we must keep our minds alert. We do not want to be caught, as some were in the desert, sleeping when the Torah is given to us. The mystical tradition, begun in Tzfat in the 16thcentury, says we are to stay up studying Torah all night. We call it "Tikkun Leil Shavuot" (repair on the night of Shavuot). We can keep the shul open as long as students wish to study. Maybe we could reach midnight. Our goal as we prepare to receive the Torah is to achieve unity of purpose and communal harmony.

Come to KJCC services on Friday, June 6th and celebrate *Shavuot* with *mishpocha*. We will listen to the Shofar, read commandments from the Torah, and read from the Book of Ruth. Bernie will lead our Torah discussion group.

So come. Receive. Study. Enjoy marvelous food of the dairy realm. Discuss. Learn. Argue. *Fress*. Complete more *mitzvot* than you thought possible, and complete yet another significant cycle and high point of our culture. \diamond

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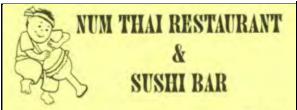
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Four Things That Make KJCC Unique and Special:

1. Our library — we have almost **1**,000 volumes - in fiction, history, philosophy, mysticism, reference and on DVD, all tended to by professional librarian Medina Roy.

2. Our Garden — we have benches, and a winding brick walkway, and native and flowering flora, and a beautiful gazebo that's a chuppah, or a sukkah, or a site for Havdalah, or just a place for quiet meditation.

3. We accommodate and welcome ALL branches of Judaism. Weekly service leaders highlight Hebrew, or English, and almost always offer lots of joyous singing.

4. We're more than a shul; we're a community center. We have movies, and game nights, and lectures, and classes and monthly dinners. Our onegs are legendary.



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Chai-Lights June, July and August 2014 49



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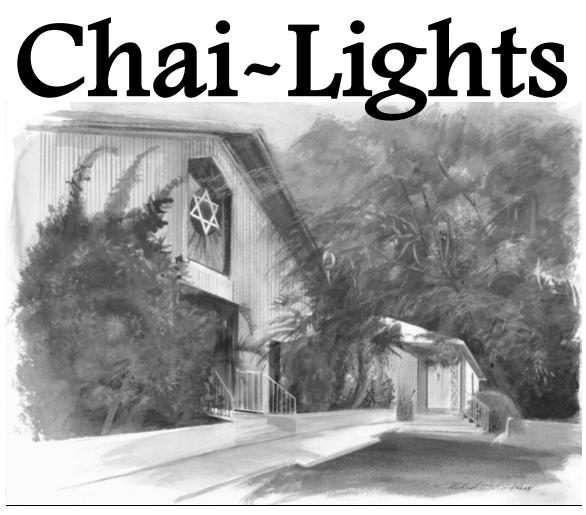
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September 2014

6 Elul 5774 - 6 Tishrei 5775

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September 2014

6 Elul - 6 Tishrei

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5 Sy Gelbard & Gloria Avner	6
7 Sisterhood 9:30 a.m.	8	9	10	11	12 Joel Bofshever & Susan Gordon	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Gloria Avner & Sam Vinicur <i>Toby & Joel</i> <i>Bofshever</i>	20 Slichot 5:00p.m.
21	22	23	24 Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner 6:00p.m. Service 8:00 p.m.	25 Rosh Hashanah	26 Joyce Peckman	27 Shabbat Tshuvah 10:00 a.m.
28	29	30	lt	<i>alicized</i> names a vices every Frida	ders of Friday services re Oneg sponsors. Ser y at 8:00 p.m. except re noted.	

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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 Bernard Ginsberg

As I am writing this message the Gaza Palestinians are making and breaking their "Cease Fires." It is uncertain whether Israeli Defense Forces on the ground need to be recommitted. It is also T'sha B'Av the Jewish fast commemorating the destruction of the First Temple (Solomon's) and the Second Temple (Herod's) on the Ninth day of the month of Av. We have both a sad historical date and a sad present day condition together.

According to some Sephardic traditons T'sha B'Av is the "Black Fast" and Yom Kippur is the "White Fast." T'sha B'av is the Black because our loss of the ancient Temples is a completed historical fact. We cannot undo this loss. We can only mourn for it.

Yom Kippur is the "White Fast," because although we afflict ourselves with fasting, it is to purify our souls so that G-d can forgive us our sins and the fast turns out to have constructive purpose. It even has a sort of "happy ending" in this regard.

We can, through Yom Kippur, recreate ourselves.

It is to this purpose that the Officers, the Board of directors of the KJCC and the Sisterhood are driving themselves hard with work to give you the congregants the most rewarding High Holiday spiritual experience possible. Working out the details of the services and dinners and onegs are daunting and range from the mundane to the



sublime; from making sure the air condition works to working with the Rabbi and Cantor on the schedule of prayer. Rabbi Agler and our new Cantor Paul Goldstein are working to give us fantastic, moving services. Barbara Knowles, Erika Lieberman-Garrett and all the officers of Sisterhood are making all the dinners and Onegs possible.

We do his so that your commitment to Judaism and the Jewish people will be reinforced, and so that Judaism will continue through our commitment and that of our children and grandchildren. We do this hoping that we the Jewish people will have the strength of commitment to Israel so that it in turn will have the strength to turn the political "Black Fast" of Palestinian terrorism into a "White Fast" of further Israeli security, peace and progress.

On behalf of the officers and board of directors of the Keys Jewish Community Center, I want to wish ever member a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. I want to personally invite each and every one of you to services this year so that we can pray together for Israel and the entire Jewish people and renew and strengthen our friendships and commitments.to each other. With love,

Bernie Ginsberg Chai-Lights September 2014 3

Nosh

David Feder and Beth Kaminstein Honored

KJCC salutes its members David Feder and Beth Kaminstein, who were recently honored by the Morada Way Arts & Cultural District at a gala reception at the Keys History & Discovery Center in Islamorada. The reception took place on June 21st against the backdrop of an exhibition of the watercolors of the late renowned Keys artist Millard Wells that included his beautiful watercolor of the KJCC.

Dave was honored as Morada Way's Citizen of the Year. This award is given "... to an individual who goes above and beyond in building community, embracing talent and who focuses on the positive future of Islamorada and the Florida Keys."

Beth was one of only two artists to receive the coveted Red Kerchief award, given in honor of Mr. Wells, to artists: "who embrace service, creativity and community involvement. Their artistic ability and representation in the community capture the hearts of those who call the Florida Keys home."

Dr. Bernard Ginsberg, president of the KJCC, commented: "We are extremely proud of Dave and Beth. These outstanding artists carry on a long tradition of community service by KJCC members."

-Steve Hartz

Meditation Garden Brick BH' YASHER KOACH TO THE KEYS JCC STEVEN ZEICHNER M.D.

Onegs For September

Toby and Joel Bofshever are sponsoring the Oneg on September 19th in honor of Joel's birthday.

Acknowledging the often-overlooked

So much has to happen to make KJCC function properly. (It's a big and complex place.) Few think about it when every room is sparkling clean, or the meals are ample and delicious, or all the lights work and the hand-towel dispensers are full. But these things don't happen by themselves. Your fellow members lovingly volunteer their time and resources — often a lot of both - to keep things running smoothly, so that when you're here you can just reflect and relax and enjoy. Lots of additional work (lots) goes into preparing KJCC for the special High Holiday season. (For years, loel Pollack and the late lim Boruszak used to come in and hand-polish all the silver finials and crowns that adorn our three Torahs.) When you're here, try to remember to say thanks to Bernie, and Gloria, and Barbara, or any Board or committee member you see, for months of hard work and dedication to a long checklist. Here's an example of the often unsung yet important contributions that somehow get made: Joel and Toby Bofshever took it upon themselves to take the special High Holiday Torah covers to one of the few specialized cleaners who knows how and is willing to handle such intricately woven fabrics. (The answer is: very carefully.) Our thanks to loel and Toby, and to everyone else who has helped make the High Holidays an important and memorable part of this and every year.

Yartzeit Plaque

Clayton Allan Rakov The Best Husband, Father, Grandfather 19 Tishrei 5686 - 25 Tevet 5774

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of Arthur Gonshak By Arthur & Johanna Willner

September Birthdays

lst	Mildred Finkelstein
2nd	Marcie Orenstein
2nd	Lloyd Wruble
4th	
4th	
6th	Steven Greenbaum
7th	Stellar Levy
7th	Morton Silverman
7th	Mindy Agler
8th	Susan Horn
9th	Jacob Klimpl
10th	Gerri Emkey
l 3th	Lisha Lane
l 3th	Andy Tobin
l4th	Lili Werthamer
l6th	Larry S. Schur
18th	Shirley Krissel
18th	Avery Haviv
l9th	Brenna Nobil
l9th	Steven Schur
l9th	Barbara Bernstein
l9th	Joel Bofshever
22nd	Fred Hudson
23rd	Maryon Gould
23rd	Lauren Schur
24th	Noah Bitton
25th	Marla Berenson
25th	Michel Bitton
26th	Joan Kay
26th	Cory Wasser
28th	Jonathan Line

September Anniversaries

Vaare

		i cars
9th	Neal & Cathy Rakov	30
9 th	Steven & Barbara Smith	
30th	Ira & Anita Krieger	36
30th	Marsha & Tom Garrettson	24

Truly People of the Book

The burgeoning KJCC Library – filling up with great reads, novels and histories and biographies and also serious books of Jewish scholarship on Jewish life and Jewish thought – thanks our prez, Bernard Ginsberg, M.D., for his donation of the Modern Commentary nine-book series that includes discussions of Esther, Jonah, *Shir HaShirim, Pirkei Avot* and four others. We would also like to express our gratitude to David and Toby Goldfinger for their generous donation of twelve copies of "The Living Torah," the purple books we use on Shabbat morning, In memory of Major Mike Markowitz M.D. and Thelma Goldfinger.

Yartzeit Plaque

Irving J Kulick January 13, 1978 5 Shevat 5738 "Adored Father"

TEKIAH: Back to School Special

Sunday, September 14th, will be the first day of class for this year's KJCC Religious School. It will be a special day, with Guest Teacher Dr. Bernard Ginsberg, aka our honorary Zaydeh, giving a workshop on the fine art and meaning of blowing Shofar. Classes will begin, as always, promptly at 10:00 am and continue until noon. It will be a full and exciting year. If you have friends with school age Jewish children, please invite them to join us on our opening day. A copy of the complete school year calendar can be found on our website: keysjewishcenter.com

Meditation Garden Brick

LILEV NITZAN HAI LOVE EPHEMERAL ZEPHYR WATERFALLING TEARS

Sn Memoriam Beptember 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Sam Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Jim Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

Goldie Berman

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Lillian Goldstein

By Joan Boruszak

Molly Feldblum

By Marc Bloom <><><><><><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Sydney Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

In Memory Of

Ida Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Evelyn O. Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

Ronald Repka

By Nancy L. Cohn

In Memory Of

Leo Rosenberg

By Robert & Joni Sages Dandrea

In Memory Of

Louis Gitin

By David Gitin

In Memory Of

Paul Gould

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Leonard Roberts

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Albert Improta

By Carol Field

In Memory Of

H. Melvin Berkon

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

In Memory Of

H. Robert Walters

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Sadie Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Hannah Improta

By Carol Field

In Memory Of

Nettie Gorson

By Janice Gorson

In Memory Of

Beverly Harvey

By Mitchell Harvey

In Memory Of

David J. Levine

By Steve & Luzviminda Levine

In Memoriam September 2014

In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Anne Hendin Margulies	Toby Mitchell	Lorraine Martell
By Stanley & Jenny Margulies	By Joel & Linda Pollack <><><><><><>	By Skip Rose <><><><><>
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
David Gulkis	David Schur	Max Rosenfeld
By Alan & Elaine Schulberg <><><><><>	By Lee Schur <><><><><>	By Morton & Gene Silverman
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of
Mollie Silverman	Mauro Ojeda	Jim Boruszak
By Morton & Gene Silverman	By Mark & Sofy Wasser <><><><><><><>	By Joan Boruszak <><><><><><>>

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman, 305-664-3316.

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 Bernie Ginsberg, 305-852-9300.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES, BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 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 Linda Kaplan, 305-396-7000.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Carol Steinbock, 305-393-1205, to make your donation.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CHAI-LIGHTS or DIRECTORY: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

KJCC High Holiday Service Schedule 57745775 (2014)	
Rabbi Richard Agler and Hazzan Paul Gol	dstein
Saturday, September 20:	
Pizza/Movie"Exodus"/Slichot Service	5:00 pm
Wednesday, September 24:	
Dinner, contact Barbara, RSVP required	6:00 pm
Erev Rosh Hashanah	8:00 pm
Thursday, September 25:	
Rosh Hashanah, Day 1 Shacharit (Morning Service)	9:30 am
Break after Shofar Sounding	12:00 noon
Musaf Service	12:15 - 1:30
Taschlich at Ocean Pointe	4:00 pm
Friday, September 26:	
Rosh Hashanah, Day 2 Shacharit (Morning Service)	9:30 am
Break after Shofar Sounding	12:00 noon
Musaf Service	12:15 - 1:30
Shabbat Service	8:00 pm
Saturday, September 27:	
Shabbat Tshuvah (led by Hazzan Paul Goldstein)	10:00 am
Havdalah at Ocean Pointe	7:45 pm
Friday, October 3:	
Kol Nidre	8:00 pm
Saturday, October 4:	9.25.77
Yam Kippur Service	9:30 am
Yizkor	11:30 am
Children's Service	11:30 am
Break after morning service	12:15 pm
Musaf	12:30 pm
Afternoon activity times are approximate:	
Informal "Fast Talk" with Rabbi Agler	2:30 pm
Jewish Meditation with Rabbi Agler	4:00 pm
Neillah (Reading Story of Jonah)	5:45 pm
Maariv	
Havdalah	
Break-the-Fast	
Sunday, October 5:	
Sukkah Decoration	10:00 am

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.

Book Plates

Plutzer, Arthur

In Honor of Pauline Roller's 99th birthday In Memory of hanna David Gonshak

In Honor of

Chai-Lights

Bofshever, Joel & Toby Garretson, Marsha Pollack, Joel & Linda Roy, Medina Shabathai, Joe & Kathy Sheinker, Miltra Solas, Elaine Steinbock, Steve & Carol Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna

Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna

General Fund

Begam, DeloresPray for UsCole, RonaldLove offeringDavidson, Foster & Carol LaskinPauline Roller's99th birthday

Dorf, Barry & Natalie Gilson, Michael & Suzanne Ginsberg, Bernard Gitin, David & Gloria Avner Gitin, David & Gloria Avner

Gitin, David & Gloria Avner

Hartz, Steve & Jan Kaplan, Marshall & Myra Kaufman, Michael & Lorena & Family

Peine, Rachel Silverman, Mort & Gene Solas, Elaine Willner, Sherrie Wruble, Lloyd & Rae

General FundInMargulies, Stanley & JennyBelove

In Memory of Beloved Isaac Cohen Pardo

Michaela Bitton's

birthday

Sean's 1st

Birthday

Holocaust Ed Center

lsenberg, Patricia Roy, Medina

Meditation Garden

In Honor of

Roy, Medina Shabathai, Joe & Kathy brick - Joe & Kathy Shabathai Zeichner, Steven brick - Yasher Koach Florida Keys ICC

Meditation GardenIn Memory ofKamely, Jardenabrick - memory Michal KamelySax, Stuart & LaurenHoward Shutan,
Carmel CataneseSteinberg, Richard & SheilaRose Wainer,
Sam Wainer, Wally SteinbergSteinberg, Richard & SheilaMollie Z. Cohen

Rabbi & Cantor Fund

Bofshever, Joel & Toby Calev, Barbara Coltman, Barney Davidson, Foster & Carol Dorf, Barry & Natalie Feinberg, Arthur Gitin, David & Gloria Avner Gould, Joe & Marla Berenson Gould, Maryon Hartz, Steve & Jan Isenberg, Patricia Kasinof, Steve & Amelia Knowles, Richard & Barbara Nobil, Lynn Perloff, Linda Pollack, Joel & Linda Roy, Medina Sachs, loe & Susan Sax, Stuart & Lauren Shabathai, loe & Kathy Silverman, Morton & Gene Steinbock, Steve & Carol Temkin, Robert Rabbi & Cantor Fund Davidson, Foster & Carol

In Memory of Robert Davidson Ritual Ginsberg, Bernard Goldfinger, David & Toby Margulies, Stanley & Jenny

In Honor of Scholarship Fund

Gordon, Susan Grossman, Herb & Elinor Pauline Roller's 99th birthday Roy, Medina Stein, Ira & Shirley Tallent, Lillian

In Memory of Kwalick, Teresa Bill Kwalick Singer, Mary Lee Robert W. Singer, Jon Singer

Sisterhood

Boruszak, Joan Richard & Mindy Agler Pauline Roller's 99th birthday In Memory of Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Shirley Lieberman

In Honor of

wishing Carol Steinbock a

speedy recovery

Barry Feinberg

Priscilla Leshin

Dorothy Schafer

Morris Grossman,

Les Reitman

Sidney Kaplan

Irwin Kwalick

Paula Travers

Irma Weihl

Margaux Grossman

Catherine Kaplan,

Gertrude Weisberg

Jennie Geller, Louis Geller

Steven Kwalick, Esther Kwalick,

Sisterhood Oneg Fund

Bofshever, Joel & Toby Gross, David & Patti Kasinof, Steve & Amelia Pollack, Joel & Linda

Sunshine Fund

Sax. Stuart & Lauren

Tree of Life Feinberg, Arthur

- **Yahrzeits**
- Boruszak, Joan Dorf, Barry & Natalie Emkey, Gerri Geller, Milton Grossman, Stuart

Kaplan, Marshall & Myra Kaplan, Ronald & Debra

Kwalick, Teresa

Riley, Michele Roy, Medina Leon Kirschenbaum Tallent, Lillian Ralph Tallent, Ida Estrin Taramona, Hermine Robert Robinson Weihl, Alfred & Sue Ann Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy Rose Fine, Frieda Feinberg

Yahrzeit Plagues Brodie, Thomas & Renee Rakov, Neal & Cathy

Yizkor Book Begam, Delores Blumenfeld, Marvin & Ivy Boruszak, Joan Boxer, Shirley

Irving J. Kulick Clayton Allan Rakov

Calev. Barbara Cline, Meredith Coltman, Barney Cooper, Alan & Susan Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin Emkey, Gerri Feinberg, Arthur Garrettson, Marsha Gelbard, Sy Ginsberg, Bernard Gitin, David & Gloria Avner Goldfinger, David & Toby Gordon, Susan Gould, Maryon Grant, Andrew & Randi Greenbaum, Marilyn Harris, Steve & Marsha Hartz, Steve & Jan Harvey, Mitchell Isenberg, Patricia Itkin. Arthur Kamely, Yardena Kaplan, Frank Knowles, Richard & Barbara Krissel, Michael Marmar, David & Pamela Nobil, Lynn Pollack, Joel & Linda Rakov, Neal & Cathy Riley, Michele Roy, Medina Sachs, Joe & Susan Sax. Stuart & Lauren Schur, Lee Sheinker, Miltra Silverman, Morton & Gene Singer, Mary Lee Solas, Elaine Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna Steinbock, Steve & Carol Weber, Judith Swartz, George & Muriel Tallent, Lillian Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna Temkin, Robert Zwerdling, Sherry

YEDA VE'TORASHA Yardena Kamely



THE GAZA WAR

Looking at the current situation in the Middle East and seeing things as they really are, it's not a pretty picture. I wish it were different. And here is the problem: the Middle East, which has never been a place of peace. is becoming more dangerous and unpredictable. And that Middle East is Israel's immediate neighborhood. Scary picture. I am so tired of seeing it every day on the TV screen or reading about it in the news media. Sometimes I wish I did not see the reality and that I could be more optimistic, have hope for changes. But instead, there is the frustration I feel as a Jew and as an Israeli: there seems to be no solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Matters are getting even more complicated.

Look at Syria. A horrible war, a terrible tragedy, and they are killing their own people. Thousands of Europeans have gone there to fight in the Jihadist war, and Europe fears that when those fighters return they'll continue the religious or Jihadist ideological war in Europe. In Brussels in May, four people were killed at the lewish Museum. The suspect arrested by French authorities had fought in Syria. That Syria is Israel's northern neighbor. And in Syria, Hezbollah forces, a terrorist organization with headquarters in Lebanon, are on the battlefield. That's the same Hezbollah that calls for Israel's destruction and has accumulated an arsenal of tens of thousands of deadly rockets. Lebanon is also Israel's neighbor.

As if these neighbors were not dangerous enough, Israel has gotten new neighbors, the Caliphate-aspiring ISIS, another terrorist group with advances in Syria and Iraq, terrorizing the population with shocking brutality. Israel is separated from ISIS forces in Iraq only by its fragile neighbor Jordan, a country that wouldn't be able to defend itself against an onslaught except, perhaps, with the help of outside forces.

Then there is Iran. Though separated from Israel's eastern border by 800 miles, Iran's missiles can reach that far, and so can those of its proxies. Hezbollah and Hamas. And speaking of Hamas, there is, of course, the Palestinian issue. Whenever I talk with my relatives and friends in Israel about the Gaza War, they are saying that this war is not against the Palestinians, that they feel sorry for them. They are not indifferent or insensitive to their suffering. My best childhood friend. Tzipi, asked me if I remember the bomb-shelter in our building and the days and nights we had to stay there. Of course I remember: we were small kids, growing up together in Haifa. It was the Sinai War (1956); our fathers were fighting, my father as a veteran at the front, and her father, a Holocaust survivor, in the support units. And she feels sorry for the Palestinian children and for the children in Israel who have to go to shelters.

Talking to my friend Eli from the Kibbutz, a war veteran, he explained that this Gaza War is not about territory, it is against Hamas, a terrorist organization whose charter calls for Israel's destruction. He believes that the situation in the Middle East and the conflict with the Arabs will not change, and that Israel has to live with it. But he also thinks that in this Gaza War something did change and for the better for Israel; our neighbors Jordan and Egypt are with Israel against Hamas. Eli hopes that after this war Israel will have a longer period of quiet.

I also spoke to my longtime friends in Chile, (I have lived in Chile for 25 years), and am very disappointed and annoyed to hear about the reaction to the Gaza War by Chilean Palestinians, who are protesting against Israel and the Jews. (The largest population of immigrants of Palestinian origin in South America is living in Chile, 350,000 or more.) It doesn't make sense.

A message, written by Victor Toledo Selman, an Arab Palestinian Chilean (or Chilean Palestinian Arab), to the Palestinian community in Chile, explains it. He asks: "Are these our relatives?" He has seen many Palestinians in Chile argue about the conflict in Gaza with a patriotism almost fanatical, as if these were their closest relatives who are in danger of

death. They comment with varying degrees of knowledge about the situation in the Middle East, and with a constant dose of anti-Iudaism - or "anti-Zionism" - if you prefer. Toledo thinks that the causes that led to the Israeli operation against Hamas are well justified, and that the situation is getting out of hand. because hundreds of innocent civilians have been killed.

Toledo continues: "And since the Gaza War is a war of propaganda as much as missiles, I am obliged to remind you of some important points regarding that so enthusiastic Palestinian patriotism: The vast majority of Palestinians in Chile, we are and were Christians from the West Bank (mainly Bethlehem and Beit-Jala). Therefore, little or nothing have we in common with the Muslims in Gaza. A Christian community in Bethlehem has existed since time immemorial, probably from the time of Jesus himself. This community spoke Aramaic, Greek, and history finally determined that they speak the Arabic language."

Toledo argues that the Palestinian diaspora

in the world (and Chile) was not motivated by the Israeli immigration. Palestine in the year 1910, he says, was a land poor and decadent. 400 years of Turkish rule didn't just burst its population with taxes. For the Turks, Palestine was nothing more than "Southern Syria", a land of little significance except for the spiritual value of Jerusalem itself. Almost all the Palestinians in Chile came to the diaspora looking for better opportunities than offered by the Turkish Empire. And, Toledo argues, there have always been Jews in Palestine. After Christ, there have always been Christians in Palestine. There has never been an Arab-Muslim State based in Palestine, never been an Arab-Christian state in Palestine. What reason is there for Chilean Palestinians to have anti-lewish feelings? It is Hamas' objective.

> the Islamic state in the Middle East, they should reject.

The sad thing about the war in Gaza is that it makes us realize that despite the passing of hundreds of years, little has changed. The names are different but the narrative remains the same. Jews are terrorized, they look to the world, for somebody to inter-

vene,(the UN, the EU, international help, Western leaders, etc.), they look everywhere and discover in the end that no one is going to fight the wars of the Jews. So they fight alone. And then the world is talking about it: what an outrage, the Jews dare defend themselves! The question that comes to mind: why didn't the world leaders act five years ago to prevent Hamas from having thousands of rockets? Why didn't they put pressure on those who are funding Hamas? Why didn't the UN Security Council prevent the construction of tunnels in Gaza or close them? Israel deserves a real solution from the world leaders. And the people of Gaza, too; no more tunnels, no more rockets, and no more Hamas. ◊



KJCC Live Green - Recycle



In our quest to help you help the planet, we are collecting:

- ink cartridges
- laser toners (not previously recycled)
- cell phones
- lap top computers
- i devices
- tablets
- and more.
- Items can be working or in need of repair.

Contact Carol Steinbock (305) 393-1205 or just bring to the KJCC.

World Jewish Report

Medina Roy

Israel's New President

In a small ceremony at the Knesset (the legislative branch of the Israeli government) in Jerusalem, while fighting continued between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, Reuven Rivlin was sworn in as Israel's 10th president. Knesset members of Arab parties boycotted the event - not because they opposed Rivlin personally - but because of the fighting in Gaza and the deaths of Palestinian civilians there. Rivlin decided to cancel the cocktail party and limit the festivities that normally follow such a swearing-in ceremony. But he was not interested in postponing the ceremony altogether because of the hostilities between Israel and Hamas. (Governments don't need cocktail events, but they do need to function.) Outgoing president Shimon Peres plans to now lead a large company that is looking to invest in projects connected to peace in the Middle East. Rivlin began his term on July 28th. (www.haaretz.com, 7-24-14)

Need a Minyan? There's an App for That

Are you looking for a *minvan*, a Jewish reguirement for public prayer? (Traditional synagogues still insist on ten men over the age of 13; egalitarian congregations, such as KJCC, include women.) There's a new smartphone app that searches for available Jews nearby to join in prayer. The app, Minyan Now, is free and is available for both iPhones and Androids. It's a product of RustyBrick, Inc. of West Nyack, New York. The app notifies other users when someone in the area is looking for a minyan. "This works great at airports, train stations, sports events...where there are likely ten or more Jewish men, but no official ... synagogue in the area," a company press release said. When the app is activated, notifications are sent to anyone approximately ten minutes away. RustyBrick, Inc. also has a praver book app. (The Forward, 7-10-14) 14 Chai-Lights September 2014

The "Jewish" Schindler

Yank Barry, a Canadian-Jewish philanthropist, has provided refuge in Bulgaria for 782 Christians at risk in the Middle East. Some of the refugees come from Iran and Irag, but most of them are from Syria. His goal is to save the lives of 1,200 refugees, the same number of lews that were rescued by Oskar Schindler during the Holocaust. Barry has spent \$3 million providing the refugees with hotel rooms, social services, medical care and educational opportunities. To show their appreciation, the Syrian refugees delivered 200.000 liters of water to Bulgarians who were affected by flooding and a severe heat wave. Bulgaria is a point of European entry for many Middle East refugees escaping wars and persecution. Barry runs Global Village Champions, an international humanitarian organization. (Barry gained fame with the band The Kingsmen, those who gave us the renowned "Louie. Louie" sona). (www.jpost.com, 7-28-14)

It Could Save Lives

One out of three Americans over the age of 65 will lose their balance and fall. For those over 80. the risks increase dramatically and often lead to hospitalization, painful surgeries and decreased life expectancy. Israeli biomedical engineer Yonatan Manor has launched the *B-Shoe*, a new technology device to help prevent the loss of balance among the elderly. Manor, along with his partners Abraham Stamper and Aharon Shapiro, studies how stability decreases with age as muscles deteriorate and reflexes slow down. They installed a sensor-driven motorized mechanism in the heel of a sneaker that helps maintain the desirable pressure in the heel area. The device works by gently gliding the shoe back-



wards to correct imbalance. The sensors, operating through a rechargeable battery, detect when the center of pressure is shifting; if the wearer does not adjust his or her step within a few milliseconds, the shoe begins to move backwards a few centimeters to help regain stability and balance. The *B-Shoe* has been tested in leading Israeli hospital labs. It has been granted patents in both the United States and Israel, and could be on the market within the next two years. (World Jewry Digest, July 2014)

She Was Jewish!

