Chai-Lights



February - March 2019

26 Sh'vat - 24 Adar II 5779

Annual Meeting, Election of Officers and Luncheon — page 3

Dana Grace: Introduction to Jewish Meditation — page 16

A Mobile Minyan Goes to Marathon — page 35

February - March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Feb.	2
Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30 p.m.				Steve Hartz Beth Horowitz	Miles Hoffman Jewish Music 7 PM	
Sisterhood Meeting 10 AM	4	5	Movie: Menashe (Yiddish) 7 PM	7	8 Sisterhood Service 7:30 PM Erica Lieberman- Garrett	9
10 Board Meeting 9 AM Annual Meeting & Luncheon11AM Book Swap	11 Dairy Dinner with Rabbis 6 PM Post Dinner Learning Session	12	13	14	Joyce Peckman Beth Hayden	16
17	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7 PM	19	20	21	Medina Roy & Gloria Avner Jane Friedman New Member Dinner	Rabbi Agler 10:00 a.m. Movie: The Settlers 7 PM
24	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7 PM	26	27	Movie: "Bombshell" Hedy LaMarr	1 Mar. Richard Knowles & Gloria Avner Steve Steinbock	
Sisterhood Meeting 10 AM Judy Greenman workshop: 12-2:30 PM	4 Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7 PM	5	6	7	8 Beth Hayden Medina Roy	Movie: Itzchak 7 PM
KJCC Board Meeting 10 AM	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7 PM	12	13	14	15 Erica Lieberman- Garrett Marc Bloom	Rabbi Agler 10:00 a.m.
17 Humpback Whales Jan Hartz 7 PM	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7 PM	19	20 Megillah reading. Purim Party 6 PM - Pizza & funny films	Rabbi Ed & Scuba Jews	22 Joyce Peckman <i>Toby & Joel</i> <i>Bofshever</i> Rabbi Ed	23 Rabbi Ed & Scubi Jews Havdalah
24 Movie:Jews & Baseball 7 PM 31 Beth Hayden 4-6 PM	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7 PM	26	27	28	Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton Cheryl & Jeff Margulies	Movie: Resistance Bankers 7 PM

2018 - 2019 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

President Beth Havden

Executive Vice President

Vice Presidents

Gloria Avner • Michael Kaufman Medina Roy

> Treasurer Linda Kaplan

Recording Secretary
Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Corresponding Secretary
Joyce Peckman

Financial Secretary

Directors

Ken Atlas • Art Itkin
Steve Hartz • Marc Bloom • Skip Rose
Beth Kaminstein • Linda Pollack
Stuart Smith • Jane Friedman

Sisterhood

Adult Education & Librarian
Medina Roy

Historian

Mary Lee Singer

Resident Scholar Rabbi Richard Agler, DD

Past Presidents

Joel S. Cohen • Robert Faeges Ronald Horn • Lester Nieman

Irving Stein • Myron Rubin

Bea Graham • George Swartz

Susan Horn • Jim Boruszak

Joel Pollack • Jeff Schocket

Steve Steinbock • Alan Beth Stuart Sax • Bernard Ginsberg

Sam Vinicur

Editor Gloria Avner

Design & ProductionDuotone Design Co.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Beth Hayden



Shalom uvracha,

his will be my last message as President of KJCC. I want to thank everyone on the Board for their help and encouragement, Sisterhood for its stalwart and endless energy in preparing delicious food and events for all of us to enjoy, and you, our congregants, who make this all worthwhile. Many thanks to all of you!

On January 13, 2019, we had a wonderful Celebration of Life for our beloved Pauline Roller, who left us this past November at the age of 103. More than 80 people attended. Speakers who shared memories of her included our own Steve Smith, Tiffany McNew, and Barney Coltman. Others who spoke in her honor included her two nieces, Joyce Ruthen and Karen Zoren, both from New Jersey: Sandra Doebler, a niece on Al's side of the family, also was present. Other speakers included Dr. Stan Zuba, Monroe County Commissioner Sylvia Murphy and Rick Freeburg, CEO of Mariners Hospital. Bernie Ginsberg and Steve Hartz led a brief Minchah service to open the Celebration, Pauline and her husband, Al Roller, were among the original founders of the KICC. Pauline used to tell me how she collected pennies, nickels and quarters to raise funds in order to purchase land and

housing for what we know today as the KJCC. Her absence will be felt in the community as a whole and particularly by us, her Jewish community. Pauline left an impression on all who met her, as the number of people present at her Celebration of Life amply illustrated. May her memory continue to be a blessing for all of us.

Please note that our annual General Meeting will take place on February 10th here in the KJCC Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. A new Board and new President will be installed at that time. Please come and be part of the process. Sisterhood will, in accord with the ancient tradition that has sustained and maintained us for centuries, feed us following the meeting with delicious, mouth-watering offerings. You are all cordially invited. Please attend.