In the 1930s, the Nazis held a contest to determine the most beautiful Aryan baby, their plan being to use it as a "poster child" for propaganda. Out of a large stack of baby photos submitted. loseph Goebbels. Nazi Propaganda Minister, selected the photo of a child named Hessy Taft. What he did not know was that Hessy Taft was Jewish. The photo was taken by a professional photographer and anti-Nazi German (who was well aware that Taft was lewish) in 1935 when Taft was six months old. He entered the photo into the contest to humiliate the Nazis. The photo eventually appeared on the cover of a Nazi magazine, on postcards and other widely distributed Nazi propaganda. Taft's family worried that the Nazis would somehow discover who the child was and that she was lewish. They left Berlin and eventually arrived in the United States in 1949. Taft, now 80, is currently a part-time chemistry professor at St. John's University in the Jamaica. Queens section of New York City. She recently sent the photographs to Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum. (www.tabletmag.com, 7-2-14)

A New UN Holiday?

At the end of June (and before the most recent military conflict between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip), the ambassadors to 32 countries signed a letter to a United Nations General Assembly committee requesting the UN to recognize Yom Kippur, Judaism's holiest day of the year, as an official holiday. The UN currently recognizes major festivals

of many of the world's major religions, but Judaism is not one of them. The letter stated "We believe that the United Nations calendar should reflect the organization's founding principles of coexistence, justice and mutual respect. We urge the United Nations to correct this inequity and recognize the holiest day of the Jewish faith." The request will go before the General Assembly's 193-member states for final approval. There are currently ten official UN holidays. They include the Christian holidays Christmas and Good Friday and the Muslim holidays Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. The other six are major U.S. holidays -New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and Thanksgiving, which end up being vacation days for UN staff since UN headquarters is located in New York City. (www.ap.org. 7-31-14)

2014 Israel Prize for Medicine

Marta Weinstock-Rosin, a World War II survivor, is the 2014 recipient of the Israel Prize for Medicine. In the 1990s, Weinstock-Rosin developed a drug that is now routinely used for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. She was the lead developer for *Rivastiaime* (today known as the Novartis Exelon Patch), the only skin patch approved by the FDA for the treatment of Alzheimer's. Weinstock-Rosin was born in Vienna in 1935. Her family fled the Nazis and moved to England, where she studied pharmacology. She moved to Israel in 1969 and joined Tel Aviv University's medical faculty. Later. she served as head of the Hebrew University's School of Pharmacy. Weinstock-Rosin is currently doing research to improve brain function and memory in patients with degenerative diseases of the central nervous system. The Israel Prize for Medicine is considered one of the nation's highest honors. (World lewry Diaest. June 2014)

The "Soundtrack of a Generation"

The handwritten manuscript of Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone" recently sold for just over \$2 million at Sotheby's rock and roll auction, making it the most expensive sale of rock music ever sold at auction. The song is considered to be one of the most influential pieces in postwar music. The sale broke the previous record for rock music lyrics, which occurred in 2010 when John Lennon's handwritten lyrics for "A Day in the Life," the final track from the 1967 album "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," sold for \$1.2 million. The recent auction also included memorabilia from the Beatles, The Rolling Stones and Elvis Presley. (www.reuters.com, 6-24-14)

It's Too Hot to Handle!

A recently published study guide of the Hebrew Bible is being used in a girls' school in New Square, a Hasidic village in New York's Rockland County. The study guide omits some of the more risgué passages and even entire sections of the Book of Genesis. Edited out is the story where Lot's two daughters get their father drunk and sleep with him in order to become pregnant, the entire first two Torah portions of Genesis (eliminating the story of the world's creation), Adam and Eve and Noah and the Tower of Babel. The book begins with the story of Abraham. Also eliminated is the story of Onan, who "spilled his seed" rather than impregnate Tamar, Judah's sexual encounter with his daughter-in -law who had disguised herself as a prostitute, and Potiphar's wife's attempt to seduce Joseph. Each verse in the book intentionally leaves one word blank. In many Hasidic circles, it is forbidden for women to study verses from the Torah in whole, which may be the reason why a word is left blank in every verse. (The Forward, 7-2-14)

Update

In the May 2014 issue of *Chai-Lights*, we reported on an attempt to break the record for the "World's Largest Shabbat Dinner" that was scheduled to be held on June 13th, 2014. It turns out that 2,226 people showed up, with 3,000 others on a waiting list. *White City Shabbat*, a non-profit organization run by young immigrants and dedicated to building Jewish life in Tel Aviv, expected 1,000 people. The dinner was held at the Tel Aviv port. The dinner used 800 bottles of wine, 80 bottles of vodka, 50 bottles of whiskey, 2,000 challah rolls, 1,800 pieces of chicken, 1,000

pieces of beef and 250 vegetarian portions. (www.tabletmag.com, 6-16-14)

In Memoriam

Those lost in Operation Protective Edge. The youngest were 18, the oldest, 45. They are: 2nd Lt. Hadar Goldin, 23; Major Benaya Sarel, 26; St.-Sqt. Liel Gidoni, 20; Sqt. 1st Class (res.) Daniel Marash, 22; Capt. (res.) Liran Adir (Edry), 31; St.-Sqt. Noam Rosenthal, 20; Capt. Omri Tal, 22; St.-Sqt. Shay Kushnir, 20; St.-Sqt. Guy Algranati, 20; St.-Sqt. Omer Hay, 21; St.-Sgt. Matan Gotlib, 21; Sgt. Daniel Kedmi, 18; Sqt. Barkai Yishai Shor, 21; Sqt. Sagi Erez, 19; Sgt. Dor Deri, 18; Sgt. Nadav Raimond, 19; Cpl. Niran Cohen, 20; Cpl. Meidan Maymon Biton, 20; St.-Sgt. Eliav Eliyahu Kahlon, 22; Sqt. 1st Class Adi Briga, 23; St.-Sgt. Moshe Davino, 20; NCO Sgt. 1st Class Barak Refael Degorker, 27; Capt. Liad Lavi (no date provided); Chief Warrant Officer Rami Kahlon, 39; Lt. Roy Peles, 21; St.-Sqt. Avraham Grintzvaig, 21; St.-Sgt. Gal Bason, 21; St.-Sgt. Guy Boyland, 21; St.-Sgt. Amit Yaori, 20: St.-Sqt. Guv Levv. 21: NCO Master Sgt. (res.) Yair Ashkenazy, 36; Lt. Paz Eliyahu, 22; St.-Sqt. Li Mat, 19; St.-Sqt. Shahar Dauber, 20; Capt. Natan Cohen, 23; Capt. Dmitri Levitas, 26; St.-Sgt. Evyatar Turgeman, 20; NCO Ohad Shemesh, 27; St.-Sqt. Oded Ben Shira, 22; St.-Sqt. Jordan Bensemhoun, 22; St.-Sqt. Yuval Dagan, 22; St.-Sgt. Tal Yifrah, 21; Chief Warrant Officer Kasahun Baynesian, 39; 2nd Lt. Yuval Haiman, 21; Sqt. Nadav Goldmacher, 23; Lt.-Col. Dolev Keidar, 38; St. Sqt. Shachar Tase, 20; St.-Sqt. Daniel Pomerantz, 20; Sqt. Shon Mondshine, 19; Sqt. Ben Oanounou, 19; St.-Sgt. Oren Simcha Noah, 22; St. Sgt. Oron Shaul, 21; St. Sgt. Moshe Malko, 20; Sgt. Max Steinberg, 24, a "Lone Soldier" from California; St.-Sqt. Gilad Rozenthal Yacoby, 21; Capt. Tsvi Kaplan, 28; Maj. Tzafrir Bar-Or, 32; Sgt. Nissim Sean Carmeli, 21, a "Lone Soldier" from Texas; St.-Sgt. Oz Mendelovich, 21; 2nd. Lt. Bar Rahav, 21; St.-Sqt. Bnava Rubel, 20; Maj. (res.) Amotz Greenberg, 45; Sgt. Adar Barsano, 20; St.-Sgt. Eitan Barak, 20. (www.ipost.com. 8-3-14) ◊

July 4th at KJCC Everyone had a "blast" at the annual KJCC ShabbaBQ and celebration of Pauline Roller's birthday.

he fireworks for this past July 4th ShabbaBQ celebration were all in the applause, backslapping (gentle of course), kissing, hugging and sparkling eyes of our matriarch. Pauline Roller had just turned 99 years young. Look at these photos. They tell a story of love, respect, and appreciation. We were full to the rafters at the dinner and most even stayed for the services. How significant that among





Friedman for her excellent home cooking, and to Barbara Knowles, who worked so hard with her team to set up and create the joyously decorated room. Thanks also to Erica Lieberman-Garrett for a thoughtful, well-led service, and to Mitch Harvey for his enlightening "dvar." Someone asked whether Pauline might suffer from post-partum depression after the party. "Are you kidding?" came the

the evening's guests, in addition to Pauline's relatives, her KJCC community, and friends, like ex-Mayor Sylvia Murphy, were at least three generations of new fans. KJCC members like Yardena Kamely, Steve Smith, Marc Bloom, and others brought siblings, children and grandchildren to the event. Our synagogue already feels like home to these little ones. Thanks to KJCC's Men's Club and their fabulous hardworking honorary member Jane



Pauline, Bernie and Gloria cutting the HaMotzi

reply. "She'll be too busy planning the next one." We all look forward to saying "Happy Hundredth!" A good and healthy year to you, Pauline. And thank you for all you've meant to KJCC. Pauline -Cloria Avner County Co

Pauline and Monroe County Councilwoman Sylvia Murphy cut one of the cakes. (right)



Attendees feasting on the summer fare of hot dogs, hamburgers, cole slaw and potato salad



(Left) Pauline and her immediate nieces who came to celebrate with us.

(Below) All of Pauline's extended family who came for the birthday party, some who had to fly in from out-of-state.



Luz Levine with daughter Rachel.



Photo Gallery

On May 30th KJCC said goodbye to Marcie Orenstein who is leaving the Keys to teach in Baltimore. Our loss is certainly Baltimore's gain. There was, of course, cake and Carol Steinbock presented Marcie with a going away mezuzah to remind her daily of her KJCC Mishpocha.











This is Zoe Berk-Moshe showing off her newly acquired Israeli passport in Tel Aviv. Born in New York, she now has dual citizenship.



My Dear Family and Friends,

The worst news was six months ago when I was told I had cancer. This morning the coin flipped over and the good news is that I was told that I am now a SURVIVOR!!

I want to thank everyone for their support and prayers through all of this and especially to Lauren, who has been my rock each and every step on this journey. You can now remove my name from your misheberach and prayer lists. Life is precious and life is good. Embrace it.

Love, Stuart



On June 21st the gang gathered for a last dinner before goodbyes for summer to Gloria and Medina,. Gloria was heading to Maine and Medina to North Carolina.



As you were probably aware from the KJCC e-mails, a Miami-wide rally was held in North Miami Beach to display public support of Israel. Various members of KJCC attended, including our resident native Israeli, Yardena, plus Toby and Joel Bofshever in the photo above.

Also in attendance was Steve Friedman, Harry Friedman and Yardena's son Andy shown in the photo at right.



Chai-Lights September 2014 21

Pauline Roller's July Fourth Birthday party also turned into somewhat of a family reunion for our Yardena. In the photo at right are Yardena with sons Eitan (on the left) and Andy, Andy's wife Sharon (on the right), plus Yardena's sister Daphne (on the left) with their friend Monika from their teenage years in Germany who now lives in Canada. visit; Monika now lives in Canada.





Monika had been the matron of honor at Yardena's wedding in Germany over forty years ago (where Yardena's mother and father were living at the time) and they hadn't seen her since until this

In the above photo are Andy's wife Sharon with their son and daughter plus the twin daughters of Yardena's younger son Eitan (with balloons).



Yardena with oldest son Andy Loi. What a proud mom face.

Summer rains, new additions from members and hard work by Steve Steinbock have given the KJCC Memorial Garden new life. Shown are a Buccaneer Palm sponsored by David Gitin to honor Gloria, and a Geiger tree sponsored by Joe Shabathai in honor of his mother Sally.

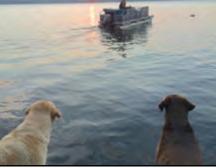
THIS BUCCANEER PALH SPONSORIDAR IS HADE BY DAVID GITIN WITH LINK TO GLORIA AVNER







Postcards From Gloria Maine has been glorious. (No pun intended.) Sunny 70s and delicious breezes. Laid-back visiting, writing, a little sketching and lots of swims. Sunset boat rides on Lake Damariscotta and I even get to drive, accompanied by my two favorite labs and friend Lizzie.



(Above) For those of you who are not here during the summer months, you don't get to see the KJCC Poinciana tree in full bloom. Here's a look at what you missed.

High Holy Days 5775

The High Holy Days are once again upon us. Here to help get your mind and heart ready for The Days of Awe are thoughts from Rabbi Agler, Head of Ritual Gloria Avner, and our new Cantor Paul Goldstien.

The Month of Elul A Headstart On The Path to Forgiveness:

Last year the High Holy Day period was in our faces 48 hours after Labor Day ended . Many of us were still in summer mode. Without an August Chai-Lights to help us prepare, the auspicious month of Elul was nearly over by the time we had the opportunity to read our Rabbi and Cantor's messages. We can breathe easier this year, and take advantage of Elul, the month before Tishrei, a month without any holidays, when God is compared to a King walking though his fields, accessible to each of us if we try to "return," to make t'shuvah towards God and conscious ethical living.

There are lots of ways to use the energy of this special month in our search for forgiveness and a good sealing in the Book of Life. Our *machzor*. High Holiday praverbook, lays it out: "Teshuvah, Tzedakah, and Tefilah" (return to Godly behavior, Charity, and Prayer) but Elul is a month of great classic stories. They give us good hints and take us back to the roots of Judaism. Let's look at some. These stories are called *midrashim* and are the rabbis' way, ancient and modern, of explaining why and how our ancestors did what they did. They give us a window on the ideas and values behind their actions. Most of us know the story of the binding of Isaac--even though Abraham is willing to sacrifice his son, he is given a reprieve by

	High Holida	y Sch
Saturday	September 20	6:00 р.
Wednesday	September 24	6:00 р.
Wednesday	September 24	8:00 p.
Thursday	September 25	9 :30 a.
Thursday	September 25	Noon
Thursday	September 25	12:15-
Thursday	September 25	4:00 p.
Friday	September 26	9:30 a.
Friday	September 26	Noon
Friday	September 26	12:15-
Friday	September 26	8:00 p.
Saturday	September 27	10:00 a
Saturday	September 27	7:45 p.
Friday	October 3	8:00 p.
Saturday	October 4	9:30 a.
Saturday	October 4	I I:30 a
Saturday	October 4	I I:30 a
Saturday	October 4	12:15 p
Saturday	October 4	12:30 p
Saturday	October 4	2:30 p.
Saturday	October 4	4:00 р.
Saturday	October 4	5:45 p.
Sunday	October 5	10:00 a

edule 2014 (5775)

m.	Pizza/Movie/Slichot Service
m.	Dinner
m.	Erev Rosh HaShanah
m.	Rosh HaShanah Day One
	Break after Shofar Sounding
I:30 p.m.	Musaf Service
m.	Taschlich at Ocean Pointe
m.	Rosh HaShanah, Day Two
	Break after Shofar Sounding
I:30 p.m.	Musaf Service
m.	Shabbat Service
ı.m.	Shabbat Tshuvah
m.	Havdalah at Ocean Pointe
m.	Kol Nidre
m.	Yom Kippur Service
ı.m.	Yizkor Service
ı.m.	Children's Service
o.m.	Break After Morning Service
o.m.	Musaf
m.	Informal "Fast Talk" with Rabbi Agler.
m.	Jewish Meditation With Rabbi Agler
m.	Neillah (Reading Story of Jonah) Maariv, Havdalah, Break The Fast
ı.m.	Sukkah Decoration

God, who sends a substitute, a "scapegoat" in Isaac's stead. Some are disturbed that God would ask such a thing of Abraham, but there is a *midrash* that says God always creates a solution for every crisis before the problem comes into being. While other cultures of the time engaged in human sacrifice, we did not. Abraham and his actions mark the beginning of a huge shift in the belief systems of the nations to whom we are supposed to be a "light." The *midrash* says that God created the sacrificial ram, and the dove who would carry the symbolic olive branch telling Noah the flood was over, long before either event happened. A strong trust in God message.

A lesser known *midrash*, the "great" one known as *Midrash Rabbah* 38, is my favorite. Here we find the explanation of how Abraham (then called Avram) came up with his "big idea," monotheism. When I tell ithis story to our schoolchildren, their eyes go wide in wonder--and understanding. We're at the beginning of a new year. What could be better than reviewing the beginnings of our religionthe concept of one God, with standards of behavior that call for deeds of loving kindness.

Terah, Avram's father, is a dealer in carved wooden idols (yes, that in itself holds great irony). Terah sells the idols to people who believe that these statues, whom they call "gods," each with its own name and attributes, have the power to solve their problems. Avram has no patience with these beliefs or with his father's participation. Another midrash tells that Avram has been imprisoned as a boy. In solitary confinement he ponders the nature of the universe. What brought it into being? Is it the Sun that is all powerful? The Rain? The plethora of small gods claiming powers of creation that neighboring tribes pay homage to? The realization comes to him that there is a greater power beyond anything that we can understand, a supreme creator who is responsible for all of nature and that man must pay attention and act in harmony with that Creator. When he is released, he is appalled at his father's occupation.

One day Terah is called away and leaves his

shop in the hands of his son. A woman comes in with a fine grain offering for one of the "gods." Avram asks her why she would give an offering to an object no different from the wood she uses to make fire and cook. A man comes in to buy an idol and Avram is incensed. He starts to destroy the statues. The woman is frightened. Don't worry, says Avram, I will leave the largest one intact. If he is as powerful as you believe him to be, surely he can reconstruct the others. You can guess the rest of the story. Terah returns, is furious at the destruction, but cannot deny the truth of his son's insights. Avram leaves his home, vowing never to return, and goes off to plant the seeds of a religion that will lead to the core belief system for hundreds of millions of the world's people, all based on Abraham's resolve to be true to the One God. Moses brings it down to us from Moint Sinai, carved in stone by white fire on black fire. "I am The Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me."

Now, here we are in the days leading up to the Yamim Nora'im, the ten "Davs of Awe. " Will we have the courage of Avram to be true to our beliefs, to look deep within, analyze our behaviors, admit where we have not been our best selves? Will we apologize to those we've wronged, and resolve to make changes? Those are the opportunities of the month of Elul, and on this month's last Shabbat before Rosh HaShanah. we will come together as a community for *Selichot*. We will say prayers for forgiveness together. The experience will be powerful, but even more so if we have done serious introspective work in the merciful days of Elul. The rabbis teach that the letters of the name Elul stand for the verse in the Song of Songs: "Ani L'Dodi ve-Dodi Li." I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is Mine."

May we all be inscribed and sealed for a good year: *Ketivah Vechatimah Tovah*.

L'Shanah Tovah, Gloria Avner



A New Year Message from Rabbi Agler

Time is the one gift all of us are given. Most of us manage to pass it pretty well. We work, play, rest, and before we know it another day, week, month and year are gone. The High Holydays interrupt the routine. "Fine, you've passed the time," they say. "But for all of your activity, what have you accomplished?" "Have you added to the quality of human civilization? "What have you done to refine your community, your family, your soul?

These questions are meant to be both challenging and essential. If we aren't asking them, at the very least once a year, we are in danger of squandering the gift of life that God has given us. There is little that is less excusable than that.

In this light, Jews and our families unite as a community to affirm our relationship with the Highest we can know. We engage our spiritual core and look at who we are, where we have been and where we are going. We attempt to stand in the presence of the ultimate and the intimate and account for our life choices. If parts of the process make us uncomfortable, so much the better. From there we make our course corrections and move forward.

Contemplation in the presence of fellow contemplators, affirmation of sublime teachings, and sacred words and rhythms combine to give us the opportunity to renew our lives in the year ahead.

May we be blessed, as individuals, families and community, as we experience this endeavor together.

Mindy, Jesse, Tovah, Talia *z"l*, and Sarah join me in wishing a year of blessing and goodness to all of the members of our KJCC family.

Rabbi Richard Agler, DD Tishri 5775

My Warmest Greetings to all of KJCC

by Cantor Paul D. Goldstein

"There is music wherever he goes"— Cynthia Goldstein.

How many of us wouldn't love to have this said about them by their wife?

Allow me to introduce myself. I am *Hazzan* Paul D. Goldstein, your new High Holyday cantor. I am looking forward to sharing the Holydays this year with you and my family, my wife Cynthia and my son Jason. Gloria asked me to write a little about myself, so that when we met we'd all feel like old friends. First, how did I come to be a *Hazzan*? Becoming a *Hazzan* is not generally an occupation to which little boys aspire. There is no *Hazzan's* calendar like there is for firefighters.

My first exposure to the High Holydays (outside of Junior Congregation) was when I was 13. My synagogue had hired a new *Hazzan*, and he had just started working that summer. About a week or two later my Bar Mitzvah teacher called and said that the new cantor was looking for a soloist for the High Holydays. I remember standing there and looking at my mother and her telling me: "go ahead." There is nothing better than a Jewish mother's encouragement.

The next day I went to the synagogue to meet the Cantor (Jacob Ben-Zion Mendelson... better known today as Jackie Mendelson). My Bar Mitzvah teacher joined us and Cantor Mendelson made a cassette tape of the session (with both of them singing different parts) so I could study and learn three solos for the *Yamim Nora'im*.

I quickly learned the three solos and went to my first rehearsal with the professional adult choir. Our synagogue already had a wellknown youth choir, but I was the boy with "the voice." I had *davened* all of the *Shacharit* service for my Bar Mitzvah and had already come back a couple of more times since then to *daven* for the congregation.

I was not really familiar with the High Holy-

day liturgy, but found the three solos were from powerful sections in the texts. The first was K'vakorat Ro'ei Edro, Ma'avir Tzono Tachat Shifto - like a shepherd counting sheep, making each of them pass under their staff (from the beautiful imagery of the Unetaneh Tokef prayer...the powerful Musaf *tefillah*: The Day of Judgment as envisioned by our ancestors). The second solo was Havein Yakir Li Ephraim Im Yeled Sha'ashu'im - is not Ephraim my precious, my beloved child? Even when I rebuke him I. I remember him with tenderness. This comes from the Zichronot section of the Musaf service, a direct quote from the Haftarah for the 2nd Day of *Rosh Hashanah*, where Rachel weeps for her offspring, the tribe of Ephraim, that time and again shows no respect for God. but that God continues to show love for. (A personal aside: from the day my son Jason was born. I would sing this to him every night at bedtime...he was shocked when he turned four and found out that I sang it to the congregation every year.) The final solo comes from the evening of Kol Nidrei: Salachti - forgive me, the response in the Medieval Piyut, Omnan Kein.

When I was 14 I was chosen to daven Musaf on the 1st Day of Rosh Hashanah for the high school service (800 kids in a movie theater down the street from my synagogue... to be led by my youth director). I knew nothing about the *Nusach* (the musical modes) for the High Holydays, so I went to see Cantor Mendelson, whom I had developed a rapport with. He made me a cassette (the pinnacle of technology then) and described the various Tefillot (prayers) that I had to learn as well as the associated choreography (where and when to bow). So I learned Hineni (the Hazzan's praver). Chatzi Kaddish. Avot. Unetane Tokef (and B'rosh Hashanah Yikateivu). Kedusha, as well as the Great Aleinu (where you bow down on the floor).

So there I was, all of 14...my voice having not changed yet (it would be two more years for that), in front of 800 high-schoolers in a movie theater. I tried channeling the previous year's memory of singing with the adult choir in the Main Sanctuary. It wasn't anywhere near the same, but I did my best. I must have been okay, because I was quickly asked if I could come back the next day (2nd day of *Rosh Hashanah*) and repeat it. I also agreed to come back the next week for *Yom Kippur* (even though I really didn't know the breadth of the *Yom Kippur Musaf*).

But in that week, the world changed for Jews. It was 1973, and the Yom Kippur War had just erupted, Israel's neighboring Arab states joining in a concerted surprise attack against her from north, west and east. (Several years ago I was at a Jewish Federation dinner and bumped into my old youth director, who had led services that morning. I asked him if he remembered that day; he said that it had been the scariest day of his life. The entire service took on a distinct life of its own, as our thoughts were somewhere else that day.)

Every High Holyday season is a unique experience for me. I see it through the eyes of my wife, my son, and those I am honored to call my congregation. I know that this year with KJCC will be another unique and inspiring experience, one we will share and together and then remember, as all Jews do – *L'Dor vaDor* (from generation to generation). Gloria and Bernie have prepared me well, and I look forward to meeting all of you and working with Rabbi Richard Agler as together we all share this special Jewish experience.

B'Shalom, Hazzan Paul



High Holy Days In Verse Poems on a Theme by Gloria Avner

<u>Tashlich</u>

five year old Simon and 99 year old Pauline

throw bits of bread into the ocean

like thousands grouped on European creeks

American and Asian rivers

leaning over bridges

watching gulls and needlefish gobble our sins.



Jewish Woman

briskets in the slow cooker

for the New Year feast I like

that I am part of a world-wide

confederation

of women humming to ourselves

hands smelling of garlic

Keys Jewish Community Center

Saturday, October 4, 2014 Dairy Dinner after the final service

We welcome your home cooked dairy dish, prepared with love, to share with your KJCC Mishpocha.

Please Contact Erica hippiejap@hotmail.com (305) 393-1162 to coordinate your dish and to reserve your space.

RSVP: September 27

Tikkun Leil Shavuot KJCC Members take up the challenge to study all night.

Gloria Avner - On June 6th we had a terrific haimische dinner to celebrate Shavuot. It was delicious and the service that followed was a meaningful one, combining Shabbat, Yizkor, reading the 10 commandments out of the Holocaust Torah, and commemorating D-Day. The discussion of the ro-



mantic Book of Ruth afterwards, led by our enthusiastic President Bernie, capped the night with learning. We didn't stay all night but it was an excellent Tikkun Leil Shavuot.







Mitch and Linda

(Below) A tempting array of dairy desserts.





Madison Rose, now 16 months, accompanied grandparents Marc and Ellen Bloom.







These photos during the service show Bernie reading the Ten Commandments (the version from Exodus, per Rabbi Agler, and a traditional part of a Shavuot service, since the holiday celebrates, in part, the giving of the law at Mt. Sinai) in Hebrew and Gloria reading them in English. Helping both with the Torah was KJCC member Joel Bofshever.





Bernie, Rabbi Agler and Eve Knowles during Kiddush/ Hamotzi.







Thank you to Gloria Avner, Sam Vinicur and Erica Lieberman-Garrett for the photos, and to Sam and Gloria for the text. After the service there was a modified version of Tikkun Leil Shavuot in the KJCC David Kamely classroom. Bernie discussed/ explained the sensuous and laws-and-social-practices-ofthe-day-revealing Book of Ruth. The mystics say to stay up all night studying Torah and Talmud. KJCC made it til about 10:15 p.m.



Keys Jewish Community Center

We cordially invite you to our Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner

on Wednesday, September 24th, 2014, at 6:00 pm before evening service. We will gather at the KJCC for a traditional fleishich meal of soup, brisket, chicken, kasha and tzimmis, along with vegetarian options, ending with honey cake and more.

Voluntary donation is \$20 per Member. Our children 12 and under are our guests. Non-members of all ages are \$25,

Reservations are necessary. Contact Barbara Knowles by September 17th at iweddu@bellsouth.net or 305-772-0503 if you would like to attend. Prepayment is requested, payable to Sisterhood. Mail to PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.

> CoChairpersons: Barbara Knowles Jane Friedman



The L'Shanah Tovah page

KJCC members and friends from here and across the country send their wishes for the best possible new year. Here's to a happy, healthy and prosperous 5775

A Healthy Joyous 5775 To Mishpocha & Friends David & Gloria	L'Shana Tovah From Texas We Miss Y'all Stu & Lauren	A Healthy, Happy and Peaceful Year to All With Our Love Carol & Steve
L'Shana Tovah To My KJCC Mishpocha Lee Schur	To My KJCC Family L'shana Tovah Joan Boruszak	Happy & Healthy New Year to My KJCC "Family" With Love Susan Gordon
Wishing All Of Our KJCC Friends A Happy and Healthy Year Joe & Linda Pollack	Joe and Kathy Shabathai Extend Our Sincerest Wishes For a Healthy, Prosperous, And Happy New Year	We wish all our Mishpocha at KJCC L'Shana Tova Toby and Joel
To Our Dear KJCC Friends Shana Tovah 5775 The Kamely Family	A Very Happy Healthy New Year to Our Friends & Family At KJCC The Knowles	To the KJCC Happy and a Healthy New Year Linda Pincus



Since its founding in 1964 by Martha Graham and Baroness Batsheva De Rothschild, the Batsheva Dance Company has become one of the most influential cultural role models in Israel. The appointment of Ohad Naharin as Artistic Director in 1990 launched Batsheva into a new era. Naharin's vision has lead Batsheva to new artistic heights and worldwide critical acclaim.

Very active in the community, Batsheva maintains a proactive outreach program which is spearheaded by the Ensemble which offer young audiences all over Israel an equal opportunity for an exciting and fresh exposure to the art of dance.

With over 200 annual performances in Israel and abroad, Batsheva is proud to be considered Israel's leading ambassador.

Contact Linda Kaplan for information and reservations. Ik@lindakaplan.com

Tickets will be limited. You may reserve your tickets with a check made payable to KJCC Sisterhood in the amount of \$55 per person.

> KJCC Sisterhood PO Box 116 Tavernier, FL 33070

MARCH OF THE LIVING

n May 25th at the KJCC Rabbi Richard Agler and Dr. Steve Smith showed photos and spoke about their April trip to Poland and Israel with this year's March of the Living program. Some 10,000 gathered from around the world – North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Middle East and Far East – to march and to learn. Most participants are high school students. Rabbi Agler accompanied the South Florida delegation as one of the rabbis, Dr. Smith as the group's resident medical doctor. This event takes place each year, timed to be

in Poland and the important death camps - Treblinka, Majdanek, and especially Auschwitz -Birkenau - at the time of Yom HaShoah. The group then travels to Israel to be there for Yom HaZikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, and the next day, Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day. \diamond

> Dr. Steve Smith discussing one of his many photographs of the trip.





Rabbi Agler talks about the impressive non-Jewish Polish scholars who act as guides at Auschwitz, while holding a book describing the complex legacy of 1,000 years of a Jewish presence in Poland.



The large memorial at the site of Treblinka (in the countryside some 50 miles northeast of Warsaw), all physical evidence of which was removed by the Nazis.

36 Chai-Lights September 2014



The large memorial at the death camp of Majdanek, just on the outskirts of and almost abutting the major Polish city of Lublin. Some buildings and evidence of the camp remain.

The president of Hungary addressing the assembled group at Auschwitz. He publicly apologized for the shame of Hungary not properly protecting its citizens.





Rabbi Agler addressing the group.

Bob and Joni Dandrea listening to Rabbi Agler discuss finding the elegant Krakow home of a 90-year-old Holocaust survivor and rabbinical

teacher of his in Deerfield Beach, FL. (Auschwitz is just a few miles west of Krakow.)



Saturday, September 20, 2014 5:00 pm Pizza and Movie in Social Hall

SLICHOT SERVICES, LED BY STEVE STEINBOCK, WILL BE HELD IN THE SANCTUARY FOLLOWING THE MOVIE.

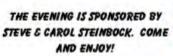




RSVP TO CAROL @ CACI26@ME.COM The theme is the founding of the state of Israel. The action begins on a ship filled with Jewish immigrants bound for Israel who are being off loaded on Cyprus. An Intelligence officer (Paul Newman) succeeds in getting them back on board their ship only to have the harbor blocked by the British with whom they must negotiate.

The second part of the film is about the situation in Israel as independence is declared and most of their neighbors attack them.





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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 -

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40 Chai-Lights September 2014





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1. Our library — we have almost 1,000 volumes - in fiction, history, philosophy, mysticism, reference and on DVD, all tended to by professional librarian Medina Roy.

2. Our Garden — we have benches, and a winding brick walkway, and native and flowering flora, and a beautiful gazebo that's a chuppah, or a sukkah, or a site for Havdalah, or just a place for quiet meditation.

3. We accommodate and welcome ALL branches of Judaism. Weekly service leaders highlight Hebrew, or English, and almost always offer lots of joyous singing.

4. We're more than a shul; we're a community center. We have movies, and game nights, and lectures, and classes and monthly dinners. Our onegs are legendary.



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Chai~Lights



October 2014

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Names denote leaders of Friday services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Ser- vices every Friday at 8:00 p.m. except where noted.			1	2	3 Rabbi Richard Agler & Cantor Paul Goldstein Kol Nidre	4 Yom Kippur Yizkor Service
5 Sukkah Decoration 10 a.m.	6	7	8 Erev Sukkot	9 Sukkot	10 Bernie Ginsberg	11
12 Board Meeting 9:00a.m. Sisterhood Meeting Noon	13	14	15	16 Semini Atzeret	17 Simchat Torah Yardena Kamely & George Swartz Yizkor Service <i>Richard &</i> <i>Barbara Knowles</i>	18 Rabbi Agler Service 10:00a.m. Bereshit
19	20	21	22	23	24 Joe Shabathai	25
26	27	28	28	30	31 Erica Lieberman -Garrett	
					6:30 Service	

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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 Bernard Ginsberg

B y the time you read this, we shall be in the midst of the High Holydays. I hope that you are having an inspiring High Holidays and that the work of Rabbi Agler, Cantor Paul Goldstein, the officers, the board of directors, the Sisterhood and all our volunteers who prepared for these days is bearing the desired fruit.

For myself, I find the Holidays very comforting despite the fasting and prayer services that last hours. I have always felt that I am coming back to be amongst friends and family when in the synagogue, even if none of my actual family has been there. Lately, I have been amazed to find out that wherever I have been for the Holidays, I may actually have been among family. A new genetic study of Ashkenazi lews (which the vast majority of American lews are) has determined that we are all 30th cousins! We share common ancestors from a period 600 to 800 years ago. So when. at Bar Mitzvahs, my grandmother welcomed us to "the Groseh Yiddishe Meshpocha" (the big Jewish Family), she did not know how literal her comments were.

The U.S. is now embarking on a policy to curb ISIL (the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant). We have finally realized what a danger radical Islamism is. Courtesy of



the horrible beheading of American reporters and the massacres of minority religious groups in Syria and Irag, the West now understands what Israel has been dealing with. I hate to say "we told you so" in such serious circumstances, but it has always aggravated me to no end to see many British, European and American intellectuals and academics deplore Israel's methods of responding to terrorism, blaming the victim. Israel, instead of the culprit, radical Islamists. I want to shake them and say "now do you understand." If Israel ever loses to an Islamic state. it will be our brothers and sisters in Israel who will be the religious minority being slaughtered.

We must stick together to survive this new threat to the West. As the U.S. wisely builds bridges with allies in Middle East to fight ISIL, we Jews must support Israel through the political process here. Come and be counted and stand up for Israel.

Happy and Healthy New Year,

L'shannah Tovah (may you be inscribed for a good year)

-Bernie Ginsberg

Nosh

Parts 2 and 3 of High Holy Day Talks

After hearing Rabbi Agler's High Holy Day talk on "Empathy" at Rosh HaShana Day I Services, we look forward to parts 2 and 3 of the series with great enthusiasm. He will speak of "Courage" on Kol Nidre Eve and "Comfort" on the morning of Yom Kippur. Rabbi Agler's warm and personal way of sharing his insights with us during these "Days of Awe" is inspiring and uplifting.

Welcome to Our New Members

KJCC is delighted to welcome three new members this month: Roy, son Will and daughter Madelyn Pollack from Austin, Texas; Tomar Gross, Randy Klein-Gross and their children, son Jonah and daughter Oceana, new residents of Key Largo; and Richard Wolfe of Miami and Tavernier. Many of you will happily remember Will Pollack's overflow-crowd Bar Mitzvah at KICC last season. Jonah Gross will be having his Bar Mitzvah in a few months in California, and Oceana will be joining the KICC religious school. Richard has often joined us in the past for High Holidays. We look forward to all of you becoming important contributors and adding your own unique richness to the special place we call KJCC.

Don't Forget to Bring "Fast" Food on Yom Kippur

Last year, our KJCC congregation started a new tradition. We decided to make our fast more meaningful by helping to spare others from hunger. The response was whole-hearted, generous and much appreciated. Let's do it again. As part of our Yom Kippur *Tzedekah*, we can each bring a bagful of groceries to *shul* with us on *Yom Kippur* morning. The next day, on Sunday, we will deliver our offering to the Food Bank next door at Burton Memorial Church. Last year, our bags filled a whole van. *Todah*, and may we all be written and sealed for a good, healthy year.

October Birthdays

	-
2nd	Michael Gilson
4th	Michael Krissel
4th	Michael Kanarek
6th	Joel Bernard
6th	Mitchell Harvey
7th	Jordan Feig
l l th	Olivia Landes
th	Cynthia Arsenault
	Benay Krissel
13th	Salomon Terner
l4th	Sidney Finkelstein
l 4th	Paul L. Friedman
	Marcia Kreitman
	Matthew A. Silverman
l6th	Kiersten Persoff
I7th	Stacey W. Seewald
18th	Payton Borisoff
20th	Barbara Knowles
21st	Sammy Knowles
22nd	Joseph Shabathai
22nd	Susan Roberts
24th	
25th	Richard Wolfe
25th	Landon Strasser
26th	Natalio Abrudsky
29th	
29th	Patricia Schocket
29th	
30th	Katie J. Schur
30th	Mark Hitzig
30th	Franklin Greenman
31st	Brittany Schur
3 st	Susan Cooper

L'Shanah Tovah, Continued

We missed a greeting in last month's page. Here it is, a little later, but just as heartfelt.

L'shana Tovah To Our KJCC Family Mindy & Richard Agler

Rabbi Offers Three New Shabbat Morning Services

Those who have missed the unique stimulation and insights of Rabbi Richard Agler's monthly Torah Learning Services at KICC, take heart. These services will return, beginning on Saturday, October 18th. High Holidays will have ended two weeks before, so we'll all be refreshed (especially Rabbi Agler) and ready to begin this year's cycle of study and exploration. Informal discussion led in a way that leads to greater understanding of the depths and intricacies found in our "book" and traditions -- plus the simple pleasures and ritual beauties of a short Shabbat morning Torah reading – are what Rabbi Agler's Saturday services offer. We have his commitment for services in November and December, too, on November 8th and December 13th. We are grateful for his generosity.

All services begin at 10 a.m. Bring your friends and family. Challenge your disengaged Jewish neighbors. As any regular will tell you, they (and you) will leave enriched, with important spiritual conversations swirling in your heads. Kiddush and light snacks, courtesy of the KJCC Sisterhood, follow each service.

BOOK PLATE

In Memory of David Gonshak by Arthur & Johanna Willner

October Anniversaries

Years

2nd	Jonathan & Arlene Line	38
2nd	Paul & Barbara Bernstein	20
l 5th	David & Toby Goldfinger	55
23rd	Michael & Suzanne Gilson	13
3 l st	Harvey & Judith Klein	60

Oneg Sponsors for October 2014 October 17th, 2014 – Oneg sponsored by Richard & Barbara Knowles for Barbara & Sammy's Birthday.

BOOK PLATE

In Honor of Bubby Shirley and Zaidy Sam Lieberman by Erica Lieberman

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the treasures that lie between these covers."

Tree of Life Leaves: We have three beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

Garden Bricks: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing cheese blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate living tribute; an outdoor plaque is included in the price.

Tikkun Olam Committee -- Tikkun HaYam

Yes, there is a new committee on the horizon, and the ideas bubbling up are exciting. You may want to get involved. Possibilities include working with Coral Reef Restoration, having KJCC "adopt" a coral tree or a whole reef, getting our members (including our young people) involved in the diving and re-planting of coral, and participating more actively with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal and the Scuba Jews already involved in this work. As Jews we have always been committed to *Tikkun Olam*, repair of the world. As citizens of the Keys, we would do well to assist in repair work of *HaYam*, the sea, as well. For information, suggestions or to volunteer to be on this committee, call Linda Kaplan (305) 396-7000.

An Invitation From the Aglers

On Saturday evening, October 11th, our ganssa mishpocha is invited to the bayfront home of Mindy and Rabbi Agler for a Havdalah service and dairy potluck dinner. We will celebrate Sukkot (Chol HaMoed--first intermediate day) in the best of all possible ways, sharing a meal, being outdoors, blessing first fruits, and shaking the lulav and etrog. As invited guests, we are part of the mitzvah of welcoming our ancestors to take part in this joyous event. If you were there last year, you know you don't want to miss this. Let's gather to watch the sun go down, eat olives in the sukkah, watch for 3 stars, sing our blessings and, um, eat delicious food. (see Article on Sukkot, page 27)

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman, 305-664-3316.

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 Bernie Ginsberg, 305-852-9300.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-852-6152, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665. **KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Call Dave Mont, 305-393-9883, to arrange your donation.

KJCC BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575 for information.

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 Linda Kaplan, 305-396-7000.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, to make your donation.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CHAI-LIGHTS or DIRECTORY: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam October 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Perren Gerber

By Gloria Avner

In Memory Of

Gertrude Widlan

By Norbert Birnbaum

Stephen Berman

By Sylvia Berman

In Memory Of

Audrey Bloom

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

Fanny Grossman Bernard

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

In Memory Of

Steven V. Calev

By Barbara A. Calev

In Memory Of

Harriet Feder

By David & Suzi-Sara Feder

In Memory Of

Arnold Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

In Memory Of

Abraham Kanowsky

By Wes & Rita Conklin

In Memory Of

Natalie Field

In Memory Of

By Carol Field

In Memory Of

Arnold Widrich

By Susan W. Goldberg

In Memory Of

Joseph Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

In Memory Of

Leonard Weiser

By Andrew & Randi Grant

Muriel Catanase

By Stephan & Jane Friedman

In Memory Of

Stanley J. Goodman

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

In Memory Of

Fanny Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

In Memory Of

Henry W. Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

Miriam Gitin

By David Gitin

In Memory Of

Simon Skolnick

By Susan Gordon

In Memory Of

Lilian Goldenberg

By Mrs. Marty Graham

In Memory Of

Leah Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Chai-Lights October 2014 7

Nemoriam October 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Michal Kamely

By Uri & Liliam Kamely

In Memory Of

Ron Levy

By Beth Kaminstein

Michal Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

<><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Esther M. Klein

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Rebekah Levy

By Yardena Kamely

In Memory Of

Eliza Christensen

By Nancy Kluger

In Memory Of Jose (Pepe) Cohen Charaf

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Joel S. Cohen

By Lynn Nobil

In Memory Of

Rosalyn Rose

By Skip Rose

In Memory Of

Jon R. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

In Memory Of

Saunders G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Doran David Zinner

By Donald Zinner ~~~~~~~~~~ Bradley Schocket

By Jeffrey & Patty Schocket

Morton I. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

In Memory Of

Herbert S. Weihl

By Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl

In Memory Of

Miriam Gitin

By David Gitin In Memory Of

David Frank

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Maurice Singer

By Lee Schur

In Memory Of

Joel S. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Sarah Wernicoff

By Donald Zinner

In Memory Of

Michal Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

In Memory Of

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles



Fall is here, High Holy Holidays are upon us which means to me: "The gathering of our Mishpucha". It means a lot of our snow birds will be returning and joining our Keys Family for the Jewish Holidays. We always have new people coming in and members moving away, so it's great this time of year as many of them return and we get to renew our bond. I look forward to re-visiting old friends and maybe even making new ones.

The Holidays are busy as always and I'm looking forward to hearing a new Cantorial voice along with Rabbi Agler's. October 4th after Yom Kippur Services, we have our delicious Break The Fast meal. I hope everyone gets in touch with Erica Garrett to RSVP and coordinate their potluck meals so we can have the huge turnout we have every year.

We have completed our planning for the year and here's a few of the things we decided to do that are a little different from previous years: November 14th @ 6:30 we will be having an Italian Night Covered Dish Dinner that we are opening to the public. Erica Garrett along with Susan Gordon will be cochairing this event.

Check our website for more activity information or feel free to get in touch with me with new ideas or information.

I am attaching Poems that have been written regarding "Sisterhood", as over the year & a half I've been the Sisterhood President, I've seen old friends leave us and new ones join us and I thought the Poems were fitting of how we all interact as friends and members of the Sisterhood.

Sisterhood is not just the combination of Greek letters the beauty of crimson and cream it's about friendship and trust sharing hopes and dreams it doesn't lie in the depths of pledges, songs and played parts it's what lies deep within the depths of our hearts for each other growing together becoming strong, as one helping each other, building each other to withstand and overcome supporting your sister when she is in need wiping her tears and easing her pain when she bleeds being a shoulder to lean on in times of despair letting her know that you'll always be there sisterhood is not just strolls and dancing at parties the fun you have at step shows it's the warmth and affection you have for each other and the relationships that grow it's the tug at your heart when she's going through it's you doing what you can do to help her pull through sharing her burdens and easing the load she may bare it's about being consistent and showing your care

In closing, Let's Make October A Great Month!!

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.

Book Plates

Lieberman-Garrett, Erica

In Honor of Bubby Shirley & Zaidy Sam Lieberman

Chai-Lights Bernstein, Paul & Barbara

General Fund Bofshever, Joel & Toby

In Honor of Joyce Peckman's new twin grandchildren-to good health

Bolton, William & Donna Conklin, Rita & Wes Gross, David & Patti Margulies, Stanley & Jenny Pincus, Linda Ruthen, Melvin & Joyce Aunt Pauline's 99th birthday

Holocaust Ed Center Swartz, George & Muriel

Meditation Garden Bernstein, Paul & Barbara

Rabbi & Cantor Fund

Bernstein, Paul & Barbara Bolton, William & Donna Gross, David & Patti Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Line, Jonathan & Arlene Mont, Dave & Georgia Landau Peckman, Joyce Rose, Skip

Scholarship Fund

Bernstein, Paul & Barbara Kluger, Nancy

Sisterhood Oneg Fund

Coltman, Barney Gilson, Michael & Suzanne Knowles, Richard & Barbara Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Nobil, Lynn Steinbock, Steve & Carol

Tree of Life Lieberman-Garrett, Erica In Honor of Bar Mitzvah of Mark Lieberman 12/29/2012

Isaac, Adara Peckman

Eliana, Yosef, Michal, Libby,

Peckman, Joyce

Yahrzeits

Alter, Barry Boruszak, Joan Coltman, Barney Cooper, Claire Harvey, Mitchell Margulies, Stanley & Jenny Marmar, David & Pamela Franne Alter Jim Boruszak Evelyn Coltman Sarah Sandberg Beverly Harvey Anne Hendin Margulies Dorothy Marmar

Yahrzeit Plaques

Miller, Jeffrey & Lisa

Yizkor Book

Agler, Richard & Mindy Berman, Sylvia Bernard, Joel & Joan Stark Bernstein, Paul & Barbara Conklin, Wes & Rita Kluger, Nancy Lieberman-Garrett, Erica Line, Jonathan & Arlene Peckman, Joyce Pincus, Linda Rose, Skip



World Jewish Report Medina Roy

Tuchus is Now Acceptable!

OK you Scrabble lovers......It's time to run out and pick up your new official dictionary. On August 6th, Merriam-Webster released the 5th edition of the "Official Scrabble Players' Dictionary." This revised edition contains more than 5,000 new words. So in addition to "hashtag," "selfie," and "mojito," players can now put down "schmutz,"(dirt) schtum" (keep silent) and even "tuchus" (no explanation needed) without fear of being challenged. (By the way..."tuchuses," the plural, is also acceptable.) Just about every Yiddish word you can think of that starts with "sh" - shlub. shlep and even shmuck - is not only acceptable, but can be spelled with or without a "c" between the "s" and the "h." Various spellings of "shadchan" (matchmaker), "mitzvah," "aliyah" (immigration to Israel) and "tallis" are accepted. But if you are playing and using the official dictionary, there is one word that you can never use: "jew." If it's capitalized, it's a proper noun which is never permitted and if it's lower-cased and used as a verb (meaning "to bargain"), it's excluded from the dictionary because it is derogatory and considered anti-Semitic. (The Forward, 8-13-14)

He'll be the First

Rabbi David Saperstein, the man *News-week* magazine named the most influential rabbi in America in 2009, has been nominated by President Obama to become the next ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom. This nomination makes Saperstein the first non-Christian to hold the position. Saperstein, 66, is a Reform rabbi and lawyer. As ambassador, he will head the State Department's *Office of International Religious Freedom*. His job will be to monitor religious freedom abuses around the world. For 30 years, Saperstein led the *Religious Action Center* of Reform Judaism focusing on social justice and religious freedom issues.



He was instrumental in the 1993 passage of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), which requires the government "to show a compelling reason for any action that impinges upon the exercise of religion," (the very law the Supreme Court used in the recent Hobby Lobby case. Saperstein did not support the Supreme Court's decision in that case and argued that the justices overstepped when they ruled that the craft store chain could cite religious objections and not provide contraception coverage in its insurance plan). In 2009. Obama appointed him to the first White House Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Saperstein has served on the board of many organizations including the NAACP and People for the American Way. Saperstein would be the fourth person to hold the job. He must be confirmed by the Senate before he can fill the position. (www.washingtonpost.com, 7-28-14)

Hillel Gets Fashionable

H&M, a Swedish international retail clothing chain has come out with a \$9.95 tank top that has a partial quote by Hillel, the Talmudic sage, written in oversized black letters: "If not now, when?" A spokeswoman for H&M in Times Square has been quoted as saying that the shirt was one of the chain's top sellers this summer. "We sold that item out weeks ago, but people keep asking me about it," the spokeswoman said (Note: the entire phrase by Hillel reads, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, who am I? And if not now, when?") The famous phrase comes from *Pirkay Avot* (Ethics of the Fathers), a collection of moral advice. (www.haaretz.com 9-2-14)

A First Since WWII

Wroclaw, a city now located in Poland, recently held its first rabbinic ordination since World War II. Before the war, the city was known as Breslau, and it was part of Germany. Four rabbis and three cantors were ordained at a ceremony in the White Stork synagogue, Wroclaw's only synagogue to survive the Holocaust. The newly ordained clergy graduated from the Abraham Geiger College in Potsdam, Germany, a Reform rabbinic seminary founded in 1999. It was named for Geiger, a 19th century pioneer of Reform Judaism. Geiger served as rabbi at the White Stork synagogue for more than 20 years and was instrumental in founding the Jewish Theological Seminary in Wroclaw. Breslau had pre-war Germany's third largest lewish community. The White Stork synagogue was built in 1820 and was long abandoned. It was fully restored in 2010 and now serves the local Jewish community. Geiger College, the first rabbinic seminary founded in central Europe after the Holocaust, is a member of the World Union of Proaressive Iudaism. (www.timesofisrael.com)

Praise for a Symbolic Gesture

At the beginning of September, Yiannis Boutaris, the mayor of Thessaloniki, a city in northern Greece, wore a yellow Star of David pinned to his jacket while being sworn in for a second term. His action was in protest to extremist Artemis Matthaiopoulos, the newly elected city councilman from the neo-Nazi "Golden Dawn" party. The Greek government has been cracking down on "Golden Dawn" which has been accused of dozens of attacks on immigrants. During his first term as mayor, Boutaris was very active in reviving the memory of the Nazi atrocities. Greek's small Jewish community praised the mayor for his symbolic gesture also seen as a symbol of solidarity with Thessaloniki's Jewish community which now numbers only about 1,200. In 1943, Nazi German forces occupying Greece forced the lews of Thessaloniki into a ghetto near the railway station later deported them to concentration and labor camps. Most of Thessaloniki's 60,000 Jews

died, resulting in the near extermination of the community. (www.worldjewishcongress.org, 9-2-14)

In Memoriam

-Sgt. Shahar Shalev, a 20-year-old IDF soldier, died of injuries he sustained in southern Gaza, making him the 65th soldier (and the 72nd Israeli casualty) to die in the recent war with Hamas. (www.jpost.com, 8-31-14)

-Sophie Masloff, the first Jewish mayor of Pittsburgh (serving from 1988 to 1994) and the first female to lead the city has died. She was 96. A life-long native of the city, Masloff became mayor at the age of 70. She is credited with cutting an unpopular wage tax and initiating a residential recycling program. Masloff had a legal battle with the Chabad Hasidic movement over her refusal to display a menorah on the steps of City Hall. Born Sophie Friedman to Romanian Jewish immigrants, Masloff grew up in a Yiddish-speaking household. (www.thejewishweek.com, 8-19-14)

-Bel Kaufman, best known as the author of the 1965 bestseller "Up the Down Staircase," a fictionalized story of her life as a young first-year teacher in a New York City public school dealing with administrative bureaucracy, died in July. She was 103. The granddaughter of Sholem Aleichem (1859-1916). one of the most beloved Yiddish writers - his story Tevva the Dairyman was the basis for both the Broadway musical and the film Fiddler on the Roof - Kaufman was raised in Odessa (modern-day Ukraine) and Kiev. Her mother Lyala Rabiniwitz published short works in the Yiddish Forverts. Kaufman immigrated to New York in 1923. She was repeatedly denied a teaching certificate because of her lingering Russian accent. Kaufman was finally allowed to teach and in 1965 wrote the best-selling novel after a comment made by a school principal who found her going up the down staircase, disobeying hallway traffic rules. (The novel stayed on best-seller lists for fifteen months, including five months at #1. It has sold more than six million copies and has been translated into at least sixteen languages.) The book detailed how excessive

paperwork, senseless meetings and foolish rules overwhelmed teachers, taking precious time away from interacting with students in the classroom. (Funny..... things haven't changed much in that area – may even be worse – in the almost 50 years since the publication of her book). The book was made into a movie in 1967. Kaufman advocated for a "teacher's bill of rights," which would guarantee teachers the respect they deserved, decent and safe classrooms, and a salary commensurate with worth. At the age of 100, Kaufman was still teaching. She taught a course in Jewish humor.

(www.washingtonpost.com, 7-26-14)

-Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, an influential leader and founder of the lewish Renewal movement, a movement which encourages a more spiritual, meditative practice and personal connection with G-d, died in early July. He was 89. Many of the ritual innovations he introduced have gone mainstream, incorporating both Eastern meditation and the use of musical instruments during prayer services. Schachter-Shalomi was born in Poland to an Orthodox family with Hasidic roots. His family fled to Vienna where he was raised eventually arriving in New York in 1943. He joined the Lubavitch branch of Orthodox Judaism and was ordained as a Chabad rabbi in his early twenties. In the late 1960s, Schachter-Shalomi strayed from his Orthodox upbringing and began embracing more liberal elements of Judaism. He welcomed the gay community and believed in equal roles for men and women in religious life. He promoted doctrines like eco-kashrut that fused contemporary concerns with Jewish practice. Along with Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, he was among the earliest groups sent out by the Lubavitcher rebbe to do outreach on college campuses. He joined Timothy Leary and experimented with LSD at an ashram in Massachusetts, claiming it was "better than schnapps". Schachter-Shalomi was also a leading figure in the growth of the Havurah movement, the small prayer groups that emerged in the 1960s and rejected institutionalized synagogue Judaism in favor of home-based worship. Schachter-Shalomi married four times and fathered 11 children. (www.tabletmag.com, 7-3-14)

Did You Know...