I want to extend my best wishes to our incoming President, Joyce Peckman, and to the Board who will serve during the coming twelve months. I wish them a productive and successful term dedicated to protecting and improving the KJCC we all love. For you, our members and supporters, may this be a year of good health and happiness for all. L'dor vador, with thanks to all, and B'shalom, Beth \diamond

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC MOVIES, MEETINGS, MEDITATION AND MORE

Saturday, February 2	Miles Hoffman – Jewish Music 7 PM
Sunday, February 3	Sisterhood Meeting 10 AM
Wednesday, February 6	Movie – Menashe (Yiddish) 7 PM
Friday, February 8	Sisterhood Shabbat Service 7:30 PM
Sunday, February 10	KJCC Board Meeting 9 AM KJCC Annual General Meeting 11 AM and Luncheon Book Swap following luncheon
Monday, February 11	Dairy Dinner with Rabbis 6 PM Post Dinner Learning Session with Rabbis
Monday, February 18	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7 PM
Friday, February 22	New Member/Advertisers' Dinner 6 PM
Saturday, February 23	Rabbi Agler Torah Service 10 AM
Saturday, February 23	Movie – The Settlers 7 PM
Monday, February 25	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace Time 7 PM
Sunday, March 3	Sisterhood Meeting 10 AM
Monday, March 4	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7 PM
Saturday, March 9	Film: Itzchak 7 PM
Sunday, March 10	KJCC Board Meeting 10 AM
Monday, March 11	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7 PM
Saturday, March 16	Rabbi Agler Torah Service 10 AM
Sunday, March 17	Humpback Whales - Jan Hartz 7 PM
Monday, March 18	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7 PM
Wednesday, March 20	Megillah reading. Purim Party 6 PM - Pizza and funny films
Thursday, March 21	Rabbi Ed and Scubi Jews through Sunday, the 24th
Friday, March 22	Rabbi Ed Kabbalah on Reincarnation following services
Saturday, March 23	Havdalah - Rabbi Ed Time TBD
Sunday, March 24	Movie - Jews and Baseball 7 PM
Monday, March 25	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace Time 7 PM
Saturday, March 30	Movie - Resistance Bankers 7 PM
Sunday, March 31	What Do You Hear? - Beth Hayden 4 - 6 PM

KJCC ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 10, 2019 MARGULIES FAMILY SANCTUARY • 11:00 AM

he KJCC Annual Meeting will take place in the Stanley and Jennie Margulies Family Sanctuary at 11:00 AM on February 10, 2019. At the meeting, the 2019 slate of Board officers and directors will be approved and sworn in; we will also be seeking approval for significant amendments to the KJCC Bylaws so that they accord more fully with actual practices. Following the annual meeting, Sisterhood will provide a luncheon in the KJCC Ruth Richardson Social Hall.

The primary order of business at the Annual Meeting is the election and installation of KJCC's Board, officers and directors. Per the KJCC Bylaws, nominations from the floor for Board members can and will be accepted at the Annual Meeting. The Board serves the general membership; therefore your attendance and participation at the Annual Meeting as a KJCC member is very important. Please join us and make your voice heard.

The following slate of officers has been selected and approved at the January 13th Board Meeting.

President: Joyce Peckman

Executive Vice President: Susan Gordon

Vice Presidents: Gloria Avner, Michael Kaufman, Medina Roy

Treasurer: Linda Kaplan

Recording Secretary: Beth Hayden

Corresponding Secretary: Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Financial Secretary: Donna Bolton

Directors: Ken Atlas, Jane Friedman, Steve Hartz,

Beth Kaminstein, Stan Margulies, Dave Mont,

Linda Pollack, Frank Rose, Stuart Smith

Please accept this notice as your invitation to join us at the KJCC Annual Meeting and Sisterhood luncheon. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Board, please be prepared to nominate from the floor. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting. If you will be at the Sisterhood luncheon, please RSVP to Rita Conklin at 305 849-3374, email Rita at wesandrita@aol.com or Erica Lieberman-Garrett at 305 393-1162, email Erica at hippiejap@hotmail.com. Thank you for your loyalty to and support of the KJCC. \diamond

February Birthdays

.	1:11 61 :
	Libby Shapiro
1st	Roy Pollack
2nd	Jaxson Brandon Lebofsky
3rd	Beth Horowitz
5th	Rebecca Smith Strasser
	Evan Harvey
6th	Martin Field
7th	Erica Lieberman-Garrett
	Larry Jacobs
9th	Linda Pincus
	Ron Garrett
9th	Rosemary Barefoot
12th	Johnny Knowles
12th	Paul Roberts

13th	Chana David
13th	Jerrold Benowitz
14th	Debbie Madnick
15th	Judith Weber
18th	Beth Hayden
	Evan Daddona
22nd	Harry Friedman
	Tomar Gross
	Sienna Rose Lebofsky
24th	Muriel Swartz
	Suzie Greenman
25th	Rita Conklin
26th	Jim Williams
26th	John D. Schur

Keys Jewish Community Center Book, CD, and DVD Exchange

Bring books to swap.
Bring boxes, Clear out your book shelves.

Books: Best sellers, novels, fiction, non-fiction. If you read it, others will want to also.

CDs? Bring them here and swap them out. Clean out that cabinet under the TV.

Plan to stay afterward to help clear out the leftovers. The best items will be found here!

> Questions? Contact Medina Roy hiitsmedee@gmail.com

Sunday, February 10, 2019
at the KJCC
Come for the Annual Meeting,
stay for lunch and the book
swap.



A MESSAGE FROM JOYCE PECKMAN KJCC PRESIDENT-TO-BE



ach incoming President of KJCC accepts the honor with the knowledge that they bear the responsibility of sustaining the congregation and carrying it into the future. In the fifteen years that I have lived in the Keys and been a part of the KJCC family, I have been privileged to work with eight past presidents and to witness how each individual left a different legacy as they passed the job on to the next. I would be proud to be following in their footsteps and in the footsteps of all who have served as leaders of congregations throughout the ages.

I suspect that I have a barely adequate appreciation of the complexity of the many parts that comprise our congregation: the physical property, financial obligations, social needs, legal responsibilities, the spiritual, ritual and educational opportunities. What I do appreciate is the incredible support each president has received to make our Keys Jewish Community Center function well. I am grateful for the support so many of you have promised. I am also grateful for the talent and dedication you have shown, and upon which I will rely.

The coming year's KJCC calendar is overflowing with activities. On Sundays we have Sisterhood and KJCC board meetings as well as exciting presentations by our own talented members. On March 3rd at noon, Judy Greenman will present a workshop on the Feldenkrais Method of mind-body connection, using gentle movement to improve coordination and physical and mental flexibility. On Sunday, March 17th at 7 p.m. Jan Hartz will talk about her scientific and spiritual adventure with humpback whales and share her magnificent photographs. On March 31st from 4-6 p.m. we will finally hear Beth Hayden perform on her Steinway that graces our sanctuary. The Women's Seder is scheduled for Sunday, April 7th.

On Monday evening, February 11th, we will have a Dine and Discuss session with Rabbi Agler and five of his rabbinical guests and their

wives, a remarkable occasion. Then, on Mondays, beginning February 18th, Dana Grace will share her extensive knowledge of Jewish meditation twelve weeks in a row from 7:00-8:30 p.m. On the final Monday of each month at noon, our book club, organized by Randi Grant, meets for lunch and discussion at Marker 88 Restaurant. On Wednesday, March 20th we will celebrate Erev Purim with a Megillah reading at 6 p.m., followed by a festive party and humorous short films. Finally, On Thursday, March 21st. Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will arrive with his young Scubi Jews to spend the weekend, joining us for Friday services, after which he will speak about the lewish Kabbalistic view of reincarnation, carrying on where last year's Shabbaton left off.

Each Friday at 7:30 we bring in the Sabbath with a service featuring you, our member-leaders. If you have not taken the challenge and enjoyed the sense of accomplishment and learning that comes with being a baal tefillah (literally, a prayer-master), know that one of our experienced leaders would love to team up with you and guide you. If you have not come to services in a while, come and see that this is not your grandpa's congregation. Our Fridays are convivial, and you may come away a little happier and stronger. You will surely not leave hungry, thanks to the efforts of Sisterhood. Saturday mornings sometimes feature a wonderful Torah learning service with Rabbi Agler. The week ends on Saturday night, often with a movie carefully chosen by Medina Roy and shown in the sanctuary on our excellent AV system set up by Sam Vinicur and Dave Feder. Some are hysterical, and some are historical: most are excellent. All are followed by nosh and conversation.

So I challenge you to take advantage of what we offer, and I look forward to seeing you at KICC. \diamond

NOSH

KJCC Welcomes Newest Members

As we enter our busy season of New Year 2019, we are delighted to welcome our newest members to KJCC, all of whom joined during January. Although we don't get to see Sam & Leslie Janowitz nearly as often as we would like since they moved to The Villages in Central Florida, we are content that they have reioined and promise to visit us whenever they can get away to the Keys. We are also happy to welcome back among our returning members, Shirley Stein. It's wonderful to see Shirley active again in KICC programs. Our last returning member is Barry Dorf. We have two new memberships joining us as well. Say hello to Betty Small and to Harry & Rita Rzepka. It has been our pleasure getting to know Betty and Rita at the Sisterhood monthly Book Club meetings, and Harry was a great addition to our second session of Yiddish 101. We warmly welcome each and every one of you to our mishpacha, and we hope to see you at weekly Shabbat services as well as the many wonderful activities offered by KICC.

Meditation with Dana

Introduction to Jewish Meditation will be offered on Mondays, 7:00–8:30 p.m., beginning February 18th, continuing for 12 sessions, led by Dana Grace. Throughout this 12-week course, we will learn about the Jewish history and philosophy behind each technique and then engage in intensive guided practice as a group. Discover the hidden gems of the Jewish world, connect to the Divine, and increase the JOY in your life exponentially! (See flyer for details on pp. 16).