- Joan Rivers (born Joan Alexandra Molinsky in Brooklyn, NY), who died in early September at the age of 81, was the daughter of Russian immigrant Jews. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Barnard. Her philanthropies included Jewish causes, AIDS charities and foundations that benefited animals. She often used her "member-of-the-tribe" status in her comedy. ("I'm Jewish. I don't work out. If G-d had wanted us to bend over, He would have put diamonds on the floor.") Rivers was a staunch supporter of the State of Israel. (www.washingtonpost.com, 9-4-14)

-Actress Gwyneth Paltrow is said to be converting to Judaism. Her mother, actress Blythe Danner is Christian and her father, the late film director Bruce Paltrow, was Jewish. Gwyneth and her brother were raised both Jewish and Christian which she described as "such a nice way to grow up." Paltrow has been raising her two children, Apple and Moses, Jewish. Paltrow and her husband separated this past spring after 11 years of marriage. Paltrow has been a longtime ardent follower of Kabbalah and is friends with Michael Berg, co-director of the Kabbalah Centre International in New York City. (www.tabletmag.com, 9-5-14)

-In late August, Zev Goldik, an Israeli doctor, was elected President of the European Society of Anesthesiology (ESA). Goldik is the first Israeli to ever head the ESA. With this move, medical officials are claiming that this is a major step forward for Israel-EU relations. The ESA consists of over 18,000 members from 40 EU countries. Goldik has been the recovery unit director of Haifa's Carmel Hospital. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 8-20-14)

-John Beattie, the founder of the Canadian Nazi Party, is running for deputy head of the Ontario town council. Beattie, 72, led violent Nazi rallies in Toronto 50 years ago and painted swastikas on the lawns of the city's prominent Jewish residents. He is a candidate in the Township of Minden Hills, which has a population of 5,600. (www.jta.org, 9-2-14) ◊

Keys Jewish Community Center Food Drive

Saturday, October 4, 2014

Remember to Bring "Fast" Food

We at KJCC are continuing our tradition of making our fast more meaningful by helping to spare others from hunger. As part of our Yom Kippur Tzedakah, we can each bring a bag of groceries to Shul with us on Yom Kippur morning.

We will heed the words of Isaiah, 58:6-11. "Is not this the fast I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free ...? Is it not to deal your bread to the hungry ...? Then shall your light break forth as the morning ... and you shall be like a watered garden ..."

The next day our offerings will be delivered to the Food Bank at Burton Memorial Church next door. Our Days of Awe actions will bring sustenance to others as well as to ourselves. May we all be written and sealed in the Book of Life for a good and healthy year.





broakfa

Photo Gallery

Two of our members we just don't see enough of. Mary Lee Singer and Maryon Gould are seen here working at a fundraiser for St. Justin's July 18, 2014.





After the Board Meeting on Sept. 14th Bernie took this photo of two young etrog trees, still in pots, being nurtured in KJCC's Garden. The etrog fruit is an important part of the Sukkot ritual (See Gloria's article on page 27), of course, one of the symbols of the rich harvest available to Israelites because of their adherence to the ethical and agricultural instructions contained in the laws of Moses. The trees grow in Israel, their fruit being a citrus with a sort of lemon-y scent. (The tree's leaves also have that same scent.) These two saplings were planted last year from seeds taken directly from the ritual KJCC etrog. Steve Steinbock, Georgia Landau and Mindy Agler all took seeds, at Rabbi Rich Agler's suggestion, to see if we could not only

grow our own etrog but also produce a living tree that would provide the fruit for generations to come. (Which is appealing on many levels, including the fact that etrogim imported from Israel are very expensive.) Here is the amazing evidence of progress. After only one year (or is it two?), two plants are several feet high. The trees will eventually produce thorns and delicate white flowers that morph into the treasured fruit. (A Midrash, by the

way, says the fruit that co-starred with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden was not an apple at all, but an etrog.)

Joyce Peckman sent in this photo of son Keith with his new twins. Says Joyce: "What my son Keith does on Sunday: the making of the next generation of frustrated Jets fans." On the left is Adara in the white bib. On the right in the green bib is Isaac. They were born March 2th, with Adara arriving one minute earlier than Isaac. Not only is she the older of the two, but according to Joyce she is also the louder one.





On September 12th Joel Bofshever did an excellent job on his first outing as service leader, giving a particularly meaningful dvar To-





Shabbat observance as the glue that has held the Jewish people together for millennia. He was ably assisted with joyous singing by Erica Lieberman Garrett. As you can see from the photos, a good time was had by all (especially Pauline Roller, Linda Perloff and Mitch Harvey). Stan Margulies and new member Art Itkin sang out for

the Kiddush. New members Randy Klein and daughter Oceana Gross blessed and cut the challah for us. We are so happy to. welcome Oceana as a new student in the KJCC Religious

school. L'Chaim. And Yasher Koach to Joel.



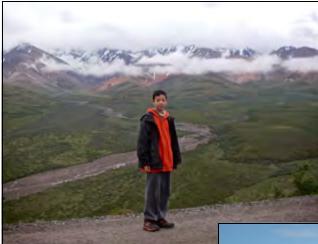






Above,

from top: New members Randy Klein-Gross and daughter Oceana Gross, service Leader Joel Bofshever, and new member Art Itkin.



Harry Friedman, together with two dozen or so fellow Boy Scouts had a wonderful adventure in Alaska for two weeks this past summer. After a long flight from Miami to Fairbanks they camped and hiked through wilderness and along rivers. They saw the tallest mountains in the United States, including Mt. McKinley, and walked along glaciers. They fished in pristine mountain streams and listened to bears bellow at each other in the night. Harry sent us these photos and captions to give you a good sense of what he experienced.

This is a picture of me at Denali National Park in south central Alaska, not too far from Mt. McKinley, the highest point in the U.S. The mountains in the background are part of the Inner Range. Along the tour we saw a few grizzlies, elk, caribou, mountain sheep, and brown bears.



This picture is in Seward, Alaska, north of Fairbanks, where we camped out in tents and watched fishermen go by as they caught silver salmon. This place also had a lot of bears in the area, but they avoided us because of



our large number of noisy scouts.

(left) This is the picture of the shoreline from our campsite called Canes Head. It was really hard to get to because of the tides rising, but the scenery and fresh air felt so good.

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(left) This picture was on our four -mile backcountry hike to a place called Canes Head. This river had silver salmon swimming in it. We caught a few with a fishing rod but had to release them.

On our tour through Denali National Park. This is the closest picture I took of a caribou.





(left) Here I am at a glacier about an hour out of Seward. This was my favorite moment of the trip because I had never been to a glacier before.

David Feder and Beth Kaminstein Honored

KJCC salutes its members David Feder and Beth Kaminstein, who were recently honored by the Morada Way Arts & Cultural District at a gala reception at the Keys History & Discovery Center in Islamorada. The reception took place on June 21st against the backdrop of an exhibition of the watercolors of the late renowned Keys artist Millard Wells that included his beautiful watercolor of the KICC.

Dave was honored as Morada Way's Citizen of the Year. This award is given "... to an individual who goes above and beyond in building community, embracing talent and who focuses on the positive future of Islamorada and the Florida Keys."

Beth was one of only two artists to receive the coveted Red Kerchief award, given in honor of Mr. Wells, to artists: "who embrace service, creativity and community involvement. Their artistic ability and representation in the community capture the hearts of those who call the Florida Keys home."

Dr. Bernard Ginsberg, president of the KJCC, commented: "We are extremely proud of Dave and Beth.







These outstanding artists carry on a long tradition of community service by KJCC members." -Steve Hartz



Editor's Note: This text originally appeared in last month's issue as Nosh. We reprint it here because we now have the photos to bring it to life.

Jewish Last Names: A History

Editor's Note:

This was originally an article in the online magazine Slate. Its author is Bennett Muraskin, author of *Guide to Yiddish Short Stories* and *Let Justice Well Up Like Water: Progressive Jews from Hillel to Helen Suzman*, plus other books. We don't typically download articles directly from the Internet, for many reasons. But the information is fascinating, the source credible, and we're giving attribution as to the author and source. We received it via the joint efforts of Donna Bolton and Susan Gordon. Enjoy.

A shkenazic Jews were among the last Europeans to take family names. Some German-speaking Jews took last names as early as the 17th century, but the overwhelming majority of Jews lived in Eastern Europe and did not take last names until compelled to do so. The process began in the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1787 and ended in Czarist Russia in 1844.

In attempting to build modern nationstates, the authorities insisted that Jews take last names so that they could be taxed, drafted, and educated (in that order of importance). For centuries, Jewish communal leaders were responsible for collecting taxes from the Jewish population on behalf of the government, and in some cases were responsible for filling draft quotas. Education was traditionally an internal Jewish affair.

Until this period, Jewish names generally changed with every generation. For example, if Moses son of Mendel (Moyshe ben Mendel) married Sarah daughter of Rebecca (Sara bat rivka), and they had a boy and named it Samuel (Shmuel), the child would be called Shmuel ben Moyshe. If they had a girl and named her Feygele, she would be called Feygele bas Sora.

Jews distrusted the authorities and resisted the new requirement. Although they were forced to take last names, at first they were used only for official purposes. Among themselves, they kept their traditional names. Over time, Jews accepted the new last names, which were essential as Jews sought to advance within the broader society and as the *shtetles* were transformed or Jews left them for big cities.

The easiest way for Jews to assume an official last name was to adapt the name they already had, making it permanent. This explains the use of "patronymics" and "matronymics."

PATRONYMICS (son of ...)

In Yiddish or German, "son" would be denoted by "son" or "sohn" or "er." In most Slavic languages, like Polish or Russian, it would be "wich" or "witz." For example: The son of Mendel took the last name Mendelsohn; the son of Abraham became Abramson or Avromovitch; the son of Menashe became Manishewitz; the son of Itzhak became Itskowitz; the son of Berl took the name Berliner; the son of Kesl took the name Kessler, etc.

MATRONYMICS (daughter of ...)

Reflecting the prominence of Jewish women in business, some families made last names out of women's first names: Chaiken — son of Chaikeh; Edelman — husband of Edel; Gittelman — husband of Gitl; Glick or Gluck — may derive from Glickl, a popular woman's name as in the famous "Glickl of Hameln," whose memoirs, written around 1690, are an early example of Yiddish literature.

Gold/Goldman/Gulden may derived from Golda; Malkov from Malke; Perlman — husband of Perl; Rivken — may derive from Rivke; Soronsohn—son of Sarah.

PLACE NAMES

The next most common source of Jewish last names is probably places. Jews used the town or region where they lived, or where their families came from, as their last name. As a result, the Germanic origins of most East European Jews is reflected in their names.

For example. Asch is an acronym for the towns of Aisenshtadt or Altshul or Amshterdam. Other placebased Jewish names include: Auerbach/Orbach; Bacharach: Berger (generic for townsman); Berg(man), meaning from a hilly place; Bayer — from Bavaria; Bamberger: Berliner, Berlinsky from Berlin; Bloch (foreigner); Brandeis; Breslau; Brodsky; Brody; Danziger: Deutch/Deutscher — German; Dorf(man), meaning villager; Eisenberg; Epstein; Florsheim; Frankel -from the Franconia region of Germany; Frankfurter; Ginsberg: Gordon — from

Grodno, Lithuania or from the Russian word *gorodin*, for townsman; Greenberg; Halperin—from Helbronn, Germany; Hammerstein; Heller — from Halle, Germany; Hollander — not from Holland, but from a town in Lithuania settled by the Dutch; Horowitz, Hurwich, Gurevitch — from Horovice in Bohemia; Koenigsberg; Krakauer — from Cracow, Poland; Landau; Lipsky — from Leipzig, Germany; Litwak — from Lithuania; Minsky from Minsk, Belarus; Mintz—from Mainz, Ger-

Ashkenazic Jews were among the last Europeans to take family names. Some German-speaking Jews took last names as early as the 17th century, but the overwhelming majority of Jews lived in Eastern Europe and did not take last names until compelled to do so.

many; Oppenheimer; Ostreicher — from Austria; Pinsky — from Pinsk, Belarus; Posner from Posen, Germany; Prager — from Prague; Rappoport — from Porto, Italy; Rothenberg from the town of the red fortress in Germany; Shapiro — from Speyer, Germany; Schlesinger — from Silesia, Germany; Steinberg; Unger from Hungary; Vilner — from Vilna, Poland/

Lithuania; Wallach—from Bloch, derived from the Polish word for foreigner; Warshauer/Warshavsky — from Warsaw; Wiener — from Vienna; Weinberg.

OCCUPATIONAL NAMES Craftsmen/Workers

Ackerman — plowman; Baker/Boker — baker: Blecher — tinsmith; Fleisher/Fleishman/Katzoff/ Metger — butcher; Cooperman — coppersmith; Drucker — printer; Einstein - mason: Farber - painter/ dyer; Feinstein — jeweler; Fisher — fisherman; Forman - driver/teamster; Garber/ Gerber — tanner; Glazer/ Glass/Sklar — glazier; Goldstein — goldsmith; Graber - engraver; Kastner - cabinetmaker; Kunstler — artist; Kramer — storekeeper; Miller — miller; Nagler nailmaker; Plotnick - carpenter: Sandler/Shuster shoemaker; Schmidt/ Kovalsky — blacksmith;

Shnitzer — carver; Silverstein — jeweler; Spielman — player (musician?); Stein/Steiner/ Stone — jeweler; Wasserman — water carrier.

Merchants

Garfinkel/Garfunkel — diamond dealer; Holzman/Holtz/Waldman — timber dealer; Kaufman — merchant; Rokeach — spice merchant; Salzman — salt merchant; Seid/ Seidman—silk merchant; Tabachnik — snuff seller; Tuchman — cloth merchant; Wachsman — wax dealer; Wechsler/Halphan — money changer; Wollman — wool merchant; Zucker/Zuckerman — sugar merchant.

Related to tailoring

Kravitz/Portnoy/Schneider/Snyder — tailor; Nadelman/Nudelman — also tailor, but from "needle"; Sher/Sherman — also tailor, but from "scissors" or "shears"; Presser/ Pressman — clothing presser; Futterman/ Kirshner/Kushner/Peltz — furrier; Weber weaver.

Medical

Aptheker — druggist; Feldsher — surgeon; Bader/Teller — barber.

Related to liquor trade

Bronfman/Brand/Brandler/Brenner — distiller; Braverman/Meltzer — brewer; Kabakoff/Krieger/Vigoda — tavern keeper; Geffen — wine merchant; Wine/Weinglass — wine merchant; Weiner — wine maker.

Religious/Communal

Altshul/Althshuler — associated with the old synagogue in Prague; Cantor/Kazan/ Singer/Spivack — cantor or song leader in shul; Feder/Federman/Schreiber — scribe; Haver — from haver (court official); Klausner — rabbi for small congregation; Klopman calls people to morning prayers by knocking on their window shutters; Lehrer/Malamud/ Malmud — teacher: Rabin — rabbi (Rabinowitz-son of rabbi): London scholar, from the Hebrew lamden (misunderstood by immigration inspectors); Reznick — ritual slaughterer; Richter judge; Sandek — godfather; Schechter/ Schachter/Shuchter etc. — ritual slaughterer from Hebrew schochet; Shofer/Sofer/ Schaeffer — scribe; Shulman/Skolnick — sexton: Spector — inspector or supervisor of schools.

PERSONAL TRAITS

Alter/Alterman — old; Dreyfus—three legged, perhaps referring to someone who walked with a cane; Erlich — honest; Frum devout ; Gottleib — God lover, perhaps refer-

ring to someone very devout; Geller/Gelber vellow, perhaps referring to someone with blond hair; Gross/Grossman — big; Gruber coarse or vulgar; Feifer/Pfeifer — whistler; Fried/Friedman—happy; Hoch/Hochman/ Langer/Langerman — tall; Klein/Kleinman small; Koenig – king, perhaps someone who was chosen as a "Purim King," in reality a poor wretch; Krauss — curly, as in curly hair; Kurtz/Kurtzman — short; Reich/Reichman rich; Reisser — giant; Roth/Rothman — red head; Roth/Rothbard - red beard; Shein/ Schoen/Schoenman — pretty, handsome; Schwartz/Shwartzman/Charney — black hair sharp, i.e intelligent; Stark - strong, from the Yiddish *shtark*; Springer — lively person, from the Yiddish springen for jump.

INSULTING NAMES

These were sometimes foisted on Jews who discarded them as soon as possible, but a few may remain: Billig — cheap; Gans — goose; Indyk —

goose; Grob — rough/crude; Kalb — cow.

ANIMAL NAMES

It is common among all peoples to take last names from the animal kingdom. Baer/ Berman/Beerman/Berkowitz/Beronson bear; Adler — eagle (may derive from reference to an eagle in Psalm 103:5); Einhorn unicorn; Falk/Sokol/Sokolovksy — falcon; Fink — finch; Fuchs/Liss — fox; Gelfand/ Helfand — camel (technically means elephant but was used for camel too); Hecht—pike; Hirschhorn — deer antlers; Karp — carp; Loeb — lion; Ochs— ox; Strauss — ostrich (or bouquet of flowers); Wachtel — quail.

HEBREW NAMES

Some Jews either held on to or adopted traditional Jewish names from the Bible and Talmud. The big two are Cohen (Cohn, Kohn, Kahan, Kahn, Kaplan) and Levi (Levy, Levine, Levinsky, Levitan, Levenson, Levitt, Lewin, Lewinsky, Lewinson). Others include: Aaron — Aronson, Aronoff; Asher; Benjamin; David — Davis, Davies; Ephraim — Fishl; Emanuel — Mendel; Isaac — Isaacs, Isaacson/Eisner; Jacob — Jacobs, Jacobson, Jacoby; Judah — Idelsohn, Udell,Yudelson; Mayer/Meyer; Menachem — Mann, Mendel; Reuben — Rubin; Samuel — Samuels, Zangwill; Simon — Schimmel; Solomon — Zalman.

HEBREW ACRONYMS

Names based on Hebrew acronyms include: Baron — <u>b</u>ar <u>aron</u> (son of Aaron); Beck —<u>bene k</u>edoshim (descendant of martyrs); Getz — <u>g</u>abbai <u>ts</u>edek (righteous synagogue official); Katz — <u>k</u>ohen <u>ts</u>edek (righteous priest); Metz — <u>moreh ts</u>edek (teacher of righteousness); Sachs, Saks zora kodosh shamo (bis name doscends from

<u>zera kodesh s</u>hemo (his name descends from martyrs); Segal — <u>se g</u>an <u>l</u>evia (second-rank Levite).

OTHER HEBREW- and YIDDISH-DERIVED NAMES

Lieb means "lion" in Yiddish. It is the root of many Ashkenazic last names, including Liebowitz, Lefkowitz, Lebush, and Leon. It is the Yiddish translation of the Hebrew word for lion — *aryeh*. The lion was the symbol of the tribe of Judah.

Hirsch means "deer" or "stag" in Yiddish. It is the root of many Ashkenazic last names, including Hirschfeld, Hirschbein/Hershkowitz (son of Hirsch), Hertz/Herzl, Cerf, Hart, and Hartman. It is the Yiddish translation of the Hebrew word for gazelle: *tsvi*. The gazelle was the symbol of the tribe of Naphtali. **Taub** means "dove" in Yiddish. It is the root of the Ashkenazic last name Tauber. The symbol of the dove is associated with the prophet Jonah.

Wolf is the root of the Ashkenazic last names Wolfson, Wouk, and Volkovich. The wolf was the symbol of the tribe of Benjamin.

Eckstein — Yiddish for cornerstone, derived from Psalm 118:22.

Good(man) — Yiddish translation of the Hebrew word for "good": *tuviah*. **Margolin** — Hebrew for "pearl."

INVENTED 'FANCY SHMANCY' NAMES

When Jews in the Austro-Hungarian Empire were required to assume last names, some chose the nicest ones they could think of and may have been charged a registration fee by the authorities. According to the YIVO Encyclopedia, "The resulting names often are associated with nature and beauty. It is very plausible that the choices were influenced by the general romantic tendencies of German culture at that time." These names include: Applebaum — apple tree; Birnbaum — pear tree; Buchsbaum — box tree; Kestenbaum chestnut tree; Kirshenbaum — cherry tree; Mandelbaum — almond tree; Nussbaum nut tree; Tannenbaum — fir tree; Teitelbaum — palm tree.

Other names, chosen or purchased, were combinations with these roots:Blumen (flower), Fein (fine), Gold, Green, Lowen (lion), Rosen (rose), Schoen/Schein (pretty) — combined with berg (hill or mountain), thal (valley), bloom (flower), zweig (wreath), blatt (leaf), vald or wald (woods), feld (field). Miscellaneous other names included Diamond; Glick/Gluck — luck; Hoffman — hopeful; Fried/Friedman — happiness; Lieber/Lieberman — lover.

Jewish family names from non-Jewish languages included: Sender/Saunders — from Alexander; Kagan — descended from the Khazars, a Turkic-speaking people from Central Asia; Kelman/Kalman — from the Greek name Kalonymous, the Greek translation of the Hebrew *shem tov* (good name), popular among Jews in medieval France and Italy; Marcus/Marx — from Latin, referring to the pagan god Mars.

Finally, there were Jewish names changed or shortened by immigration inspectors or by immigrants themselves (or their descendants) to sound more American, which is why "Sean Ferguson" was a Jew.

Let us close with a ditty:

And this is good old Boston; The home of the bean and the cod. Where the Lowells speak only to the Cabots; And the Cabots speak Yiddish, by God! 0



ART NERDS IN UNIFORM *The Real Life Monuments Men*

In a 2014 movie directed by George Clooney we learned of an unlikely World War II platoon that was sent to Europe to rescue art masterpieces from the Nazi thieves who had plundered them. "The Monuments Men" was based on a very true episode in WWII history. The Smithsonian's Archives of American Art has put together a showcase of photos, letters and other related documentation that tells the true story behind the Hollywood. film.

The real Monuments Men were a team of art historians and experts, with an average age of 40, who were gathered under the U.S. Military division of Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives. Their original mission was to identify and save significant buildings from being bombed in the Allied



"Monuments Man" Daniel J. Kern and German conservator Karl Sieber examine part of the Ghent Altarpiece, a work by Jan van Eyck.

In April of 1945, a U.S. soldier views art stolen by the Nazis and stored in a church in Ellingen, Germany. (U.S. National Archives & Records Administration via Reuters / REUTERS)





U.S. soldiers examine the painting "Wintergarden" by French Impressionist Edouard Manet, stolen by the Nazi regime and hidden in a salt mine in Merkers, Germany. (U.S. National Archives & Records Administration via Reuters/ REUTERS) The Nazis had also hidden a large cache of art in a salt mine in the Austrian town of Altaussee. According to museum curators a salt mine's temperature and humidity were surprisingly conducive to art storage.

attacks, but it soon grew to also include finding and repatriating pieces of stolen art.

The Smithsonian display includes a 71 page U.S. government document that catalogs what the Monuments Men found in the largely stolen art collection of Goering. It lists more than 1,000 works including those of the Dutch master Rubens.

The Monuments Men found more than 1,500 stashes of stolen art in southern Germany alone. There were more than 6,000 paintings in the tunnels of the Altaussee salt mine. It took them six weeks to empty the Neuschwanstein Castle of all the art there.

In spite of all their effort and the thousands of works they were able to recover, even now, 70 years after the end of the war, hundreds of thousands of plundered documents and artworks—including pieces by Monet, Van Gogh, Cezanne, Rodin and Botticelli—remain at large. The Monuments Men Foundation is continuing the search for the lost treasures in addition to its work in keeping alive the story of the famous Art Nerds.

With photo credits to the Washington Post and the Thomas Carr Howe Papers, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, here are some of the fascinating photos and facts of the true story behind the Hollywood film. \Diamond

Limestone bust of Queen Nefertiti, found in one of the salt mine stashes.



A1945 photo of a Versailles garden sculpture that has been draped in camouflage netting to hide it from the Allies.



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Michelangelo's "Madonna and Child" is rescued from its hiding place in the salt mine of Altaussee, Austria, in 1945.

This old photo shows Neuschwanstein Castle, where the Nazis stashed much of their stolen art. The unique fortress, built by Ludwig II of Bavaria, served as the architectural inspiration for Disneyland's Sleeping Beauty Castle.

According to the Smithsonian documents, the picture was given to The Monuments Men by Rose Valland, a Parisian art historian who surreptitiously recorded where the Nazis were concealing their war booty. You would not think a photo would be necessary to identify the building, the structure is unique and rather stands out.

There is also a story about how Valland was able to learn where the Nazis were hiding the stolen art: As a curator at the Jeu de Paume museum, Valland was kept around by the Nazis for her expertise as they processed thousands of stolen paintings through her museum. Unbeknown to the occupying troops, however, Valland spoke German and was able to eavesdrop on conversations they assumed were private.



Camp Out, Eat, Give Thanks, and Be Happy! Sukkot – A Holiday of Joy

by Gloria Avner

utumn, early or late, can be a perfect time to be out-of-doors. Even Keys temperatures become breathable. We can camp and welcome friends, families, and strangers (even our own ancestors, from Abraham to David) to share a meal with us in an impromptu, impermanent home whose roof is the sky crossed by a few palm fronds or tree limbs. Sharing food in a makeshift shelter seems like a small thing, from a small point of view. But when you have just gone through 40 days of introspection, ten Days of Awe, intense prayer, begging for forgiveness of misdeeds, and fasting, we are feeling cleansed, happy to be alive, and eager for a little wind in our faces. It is good to reconnect with our earth-honoring roots, to live for a time in the temporary housing that our ancestors called home during 40 years of desert wandering, trusting that we will survive and thrive.

Sukkot is also called *z'man simchateinu*, the time of our joy. Now is the time to bless and enjoy all forms of the earth's fruits. The activities, rituals and foods we choose should focus on happiness. Engage the senses. Breathe in the delicious aroma of the *etrog*. Listen to the rain-like sound of the "four species" as we hold them together and shake them. Serve everyone's favorite dishes, wear new clothes, perhaps even exchange gifts. Remember, the American Pilgrims in Massachusetts colony were so impressed with the holiday of *Sukkot*, they based their Thanksgiving celebration on it.

Often we think the most "important" holidays are the serious ones, especially *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. Sukkot reminds us of another truth:



mitzvah gedola l'hiyot b'simcha

It is a great *mitzvah* to be happy.

Shake your *lulav*, the palm, the myrtle, and willow (all of which grow well in Israel, each with a different relationship to water) in all seven sacred directions: North, South, East, West, Above, Below, and Within. Admire the beauty scent of your *etrog*.

Care to actually be part of a joyous celebration? Help cut palm fronds – *schach* – for the see-through ceiling of our synagogue's Sukkah on Sunday, October 5th, at 10:00 a.m. It is one of our schoolchildren's favorite days. Be a part of the decorating team. Then, on the first intermediate day of Sukkot (*Chol HaMoed*, Saturday, October 11th, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m), all of KJCC is invited to join Rabbi and Mindy Agler at their home: 168 Sunset Gardens Dr. on the Bay in Tavernier for a joyous Sukkot/ Havdalah celebration with dairy potluck. *Hag Sameach*! ◊



SUKKOT BLESSING OF THE FOUR SPECIES

בָּרוּך אַתָּה יְיָ, אֶלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשֶׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוֵּנוּ עַל נְטִילַת לוּלָב.

Baruch atah adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam, asher kiddishanu bimitzvotav vitsivanu al netilat lulav.

Blessed are you, Lord our god, Ruler of the Universe, who has sanctified us and commanded that we take up the Lulav.

DIRECTIONS:

Stand facing the east

Take the etrog in your left hand with the stem (green tip) up and the pitam (brown tip) down. Take the lulav (including the palm, myrtle and willow branches bound together) in your right hand. Bring your hands together and recite the blessing above.

After you recite the blessing, turn the etrog so the stem is down and the pitam is up. Be careful not to damage the pitam! With the lulav and etrog together, gently shake forward (East) three times, then pull the lulav and etrog back in front of your chest. Repeat this to the right (South), then over your right shoulder (West), then to the left (North), then up, then down.

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3. Local Ownership -

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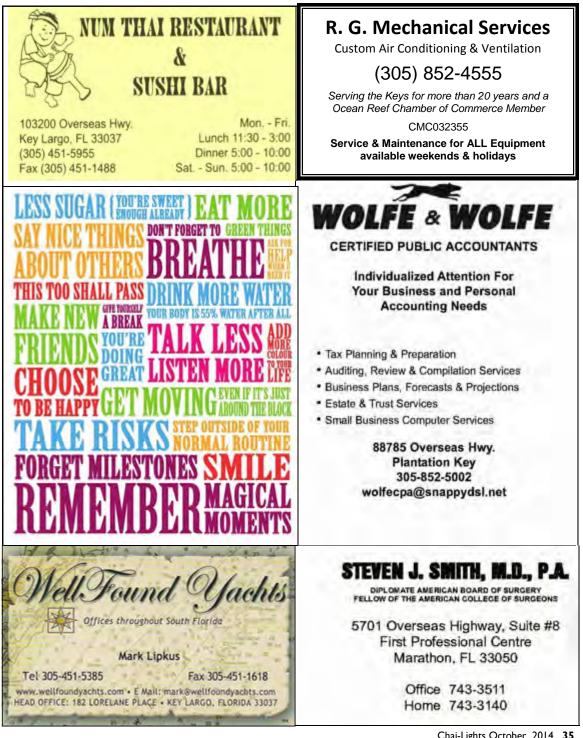
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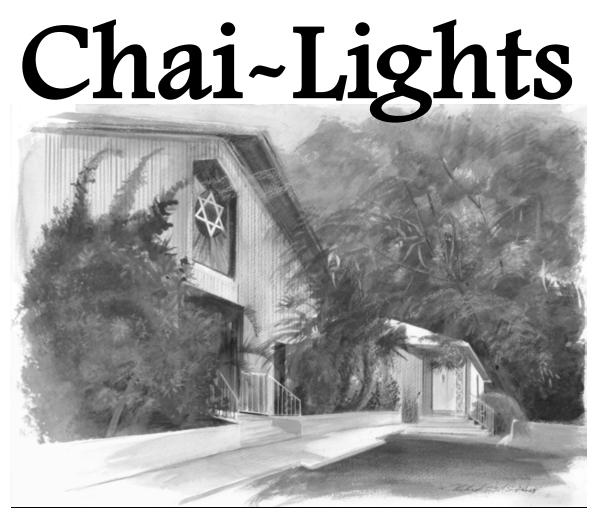
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November 2014

8 Cheshvan - 8 Kislev 5775

High Holidays Review - page 20 Sukkot Celebration - page 31

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
N 1	lames denote leac talicized names ar vices every Friday wher	e Oneg sponsors.	Ser-			1
2 Sister- hood Meeting 9:30 a.m.	3	4	5	6	7 Steve Hartz	8 10:00 a.m. Torah Service With Rabbi Agler
9	10	11	12	13	14 Joyce Peckman & Joel Bofshever	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Medina Roy David Gitin	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Ken Atlas 6:30 Service	29

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Newsletter Lisa Richardson Rutherford

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 Bernard Ginsberg

I am writing this article and Yom Kippur is not even 10 days past. I feel tired from the effort of coordinating everybody else's hard work. I am tired, but also inspired and uplifted. So it's much more of a benefit than a detriment.

The uplift came from the wonderful services lead by Rabbi Agler with Cantor Paul Goldstein. Many of our congregation have told me how inspiring the services were and how it seemed as if the Rabbi and Cantor had worked together for years and not just for these High Holydays.

The uplift also came from appreciation of the selfless effort put forth by synagogue officers, Sisterhood's officers and all the members who didn't have to be asked twice (sometimes not even once, as they did things before I had a chance to ask them) to do anything in preparation for the High Holydays. Just listing all the responsibilities our Ritual Chairperson Gloria Avner had makes me tired!

Barbara Knowles and all the ladies of Sisterhood are to be especially congratulated for the wonderful dinners and the break-fast.

We are now back in the regular rhythm of synagogue life, we have had a beautiful Havdallah service at the Agler's home, Religious school has restarted and adult education is soon to be resumed. Our format as a con-



gregation is unique but working well. We have no commitment to any Jewish denomination, but respect them all and work with our members of all Jewish traditions to try to bring a little Judaism to this, the isolated "end of the world."

We must be doing something right too; we have signed up about 6 new synagogue families in just the last two months. I am sure that those families felt joining the synagogue was in their best interest, but the benefit is really the other way around. These new members are reenergizing us, as you appreciated if you heard the Shofar blasts played by our new members' son Jonah Gross or if you have tried to avoid collisions with J.B. and Max Fink, young sons of new members, who in their enthusiasm run from the Sunday School to the Sukkah at breakneck speed. I like to see all of the youngsters running around the Synagogue making noise and climbing over and under the seats - it's a sign of a healthy congregation.

I pray we can continue the good work and go "from strength to strength" continuing a Jewish presence in the Upper Keys and everywhere for the generations that will come after us.

Nosh

New KJCC Members

We are pleased to welcome three new families this month to the wonderful and eclectic *mishpocha* known as KJCC. Randy Fink, M.D., his wife Stephanie and sons J.B. and Max and daughter Ruby live in Key Largo. Todd and Maria Botwin and sons Ben and Max and daughter Fia also live in Key Largo. Joe and Leslie Reamer of Delray Beach attended High Holidays here, initially because the service was being led by Rabbi Richard Agler, and ended up enjoying us so much they decided to join.

Bernie is ecstatic that this month alone has added the joyous energy of six new children (well, technically, Ben and Max Botwin are young men in high school and college) to the services and activities of KJCC. J.B. and Max Fink and Fia Botwin are now enrolled in our Hebrew School. (Ruby Fink is only two.)

Hebrew Language Classes to Begin

KJCC's renowned Hebrew language classes, once again to be taught by native Israeli Yardena Kamely, will begin on Friday, November 14, 2014 in the David Kamely Classroom at KJCC. The intermediate class will begin at 10 a.m. and run until 11:30; the advanced class will begin at 11:30 a.m. and continue until 1:00 p.m. This season's first beginners' class will take place on Sunday, November 16th at 12 noon. Classes will be offered once weekly at the same Friday and Sunday times.

The cost for each season's class is \$50 for KJCC members and \$150 for non-members. Contact Yardena to enroll, at 305-393-1768 or yardena@morah-yardena.com.

Oneg Sponsor For November 2014

The Oneg for November 21st will be sponsored by David Gitin to celebrate the birthday of Gloria Avner. Happy Birthday Gloria!

Learn With Rabbi Agler

Come to Saturday morning Torah service on November 8th at 10:00 A.M. It's better than fishing (and you can do that later). If you've never attended one of his services, know that you will be totally engaged and delighted with the informality and warmth of Rabbi Agler's interactive teaching style. *Torah* comes to life. The stories that make us a people increase in relevance. If you have been among us before, you know how worthwhile and uplifting this morning experience can be. And yes there will be a *kiddush* afterwards with excellent refreshments. Looking forward to sharing this with you. -- *Gloria*

Tikkun HaYam - Repairing the Seas

Rabbi Ed Rosenthal and his Scubi Jew student group from Eckerd College Hillel have visited the Keys a number of times, and usually camp in the KJCC classroom. They were just here again, on October 26th, working as always on coral reef restoration. The project, and name *Tikkun Ha-Yam*, were both created by Rabbi Ed. Additional information about this can be found on http:// repairtheseas.org.

Our own KJCC now has a Repair the Seas program, the first project of our new Tikkun Olam Committee. We will be hosting an event in January as part of our Sunday evening adult education program and are working to confirm the exact date with internationally renowned Ken Nedimyer, the founder of Coral Restoration Foundation (CRF) and KJCC's own Patti Gross, who is an active member of CRF's Board. Information about the CRF may be found on http:// www.coralrestoration.org. We will let you know when the exact date and program are set.

CRF's Annual Gala will take place this year on February 21, 2015. We hope to have a full table of KJCC members at this event, which Patti will be running.

For additional information about our new committee, to offer suggestions or volunteer to help, please contact its chair, Linda Kaplan, at linda@lindakaplan.com or at 305-396-7000.

November Birthdays

2nd	
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2nd	Jeremy M. Schur
3rd	
4th	Herbert Grossman
4th	
5th	
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25th	
26th	
28th	
29th	
30th	Steven Horowitz

November Anniversaries

Years

lst	Jeffrey & Patty SchocketII
6th	Thomas & Renee Brodie21
l4th	Donald & Nancy Zinner27
26th	Roger & Danna Levy47
27th	Robert & Joni Sages DandreaII
27th	Stanley & Jenny Margulies
28th	Sam & Leslie Janowitz

Service Leaders for November

November 7th - Steve Hartz November 14th - Joyce Peckman and Joel Bofshever November 21st - Medina Roy November 28th - Ken Atlas

Unique Things About KJCC

You may already be aware that the KJCC is the only Community Center or shul between the mainland and Key West, but there are other things that make it special as well: The Library - KJCC has almost 1,000 volumes in genres as varied as history, philosophy fiction and reference. We have DVD's as well. All of this is overseen by a professional librarian in Medina Roy.

The Garden - The KJCC Meditation Garden has grown, literally, to become a jewel. It has benches, walkways, native plantings and trees and a beautiful gazebo that has become a multipurpose focal point. Take the time to stroll through it, see all the work and love that has gone into it and gain an appreciation for what a treasure we have growing here.

More Than A Shul - ALL branches of Judaism are welcome. Services highlight English and Hebrew, and music and singing are almost always in abundance. All are welcome and included. But there are also game nights and movies and lectures and classes and dinners. And the onegs are famous. Garden Bricks: \$125 buvs a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best. Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing cheese blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate living tribute; an outdoor plaque is included in the price.

Save The Date For Channukah

KJCC will be having a Channukah Dinner on Friday December 19th at 6:30. It is a dairy dinner and will be followed by a presentation by the children of the KJCC Religious School and then services at 8;00p.m. Mark your calendars and plan to attend now before the season gets too hectic. You can contact Barbara Knowles at 305-772-0503 for more details or to save yourself a spot and coordinate what dish to bring.

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman, 305-664-3316.

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 Bernie Ginsberg, 305-852-9300.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-852-6152, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Call Dave Mont, 305-393-9883, to arrange your donation.

KJCC BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575 for information.

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 Linda Kaplan, 305-396-7000. CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, to make your donation.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CHAI-LIGHTS or DIRECTORY: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam Kovember 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Eugene Agler

By Richard & Mindy Agler

In Memory Of

Loretta Messer

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

Dr. Miksa Grunhut

By Eva Ban

In Memory Of

Harold Goldstein

By Joan Boruszak

Susan Ban

By Eva Ban <><><><><><><>

In Memory Of

Robert Scott Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Jack Dorf

By Barry & Natalie Dorf

In Memory Of

Dr. Alvan Field

By Carol Field

In Memory Of Susan Ban

Donald Graham

In Memory Of

By Mrs. Marty Graham

In Memory Of

David Jacobs

By Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs

In Memory Of

Herta Schapira

By Harvey & Joan Kay

In Memory Of

Ethel Hankin

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

In Memory Of

David Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

In Memory Of

Jacob S. Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

In Memory Of

Deborah K. Cannon

By Michael Krissel

Lillian Skolnick

By Susan Gordon

In Memory Of

Helene Tulsky

By Patricia Isenberg

In Memory Of

Sol Levy

By Beth Kaminstein

In Memory Of

Fanny Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

In Memory Of

Barry S. Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick

Chai-Lights November 2014 7

In Memoriam Kovember 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Adele Kaufman

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

In Memory Of

Abraham Travers

By Michele Riley

Murray Pincus

By Linda Pincus

In Memory Of

Harry Brownstein

By Pauline Roller

<

Tillie Pollack

By Joel & Linda Pollack

In Memory Of

Selma Moore Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

In Memory Of

Albert Kaminsky

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Shirley Schulberg

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg

Seymour Schocket

By Jeffrey & Patty Schocket

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Shirley Singer

By Lee Schur

In Memory Of

Phillip Silverman

By Morton & Gene Silverman

In Memory Of

Marianne Cimkowski

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock

In Memory Of

Kenny Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Florence Cohen

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memory Of

Ida Cohen Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

In Memory Of

Bertha Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Dick Jacob

By David & Pat VanArtsdalen

In Memory Of

Albert Silverman

By Morton & Gene Silverman

In Memory Of

Rose T. Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Samuel Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

In Memory Of

Solomon Wasser

By Mark & Sofy Wasser

In Memoriam Kovember 2014

In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Esther Gold Willner	Diana Wolfe	Morris Mazur	
By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner	By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe <><><><><>	By Sanford & Nancy Yankow <><><><><><>	
In Memory Of	In Memory Of	In Memory Of	
Katy Kram	Eve W. Zinner	Marianne Cimkowski	
By Sanford & Nancy Yankow	By Donald Zinner	By Stephen & Carol Steinbock	

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the treasures that lie between these covers."

Tree of Life Leaves: We have three beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

Garden Bricks: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing cheese blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate living tribute; an outdoor plaque is included in the price.

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles



F all is here, although many of us that are originally from the North (myself included), will not see the Seasonal changes. I just always remind myself of how fortunate we are to be here "In Paradise", with lots to do in our small but yet still growing community.

The High Holidays were flawless and I want to extend my appreciation to the entire KJCC for their participation.

As an occupational hazard, I find myself quoting a lot and I am attaching what I consider to be Quotes and Poems of Appreciation and Sincere Thanks for all that we contribute as a family:

Appreciation can make a day - even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary.

Whatever our individual troubles and challenges may be, it's important to pause every now and then to appreciate all that we have, on every level. We need to literally "count our blessings," give thanks for them, allow ourselves to enjoy them, and relish the experi-

ence of prosperity we already have.

The word "appreciation" means to be thankful and express admiration, approval, or gratitude. It also means to grow or appreciate in value. As you appreciate life, you become more valuable—both to yourself and others. Appreciation is like looking through a wide-

angle lens that lets you see the entire forest, not just the one tree limb you walked up on

We are so often caught up in our destination that we forget to appreciate the journey, especially the goodness of the people we meet on the way. Appreciation is a wonderful feeling: don't overlook it.

Appreciation is like an insurance policy. It has to be renewed every now and then. As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. Appreciation of life itself, becoming suddenly aware of the miracle of being alive, on this planet, can turn what we call ordinary life into a miracle. We come awake to such a realization when we recognize our connection to a spiritual dimension.

Normal day, let me be aware of the treasure you are. Let me learn from you, love you, bless you before you depart. Let me not pass you by in quest of some rare and perfect tomorrow. Let me hold you while I may, for it may not always be so.

Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in re-

turn. Truly appreciate those around you, and you'll soon find many others around

you. Truly appreciate life, and you'll find that you have more of it.

Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.

The more one does and sees and feels, the more one is able to do, and the more genuine may be one's appreciation of fundamental

things like home, and love, and understanding companionship.

As a reminder, our Shabbat Dinner for November, is Friday the 14th at 6:30. It will be an Italian Night Covered Dish Dinner (so dig out your recipes). The cost is \$18.00 for Everyone and we are opening this to the Public. Please RSVP to Erica Garrett or Susan Gordon.

The November Sisterhood Meeting will be Sunday, Nov.2 @9:30 a.m. Let's All Together, Make November A Great Month!!! ◊

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	In Honor of	
Begam, Delores	Pray for us!	
Bofshever, Joel & Toby	Carol Steinbock	
Kaufman, Michael & Lorena	Sean - Simcha Ben	
	Mordechai	
Rose, Skip Maryon (Gould's 89th birthday	
Mead, Richard & Elizabeth	Silver Law Group	
	Craig Wasserman	
Moditation Cardon	In Momony of	

Meditation Garden Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila

Rabbi & Cantor Fund Olsen, Gerald & Sheila In Memory of James Yakov Nobil Erik Persoff Yahrzeits Isenberg, Patricia Margulies, Stanley & Jenny

Schur, Lee

Yizkor Book Goldberg, Susan Goodman, Jamie & Laura Haviv, Leo Olsen, Gerald & Sheila Schulberg, Alan & Elaine Steinberg, Richard & Sheila In Memory of Henry W. Isenberg Jose (Pepe) Cohen Charaf Maurice Singer

5 5 Hebrew Language Course for Adults at the Keys Jewish Community Center WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE - STARTING DATES: FOR INFORMATION AND TO 12 NOON BEGINNERS: SUNDAY, NOV. 16, 2014 RESERVE YOUR SPOT, PLEASE 10 AM INTERMEDIATE: FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 2014 CALL (305) 852-5235 AND 11:30 AM ADVANCED: FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 2014 LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR SUSAN ANNUAL FEE: GORDON MEMBERS \$50 NONMEMBERS \$150

Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 19, 2014 Dairy Dinner 6:30 PM

Followed by Presentation by the Children of the KJCC Religious School

Services at 8 pm

Contact Barbara Knowles, 305-772-0503, iweddu@bellsouth.net to reserve your spot and coordinate your dish.

> Donations - Members: no charge NonMembers: \$18

World Jewish Report Medina Roy

Is It the Egg or the Womb?

Three South Florida mothers are fighting to have their children recognized as Jews. The women, all observant Jews, were unable to bear children of their own but now they have children as a result of gestational surrogacy, a new technology that uses the mother's egg and the father's sperm with a surrogate mother carrying the baby to term. Each baby is 100 percent genetically related to both parents with no genetic relationship whatsoever to the surrogate. The surrogates are not lewish and since the children were "not born of a Jewish mother," according to halacha (Jewish law) the children are technically not Jewish. The women have approached several rabbis for answers regarding the Jewish status of their children but as of this writing, they have not been able to obtain that recognition. "The problem is that science and rabbinical law have not met at the same level yet," one of the mothers said. (www.sun-sentinal.com, 9-29-14)

Even the Youngest Would Now be Very Old

Dozens of former members of Nazi mobile death squads who might still be alive have been identified by the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC). The Center presented the German government with a list of some 80 names to be investigated. Efraim Zuroff, the Wiesenthal Center's chief Nazi hunter said he recently provided the German justice and interior ministries with a list of 76 men and four women who served in the Einsatzgrup*pen* (mobile killing units made up primarily of German SS and police personnel). The Einsatzaruppen are believed to have murdered more than a million Soviet lews and tens of thousands of others by the spring of 1943. Zuroff narrowed down the list of possible suspects by checking their dates of birth and choosing the youngest (since even the young



-est, if still alive, would now be very old) from the estimated 3,000 members of the death squads. Because of Germany's strict privacy laws, the Wiesenthal Center has been unable to confirm where the suspects live. But Zuroff said that task, and determining if they are still alive, should be relatively easy for police or prosecutors.

(www.worldjewishcongress.org, 10-1-14)

For Your Next Trip to DC

The world's oldest know *siddur* (prayer book), believed to be 1,200 years-old, was on display at the Bible Lands Museum in Jerusalem from mid-September to just after the Sukkot holiday in mid-October. The 50-page siddur is still in its original binding. Carbon dating places the volume in the first half of the 9th century CE, the period of the Babylonian *geonim* (religious leaders). The book contains three main sections: the morning prayer service, liturgical poems and the Haggadah. The exhibit also includes original fragments of the *Septuagint*, the earliest Greek translation of the Torah, and relics from the Cairo Genizah. The siddur was acquired last year by Steve Green, chairman of the Museum of the Bible that is currently under construction in Washington, DC. Green owns a variety of rare biblical artifacts.

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 9-18-14)

May He (Finally) Rest in Peace

In mid-September, seventy years after he was declared missing, Private First Class Daniel Gavrin was buried with full military honors in a Jewish ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Gavrin was part of an invasion force in Saipan (what was then occupied by Japan, and is now a U.S. territory) in June 1944. Japanese forces killed and injured over Chai-Lights November 2014 13 900 U.S. soldiers. Gavrin was 29 when he was reported missing on July 7, 1944. A year later he was declared presumed dead. Last year, a Japanese NGO uncovered remains in an unmarked burial site in Saipan. Gavrin's DNA matched that of his nephew who is now 82. (*The Forward*, 9-13-14)

A New Interpretation of the Law of Return

In a ground-breaking interpretation of Israel's Law of Return, the Interior Ministry has decided to permit non-Jewish same-sex marriage partners of lews living abroad to immigrate to Israel and be granted Israeli citizenship. According to the Law of Return, any lew has the right to apply for, and be granted, Israeli citizenship. Under the law, the right is also extended to the applicant's spouse but was previously reserved only for heterosexual couples. The new interpretation of the law was decided upon at the urging of the Jewish Agency and became effective in mid-August. Several same-sex non-Jewish partners of Jews have already applied for citizenship. "The gates of Israel will from now on be open to any Jew and his family, without discrimination based on his way of life." Interior Minister Gideon Sa'ar said. (Marriage ceremonies for Jews in Israel are controlled by the state rabbinate which does not perform same-sex or civil marriages.) (www.timesofisrael.com, 8-12-14)

"We Are All Klinghoffer!"

"The Death of Klinghoffer," a production of the New York Metropolitan Opera widely considered anti-Semitic, opened on October 20th despite many months of campaigning by Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. Protests included a mass demonstration at Lincoln Center at the end of September which attracted close to 2,000 people and a "100 Wheelchair Caravan" (with wheelchair riders bearing signs proclaiming "We are all Klinghoffer!") in front of the Met on opening day. The opera tells the true story of the murder of New Yorker Leon Klinghoffer in 1985. Klinghoffer, 69, took his wife on a cruise to celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary aboard the cruise ship Achille Lauro. Four

members of the *Palestine Liberation Front*, under the direction of Yasser Arafat, hijacked the ship, shot and killed wheelchair-bound Klinghoffer and threw his body overboard (while still in his wheelchair), simply because he was a Jew. The production portrays the terrorists as "freedom fighters," justified in fighting against their "Jewish oppressors." In response to the outrage by the Jewish community, the Met agreed to cancel the simulcast of the opera but has refused to cancel the opera itself. The *New York Times* defended the Met's decision to go ahead with the production claiming "artistic freedom." (www.thejewishweek.com, 10-2-14)

Empowering Jewish College Students

The Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC), along with Alpha Epsilon Pi International Fraternity leaders representing over 100,000 Jewish students and 185 campus chapters, joined together to launch the SWC's latest app, Com*batHateU*. The app is designed to empower Jewish students to immediately report and confront anti-Semitism along with extreme anti-Israel harassment and intimidation tactics on college and university campuses. The app will also share successful practices to defeat campus-based anti-Israel agendas. Jewish students will be made aware of relevant breaking news impacting campuses. *CombatHateU* is the third in a series of special anti-hate apps developed by the Wiesenthal Center's Digital Terrorism and Hate Pro*ject.* The project is known for exposing, monitoring and combating the abuse of online technologies by extremists at home and abroad. CombatHateU is available through the Apple store. (www.wiesenthal.com, 10-8-14)

Update

In the September issue of *Chai-Lights*, we reported that Canadian philanthropist Yank Barry – dubbed the "Jewish Schindler" – had rescued 782 Christian refugees from oppressive countries, helping them rebuild their lives in Bulgaria. His goal was to save the lives of 1,200 refugees, the number of Jews that were rescued by Oskar Schindler during the Holocaust. Barry surpassed his goal in early September. He has, to date, rescued 1,218 Muslim, Christian and Yazidi refugees. (www.jpost.com, 9-9-14)

In Memoriam

-Mike Harari, former high-ranking Mossad agent who was often referred to as the "Zionist James Bond," has died. He was 87. Born in Tel Aviv, Harari joined the Mossad (Israeli intelligence agency) in 1954. He actually began fighting for Israel when, at 16, lying about his age, he enlisted in the prestate *Palmach*, the *Haganah's* elite fighting unit. He later worked in Europe after World War II for an illegal immigration organization smuggling Jews out of Eastern European countries, bringing them to Palestine which was then controlled by the British. In 1970 he was appointed head of Caesarea, the Mossad's special operations division and established within it the *Kidon* (spear) unit that specialized in targeted assassinations. Harari commanded the operation against the Black September terrorists, the group behind the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics in 1972. His brilliant career in the agency was tarnished by one tragic incident in 1973 when a team from the Kidon unit under his command mistakenly killed an innocent Moroccan in Lillehammer, Norway mistaking him for Hassan Ali Salameh, a senior member of the Black September organization. He offered Prime Minister Golda Meir his resignation but she turned him down saying there was still too much work to be done. In 1976, Harari participated in the planning and execution of Operation Entebbe, the counterterrorism mission to rescue 103 hostages (most of them Israeli) held at the Entebbe airport in Uganda. Most of the operations Harari commanded are still not known to the public. (www.nytimes.com, 9-17-14)

-Marian Seldes, Tony-winning actress known as one of the great ladies of the American stage, died in October. She was 86. In a career spanning 60 years, Seldes also performed in film, television and radio. She made her Broadway debut in 1948 in the Robinson Jeffers adaptation of "Medea," directed by John Gielgud with Judith Anderson in the title role. Seldes was born and raised in Manhattan. Her paternal grandparents were Russian Jewish immigrants. The actress earned five Tony nominations, winning the award in 1967 for her supporting role in "A Delicate Balance" by Edward Albee, with whom she had a long association. Seldes appeared in Ira Levin's "Deathtrap" from 1978 until late 1982 without missing a single show, earning her a place in the *Guinness Book of World Records*. She received a Tony Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010. (*The Forward, 10-7-14*)

Did You Know...

-Veteran comedian and actor Mel Brooks recently had his hand and shoe prints cemented outside the iconic Mann's Chinese Theater on the Walk of Fame in Hollywood. The theater played an important role in the finale of Brooks' film "Blazing Saddles." As befitting Mel Brooks, the comedian wore a prosthetic sixth finger on his left hand proving that at 88, he still has a strong sense of humor. The event also marked the 40th anniversary of "Young Frankenstein." (*The Forward, 9-9-14*)

-In late September, Israel's national gymnastics team took home the silver medal in the World Championship which took place in Izmir, Turkey. (Spain won first place). Three years ago, another Israeli team won the bronze. (www.haaretz.com, 9-29-14)

-Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg was recently named "Honorary Knight" by the Queen of England. Her Majesty cited Bloomberg's "prodigious entrepreneurial and philanthropic endeavors, and the many ways in which they have benefited the United Kingdom and the U.K.-U.S. relationship." Since Bloomberg isn't a British citizen, he cannot be referred to as 'sir.' (www.tabletmag.com, 10-7-14)

-A colorful recreation of a bas-relief found in an Egyptian tomb built for Ankhmabor is believed to be the oldest known illustration depicting circumcision. The tomb, located in Sakkara, Egypt, dates back to somewhere around 2400 B.C.E. (www.tabletmag.com, 6-18-14)





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For tickets and information about carpooling, contact Joyce Peckman (305) 451–0665, Do joycepeckman@gmail.com

Donation: \$55

Photo Gallery

This photo is the latest incarnation of the Women's Seder Woman-of-the-Year quilt that hangs prominently in the KJCC hall. Gloria Avner was the honoree in 2014, but the quilt was full. Her formal enshrinement had to wait until a new panel was carefully added. It's all now completed. You can see Gloria's name on the upper right.





Happy Birthday Maryon! On September 23rd Maryon Gould celebratd her 89th Birthday and shared these photos with us.



And on October 17th Barbara Knowles shared her birthday celebration with KJCC at an Oneg sponsored for her by husband Richard.

Joyce Peckman shared these photos of her Sukkot with family in Denver. Says Joyce; "Yardena was reminiscing about her family's sukkah with rugs on the walls. This 24 ft. square sukkah in Denver is larger than some apartments. It is just outside the kitchen of my son Daniel's house (who some may remember from when he led services last November).

I am watching Daniel doing the Hoshana prayers where we walk around the shul... He is walking 7 times around the table! Obviously this is the intermediate days because I am able to photograph."







Right Lee Schur also shared a Sukkah with us. This is the sukkah that is outside of **Temple Beth Israel in** Chicago.

And (Left) a sunnier photo of herself and Freddie:

"My boat is already



at the boatyard , shrink wrapped in preparation for the Chicago winter, however, I do love fall.. Hope all is well in the Keys and looking forward to beautiful weather."

Simchat Torah at the KJCC.

George Swartz and Yardena Kamely led the service. Bernie led the actual Simchat Torah ceremony, where all three KJCC Torahs are paraded around the sanctuary seven (7) times to continuous song and, if anyone is so moved, dance. Flags are waved. To display just how long a Torah is, the student Torah is fully extended, with







members asked to hold it all along the way. (One of the real Torahs is even longer, which would mean a hard left turn outside the sanctuary and extending about halfway down the hall.) Rabbi Agler



performed his wonderful shtick of, beginning with Genesis, walking along the entire Torah and summarizing it aloud in 7.5 minutes. (With the Torah being written in Hebrew, his routine also involves not only adept and occasionally hilarious editing but also simultaneous translation into English.)











KJCC HIGH HOLYDAYS

On the Recent High Holydays at KJCC

by Gloria Avner



evidence of " newness," *Chazzan* Paul Goldstein, our Cantor for the season, who would shepherd us through the High Holy Day melodies

> (*niggunim*) and *Torah* chanting with professional expertise, passion, and tuneful-



W ith new *Machzors* in our seats, freshly polished silver crowns on our *Torahs*, and white covers and flowering trees on the *Bimah*, the KJCC community, joined by friends from far and near, joyously welcomed in 5775, the lewish New Year.