Miles Hoffman Speaks

On Saturday evening, February 2nd at 7 PM, KJCC 's Adult Education Program will present Miles Hoffman in a lecture with musical examples entitled Jewish Contributions to Music in America. Mr. Hoffman will present two intriguing hypotheses: 1. There is nothing particularly Jewish about the Jewish contributions to music in America and 2. Nothing could be more

Jewish than the Jewish contributions to music in America. Using examples from cantorial and classical repertoire, Miles will explore the merits and demerits of both arguments. He is the founder and violist of the American Chamber Players who will be playing for the Florida Keys Concert Association in Marathon on Monday, February 4 and on Tuesday, February 5th at 7:30 PM at Island Community Church. He has made numerous appearances as a viola soloist throughout the United States and is a musical commentator for National Public Radio's Morning Edition. KJCC members will have this opportunity to engage and speak with Mr. Hoffman directly on February 2nd. Please join us for an entertaining and illuminating evening (see poster on pp 20).

Beth Hayden's Piano Program

On Sunday, March 31st, 4 to 5:30 PM, as part of the KJCC's Adult Education Program, Elizabeth Hayden will present a program entitled "What Do You Hear?." Piano repertoire from Rachmaninoff and Brahms will be featured and used to illustrate how musical ideas are developed and shaped and how form relates to content. Elizabeth taught piano performance, theory, chamber music and piano repertoire classes for 20 years at a university level; 10 years in America and 10 years in Israel. She performed extensively throughout the Mid-Atlantic States and has also appeared in Canada, Italy, Israel, and India.

Dining With Rabbis

KJCC is having a unique event here on February 11, and we owe it to Rabbi Agler. Five Rabbis and their wives are visiting Mindy and him that week, and they will all be having dinner with us on Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. After the dinner, Rabbi Steven Sager will share discussion and a teaching with us based on the subject of "Legacy." This will be a very special evening you will not want to miss. (For details and RSVP please see flier on pp. 28.

Shabbat Morning Service

Once again we are grateful for the generosity of our Resident Scholar, Rabbi Richard Agler. Come

to KJCC on the morning of February 26 (by exactly 10:00 a.m.), and Rabbi Agler will lead us in Torah study, lively discussion and an uplifting Shabbat morning service. This will happen again in March. This will happen again on March 16th. Every one of these services is a treasure trove of learning.

KJCC's Purim Party

Start planning your costume now. Purim was so much fun last year, we want to do it all again. To that end, Susan Gordon (aka Queen Vashti) has purchased many new masks for us. First there will be a reading, one of the four mandated mitzvahs, of the ganza (entire) megillah (the scroll of Esther). And then comes the singing, the laughing, the pizza, and finally the comic movie shorts. Be at KJCC on Wednesday evening, March 20th at 6:00 p.m., in time for the festivities to begin. See the flier on pp. 30. \diamond

February Anniversaries Years					
9th	Uri & Liliam Kamely27				
March Anniversaries					
	Years				
1st	Jerry & Sheila Olsen 60				
2nd	Joe Gould & Marla Berenson 23				
7th	Joseph & Susan Sachs 54				
8th	Adam & Judy Starr 40				
16th	Frank & Gerri Emkey11				
22nd	David & Patti Gross22				
24th	Joel & Toby Bofshever51				
30th	Jeff & Cheryl Margulies 51				

March Birthdays

1st	Sasha Dutton
	Louis Ulman
	Stephen Steinbock
	•
	Annie James Brennan
	Bea Graham
	Hannah Feig
7th	Toby Goldfinger
10th	Kate Horowitz
10th	Thomas Davis Smith
11th	Bryan Schur
11th	Sandy Yankow
12th	Barbara Herson
12th	Heath Greenbaum
12th	Oceana Gross
13th	Carl Roy
	Jenna Lane
14th	Randi Grant
15th	Allan Boruszak
	Johanna Willner
16th	Gunther Karger
	Jeff Margulies
	Natalie Hope Markowitz
10011	Hataile Hope Markowitz

16th	Steven Nobil
17th	Daniel Friedman
17th	Naomi Copeland
18th	Karen Wolochusianski-Beard
19th	Michelle Palacino
20th	Janet Palacino
20th	Susan Sachs
21st	Barbara A. Calev
21st	James Jr. Nobil
21st	Joseph Palacino
23rd	Ken Atlas
25th	Joe Gould
	Stephanie Coeurjoly
25th	Sylvia Berman
26th	Anna Verity Greenbaum
27th	Michelle E. Denker
	Chaplain Roger Dieckhaus
	David VanArtsdalen
	Lee Schur
31st	Jane Friedman
31st	Sari Eliz. Goldstein

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.