On the *Bimah*, Rabbi Agler led us through what would truly be Ten Days of Awe, joined by more







On this page, scenes from the September 24th Rosh Hashanah Dinner at the KJCC. At Left, new member family Tomar Gross and Randy Klein-Gross with son Jonah and daughter Oceana.



ness. We were even exposed to a sys-

tem of chanting Torah that many of us

had never seen before, the ancient art

of hand signals, the way notes were

learned and transmitted before the

bock for making living arrangements for the Cantor, the Men's Club for providing ushers, the Silvermans for polishing the *Torah* finials



and crowns, the Bofshevers for cleaning the Torah covers. and everyone who cooked a dish for Frev

Hazzan Paul's letter on page XX).

We began our spiritual journey with a grand meal for the mishpocha. thanks to the efforts of Sisterhood, spearheaded by Bar-



Rosh HaShanah and Break-the-Fast (the best end of Yom Kippur ever, thanks to Erica Lieberman-Garrett and her gener-





These three photos from the Erev Rosh Hashanah Service on September 24th.

bara Knowles and Jane Friedman, supplemented by President Bernard Gins-

berg's overnight brisket. (Recipe available upon request.)

Rabbi Agler's talks on Empathy, Courage, and Comfort, like his Shabbat morning teachings, were informal, inclusive, and - most of all - inspiring. Attendance was nearly standing-room-only during Torah services and even the Musaf afternoon services were well attended. Thanks are due to many: Steve Steinous crew of cooks

and decorators). To everyone who went up to the *Bimah* for an *Aliyah*, who read a blessing for our country or Israel, who opened the ark, lifted a Torah. made a donation. reworded a *haftarah* to make it more immediate, took care of a child, joined in the singing, KJCC thanks you. You helped begin this New Year auspiciously. To David Feder, who led our children's service in a way that was meaningful, stimulating, and fun, thanks for helping us to create memories that will bring our young people back to us again and again.



sins into the ocean at our *Tashlich* ceremony? Are you lit up in the darkness as we say *Havdalah* on the beach and sing on the evening

It takes a village to raise a child, and a Jewish village to ask forgiveness for its individuals, to renew commitment to the *mitzvahs* that make Judaism unique among the

of *Shabbat Tshuvah?* Were you fortunate enough to attend Rabbi



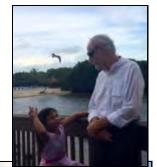


nations. We, and all our new members, some of whom decided to join us as a result of this year's High Holiday experience, have renewed that commitment. This village of ours will surely create what Bernie so eloquently describes as "heroes." Agler's "Fast " talk on "the other" or to be a part of the group in the schoolroom listening to Bob Dylan songs and



Enjoy the pictures on these pages. Look at the ranks of young people. *Torahs* were carried by many of our Bar Mitzvah boys. Our Religious School survives with new youngsters. Babies like Ruby and Maddie are coming up behind them. Are you among the people throwing breadcrumb





Tachlich at Ocean Pointe, Thurs-



day, September 25th. "We threw our sins, in the form of bread bits, into the ocean to be washed away, transmuted by gulls or needlefish. Oceana Gross-Klein, ever creative, decided to use Cheerios . The short sweet ceremony saw mem-

> bers of KJCC, young and old, new or old-timers, all happy to be starting the New Year well, out in nature." -Gloria





September 27th, the first Havdalah after Rosh Hashanah



discussing this contemporary "prophet's" poetry? Smiling, eating, praying, drinking wine, we have been written in the book and the



book has been sealed. But it doesn't end there. Look at the faces of students



(Above) Bernie and Gloria with Cynthia and Cantor Paul Goldstein and their son Jason. (Right)) Here with Bernie and Toby Bofshever are new members Randy and Stephanie Fink and their children.

students and grownups decorating our Sukkah the morning after Yom Kippur - and the people celebrating Sukkot the next erev Shabbat at shul





and the next night at the Aglers' wonderful *Havdalah*. Our children shook the *lulav* and *etrog* on the fifth day of *Sukkot* and we are





These two photos were taken after Havdalah, as Bernie suggested we go for a drink at the bar above Ocean Pointe, where KJCC typically puts up cantors and other visitors. Pauline, of course, is always the first one

still in ceremonial cycle, with Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah yet to go before you read this.(Editor's Note: See the photos from the Sukkot celebrations in the Sukkot section starting on page XX, and the Simchat Torah photos in this issue's Photo Gallery.) Unroll-

ing and rerolling the *Torah*, we conclude and begin again, without a second of lag-time, our ritual year.

There will be joys and sorrows, unexpected gifts and losses. Uplifted by our Holydays, we will be strong enough to share them all, as a community. ◊







These photos of Cantor Paul Goldstein and Rabbi Agler were taken as the Yom Kippur service was ending.





(Above) The sun was down when these were taken. (Meaning Yom Kippur was technically over.) The Yom Kippur service formally ends with the blowing of the shofar. Top photo shows the gathering; the other shows the three shofar blowers, Jason Goldstein, Jonah Gross and Bernie.

At KJCC you are only a stranger until you walk through the door.

Chazzan Paul Goldstein

That is so true; you should get bumper stickers or pens. . It was certainly true for our family. We came to KJCC not knowing what to expect. Sometimes when we go to *Shuls* for the High Holydays, we are welcomed with open arms and sometimes, shunned as "the help and his baggage".

The moment we walked into JKCC we were greeted by Pauline Roller, your ambassador of good will, and Susan

Gordon with huge smiles and kind words. We looked at each other and smiled. We were truly welcome. Our experiences were all uphill from there. We made many new friends, shared special holiday memories (made more) and let our hair down and *schmoozed* after *Havdalah*. True, Cynthia never got her Key



Lime Pie, but next time for sure. She is working on a recipe for Key Lime Kugal. sound the way we are accustomed to hearing Torah, but we end on the right note. In days of yore when the Torah was read in the market place it was a bustling hub of noise and activity and saying the Torah was not an option. The sing-song way in which it is chanted was born out of necessity (the ability to be heard). As more people began to learn to read, the ability to remember which notes to use on each word was a matter of memorization. Hence the hand signals were born out of necessity (they pre-date the written symbols found in our books). Today, they are used for



Having a wife who is a lawyer with a degree in Chemistry is never dull.

We hope you all had the positive experience that we had and enjoyed our traditions. It is truly a testimony to your amazing Congregation how many people come from near and far to spend the holidays with you. It is our sincere wish that we have the honor of praying with you all again very soon.

Many of you asked about the hand signals that Jason and I did during our Torah readings. As you know the Torah is written without vowels and without the musical notations called *trope*. The *trope* is important to the Torah reading so that not only does it The Havdalah on October 4th. Since Yom Kippur fell on Shabbat this year, its end also signified the end of Shabbat. Havdalah is the ceremony noting the end of the sacred day and the return to the secular.

the same reason...memorizing all of the notes is difficult. The hand signals are a tool to help the reader remember the *trope* they have studied when they draw a blank at the moment of reading the Torah for the entire congregation. I learned the signals from a Torah reader in North Miami Beach and taught them to Jason when he began reading Torah.



Saturday, October 4th. Break The Fast. Everyone looks so happy here. Could it possibly be because our 24 hour fast is now ended so beautifully by the KJCC Sisterhood under organizational supervision by Erica Lieberman Garrett? So delicious. So appreciated. We have prayed, confessed our sins, fasted, vowed to be our better selves in 5775, and now we have eaten.

> Another cycle completed. - Gloria

takes me 15-20 minutes to

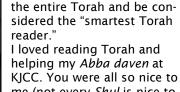
forever. My goal is to learn

learn one and then I know it

Jason has a few words he wanted to share with you next: I started reading Torah on December 22, 2007, when I was 9 years old. At first I only read a few lines and my *Shul* was shocked. They thought



that I could not do anything. Now they know better. Everyone said I did a fantastic job and 346 people heard me. The Torah must be read perfectly, so I make sure to correct my mistakes. I really love reading Torah. It only



me (not every *Shul* is nice to us). You gave me my first paycheck. It was unexpected





and very much appreciated. I will never forget it. Thank you so much.

If I win the lottery, I want to buy a condo at Ocean Pointe and read Torah for KJCC every month. My *Ima* says that is part of my bucket list. To me it is a wish.

L'Shana Tovah and I hope to see you soon.

–Jason Salvatore Chiefa Goldstein

L' Shana Tovah from all of us and look us up if you are in Boca Raton, we would love to see you.



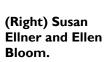
(Above) Pauline Roller celebrates her 100th Yom Kippur with Barbara Bernstein.

(Right) David Gitin and Joel Bofshever.





(Left) We're happy to see Lauren Sax again. We have missed you. Jane Friedman, we are ever grateful for your culinary contributions.





(Below) Joyce Peckman at her first KJCC High Holiday culmination. She looks happy to be here as is her friend Toby Bofshever and our other surprise guest, Stuart Sax!

Chai-Lights would like to thank all those who contributed photos for this retrospective including Gloria Avner, Luz Levine, Susan Gordon and Sam Vinicur.



The Many Days and Ways of SUKKOT

o wonder our Sunday School students love *Sukkot*. We start celebrating days ahead of time by making decorations in class with the help of teachers and parents and grown-up friends and then we get to stand on tables and ladders to hang our drawings and plastic fruit while lots and lots of people help. Children who are not even part of the school came to join us with their parents. Hello, curly-haired Ruby Fink, our youngest new member, sister of new students J.B. and Max Fink. Oceana Klein-Gross and Mikhaela Bitton made a great decorating team, and Oceana's brother Jonah jumped right in there for the hard-to-reach places.

And Leon, grandson of Joni Sagers and Bob Dandrea, joined in the good cheer with his beaming smile. We had Bittons and Hartzes, Kathy Shabathai, Gene Silverman, the Bernsteins, Yardena Kamely, Bernie Ginsberg, Susan







Gordon, Gloria Avner, Joyce Peckman, Richard Knowles, the Bofshevers and *more*, all helping to give a great start to our ceremonial year in support of the

KJCC Religious School. Of course there was a grand feast in the Sukkah once all palm fronds

Sukkah Decoration - On the morning after the Days of Awe are completed, we gather with KJCC Mishpocha at our Meditation Garden to help the schoolchildren decorate our Sukkah. (As we do so often, we thank Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake for the pergola at KJCC they designed, built, and donated in honor of their parents for our use.)



(sh'chach — Rabbi Agler's favorite Jewish word) were in place on the roof and all plastic grapes were hung from the rafters.

The beautiful gazebo created and donated by Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake in honor of their parents was again transformed into the Israelites' temporary shelter in the wilderness. The desserts still in the freezer from the Yom Kippur break-fast the night before were brought out and enjoyed again.

While we were practicing the *mitzvah* of eating in the *Sukkah*, bags of food brought to

the *shul* by our members before the Yom Kippur fast were loaded into a van and delivered next door to Rev. Kerry Foote for the Burton Memorial Methodist Church Community Food Pantry. Helping to spare others from hunger: another *mitzvah*.

A great time was had by all, but the ceremonies would go on all week. After Friday night services on October 10th, we had our *kiddush* and *HaMotzi* in the *Sukkah*. On Saturday night, some sixty of us ate and celebrated *Havdalah* at the gracious



bayside home and Sukkah of Mindv and Rabbi Richard and Tiki Aaler. When the three stars appeared signifying the end of the sa-



cred and the return of the everyday, we went outside and listened closely to the Rabbi's reflections on fragility, impermanence and trust as he talked about the significance and symbolism of a *Sukkah*. Then on Sunday, our students — led by teacher Yardena Kamely, parents, friends, and *Lulav* demonstrator President Bernie Ginsberg — said blessings, performed *mitzvot*, and ate and drank again. It doesn't stop. It just moves indoors. Next up: *Simchat Torah*. Watch for dancing in the aisles. \Diamond



(Left) Rabbi Richard Agler holding the four species in the KJCC Sukkah on the October 10th Shabbat and explaining what we bless and express thanks for on Sukkot (one of the holidays specifically mandated in the Torah) and why.

(Below) Inside, after kiddish was said outside at the KJCC pergola/Sukkah-during-Sukkot: Randy Klein-Gross with children Oceana and Jonah plus her visiting parents.





(Above and Right) The Agler home and Sukkah where they hosted the October 11th Havdalah.





Scenes from the October 11th Havdalah at the Agler home and Sukkah.















October I 2th Sunday School Sukkot. Learning to shake the lulav. After the previous Sunday and all the exciting activity



IKA

around decorating our sukkah, KJCC students finally get to say the blessings and learn the proper way to hold the aromatic etrog and the three species Lulav. President Bernie Ginsberg makes am excellent teacher.

Education Director Susan Gordon and Randy Fink, new member/ parent of J.B. and Max, look on with pride. Mikhaela

and Max make HaMotzi.





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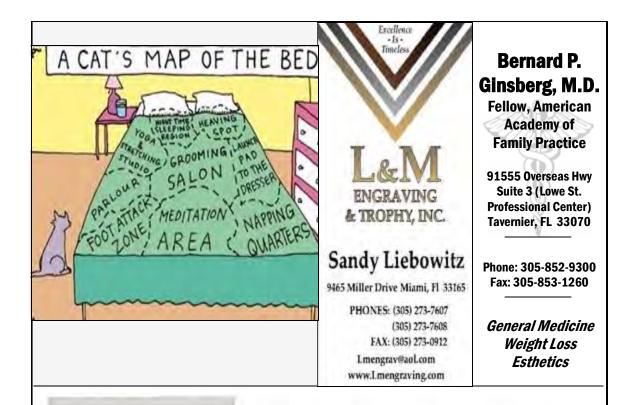


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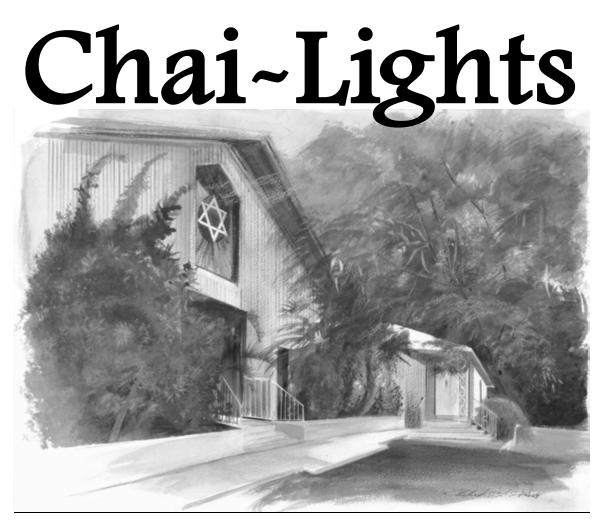
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December 2014

9 Kislev - 9 Tevet 5775

World Jewish Report - page 15 Remembering Carol Steinbock - page 25 Chanukah - page 39

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December 2014 9 Kislev - 9 Tevet

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 Joyce Peckman Hebrew Classes Begin	6
7 Sisterhood Meeting 9:30 a.m.	8	9	10	11	12 Barney Coltman <i>Barney Coltman</i>	13 Rabbi Agler Service 10 Steinbock Havdalah 6 p.m.
14 KJCC Board Meeting 9:00 a.m. Scuba Jews 5:00 p.m.	15	16 First Chanukah Lights in Evening	17 First Day of Chanukah	18	19 KJCC Religious School and Teachers Chanukah Dinner 6:30 <i>Arthur Itkin</i>	20
21 Keys Homeless Service Settler's Park 1:00 p.m.	22	23	24 Eighth Day of Chanukah	25 Steinbock Xmas Open House 1 - 5 p.m.	26 Gloria Avner & Sam Vinicur 6:30 Service Amelia & Steve Kasinof	27
28	29	30	31			

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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 Bernard Ginsberg

I am amazed to see a decrease in bad news from the middle east and Israel is only suffering the "usual" level of terrorist attacks. However, this month has brought us a tragedy that is difficult to overcome, the death of Carol Steinbock. I still see her always serving the Synagogue and helping her husband Steve when he was president. Although a Catholic and proud of it, she was more of a "presence" in the KICC than most of our Jewish members. Among a dozen other things she did for the Congregation. she taught herself to type in Hebrew so that she could type the Hebrew prayers and freshen the letters in the recent Yizkor books in which the letters and vowel markings had become blurred from over photocopying. She placed herself in charge of the swearing in of officers of the Congregation, and swore me into my present position as well as all the present Board members and officers. She did things not when asked to. but even before being asked. She unfortunately now joins the other pillars of our congregation that have passed away during my term as president. "Gutenyu" enough alreadv!

But although we are saddened by our tragedies; we must look forward to, and plan for our future *simchas*. Such is the cycle of life.



We must be doing something right because we have recruited three new families for our congregation and one of them, the Klein-Gross', have decided to change all the arrangements for their son Ionah's Bar Mitzvah from his former congregation to ours. Though only members for a few months, they feel so comfortable with us that they want the ceremony here and we are proud to host them. Surely, we are living up to our mission as they already really feel like mishpocha.

It reminds me of Linda and Joel Pollack's grandson Will Pollack's Bar Mitzvah and the Bar Mitzvah of Erica Lieberman-Garrett's nephew Mark Lieberman held here for the same reason. Maybe we could become a Bar Mizvah "Destination?"

The "Snow Birds" will be back soon and adding to our excitement. It will be great to see all the old faces. By the time you read this, Sisterhood's Italian Night dinner will be over and they will be preparing their Shabbat Chanukah dinner for December 19th at 6:30 before services. Don't miss it or the Chanukah play.

May all of us be spared any further tragedies, and may Israel continue to stay out of the news!

Nosh

A Special Havdalah on December 13th

Please join all of KJCC at a very special Havdalah – the short and sweet weekly celebration acknowledging the return of one's life from the sacred status of Shabbat back to the secular week – at Steve Steinbock's house on Saturday evening, December 13th at 6:00. As soon as Havdalah ends, all are invited to stay and participate in the decoration of the Steinbock Christmas tree. We will be doing this in honor and memory of Carol, who loved decorating the tree. Many of us have never decorated a Christmas tree before, so it should be quite an experience. Don't worry about bringing anything; Steve says he has enough decorations for five trees.

And Don't Forget Christmas Day Itself

Knowing it's something Carol would have insisted upon, Steve Steinbock is once again opening his home to all KJCC Jewish waifs on Christmas Day, from I-5 p.m. Steve's home is at I47 Gardenia Street in Plantation Key Colony, just behind the BB&T Bank at approx. mm 90. Please come for the fellowship and food, and to honor Carol's memory, since the day will also be a celebration of Carol's life. You'll also get to see a tree decorated mostly or solely by KJCC Jews.

Oneg Sponsors for December 2014

- December 12th- Barney Coltman in memory of his son Robert.
- December 19th Arthur Itkin to celebrate KJCC Fellowship. And a special thanks to Joel and Linda Pollack for sponsoring The Channukah Dinner that night.

December 26th - Steve and Amelia Kasinof in honor of Steve's Birthday.

January 2nd - Steve and Amelia Kasinof will again be sponsoring, this time in celebration of their Anniversary.

December Anniversaries

		Years
8th	Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs	61
llth	Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner	49
llth	Jamie & Laura Goodman	9
l4th	David & Pat VanArtsdalen	33
l7th	Roger & Jessica Hernstadt	8
27th	Dave Mont & Georgia Landau	

Repairing the Seas, KJCC-Style

The KJCC is organizing a scuba program to focus on diving and active *Tikkun HaYam*, repairing the seas. We will be working with Coral Restoration Foundation, an innovative and internationally renowned pioneer in replanting and renewing our unique coral reefs.

Please join us for our first meeting, on Sunday, December 14th at 5:00 p.m. at the Pilot House in Key Largo. For questions please contact Randy Klein-Gross at razzklein@gmail.com, 310-702-7276, or Linda Kaplan, Tikkun Olam Committee Chair, at Ik@lindakaplan.com or 305-396-7000.

We are also attempting to organize a special KJCC table at the Coral Restoration Foundation Gala on February 21st, 2015, to be held at the Key Largo Hilton and managed by KJCC's own Patti Gross. Tickets are \$150 per person. We will also be looking for table sponsors willing to contribute additional amounts. This would entitle KJCC to get additional recognition in Gala promotional material and multi-media presentations made during the Gala itself. Again, please contact Linda Kaplan to reserve seats and to discuss additional contributions.

December Service Leaders

December 5th - Joyce Peckman December 12th - Barney Coltman December 19th - KJCC Religious School and Teachers December 26th - Sam Vinicur and Gloria Avner

December Birthdays

lst	
lst	
2nd	
2nd	
3rd	
3rd	Rick McNew
4th	Jan Hartz
4th	Jogi Yeager
4th	
5th	Stuart Sax
5th	
6th	
6th	Haley Borisoff
7thVada C	Charity (Bella) Greenbaum
7th	Franklin Rose
9th	
10th	Harvey Robins
10th	Susan Greenbaum
th	Sara Rose Friedman
13th	
13th	
13th	
16th	
16th	
17th	
17th	Jeffrey Schocket
17th	
18th	Jerome Horowitz
18th	Emelyn Anne Juenger
19th	Jonah Gross
19th	
19th	
19th	Aaron Stuart
20th	
20th	
20th	
21st	Roberta McNew
22nd	Laura Molly Friedman
22nd	Lisa Miller
23rd	Roger Hernstadt
25th	
26th	Steven Smith
27th	
28th	Ira Krieger
28th	
28th	Emily Sherman
28th	
29th	
30th	
31st	Michele Riley

This Year's Upper Keys Concert Series

The eagerly awaited 2015 Upper Keys Concert Series is about to begin. Opening night will be Tuesday, January 20th. Save that date and the next five Tuesdays for the least expensive, highest quality music series in the Keys. You won't have to pay for parking, and if you buy a season ticket, you will hear all six concerts for \$95.

The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, playing the big band's original Swing repertoire, will open the series. A violin, cello and piano trio comes next, blending Classical, Jazz, Latin and Broadway favorites. Next is the world-class Alexander String Quartet performing Beethoven. The last three concerts feature two evenings with classical piano virtuosos and one of opera highlights.

For more information, see the complete schedule posted at KJCC, call Joyce at 305-451-0665, or check the website, www.floridakeysconcerts.com. Tickets can now be purchased online.

January Ist, A Blessed Day for Boaters

Start your Florida Keys New Year right. Come to Islamorada for the Annual Blessing of the Fleet from the top of Whale Harbor Bridge. Join various local clergy as boats approach singlefile to receive blessings for the new year.

Representing KJCC will be Ritual Chair Gloria Avner. It all begins at 10:00 a.m.

Remembering the Keys' Forgotten

"National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day" takes place on the shortest day of the year. This year the date is December 21st. Clergy and concerned community people will gather at Settlers' Park, MM 91 oceanside, next to the Sunrise Market at 1:00 p.m. The name of each homeless person who died in the Keys during 2014 will be read. This was a project adopted for KJCC by Carol Steinbock; she would read a poem, then with Steve would lead the group in reciting Kaddish. We have always had a good group of KJCC people present. Please join us this year in Carol's name to help this important community interfaith activity continue to grow. — *Gloria* Leaf on the Tree of Life In Honor of Eliana, Yosef, Michal, Libby, Isaac, Adara

Savta Joyce Peckman

KJCC's 35th Anniversary Celebration!

It'll be a great party, our first annual Keys Jewish Heritage Festival. The "Big Tent" event will be open to the whole community and will take place both outside and inside KJCC. Everyone will be invited to sample authentic lewish food, enjoy lewish music, learn to dance the "hora," and view exhibits of our synagogue's history, including our "Tikkun Olam" projects. There will be activities for children, art on display by our creative members, a silent auction, and mystery bag raffles as well as indoor workshops. We will offer an "Ask the Rabbi" discussion group, a "Yiddish 101" mini-course, sanctuary tours, and more. Admission is free. Tickets will be sold for the purchase of food, drink, and raffle opportunities. The event will take place on Sunday, February 15th, from 3 – 7 p.m. Plan now to invite all your friends, Keys and non-Keys.

The 35th Anniversary Committee needs KJCC volunteers to help us make this a remarkable and memorable event. If you would like to participate in any way – to cook, bake, publicize, serve, help gather auction items, set up on the day of the event, lead tours indoors, or be an Angelic Mensch Sponsor, please contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett, at

hippiejap@hotmail.com or 305-393-1162.

Yardena's 2015 Sunday Lecture Series

Yardena Kamely's annual adult education lecture series will begin this year on January 18th. The subject, to be spread over four or five evenings, will be the history of Sephardic Jews after the 1492 expulsion from Spain, mostly under Islamic rule in North Africa, eastern Europe and the Middle East. All lectures will take place Sunday evenings at KJCC beginning at 7:00 p.m. On December 13th, at 10:00 a.m., KJCC members and friends will have our last 2014 opportunity to experience Rabbi Richard Agler's uplifting morning Shabbat service. Come, listen, and participate in what has come to be one of the most enriching of our monthly synagogue activities. Rabbi Agler's warm, informal and engaging teaching style brings us back again and again to a living Torah. And yes, our next issue of Chai-Lights will announce the Shabbat morning study schedule for the rest of the winter season.

–Gloria

Chanukah Dinner on December 19th

Please join us for the annual KJCC dinner celebrating the onset of Chanukah. It will take place on Friday, December 19th at 6:30. Services will follow the dinner at 8:00, to be led by the students and teachers of the KJCC Religious School. The dinner will be dairy. If you would like to coordinate a dish, please contact Barbara Knowles at 305-772-0503 or at iweddu@bellsouth.net. Joel and Linda Pollack are graciously sponsoring the dinner. There is no charge for members; non-members are \$18. For further information or reservations, please see the house ad on page 14.

Scholarship Applications on KJCC Website

KJCC supports its members' children as they go on to higher education. Our most recent scholarship recipients were Nyan Feder and Danielle Zinner. We are happy to report that both are doing well in their chosen fields of study. On the KJCC Website under the "School" button is a drop-down menu that will take you to Guidelines and Application forms for High School Graduating Seniors. If you meet the guideline criteria, download the application and complete it. Applications will be accepted starting January Ist of 2015. Awards will be announced in late spring. If you have further questions, call David Gitin, Committee Chair, at 305-393-4979.

Hebrew Classes Begin December 5th

This year's intermediate and advanced Hebrew language classes will begin on Friday, December 5th in KJCC's David Kamely classroom, to once again be taught by native Israeli (and new American citizen) Yardena Kamely. Intermediate classes will begin at 10:00 a.m., with advanced classes following at 11:30. All classes are \$50 for KJCC members and \$150 for nonmembers, for the full year. Contact Yardena, 305-393-1768, for information and sign-ups.

Oneg Sponsorships

The season is just beginning,, our snowbirds are returning,, the community is coming together. Now is the time to secure your special date or occasion as an Oneg Sponsorship. It's a lovely (and delicious) as well as appreciated way to celebrate or remember your special event. Call Joyce at 305-451-0665 to reserve your date. Leaf on the Tree of Life

Mark Lieberman In Honor of Your Bar Mitzvah December 29, 2013 Aunt Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Channukah Goodies, No Driving

Don't forget, you can get all your Channukah needs right here, without having to go "off the rock." The KJCC Gift Shop is stocked with new merchandise and is waiting to conveniently serve you! If you need any gift suggestions, or there is something special you are looking for, let us help you out. Contact Susan Gordon at 305-766-3585 for more information.

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 the KJCC, call Gene Silverman, 305-664-3316.

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 Bernie Ginsberg, 305-852-9300.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

PICTURE POSTCARDS: We have beautiful picture postcards in the KJCC Gift Shop bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC commissioned by Sisterhood. They can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Call Dave Mont, 305-393-9883, to arrange your donation.

KJCC BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575 for information.

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 Linda Kaplan, 305-396-7000. CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, to make your donation.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CHAI-LIGHTS or DIRECTORY: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SHABBAT DINNER FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2015 6:30 PM

COVERED DISH DINNER

~DAIRY~

Once again, we are inviting our Chai-Lights and Directory advertisers to join us for dinner to thank them for their support. We are also extending a special invitation to our newest members. And we are encouraging you, our Members, to encourage prospective members to join with us also.

Contact:

O

Medina - hiitsmedee@gmail.com to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish. Please reserve by January 9th.

Sponsored Dinner - no charge

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Tn Memoriam December 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Alex Avner

By Gloria Avner

In Memory Of

Daniel Birnbaum

By Norbert Birnbaum

Stephan C. Ban

In Memory Of

Joseph M. Bloom

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

Rose Beth

By Eva Ban By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake

In Memory Of

Teddy Sharenow

By Marc & Ellen Bloom

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Julius Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Burton V. Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

In Memory Of

Harriette T. Cline

By Meredith A. Cline

In Memory Of

David M. Orans

By Carol Field

In Memory Of

Harry Wolfe

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

In Memory Of

Edwin Jackson

By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman

In Memory Of Eva Levine

By Barnet O. Coltman

In Memory Of

Sidney P. Finklestein

By Max & Mildred Finklestein

In Memory Of

Jeanne Schneider

By Maryon Gould

In Memory Of

Sylvia Sarah Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

In Memory Of

Leatrice Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

In Memory Of

Morris Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

In Memory Of

Harry J. Friedman

By Stephan & Jane Friedman

In Memory Of

Stephan Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

In Memory Of

Gerald Ratchik

By Susan Horn

Chai-Lights December 2014 9

In Memoriam December 2014

In Memory Of

In Memory Of

Dinah Levy

By Yardena Kamely

In Memory Of

Gary Kreitman

By Marcia Kreitman

William Kay

By Harvey & Joan Kay

In Memory Of

Sue Reiff

By Rick & Roberta McNew

In Memory Of

Kurt Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

In Memory Of

Claire Lempel

By Linda Pincus

In Memory Of Hannah Oser In Memory Of

Clayton Allan Rakov

By Neal & Cathy Rakov

In Memory Of

Rhonie Lee Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

In Memory Of

Peter F. Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

In Memory Of

Sylvia L. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

In Memory Of

Ruth Greenwald

By Paul & Susan Roberts

By Marjorie Present

In Memory Of

Raymond Martell

By Skip Rose

In Memory Of

Murray Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

In Memory Of

Bernard Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

In Memory Of

Steve Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock

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 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.

Sisterhood Barbara Knowles



Well, this is the next to the last column I will be writing as my two years as Sisterhood President will come to a bitter-sweet end and a newly appointed president will be taking my place.

The Nominating Committee met recently and we have new Sisterhood Officers for 2015 and 2016. I will release the names and more information in my column next month, as they need to be voted in. It is with much confidence, that I say everyone will be pleased with the new slate of Officers.

As I write this column, as most of you know, we recently lost a long time member and friend Carol Steinbock. She is missed and loved by all of us at KJCC. Our deepest and sincerest sympathy goes out to Steve on his loss.

There are many things taking place at our "Cozy Little Shul" and the following is an overview of what recently happened, is about to happen or in the planning stages:

November 14: A very special Shabbat Dinner, Italian themed, which featured a full pasta station, delicious sauces – ranging from Alfredo, Vodka, Pesto and Marinara. Also many other varieties of delicious favorites such as: insalata Caprese, eggplant parmesan, vegetable lasagna, garlic bread. Many wonderful desserts like, tiramisu, cannoli, biscotti and gelato. My daughter Eve downloaded several hours of authentic Italian music just to make everything complete.

Sunday, December 7^{th} at 9:30 a.m. is a special Sisterhood meeting. I would like to encourage all the ladies of the synagogue to come and help us vote for the new Officers for the 2015-16 season.

Friday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. is our annual Chanukah dinner. I am the contact for this event and Jane Friedman is co-chairing with me. Please contact me at 305-772-0503 or iweddu@bellsouth.net to RSVP and coordi -nate a potluck dairy dish. I will also be making delicious potato latkes. There is NO CHARGE for this event as it is being graciously sponsored by Joel and Linda Pollack.

Sunday, January 4, 9:30 a.m. is another special Sisterhood meeting as the new 2015 -16 Officers will be installed and I will be stepping down as Sisterhood President. I hope everyone can make it.

Friday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. will be a Shabbat dinner for the new (and potential) members as well as advertisers. Please contact Medina Roy or Erica Garrett to RSVP and to coordinate your potluck dairy dish.

Friday, January 23 at 8 p.m. will be a Sisterhood Shabbat service and all of Sisterhood will lead services.

Sunday, February 1st at 3 p.m. at Actors Playhouse in Coral Gables is a great show, "Ragtime." Tickets are \$55.00, and many tickets are still available. Contact Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665, for tickets and carpooling information.

There are plenty of other happenings that I will mention as it will be solidified soon so we can then announce them.

As usual, I am running out of things to say, so have been researching quotes and sayings that might show what Sisterhood means to most of us.

"Sisterhood is many things. It's a warm smile on a cold and rainy day, a friendly hug, a cheerful hello... It's all that a good and lasting friendship is, only better. It's treasured. It's sacred. It's knowing that there will always be someone there for you. It's dreams shared, and goals achieved. It's counting on others and being counted on. It is real."

In Closing: "Let's Make December A Great Month." \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.

Book Plates

Line, Jon & Arlene Temkin, Robert

General Fund

Angie's Custom Cushions Hartz, Steve & Jan Levine, Steve & Luz Aliyah Pollack, Joel & Linda In Memory of Carol Steinbock Carol Steinbock

In Honor of

Stan & Jenny Margulies

Yardena Kamely -Our new U.S. Citizen!

Roberts, Paul & Susan Robins, Harvey & Beverly Margulies, Stan & Jenny

Charlie Temkin

Holidays

Bernard, Edward Thank you for an enjoyable time at the holiday service I attended Schumer, Jeff

Wittels, Dr. Michael & Family Thank you for making us feel so welcome over Rosh Hashanah

Garden Tree in memory of Carol Steinbock

Bofshever, Joel & Toby Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin Harris, Steve & Marsha Hartz, Steve & Jan Hudson, Terry Knowles, Richard & Barbara Krauer, Arthur & Lee Kreitman, Marcia Margulies, Stan & Jenny Peckman, Joyce Pollack, Joel & Linda Sax, Stuart & Lauren Swartz, George & Muriel Wohl, Milton & Joan

Garden in memory of Carol Steinbock Knowles, Richard & Barbara

Brick in memory of Carol Steinbock Pollack, Joel & Linda Meditation Garden Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila

Rabbi & Cantor Fund Kaminstein, Beth

Scholarship Fund Kaminstein, Beth

Sisterhood Oneg Fund Coltman, Barney

Tree of Life Greenman, Frank & Judy Kwalick, Teresa

in celebration of the life of Carol Steinbock

In Memory of

Charlie Temkin

In Memory of

Yahrzeit Plaques

Temkin, Robert

Yahrzeits

Harold Goldstein Boruszak, Joan Dorf, Barry & Natalie lack Dorf Graham. Bea My Dear Family Members Helene Tulsky Isenberg, Patricia Kaplan, Marshall & Myra Leonard Roberts Krissel, Michael Joseph Krissel, Deborah Cannon Riley, Michele Abraham Travers Schur, Lee Shirley Singer Tallent, Lillian Samuel Tallent Temkin, Robert Kenny Temkin Willner, Arthur Lee & Johanna Esther Gold Diana Wolfe Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

Yizkor Book

Friedman, Steve & Jane Kaminstein, Beth Rose Wainer Saunders Cohen Joel Cohen

Kelec Chanukah

Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 19, 2014 Dairy Dinner 6:30 PM

Followed by Presentation by the Children of the KJCC Religious School

Services at 8 pm

Contact Barbara Knowles, 305-772-0503, iweddu@bellsouth.net to reserve your spot and coordinate your dish.

> Donations - Members: no charge NonMembers: \$18

World Jewish Report Medina Roy

Can Israel End World Hunger?

Between a third and a half of all food grown today is lost to spoilage. But Pimi Agro, an Israeli company, may have a solution. The company has figured out a natural way to extend the shelf life of produce by 1,500 percent plus prevent disease and fungus, too. They use hydrogen peroxide "with a few key additions" so that fruits and vegetables remain fresh for up to ten weeks. The process significantly cuts down on losses due to rot and deterioration during the transportation process. "For places like India, China and Africa, this is huge, especially because the transportation systems in those areas are slow and refrigeration is hard to come by," said Nimrod Ben-Yehuda, Chief Technology Officer and co-founder of Pimi. Agricultural authorities in the United States, United Kingdom. Germany. Australia. China and many other countries have approved Pimi's allnatural, zero-chemical method of preserving produce. "They are not necessarily organic, but they are much healthier than ordinary produce - besides having a much longer shelf life - because farmers can cut down significantly on the use of fungicides." Pimi Agro's secret: Its products are formulations based on 99.35 percent Stabilized Hydrogen Peroxide (STHP), which decomposes into oxygen and water, leaving no chemical residue. The trick, said Ben-Yehuda, was getting that other 0.65 of the formulation right – and that took him, along with researchers at the Technion and at Hebrew University. fifteen years. (www.timesofisrael.com, 10-30-14)

The Rosenberg Letters

A collection of more than 500 highresolution digitized letters between Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, convicted Soviet spies who were executed in the United States in 1953, is now available online, launched by the Howard

Gotlieb Archival Center at Boston University. Maintaining their innocence up until the end, the Rosenbergs were executed on charges of conspiracy to pass along secret information to the Soviet Union. The letters were acquired from the Rosenberg's sons, Michael and Robert Meeropol. The collection includes correspondence between the Rosenbergs and their lawyer, Emanuel Bloch, letters which have never before been available to the public (or even to researchers). The new website also includes pamphlets, newspaper clippings, and the Rosenbergs' wills along with contemporary publications from the National Committee to Reopen the Rosenberg Case. Ethel wrote the last letter to her children on June 19, 1953. In it, she proclaimed that she was innocent, though to the ultimate chagrin of many who had passionately defended both Rosenbergs for many years, information obtained from secret KGB files after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1989 strongly indicated otherwise. (www.jta.org, 10-12-14)

Crossed Off Her Bucket List

Emily Kessler, a 97-year-old Holocaust survivor, fulfilled a life-long dream and made her concert debut at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall in early November. Kessler played her mandolin and sang the Yiddish and Russian folksongs of her childhood in front of some 350 guests at the annual dinner of the Blue Card Fund, a nonprofit organization that provides support to Holocaust survivors. Originally from Khmelnik, Ukraine, Kessler learned to play both the mandolin and the violin when she was ten. When the Nazis invaded Ukraine in 1841, Kessler's husband, a journalist, went to fight them, but he never made it home. She witnessed the Nazis kill both of her parents and her brother. Widowed Chai-Lights December 2014 15



with a young child, she managed to survive the war through the kindness of strangers, fake documentation papers and several years hiding from the S.S. soldiers. Having blonde hair, blue eyes and a Ukrainian surname, Kessler was able to successfully lie about her Jewish roots. Eventually, she made her way to New York. After her escape, she stopped playing the mandolin altogether and didn't pick it up again until 1980, some forty years later. (nydailynews.com, 11-4-14 and The Forward, 11-3-14)

The "Pompa" Needs a New Name

There seems to be no proper Hebrew word for a "plunger," that familiar household tool consisting of a rubber cup attached to a wooden stick. Now the Academy of the Hebrew Language is asking the public to help find an appropriate Hebrew word for the device. For lack of a better word, Israelis usually refer to it as a "pompa," which comes from the word for "pump" in a variety of European languages. A recent report indicates that the leading submission so far is *pampam*, a word that mimics the sound a plunger makes when it releases a clogged sink. In recent years, the Hebrew language academy has accepted public suggestions for other words that seem difficult to formulate and for which there were no analogs in ancient Hebrew. (www.timesofisrael.com, 11-6-14)

Israel Ranks Fourth

A recent survey based on data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) ranks the State of Israel as the fourth most educated country in the world. Just over 46 percent of Israel's adult population holds college degrees. Israel ranks behind Russia, Canada and Japan. Russia (53 percent) and Canada (52.6 percent) were the two countries in the survey in which more than half the population was collegeeducated. Japan came in at 46.6 percent. The United States followed Israel with 43.1 percent. Despite the fact that Israel ranks so high, its teachers' salaries (less than \$19,000 in 2013) lag the OECD average (more than \$32,000). (www.haaretz.com, 9-15-14)

The "English Schindler"

At the end of October, Sir Nicholas Winton, (the "English Schindler"), who saved hundreds of lewish children in Czechoslovakia from the Nazis in the run-up to World War II. was given the Czech Republic's top honor, the Order of the White Lion. Throughout the ceremony, Winton, the 105-year-old Briton of German-Jewish origin, sat opposite seven of the children he had rescued. Winton's heroic actions earned him the nickname the "English Schindler." On the eve of war, Sir Nicholas had gone to Prague to help a friend rescue lewish children. The result was the Czech Kindertransport, through which almost 700 Czech children, mostly Jewish, were funneled through Holland into England, where they were given safety and found homes. Another large rescue project was thwarted by the Nazi's invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939. Sir Nicholas kept guiet about his mission for fifty years; his heroic work was only revealed when his wife found evidence of it in their attic. Winton was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2003. His Czech supporters have repeatedly petitioned for him to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 10-28-14 and www.reuters.com 10-28-14)

A Devoted Christian Friend

The remains of Lt. Col. John Henry Patterson (along with the ashes of his wife), commander of World War I's Jewish Legion, were recently brought to Israel and buried in a special plot at Moshav Avihavil. fulfilling his dream to be buried there alongside his former soldiers. The couple had been buried in a Los Angeles mausoleum, Patterson, a Christian Zionist, died in 1947. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that his late brother, Yonatan, had been named for Patterson, who was his godfather. The Irish-born British soldier was one of the founders of the lewish Legion in World War I. the first lewish military force since the revolt of Bar Kochva (the leader of the third and final Jewish revolt against Rome, 132-135 C.E.) and after which the Israel Defense Force was modeled. Patterson worked alongside Netanyahu's father in

the United States in the 1940s to promote Zionism. Ze'ev Jabotinsky (1880-1940), the Zionist activist and writer who co-founded the Jewish Legion and later led a wing of the militant Jewish underground in Palestine, once said of Patterson, "Never in Jewish history has there been in our midst a Christian friend of his understanding and devotion." (www.jta.org, 10-13-14)

Israel Sets Another World Record

Six Israeli swimmers have claimed a world record for open-water relay distance swimming after crossing the eastern Mediterranean from Cyprus to Israel in early October. The swim's purpose was to raise awareness highlighting ocean pollution. According to the World Open Water Swimming Association, the men swam a record-breaking distance of 380 kilometers (236 miles) in 123 hours and ten minutes. The previous record of 367 kilometers was set by a team from the United States off the coast of California last year. The six men - ranging in age from 42-66 each spent one hour in the water, day and night, and had to maintain the same rotation for the record to be recognized. This was the second attempt to break the record by the Israeli team. Last year, they had to abort their attempt due to rough seas. The swimmers dealt with jellyfish, curious dolphins and chilly temperatures, but the main obstacle they faced was a plaque of plastic bags. (www.timesofisrael, 10-11-14)

In Memoriam

• Ralph Goldman, a legendary figure who dedicated his long and illustrious career to serving Israel and the Jewish people, died in early October. He was 100. Goldman was a key figure in the founding of the State of Israel. He was born in Ukraine, but his family moved to Boston when he was a small child. During World War II, he served in the American Army, assisting Jewish refugees in Germany. After the war, he served as an agent of the *Haganah*, procuring airplanes and ships for Jewish immigration from Europe and enlisting recruits for the pre-state defense force. Goldman was a close adviser to David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister. Between 1976 and 1988, he twice served as the chief executive of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). He was deeply dedicated to the success of the State of Israel as the homeland for the Jewish people and he played a key role in its establishment during the War of Independence. Goldman's son, David Ben-Rafael, followed in his father's footsteps and served as an Israeli diplomat. He was killed in the 1992 bombing of the Israeli embassy in Argentina. (www.worldjewishcongress.org, 10-8-14)

Did you Know...

• As a result of the November mid-term elections, Lee Zeldin is now the only Jewish Republican in Congress. He campaigned in part by saying he would revive the Jewish GOP presence in Congress after the defeat in the Republican primary in June of then-House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, who represented a district in Richmond, VA. Two other Jewish House candidates – Representatives Brad Schneider (D-IL) and Andrew Romanoff (D-CO) – lost in the congressional races, while two Jewish senators up for reelection – Al Franken (D-MN) and Brian Schatz (D-HI) – both kept their seats. (www.jta.org, 11-4-14)

• In another election update, Neo-Nazi activist Robert Ransdell, write-in candidate from Florence, Kentucky, did not win election to the U.S. Senate, trailing both Republican winner Senator Mitch McConnell and Democratic challenger Alison Lundergan Grimes, the sitting Kentucky Secretary of State. Ransdell had placed signs around northern Kentucky that read "With Jews You Lose." "I believe that there is no such thing as racial equality..." he said. As a write-in candidate, his name did not appear on the ballot, but county clerks across Kentucky were required to count votes for him. (www.usatoday.com, 9-19-14)

• The Vatican has announced that it will contribute \$135,000 to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation, the organization working to preserve the site of the infamous death camp located in southern Poland near Krakow. Thirty-one countries (including the Vatican) have pledged more than \$129 million to the foundation. (www.jta.org, 9-29-14) \$

Photo Gallery

Photos from Rabbi Richard Agler's Shabbat morning service at KICC on November 8, 2014. The Torah portion discussed was Vayera, which includes the first great example and teaching of Abraham's hospitality to the stranger — a theme that runs throughout the Torah... "for we were once strangers in a strange land ... "- the oftendifficult details of the story of Sodom and Gomorrah; Abraham's negotiation with God over the impending fate of any innocents living in Sodom (such as his nephew Lot and his family); and the elderly Sarah giving

birth to a son, Isaac (at the age of at least 90), and the famous story of God demanding that Abraham sacrifice Isaac on



an altar and the angels intervening at the last second to stop the slaughter, establishing the principle that, unlike those of other Mesopotamian and Canaanite peoples of the day, the God of Abraham and his descendants did not require or condone human sacrifice.



At left, Roy Pollack on the bemah with Rabbi Agler.

Left, flanking Rabbi Agler during the actual Torah reading: Joel Bof-



Right, Rabbi Agler chanted the haMotzi, then cut the challah (which included raisins) and tore off smaller pieces for all.



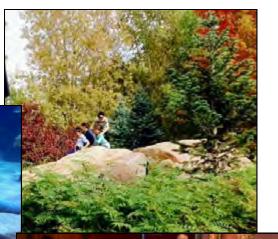
shever on the

left and Steve

Hartz on the

right.

Joyce Peckman visited son Daniel and family in Denver, Colorado in mid-October. These photos were taken at the Denver Aquarium.





At right, on November 13th a group of KJCC folks gathered for dinner at Num Thai Restaurant to celebrate Linda Kaplan's birthday. It was also snowbird Medina's first night back.







Right, a group of fellow KJCC members who drove up to witness the ceremony and share in Yardena's joy.

At left and below, photos from the November 14th ceremony at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services office in West Kendall where Yardena Kamely was sworn in as an American citizen. Yardena proudly shows off her official certificate.





Above: Susan Gordon, right, and Erica Lieberman-Garrett, who organized the evening on behalf of Sisterhood, A Buona Notte. Prior to Friday night services on November 14th, KJCC entertained members and guests at its First Annual Italian dinner. Benissimo!



Below, left to right: KJCC president Bernie Ginsberg, Jonah Gross, Oceana Gross, Sylvie Coeurjoly Bitton, Mikhaela Bitton at the kiddush. Below, left to right: Linda Pollack, Skip Rose, Toby Bofshever, Joni Sages Dandrea at the kiddush welcoming Shabbat.





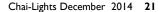


Friends, family and KJCC mishpocha gathered at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 16th to witness and join in the dedication of a Cabada Palm being planted in the KJCC Meditation Garden in loving memory of Carol Steinbock. It's a palm with multiple trunks,

symbolic of Carol's many strong and enduring ties, especially her unbreakable bond with Steve. The service was led thoughtfully and gently by Rabbi Richard Agler, highlighted by his reading of the famed "woman of valor" verses from Proverbs 31.



Above, Steve holds the new challah cover dedicated to Carol from the KJCC Sisterhood, represented by Erica Lieberman-Garrett (left) and Susan Gordon.





Tikkun HaYam and Rabbi Ed

Rabbi Ed

leading

Havdalah

and intro-

ducing his

non-Jewish

students to

this short.

sweet

ceremony.

A s part of his "Tikkun HaYam" program the repairing of the seas — Rabbi Ed Rosenthal once again brought college students from his Tampa Bay-based Suncoast Hillel to the Keys for a weekend of diving and coral reef restoration. This time, out of a group of 19, only three were Jewish, but all were brought by Rabbi Ed through accredited college programs and as always all were warmly welcomed as they brought their bags and mattresses to camp out in KJCC's David Kamely classroom. (A few, actually, climbed

the mahogany and gumbo limbo trees in the parking lot and hung hammocks to sleep in. All had signed releases, so we pushed aside our own parental instincts.)

For four days the classroom and social hall (and kitchen) rang out with the laughter and purposeful energy and postdive appetites of our next generation of marine scientists and environmentalists and physicists and even one

political science major. Most had advanced dive certifications — divemasters and instructors. with the lowest being advanced open water. They spent three days in the water, often with three or four dives per day. charting and evaluating and helping restore coral to the Keys' reefs.



Rabbi Ed arrived a little early on Friday night and joined KJCC for services.



morning, but Rabbi Ed arrived Friday night and joined us for services. As he often does

when he visits, he also gave that evening's *D'var Torah*, which told the story of Noah. Laughing at the perfect symmetry of coming to spend the weekend diving in God's



ocean with offering a parshah about the story of God's great flood, Rabbi Ed pointedly noted that Adam named all the animals on land. but that the sepa-

Most of the students arrived on Saturday

rate world within the ocean was reserved for



of how his experience with marine science and repair can help what will be the first project of our Tikkun Olam Committee: a Tikkun HaYam effort to help repair and re-plant Keys coral. That's where Patti's extensive experience came in, as she explained in some detail just how Coral Restoration goes about their trailblazing work. Several of the students, and all the Jewish ones, joined us for the discus-

(Above) The towels and equipment of the students decorating the KJCC patio.

(Below) A group shot of Rabbi Ed's students.

God. that the Torah offers only one name for the thousands of varieties of living creatures in the seas: fish. And that the rabbis teach that the destruction of the world that is described in the Noah story only refers to that 25-30 percent of God's world that is terrestrial: the seas were untouched and unpunished.



sion, and all spoke movingly about their own concern for the seas. (Amazingly, Rabbi Ed pointed out that his is the only official lewish organization

On Saturday night many KICC members enjoyed Rabbi Ed's mystical take on Havdalah in a short and sweet ceremony in KJCC's garden gazebo. Many of the non-Jewish students attended, and Rabbi Ed - ever the teacher carefully explained the components of Havdalah and their symbolic meaning and even compared them to some analogs in the Christian tradition.

Sunday night, after the day's dives, Rabbi Ed joined Linda Kaplan, head of KJCC's new Tikkun Olam committee, and KICC member Patti Gross, who's a board member and poobah of Coral Restoration, to lead a discussion

in the entire United States that has a program devoted to the oceans. The only other such organization is Israeli. And now KJCC. uniquely suited to do so, will become part of this effort.) Asked if he considers himself an environmentalist. Rabbi Ed guickly said no. that that label is too small. His mandate, his reason for such dedication, is because he's Jewish, and that the Torah commands us to take up this work on behalf of God's oceans. (There is also the mystical connection between *mayim* — the Hebrew word for water - and *sha'mavim*, the Hebrew word for the heavens. Perhaps there will be a fuller discussion of that during his next visit.) \Diamond

KJCC Live Green - Recycle



In our quest to help you help the planet, we are collecting:

- ink cartridges
- laser toners (not previously recycled)
- cell phones
- lap top computers
 - i devices
- tablets
- and more.
- Items can be working or in need of repair.

Bring any items to be recycled to the KJCC

Remembering Carol Steinbock

KJCC recently lost one of its stalwart and most loyal members. We pay tribute to her here, in the words of fellow members and through a variety of photographs. Most of the photos were taken at various KJCC events throughout the past seven years. Some, and we think you'll note with delight which ones they are, were provided by Steve, her husband and partner of over 40 years. Carol was the person every volunteer organization like KJCC yearns for: always the first to step forward, always ready to work, talented, creative, accomplished and fully alive. As you'll see, she touched many different KJCC lives. She will be remembered in a thousand ways.

T've known Carol my whole time in the Keys, even before coming to KJCC for the first time.

I met her my first day of work and first

official day in the Key Largo area.

I began working at the courthouse on Plantation Key, where Carol was an assistant State Attorney. I remember her as being very persistent and good at her job. I also found her to be friendly.

I was glad to realize later that she was a member of what would become my synagogue!

I want to add that never have I seen someone from a non-Jewish background who seemed more at home in a Jewish place of worship.

To me, Carol was as

Jewish as any of us.

Finally, it was Carol who asked me to take over the *yahrzeit* boards when Jerry Oshinsky passed away. For that reason I'll

> always feel connected to both of them. Carol, thanks for all you did, and for welcoming me to the Keys.

Ken Atlas

"A Woman of Valor. Her Worth is far above Rubies..." These words taken from the Book of Proverbs remind me of Carol. While I cannot think of a specific memory of her, the daily small memories of her emerge as one

Steve and Carol at their wedding in New York, June 5, 1981



Top left, Carol and Steve observe the scribe koshering the KJCC Holocaust Torah, obtained on permanent loan from the Westminster Synagogue in London. In the center, a quiet moment on an Italian vacation in 1990. The photo of Carol at bottom was taken on Nest Key in Easter of 1996.

beauty is warmth, conversation, intelligence and a certain grace or magnetism." I paused

large memory, as a kind, caring, intelligent, friendly, hospitable, always-willing-to-volunteer person, for the synagogue and for the community. "Her deeds speak her praise."

Lee Schur

Vividly I recall the first time I

met Carol. I was about to exit the KJCC sanctuary when, at the same moment, a young couple was entering. The three of us stopped to say "Hi" and make introductions, and I welcomed them. With Steve's quiet, beaming approval, Carol's friendly, bubbly personality

became immediately evident. It was a pleasure to learn - that Shabbat eve in late 1992 - that Carol and Steve would be becoming a part of our KJCC mishbucha.

Yesterday, when I was reading an opinion piece by Julia Baird in the *New York Times*, there was this description: "....





and copied the description, thinking that Baird could have been writing about Carol and realizing that I could not have better highlighted what, for me, always made it enjoyable to be with Carol.

When thinking of Carol, *mensch* is the word that comes to mind. Carol was the

perfect role model for her nieces – and for any young person – to emulate. I sat with Carol at the last two Women's Seders. If I am fortunate to share in any future SKJCC Women's Seders, the memories of Carol – a caring and talented woman – will be right there surrounding me with all her goodness. She will be sorely missed by all who were privileged to know her.

Muriel Swartz

Though I didn't know Carol for very long, there are certain qualities within some people which radiate independently of time.

Carol was most helpful and caring to my family and me in arranging for the placement and inscription of the Yahrzeit Plaques honoring our Mother and Father.

Her attention to detail and accuracy was greatly appreciated by all, as was her requisite sensitivity to the importance that these plaques held for us.

Sy Gelbard

I was so sad to hear about Carol's passing.

My fond memories of Carol revolve around Mah Jongg. She was an awesome player, and so good-natured, too! I can still recall her wanting to play with her old 2013 card so she could complete making all the hands after the 2014 card arrived in April. :)

I will miss her, as I know that Steve and the rest of her family will.

Michele Riley

Friday nights with Carol: Was it ten years ago that she went on the cabbage soup diet, and brought her own

"food"(?) to the oneg? Her favored potluck contribution was a beautifully arranged lettuce-and-tomato plate, but when the Steinbocks sponsored a kiddush, Carol always made it an ice cream lover's and chocoholic's delight.

When I became a widow, it was to Carol that I turned as probate loomed. She gently and efficiently guided me through it all, and wasn't eager to accept payment. She was one of those rare people who blended energy, intelligence and heart.

Joyce Peckman

Carol made Ellyn and me feel very welcome when we joined the KJCC in 2009. She was the type of woman that we

wanted to do things for.

We would save my laser printing cartridges and bring them from Atlanta to the KJCC for Carol, trying in a small way to show our appreciation for what she did.

Carol was all heart when helping me with the plaques in honor of my family that I placed at the KJCC.

She was compassionate in a quiet way when I needed it, when Ellyn passed.

I will remember the brief six years I had the privilege of knowing her.



Barney Coltman

Carol Steinbock was a woman of many facets. On the day of the 2009 Steinbock Christmas Open House, David, still new to our community (just a few months after

he re-met me), cut his hand on the way upstairs. Carol, the trained nurse, noticed the wounded hand, and even though she had a houseful of guests, led him away, cleaned the wound, bandaged him up, and released a happy, appreciative David to a roomful of abundant

The photo at top was taken on a Grand Canyon rafting trip celebrating their 20th anniversary. In the center, Steve and

Carol at a February 2008 birthday dinner for Linda Rutkin in Key Largo. At bottom, Carol at Mark and Sofy Wasser's Halloween party in 2007. The creature preparing to advance ultimately thought better of it.