DECEMBER 2018

Unrestricted	In Memory of	Donna Forst	Leo Forst
Lisa Bradeen	Pauline Roller	Libby Shapiro	Joseph Shapiro
Linda Rutkin Be	eloved, Blessed Pauline	Patricia Isenberg	Ernest Isenberg
Mary Lee Singer	Pauline Roller Andrew Grant	Gloria Avner	Bea Avner
Joan Wohl	Pauline Roller	Activities / Education	
Joan Boruszak	Pauline Roller Nancy Yankow	Michael & Lorena Kaufman	Partial sponsorship Film Festival
Gloria Avner	Pauline Roller Mitch Harvey	Steve & Jan Hartz St	In Honor of teve & Barbara Smith
Steve & Jan Hartz	Pauline Roller Mitch Harvey Natalie Dorf	Leaf on the Tree of Life Richard & Barbara Knowles	Mitch Harvey
Bette Solomon	Andrew Grant		Pauline Roller
Stephen & Kathleen Acto	n Pauline Roller	Membership	
Adam & Judy Starr	Mitch Harvey	Harry & Rita Rzepka	New members
Mah Jongg		Betty Small	New member
W.L S		betty oman	rew member
Yahrzeit	D :101	Tikkun Olam	
Nancy Cohn	David Cohn	Anonymous	Harry's Garden
	ıth Moskovitz Greenwald		
Joan Boruszak	Burton Boruszak Julius Kohlenbrener	Susan Schwaid Chai Chall	•
Marshall & Myra Kaplan	David M. Kaplan	Bill & Donna Bolton	Security
	•	Barney Coltman	
Gloria Avner	Alex Avner	Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benow	vitz
Hermine Taramona	Donna Robinson	Linda Kaplan	
Jerry & Sheila Olsen	Betty Weinstein	Linda Pincus	
Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum Chuck Margolis Harris Warren		Stephen Steinbock	
Joan Boruszak	Emma Kohlenbrener	Rosemary Barefoot	
Juan Buluszak	Emilia Komenbreller	Jeffrey Schocket	

DECEMBER 2018 CONT.

Gloria Avner Judy Starr

Linda Perloff Medina Roy

Skip Rose Linda Pollack Susan Schwaid

Bernie Ginsberg Pauline Roller
Mitch Harvey
Fllen Ecker Nancy Yankow

Ellen Ecker Nancy Yankow
Joyce Peckman Andrew Grant

Steve & Jan Hartz Elaine Schulberg Nat Gulkis

Bea Gulkis Rich & Mindy Agler Paul Kaminsky

Adam Star

Steven Miller

Steven Beard

Beth Schulberg

Harvey Kemaw

David Gulkis

Martha Schulberg

Randi Grant Richard Schulberg
Evelyn Filkoff

Joe & Kathy Shabathai Sondra Lundy
Stuart & Geri Smith Nate Schulberg

Steve & Ian Hartz Norm Gilkis

JANUARY 2019

Unrestricted In Memory of Alvin Rosenthal

Stan & Jenny Margulies Pledge Donation Sylvia Rimm

Marc Grobman Open Door Policy

Richard Hamilton, Pauline Roller

Stacie & Mary Acton Lillian Tallent Morris Estrin

Mah Jongg

Michael & Judith Eisenstein In Honor of
Grandson's Bar Mitzvah

Membership
Barry Dorf

Harvey Schwaid Chai Challenge Sam & Leslie Jonowitz

Elaine Schulberg Andrew Grant Shirley Stein

Amy Flannery Pauline Roller Chana David

Service Leaders

February 1: Steve Hartz March 8: Beth Hayden

February 8: Sisterhood Service March 15: Erica Lieberman-Garrett

February 15: Joyce Peckman March 16: Rabbi Agler
February 22: Medina Roy & Gloria Avner March 22: Joyce Peckman

February 23: Rabbi Agler March 29: Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton

March 1: Richard Knowles & Gloria Avner

HOW CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC CAN INSTANTLY BECOME PERMANENT, LIVING MEMORIALS

Yahrzeit Plaques: KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400.

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 wonders 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 Medita-

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, with an outdoor plaque included in the price.

Oneg Sponsors for February - March 2019

February 1: Beth Horowitz in celebra-

tion of her birthday

February 8: Erica Lieberman-Garrett in

celebration of her birthday

February 15: Beth Hayden in celebra-

tion of her birthday

February 22: Jane Friedman in celebration of Harry's birthday.

March 1: Steve Steinbock in celebration of his birthday

March 8: Medina Roy in celebration of

Carl's birthday
March 15: Marc Bloom Honoring KJCC

March 22: Toby & Joel Bofshever in

celebration of their anniversary

March 29: Cheryl & Jeff Margulies in celebration of their 51st Anniversary

to Harvey Schwaid
and All Who Contributed

A Special Thank You

In Memory Of

Susan Schwaid

Thank you to Richard and Barbara Knowles Photography for stills and video of Pauline Roller's Celebration of Life.

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305–852–8575, for information.

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 Beth Hayden, 305–773–0067.

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT**: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Steve Steinbock, 305–394–0143, for annual rates.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, to make your donation.

GIFT SHOP: We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225, or email her at joycepeckman@gmail.com.

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 Sydney Faye-Davis, 305-613-3010, or Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Beth Hayden 305-773-0067.

TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT: Bring your empty prescription and vitamin bottles to the KJCC and place in the collection box. We are assisting Burton Memorial Methodist Church with a project to provide empty medicine bottles to Haiti where they are needed.

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES

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. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund or General Fund.