Carol transformed a simple wall into an exquisite sea scene with mosaic glass.

The Carol who moved me the most, though, was the one who swore us in – every officer and board member of KJCC and Sisterhood – as each year, before our fellow members, we took the oath of office. She invoked in me, in us, a commitment to be our best selves. I will miss her, but I will still hear her voice.

Gloria Avner

food and new friends.

When I needed to write a will, I discovered Carol the caring, competent, confidential lawyer. In the first few years of Sam's reign as Chai-Lights editor, it was a treat to be part of the monthly labeling party with Carol as hostess, humorist, and purveyor of teas and sweets. Carol the compassionate activist opened my eyes to the plight of the Keys' homeless; I'll never forget the first memorial service she invited us to at Settler's Park when Carol and Steve beautifully led the multidenominational group in reciting *Kaddish*. And

then there was Carol the artist. I watched with awe over the course of years as

Some will remember that Gloria Avner gave art classes at KJCC for several years. The photo above, with some of the students holding up their finished products, was taken during a class in January of 2009. At bottom, Steve and Carol at the KJCC Second Seder in March of 2009, just after they'd been given that year's Joel Cohen Award.

The first thing that comes to mind when I think of Carol is her immediate smile. She greeted everyone with it, and it always made me feel so welcomed and loved and appreciated. Her excitement about goings-on in my life, particularly the opening of my office, really touched me. Carol just seemed really connected to everyone she met in a way that seemed natural and true. Her love for Steve, their home, the garden and the animals, was so apparent, and her joy in sharing all of that every Christmas with people she cared about was itself a joy to behold. And I can't end without mentioning her beautiful artwork, and her

cheerfulness even when explaining the frustrations of creating it! I'm grateful for having known Carol, and sad that I didn't know her better.

Mindy Agler

I remember her office in Key Largo, and that she worked for the Monroe County court system for a while. She was always helpful to Al and me. She even cleaned out my files so I could get rid of years of papers. I knew that Steve and Carol liked Broadway shows, so I told them about *Evita*, and when they went they got me a ticket, too. While we were walking Carol made me trade canes, because she had a better one with a seat attached. She was worried about me more than about herself.

I could always count on Carol. She and Steve always sat with me at the Onegs, and made sure I

had food. I am really going to miss her.

Pauline Roller

It happened more than once.

I often found myself sitting next to Carol at Friday night services. She knew all the Hebrew songs and prayers and sang them with great gusto, pronouncing the Hebrew words as if she'd known them all her life. On more than one occasion, she would turn to me and say, "Isn't the Ark supposed to be opened?" or "He should be wearing a *kipah* while he's up on the bimah." The Catholic girl, knowing Jewish decorum better than some members of the tribe.

Over the years, Carol gave me answers to health questions (she was a nurse, you know), real estate advice (she was a realtor, you know) and legal advice, especially when my dad passed away and I needed help with guardianship for my mother. (She was also an attorney, you know). And outside of the KJCC, Carol played an instrumental role working with my husband Carl to bring the Traveling Vietnam Wall to Key Largo this past April.

Carol officiated at the ceremony for the installation of the new KJCC officers and Board every year, was active with Sisterhood, sold raffle tickets on a regular basis. I can imagine that if a stranger came to the KJCC and witnessed all of Carol's involvement, they could easily assume that she was president of the shul, perhaps that she had even *built* the shul.

Her smile was infectious, and when she

Above, at a dinner saying goodbye for the summer to Joyce Peckman in June of 2009. At bottom, one of the many times Carol administered the oath of office to the new KJCC Officers and Board, in February of 2010.

laughed you couldn't help but laugh with her. I loved that my "New York City accent" had such

wonderful company. (I always insisted that her accent was way stronger than mine). Carol knew that I often sat next to Steve at services when she



couldn't be there. We joked that I would be his "other wife" (with no benefits, of course).

There's a huge void in the life of the KJCC now that Carol is no longer with us. We have all lost a very special friend.

Medina Roy



When asked to share some thoughts about Carol Steinbock, the first thing that came to our minds was "NO." Why such a negative response? Simple. Because it was bricks for the Meditation Garden and leaves for the Trees of Life needed to be ordered. Carol was there. When she should have spent Christmas each year quietly with her immediate fam-

the one word that was not in Carol's vocabulary.

When there was an event that needed assistance. Carol was there. If there was a legal question on a rule or bylaw, Carol was there. When someone was needed to install our officers and board each year.

Carol was there. When extra help was needed during our presidencies at the KJCC, Carol was there. When there was an opportu-



Above, Carol and Steve at the KJCC 30th Anniversary Gala at Hawk's Cay, in a beautiful photo by Richard Knowles. Below, with the other new Sisterhood officers sharing her life with being sworn in during February of 2011.

ily, the house was opened to all and Carol was there

Through her early years Carol studied to be a nurse and became one. Years later she studied law, passed the bar, and became a lawyer. Years after that. she studied real estate and became a successful agent in the Keys. Whatever she put her mind

to she did it and she flourished. Perhaps her greatest success was Steve. He was the quiet

nity for the KICC to make extra money by collecting used ink cartridges, Carol was there. When labels needed to be affixed to the monthly Chai-Lights for mailing. Carol was there. When



Carl Roy needed assistance with the visiting Vietnam Wall event, Carol was there. When

partner and Carol was the mouthpiece of the family. It worked. Whv? Because Carol couldn't say "NO."

Carol, we love you, we miss you, we will always remember vou.

Stuart & Lauren Sax

Carol was always someone who would take on any job in the synagogue that needed attention,

especially if no one else wanted to do it. I looked up to her for that. She seemed to volunteer for endless work. I loved her notebook (s) with pages and pages of sentences that at times made sense. She is already missed.

Beth Kaminstein

My wife and I feel blessed that we were able to get to know and love Carol. Before she became really III we went to lunch twice and had a ball. She joked about not being able to negotiate the stones at the restaurant as she made her way with the walker. Her warmth and enthusiasm for life and fun was



contagious. We had plans to go out again, but because she did not feel well she insisted we come to their house to share good times and good food.

Steve and Carol were a great match. Both were generous, with the ability to make us feel accepted as part of their inner circle. We felt we had known them for years, even though it was only about a year. We miss her and know that there

will not be another like her.

If we feel this way, we can only imagine how those who knew her for a longer time must miss her optimism and loving nature.

Toby and Joel Bofshever

In the photo above, Carol during the KJCC fashion show in January 2011. Top right, Carol reading names during the annual Christmas service for the Keys' homeless in December 2010. At right, with their birthdays but two days apart, Carol and Yardena often celebrated together, this time in January 2011. The quality I valued most about Carol was her authenticity. I admired her dedication to the KJCC and her faithfulness in fulfilling all the tasks she took on. She treated Joe and me like we were long-time members. We will miss her.

Kathy Shabathai

I must admit that I did not spend very much time with Carol at the KJCC, because my attendance is sporadic, to say the least. But I did enjoy spending time



with Carol in another venue, where she'd catch me up on all the KJCC activities.

I had the pleasure of being Carol's trainer at Mariners Wellness Center for the past couple of years, where she worked out on a regular basis and continued to get stronger and stronger. Carol may not have liked every exercise I asked her to perform, but she did them without complaint and always left in better spirits when she was finished.

Carol and I became rather close, as fitness trainers also provide stress release in the form of confidante (much like a bartender - only



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healthier). We made each other laugh

her). Working with Carol was always

one of the best parts of the day.

(even while I was "torturing"

a great gift to be able to find brightness in life no matter the circumstances. Not only did Carol have that gift, she knew how to share it.

Carol was also a giver. If anyone needed anything (and I found myself calling on her on a number of occasions) she could not drop everything quickly enough to do whatever it was that needed to be done. Or so it seemed, and that was plenty good enough.

Finally, Carol was a devoted member of



the synaaoaue. This is all the more remarkable because she was not lewish. No matter. Not only did she serve. she respected and honored all

that was holy.

All who knew her will miss her – Steve most of all, of course. Her memory is very much for blessing.

Richard Agler

We remember a memorable sailing outing a couple of years ago with Carol and Steve on their Nonsuch sailboat. Carol was the captain of the craft and Steve the first mate. Carol, who was usually doing six things at once, was peaceful and focused on the joy of sailing. We could relax knowing how well she knew the local waters.

Dave Mont & Georgia Landau

Arlene Line

I miss you.

It was not mv privilege to know Carol Steinbock for very long – or even very well. But I knew her well enough to know certain vital thinas. Carol

was a delightful presence. Wherever she went, however she was feeling, she could put on a smile and light up a room. It is



At top, Carol with mom Marianne during the April 2011 Sisterhood Tea at Joe and Kathy Shabathai's house. In the center, awarding the Joel Cohen award to Gloria Avner during the 2011 KJCC seder. At bottom, during the same seder with Teresa Kwalick.

Carol represented a perfect example of the Yiddish expression "a guttah neshuma." This expression translates as "a good soul." But it does not do her justice. Her inexhaustible work at the KICC. long hours helping the traveling Vietnam War Memorial Wall, her concern for the homeless; all of these only touch the surface of her efforts on behalf of others. Our



congregation and community have lost a real "Guttah Neshuma" in Carol Steinbock.

Nettie and Jules Seder

Carol was a woman full of energy

and caring, interested and involved in other people's lives. I first met her when I was coming to the Keys to visit my parents. She related to my father, David, in a very special way. She liked him and his sense of humor. Even though his English was very basic. Carol would somehow communicate and joke with him. They were always laughing. He had difficulties walking at that time. and Carol would insist that

she'd help him get to services at the KJCC. With warm caring and humor she made him use a wheelchair, something the family couldn't convince him to do. My guess is he didn't want to miss a social evening with Carol.

My mother, Michal, liked Carol and her way of taking care of business matters. She



trusted her. On several occasions Carol helped my parents where they needed someone to speak English on their behalf. And Carol was very good at expressing herself – clearly, directly and emphatically. Once my parents were involved in a small traffic incident, and Carol happened to pass by at that same moment. She got out

> of her car and took matters into her own hands, talking to the other driver and coming to a settlement. My mother was so relieved.

Carol and I shared birthday celebrations many times, hers being two days before mine. She did it with her usual enthusiasm and executive style: I en-

joyed her take-charge way, knowing that she'd arrange everything and we'd have a real party. She was always very generous in any celebration, bringing cakes and ice cream and other goodies that could feed a hundred people.

There are many other nice memories of spending good times with Carol: Thanksgiving

At top, Carol with many others of Sisterhood enjoying having just led a successful Friday service. In the center, Steve and Carol stopped for a second during the annual Christmas Day open house they always hosted for KJCC. (They became the Keys version of Chinese food.) At bottom, with Joan Boruszak during a Sisterhood tea in February of 2012. celebrations, sailing, theater, music, and other events. I will miss her, a person who

I have always loved Carol, even before I knew her very well - just "chemistry" for me. I

made me feel welcome and helped me integrate into American life.

Yardena Kamely

In memory of Carol we wish to extend our condolences to the Steinbock family.



Natalie and Barry Dorf

More than twenty years ago, Carol came into my office to introduce herself. I was then employed by Monroe County as the Veterans

Affairs Service Officer in the Upper Keys. She was the first attorney to volunteer to help veterans. Then, at a KICC



function some time in 2013, Carol casually asked "What's new with you?" When I told her that I was about to take on a major project to bring the Traveling Vietnam Wall to the Upper Keys in April 2014, she instantly offered to serve on the Board and also help with any legal issues. Our community has lost a loving, caring, special person. I will *always* remember her generosity and unfailing spirit.

Carl Roy

looked for her at services and social events to sit next to her. Though sometimes agitated with her struggles in life (mostly due to her perceived limited time to do all the good things

she wanted to accomplish). I could always feel the aura of her kind soul, which never ceased to warm my heart and soul. I marveled at how much she knew about ludaism and that she had learned Hebrew and could sing it in my octave and in tune. This made it so much easier for me to participate in the services. I admired her professional accomplishments, being a

nurse, a lawyer and a real estate agent. I loved her sense of humor – we laughed and giggled a lot. We shared many serious conversations, too. I cannot believe she is gone so

At top, Carol with the rest of the Sisterhood leadership team who conceived and staged the Sarge fundraising concert in March of 2012. Center, with help from Linda Pincus, doing the hard advance work transforming the KJCC bemah into a professional -looking stage. At bottom, with Steve and the Islamorada Fishing Club chef at the KJCC family seder in March of 2013.



At top, Carol and Steve in the KJCC Meditation Garden's Beth/ Stanlake Gazebo when they renewed their wedding vows in June of 2013. They had asked Joel Pollack to perform the ceremony, and no rabbi could have done the job better. At bottom, posing in front of the traveling Vietnam War Memorial in April of 2014. Carol was on the non-profit's board.

with the assistance of our exuberant realtor and soon-to-be friend. Carol was welcoming, warm, loving and

> her enthusiasm and sense of responsibility for others endeared us to her. We will never forget the cruise to the Bahamas that we shared with Carol and her mother, Marianne. Her devotion to her mother, Steve and her beloved dogs was without limit. We miss her very much and she will be in our hearts forever.

Jim and Rita Williams

I'd like, right away, to address the prevailing notion that Carol wasn't Jewish.

(And, yes, I do understand that Carol herself said she was Catholic.) Like many Jews, I'm fascinated by genealogy. Maybe that's because, despite the broad brush strokes and large stories from places like Babylon and Spain and Salonika and Rome and the Americas and the colorful Yiddish poverty in Ashkenazi eastern Europe, many of us only know the vaguest outlines of our family histories. But during one of the hundreds of times I sat around their table with Steve and Carol (including virtually every month for the past seven years to label Chai-Lights for mailing), I asked her where in Poland her peeps had come from. Her answer? Bialystok. Bialystok? That is a city so thoroughly

soon. I love and miss you so much, my friend.

Teresa Kwalick

All of us at the KJCC have been profoundly shocked and saddened by Carol's illness and untimely passing. Such universal grief is itself the greatest tribute to her extraordinary life. She lived a life of loving -kindness. Her generosity

and wisdom were boundless. Her skills and hard work (and those of her husband Steve) have left lasting gifts to all of us at the KJCC. To Steve and all of their family we offer our heartfelt condolence.

Steve and Jan Hartz

Our dear friend and at the time (2005) our realtor, Carol Cimkowski Steinbock introduced us to Silver Shores. We were visiting the Keys in October 2005 and Jim attended services at KJCC. The rest is history, and we found our paradise-on-earth in Key Largo



part of the Polish Jewish story that no less than Mel Brooks (whose real name. if you didn't know. is Kaminskv) used it as the name of his comic scheming corrupt small-time



stok.

Everyone who was really part of Carol's life knew that she lived in a virtually constant state of whirlwind near-chaos. She laughed when I once remarked that she only functioned at one of two speeds: manic and crashed. Among many things we shared was a particular filing system: pile A and pile B. She was ecstatic when Apple first came out with their 24" iMac, and bought one immediately. No silly folders or document storage for our girl; everything on her computer was right there on the desktop, and the larger

hustler very Jewish svengali in *The Producers*. It has also, as at least New Yorkers know, lent its name to the slightly larger and doughier cousin of the bagel. The place just *oozed* Jewishness.

We all know how deeply Carol was imbedded in the life of KJCC. She knew all the prayers, and the melodies, and most of the important,

defining practices. She didn't just know them by rote because she was intelligent (which she most certainly was) or because she adored and wanted to always support Steve (both of which she most certainly did). I'm convinced that she knew them. or felt drawn to knowing them, because of some unrealized and deep atavism. I have long believed that Judaism was in her DNA. from somewhere back there in tahke-Jewish Bialy-



Sailing with Steve and puppy Sarah on "Shalom," their 26' Nonsuch, above. Below, Carol does some final polishing of the incredible glass wall mosaic she designed and created for their home.

Our great thanks to those whose photographs we used in this section, particularly professionals Richard and Barbara Knowles and Bob Vaccato. screen enabled her to gleefully add even more. She was the first person l'd ever seen who had over 1,000 unread e-mails.

When they remodeled their kitchen, she made sure to show me that they'd set aside a little drawer

space for me, so I'd always have green tea and honey available when I showed up. I was there once while she was still creating the amazing glass mosaic that covers the largest wall in their dining/kitchen area. Know what she could hardly wait to show me? Not the last pieces of glass that she'd just glued, but her workbench on the porch, which all by herself she had beautifully organized and made perfect.

We fought occasionally, but she was richly three-dimensional and in full Technicolor, endlessly curious, and funny (sometimes unintentionally), and bawdy, and raucous, boldly direct, plus wonderfully and loudly intolerant of crapola. I loved her, and I will miss her terribly.

Here's thinking of you, kid. ♦

MIAMI'S 2014 KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION

by Toby and Joel Bofshever

n Nov 9th, the 76th anniversary of *Kristallnacht*, we went to the Miami Beach commemoration. It was to be held at the Holocaust Memorial, but due to horrible weather it was moved to Temple Emmanuel. The organizers really had their act together. There was free parking a few blocks away at the Convention Center for those go-

ing to the *Kristallnacht* event. At the entrance to the parking lot, limousine service was provided to take you to the entrance of the synagogue. We arrived early, and were worried that there was such a small turnout. By 6:30, half an hour later, there were about 250 people. The German, French and Israeli consulates were represented, along with numerous survivors.

It was a moving and memorable night. They had a cellist and violinist playing Hebrew and Yiddish songs. Emily Kaufman, an elevenyear-old girl with the range of an opera singer and the lungs of a scuba diver, sang the Star Spangled Banner. She got a standing ovation.

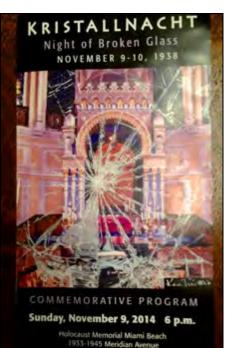
A "Righteous among the Nations" award was given by Chaim Shacham. Israel's

Consul General for Florida, to the family of Anna Horvath, and her son, Rudolf Szenasi, who protected Aurelia Klein in 1944. Aurelia was working in Szenasi's sewing workshop in Budapest. When Aurelia's uncle was arrested, Szenasi moved her to a safe apartment and made sure that she had food. Several weeks later, he obtained forged papers in the name of Katoka Horvath, a Catholic, and took her to the home of his mother, Anna Horvath. When the Germans came to his mother's small village, Szenasi put a sign on the door, "Scarlet Fever, do not enter." After the war, back in Budapest, Aurelia returned the favor, hiding Szenasi from the Russians. They later married and moved to Vienna, where he died in 1973. At Aurelia's 90th birthday celebration, she told her story to her family, who suggested that

she share it.

Erica Leib gave an eyewitness account of Kristallnacht. In November of 1938 she was a little girl living in Berlin whose father was in France on business. She heard the breaking of glass and loud anti-Jewish slogans shouted in the streets. She and her mother were terrified, and ran across the street to the home of their Christian friends. For two full days they heard the looting and burning and breaking of glass. When they finally pulled back the curtains. they saw that the street was quiet; so they ventured out and saw the streets littered with broken glass, and their apartment house a shambles. They walked two blocks to the main synagogue, where they used to

go to shul, and found it burned to the ground and smoldering. She told us that she "can still smell the smoke to this day." They returned to the neighbor's house. A few days later, German authorities knocked on the door, looking for her father. The superintendent of the building replied that there were no Jews there. At that point they knew it was time for them to leave Berlin. \Diamond



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Peace And Chanukah



by Gloria Avner

rticles about Chanukah unfailingly talk about war, the few against the mighty. L the miracle of oil. and the passion of the band of religious believers that led the Jews to victory over Antiochus' great army. There are many parts to our story. Looking for fresh insights this year. I found an essay titled "Eight Thoughts for Chanukah" by the one-time Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, Rabbi Lord Ionathan Sacks. a highly regarded global religious leader, Professor of Judaic Thought at NYU, and prolific author. (Due to his brilliance and accomplishments, he was titled and given a seat in England's upper chamber. Rabbi Sacks is now a Baron, and can trulv be addressed as "Lord Sacks.") The original article was published on his website, with the hope that people would choose to read and contemplate one of the thoughts each night as they light the Chanukah can*dles. The three "thoughts" shared here focus* on peace and freedom. To read all eight, go to the source: http://www.rabbisacks.org/8thoughts-8-nights/

Chag Sameach.

The Light of War and The Light of Peace

There is a law about Chanukah I find moving and profound. Maimonides writes that "the command of Chanukah lights is very precious. One who lacks the money to buy lights should sell something, or if necessary borrow, so as to be able to fulfill the mitz-vah."

The question then arises: What if, on Friday afternoon, you find yourself with only one candle? What do you light it as — a Shabbat candle or a Chanukah one? It can't be both. Logic suggests that you should light it as a Chanukah candle. After all, there is no law that you have to sell or borrow to light lights for Shabbat. Yet the law is that, if faced with such a choice, you light it as a Shabbat light. Why?

Listen to Maimonides: "The Shabbat light takes priority because it symbolises *shalom bayit*, domestic peace. And great is peace because the entire Torah was given in order to make peace in the world."

Consider: Chanukah commemorates one of the greatest military victories in Jewish history. Yet Jewish law rules that if we can only light one candle — the Shabbat light takes precedence, because in Judaism the greatest military victory takes second place to peace in the home.

Why did Judaism, alone among the civilizations of the ancient world, survive? Because it valued the home more than the battlefield, marriage more than military grandeur, and children more than generals. Peace in the home mattered to our ancestors more than the greatest military victory.

So as we celebrate Chanukah, spare a thought for the real victory, which was not military but spiritual. Jews were the people who valued marriage, the home, and peace between husband and wife, above the highest glory on the battlefield. In Judaism, the light of peace takes precedence over the light of war.

Inside / Outside

There is more than one command in Judaism to light lights. There are three. There are the Shabbat candles. There is the *havdalah* candle. And there are the Chanukah candles.



The difference between them is that Shabbat candles represent *shalom bayit*, peace in the

Ukranian Channukiah c. 1825

home. They are

lit indoors. They are, if you like, Judaism's inner light, the light of the sanctity of marriage and the holiness of home.

The Chanukah candles used to be lit outside — outside the front door. It was only fear of persecution that took the Chanukah candles back inside, and in recent times the Lubavitcher Rebbe introduced the custom of lighting giant menorahs in public places to bring back the original spirit of the day.

Chanukah candles are the light Judaism brings to the world when we are unafraid to announce our identity in public, live by our principles and fight, if necessary, for our freedom. As for the *havdalah* candle, which is go out into the world and live our faith in public.

When we live as Jews in private, filling our homes with the light of the *Shekhina*, when we live as Jews in public, bringing the light of hope to others, and when we live both together, then we bring light to the world.



Indian Channukiah c. 1900

There always were two ways to live in a world that is often dark and full of tears. We can curse the darkness or we can light a light, and as the Chassidim say, a little light drives out much darkness. May we all help light up the world.

Chanukah in Our Time

Back in 1991 I (*Rabbi Sacks*) lit Chanukah candles with Mikhail Gorbachev, who had, until earlier that year, been president of the Soviet Union. For seventy years the practice of Judaism had been effectively banned in communist Russia. It was one of the two great assaults on our people and faith in the twentieth century. The Germans sought to kill Jews; the Russians tried to kill Judaism. Under Stalin the assault became brutal. Then in 1967, after Israel's victory in the Six-Day War,

always made up of several wicks woven together, it represents the fusion of the two, the inner light of Shabbat, joined to the outer light we make during the six days of the week when we



many Soviet Jews sought to leave Russia and go to Israel. Not only was permission refused, but often the Jews concerned lost their jobs and were imprisoned. Around



the world Jews - who came to be called *Refuseniks* campaigned for the prisoners to be released and allowed to leave. Eventually

Polish Channukiah c. 1800

Mikhail Gorbachev realised that the whole Soviet system was unworkable. Communism had brought, not freedom and equality, but repression, a police state, and a new hierarchy of power. In the end it collapsed, and Jews regained the freedom to practice Judaism and to go to Israel. That day in 1991 after we had lit candles together, Mr. Gorbachev asked me, through his interpreter, what we had just done. I told him that 22 centuries ago in Israel, after the public practice of Judaism had been banned, Jews fought for and won their freedom, and these lights were the symbol of that victory. And I continued: Seventy years ago Jews suffered the same loss of freedom in Russia, and you have now helped them to regain it. So you have become part of the Chanukah story. And as the interpreter translated those words into Russian, Mikhail Gorbachev blushed. The Chanukah story still

lives, still inspires, telling not just us but the world that though tyranny exists, freedom, with God's help, will always win the final battle. ◊



"The Mystical Dreidel"

Just when we thought we knew all there was to know about the *dreidel* game, here comes Rabbi Goldie Milgram, a modern mystic and member of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, with a new twist. Yes, we knew that the boys studying Torah during Maccabean times brought *dreidels* with them as subterfuge, so they could tell Greek soldiers who came looking to arrest violators of the "Do Not Study Torah" decree that they were just playing a harmless gambling game. And of course we knew that the letters on each face of the dreidel were emblematic of the sentence: *"Nays Gadol Hayah Sham,"* Hebrew for "a great miracle happened there."

Now, here is Rabbi Goldie's mystical reading of the *nun, gimmel, hey, shin* inscriptions and the rules of the *dreidel* game. There seems to be no limit to the depths of meaning that can be found in the simplest of our traditions.

<u>Shin</u>: Shafal - "humility." When the *dreidel* lands with "shin" facing up, a player must put a coin/raisin/candy (or whatever is being played for in the *dreidel* game) back into the pot. Once an ego is shrunk to proper size the call to contribute to the pot of life is answered with enthusiasm.

<u>*Gimmel*</u>: Galgal – "wheel." Happy is the *dreidel* player who lands on *Gimmel* because the whole prize pot becomes his. Those who open themselves to the twists of life – evolving, revolving, unending shifts of fortune and fate – get everything the pot of life has to offer.

<u>Nun</u>: Nivdal - "separate." Dreidel players who turn up a Nun generally cluck in despair because one gets nothing from the pot when a Nun turns up. Getting nothing, standing apart from the grabbing masses - or Nivdal in mystical parlance - is not such a bad thing. Separateness helps distinguish between that which is holy and that which is not.

Hey: Hiuli - "formlessness." When a *Hey* faces up, the spinner receives half the pot. Regarding one's fortune as half the pot is to be a co-creator in the future.

-Gloria Avner

Save These Dates: Highlights of the 5775 Season December

Fri. Dec 19: 6:30 pm - Chanukah Party and Pot Luck Dinner Thurs., Dec. 25: 2-6 p.m. - Steinbock Open House & Celebration of Life

January

Fri. Jan 16: 6:30 p.m.- Shabbat dinner honoring New Members and Advertisers Fri. Jan 23: 8 p.m. - Sisterhood Shabbat Service

February

Sun. Feb. 1: 11a.m. – Tu B'Shevat planting Sun. Feb. 1: 3 p.m. - Ragtime, Actors Playhouse Sun. Feb. 8: 11 a.m. – Annual Congregation Meeting Fri. & Sat. Feb. 13 & 14- Bar Mitzvah of Jonah Gross Sun. Feb 15: 3-7 p.m. – Keys Jewish Heritage Festival Celebrating KJCC's 35 years

March

Wed. Mar 4: 7:30 p.m. – Purim Party and Megillah reading Fri. Mar 13: 6:30 p.m. - Shabbat across America, Pot Luck Dinner Sun Mar 22: 5 p.m. - Women's Seder

April Sat. Apr 4: 6 p.m. – KJCC Family Seder Sun., Apr. 19 –Yom HaShoah	Also - Watch for announcements about: <u>Religious Services:</u> 8 pm Fridays (6:30 last week of the month) Monthly Saturday Torah learning 10 AM <u>Adult Education films and lectures</u> : Sundays at 7 pm beginning Jan. 18 <u>Sisterhood:</u> First Sunday 9:30 am Sept. through
Remembrance July Fri. July 3: 6p.m. – Shabbabeque and Pauline's Birthday Celebration	May <u>Men's Club game night</u> : First Wednesday 7:30 pm <u>KJCC Board:</u> second Sunday 9am <u>Ulpan</u> : beginning Hebrew Sundays 12pm; Interm Fri 10 am; Adv .–11:30 am

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44 Chai-Lights December 2014





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