In Memoriam – February 2019

Sue Steinberg

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Eve Greenstein

By Barnet O. Coltman

Rose Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Frances Weiser

By Randi Grant

Nella Gross

By Tomar Gross & Randy Klein- Gross

Fannie Phillips

By Patricia Isenberg

Joseph Krissel

By Michael Krissel

William Pollack

By Linda Pollack

Sara J. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Morris Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Lou Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Robert Kinney

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

Charles Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Leila Horne

By Randi Grant

Chalom Haviv

By Leo Haviv

Pinchas Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Sara J. Cohen

By Lynn Nobil

Malka Frank

By Linda Pollack

Ann R. Kapulskey

By George & Muriel Swartz

Samuel Wolfe

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Harvey Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Dr. Louis Fishman

By Eina G. Fishman

A. James Weiss

By Janice Gorson

Ilona Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

Ida Ratchik

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Rachamim Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Irene Nobil

By Lynn Nobil

John A. Schur

By Lee Schur

David C. Willner

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

Sydney Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Sanctuary Seat Plate

In Our Thoughts
FANNY KLUGER

Sanctuary Seat Plate

In Our Thoughts

KURT KLUGER

In Memoriam – March 2019

Robert Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Louis Weinstein

By Rita Bromwich

Maxine Kaplan

By Marsha Garrettson

Lillian Melnick

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Robert Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Harry Phillips

By Patricia Isenberg

Marian Rose Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Janet Blum

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

David Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Leslie Allen Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Esther Schur

By Lee Schur

George B. Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Theresa Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Alice Weber

By Judith Weber

Mathew Strumer

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strump- Blitzer

Oscar Smurkler

By Naomi Copeland

Sumner Berenson

By Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

Stanley Bush

By Randi Grant

Arlene R. Brenner

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Monroe (Monty) Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Samual Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Oscar Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Denise Moss

By Linda Pollack

Nate Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Isadore Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

Sarah Felder

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Abe M. Reider

By George & Muriel Swartz

Deborah Eichler

By Judith Weber

Irwin Cutler

By Donald Zinner

Robert Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Harry Kaplan

By Marsha Garrettson

Selma Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Lillian Adler Grant

By Randi Grant

Anna Horn

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Luba Tuchman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Annie Kleinfeldt Bernstein

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Louis Weinstein

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

Cissie Rose Lang

By Skip Rose

Sondra Lundy

By Elaine Schulberg

Ida Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

Alexandra Louise Starr

By Adam & Judy Starr

Anne Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Maxine Ruby Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe



Monday February 25, 2019 Noon Marker 88 88000 Overseas Highway Islamorada – Bayside MM

The Tragedy Test

Making Sense of Life Changing Loss:
A Rabbi's Journey
by Richard Agler

When my twenty-six-year-old daughter
Talia was struck and killed by a motor
vehicle my understanding of tragedy failed.
This book is an account of a journey I had
no choice but to take.



Why did this happen? To me of all people? How could God let it? Why do good people suffer? Where is life's justice and fairness? How will I go on?

These are not new questions. Tragedy, especially when it hits us personally, has challenged our understanding of the Universe, and whatever God may be in it, for millennia.

RSVP and more information - Randi Grant

rkgcpa@bellsouth.net 954-383-4320

Book can be purchased at www.tragedytest.com/

SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



he start of 2019 brought some changes to the KJCC Sisterhood. During our first Sisterhood meeting of the New Year, on Sunday, January 6th, the new Officers for 2019 were installed by Joyce Peckman. I am happy to continue in my leadership position as President and I'm delighted to welcome Beth Hayden as Vice President. The remaining three officers are excited to stay in their current positions: Erica Lieberman-Garrett/Treasurer, Geri Smith/Recording Secretary, and Ian Price/Corresponding Secretary. Two thousand nineteen is going to be a terrific year for Sisterhood and I would like to thank the officers as well as all of our wonderful women who regularly attend our monthly meetings and work so hard (always with a smile) to create such enjoyable dinners and events for the entire KJCC Membership to enjoy!

On the afternoon of Sunday January 13th, we gathered together to celebrate the life of "Our Pauline." Pauline was loved by all at the KJCC and by so many people in the entire Upper Keys Community. My very first memory of Pauline was from 33 years ago, in 1985, when I first came to the KJCC, brand new to the Keys, all alone and still in my 20's. Pauline was 70 years old at that time, running around the tiny kitchen, preparing a bountiful oneg to be served following Shabbat service in the original Conch House, which was the entire KJCC at that time and barely larger than the current Social Hall and kitchen. Pauline grabbed me by the arm, pulling me into the kitchen to meet the other Sisterhood women, yelling "We've got a young one to help us now!" That was my introduction to Sisterhood! Fast forward 33 years, and I'm still in the kitchen, now wishing for some "young ones" to help us!

Every year, the women of Sisterhood join together to lead a Shabbat service. Please add to your calendar the evening of February 8th. This is a service you will not want to miss. We will celebrate Shabbat together as we blend our voices in song and prayer in joyous thanks for the gift of Sisterhood!

On that same weekend, KJCC will hold the Annual Meeting, election and installation of new officers and Board Members. Following the meeting, Sisterhood will provide a delicious buffet luncheon for all attendees.

The KJCC Sisterhood Book Club is thriving under the enthusiastic leadership of Randi Grant. Each month, usually on the last, members of the Book Club meet at Marker 88 Restaurant to enjoy a delicious lunch while discussing the chosen book of the month. If you don't already have a copy of Rabbi Agler's book, The Tragedy Test, Making Sense of Life-Changing Loss: A Rabbi's Journey, you will want to purchase a copy at www.tragedytest. com and attend the Book Club meeting on Monday, February 25th, at noon. Both Rabbi Agler and his wife, Mindy are planning to join the meeting on that afternoon.

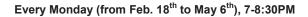
Looking ahead to March, we have so many wonderful activities to choose to participate in; from meetings to music, meditation to movies, Kabbalah study to Havdalah service. One annual favorite of mine is the Megillah reading and Purim Celebration which will be held on Wednesday, March 20th (also the first day of Spring!) at 6:00 p.m. This year I have purchased several new masks to add to the festivities! See you in masquerade. Queen Vashti (AKA Susan Gordon) \diamond

Introduction to Jewish Meditation



a course in JOY in the everyday

Mondays with Dana







Feeling stressed? Dealing with illness, or loss? Want to talk to God, but don't know how (or if God even exists)?

Come join us on Monday evenings for Introduction to Jewish Meditation!

Judaism provides the tools you need to be **happier**, more **productive**, and more **connected** to the universe around you ...but until recently, this sacred knowledge was accessible only to the most learned of Jewish scholars.

Introduction to Jewish Meditation makes the profound simple, in a way that you can use immediately in your daily life.

Each class will include:

- *Jewish history and philosophy, to give us context for how these practices fit within Judaism
- * Intensive group practice of several meditation techniques
- *Use of the senses to fully immerse in the experience
- *A supportive, welcoming environment for exploration and learning!
- *Absolute beginners, and advanced meditators welcome!

Develop vital skills, and forge a profound spiritual connection

– all for the price of a weekly coffee at Starbucks!

(and yes, there will be singing...)



We will cover a wide range of meditation styles, including:

Mizrahi * Female-centric methods

*Mussar

* Ashkenazi *Modern

*Kabbalah

* Sephardic

~ Something for everyone!



Course registration is \$50 for 12 weeks.

New students welcome to enroll at any point before it ends!

To register, please contact Medina Roy at hiitsmedee@gmail.com
or 305-394-1702

Jewish Meditation

By Dana Grace

ow can we connect to Jewish culture, to prayer, to our history, to G-d, when our modern worlds are so overwhelmed with technology and stress? How do we stop all the noise, to focus in on fulfilling our deepest needs? How can we make sense of our grief, master our fears, and overcome our feelings of disconnection and isolation? Although few realize it. the answer lies in something that has been a part of Judaism since its inception - Jewish meditation. Guided by the writings and established practices of rabbis and Judaic scholars, and anchored by the methods of our ancestral mothers. 'Introduction to lewish Meditation' will take you through a mix of history, Jewish philosophy, and intensive group practice. Classes will flood the senses. and surround you with a nurturing and safe environment conducive to exploration. Develop strong skills that will improve your health and resistance to stress, form deep connections with your course-mates, and enjoy a much more profound understanding of and comfort with Shabbat services! Absolute beginners and experienced meditators alike are welcome.

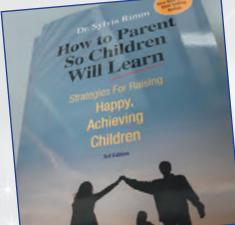
About the instructor: I have a Masters in Education, a second Masters in History, and am nearly finished with a doctorate. I have 20 years of experience teaching professionally in universities, public schools and community centers on a wide range of topics. I first began meditating began when I was a child and I was fortunate as an adult to progress my practice under multiple Jewish meditation experts in rabbinic circles. After witnessing the benefits in my own life surpass every expectation and measure. I went on to teach meditation skills professionally to students from 5 years old well into their 80s. It is my joy to share the coping skills that I've learned with others. It was only when I stepped away from my practice that life started to cave in around me and my health started to fail. Since moving to this community. I have returned to meditation and I have seen tremendous and corresponding improvement in all facets of my life. By joining me in the class, you would not only bless me with a continued path forward, you would bless your own life with skills to create the peace and comfort that you so deserve. <

Dr. Sylvia Rimm

Dr. Sylvia Rimm was an anomaly in her time, a period post war and pre women's movement, when women were not encouraged to take bold steps in the world. She acknowledges the importance of her husband's encouraging her to pursue her education and to accept each opportunity to help more people as public appearances increasingly presented themselves. We are extremely fortunate to have Sylvia and her husband among us as members. We're already looking forward to another talk here.



Sylvia has written many books, all of which have received rave reviews praising her knowledge and the effectiveness of her advice.







It is obvious that people were entranced by Sylvia's talk, both our own members and people from the greater community.



KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM February 2, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.



JEWISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO MUSIC IN AMERICA

In this lecture, Mr. Miles Hoffman demonstrates that

- A. There's nothing particularly Jewish about the Jewish contributions to music in America, and that
- B. Nothing could be more Jewish than the Jewish contributions to musicin America.

Using examples from the cantorial repertoire, Yiddish song, and the works of such composers as Gustav Mahler, Ernest Bloch, Aaron Copland, Richard Rodgers, and George Gershwin, Miles Hoffman discusses what makes Jewish music Jewish – or not – and he examines aspects of Jewish traditions, history, culture and psychology to explain the disproportional presence of Jews among the ranks of great musical artists in the last 100 years. Mr. Hoffman's combination of erudition and wit have made him one of National Public Radio's most popular commentators, and his talks on Jewish music have educated and entertained audiences in synagogues and Jewish community centers throughout the United States.

MILES HOFFMAN is the founder and violist of the American Chamber Players, with whom he has toured throughout the United States for three decades, and the author of *The NPR® Classical Music Companion: An Essential Guide for Enlightened Listening*, now in its tenth printing. He has appeared frequently as viola soloist with orchestras across the country, and his performances on YouTube have received well over a half million views. As music commentator for NPR's flagship news program, *Morning Edition*, he is heard by an audience of nearly fourteen million listeners, and his radio modules, *A Minute with Miles*, are a daily feature of South Carolina Public Radio, other networks around the country, and NPR Podcasts. A graduate of Yale University and the Juilliard School, Mr. Hoffman has served as a featured lecturer for orchestras, universities, chamber music series, festivals, and other organizations, and his talks on Jewish music have educated and entertained audiences all around the country.

Mr. Hoffman will be performing with The American Chamber Players for the Florida Keys Concert Association in Marathon on Monday, February 4, at 7:30pm, at San Pablo Catholic Church, and in Islamorada on Tuesday, February 5, at 7:30pm, at Island Community Church.

Refreshments will be served.

PHOTO GALLERY



We are always happy to see Joe and Kathy Shabathai and grand-kids (plus friend) when Joe's on break from Switzerland.

Lorena, Sean, and Michael Kaufman help sponsor KJCC's stimulating Winter Film Series in honor and memory of their mothers. Many thanks, Dear Kaufman and to Medina Roy's Adult Education Committee!



Joyce Peckman leads newly elected KJCC Sisterhood officers in January installation swearing-in ceremony. Left to right, Geri Smith, Recording Secretary, Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Treasurer, Susan Gordon, President, and Beth Hayden, Vice-President all are looking very happy about plans for the coming year.

You can tell by the smiling faces, all eighteen of them (yes, we love sacred numbers, and Rabbi Zucker did lead off with a scotch l'chaim :-), that KICC's Yiddish 101 opening night was a rousing success. We laughed, we learned, we listened to true stories. bubbeh



maisehs (not so true stories) and shared some of our own. We even got to hear stories of celebrities using Yiddish, like Dr. Bernie telling of the time actor Lorne Greene came to him for help with his corns. When Bernie told him how much he enjoyed his performance on Bonanza, the lewish actor swore that his corns were caused by the "ferkokteh" boots he had to wear.

With pages of vocabulary and colorful phrases to learn (and lots of good noshes and coffee in our bellies), we took our leave with the traditional Yiddish goodbye phrase "zai gesundt."

Stay healthy. We are probably the last generation which will remember

those words coming out of our parents' and grandparents' mouths. A blessing with a goodbye. What a lovely "mamaloshen" (mother tongue) we have. Zai gesundt.



Bernie Ginsberg, Sylvia Rimm and Linda Perloff really enjoyed the instructional patter laced with colorful yiddishisms. We were all looking forward to the pages of words to study for homework.



Rabbi Zucker, in his Yiddisheh element, seemed to enjoy the evening as much as his KJCC students.

In one final coming together of friends and family, KJCC and Pauline Roller's nieces hosted a grand celebration of our matriarch's long and generous 103-year-old life. Her favorite adopted son, Dr. Steve Smith gave an informative and humor-filled slide presentation, County Commisioner and good friend Sylvia Murphy told a wonderful story about how Pauline guarded Sylvia's purse, and

other speakers from all sectors of the com-munity spoke lovingly of the effect Pauline had had on their lives. It was a warm send-off. Already, her memory is a blessing. I'm sure we will drink a special I'chaim to her every July 4th from now until eternity at our annual Shabba-

beque.Rest In Peace, Pauline.





Steve Hartz Chants Eyl Malei for Pauline

Pauline's nieces chant hamotzi blessing over challah before the feast celebrating their Aunt's long and useful life.



Steve and Barbara, after his fine video tribute.



WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Rov



Get Ready for the Algae Falafel

By the year 2050, the world population is expected to reach 10 billion. And by that time, the protein gap is expected to become unmanageable. So where, exactly, is the protein to feed everyone going to come from? Our oceans and lakes are already overfished. Flatulent cows are poisoning the atmosphere with greenhouse gas. (Methane is a major pollutant.) And tofu is expensive, not exactly everyone's favorite, and not recommended for some women. Now. graduate students at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology have created an award-winning meal made with pond scum (oh, yummy!) that is rich in protein and could help feed people in the future at minimal environmental cost. The "algalafel" won first prize in the EIT Food Project (European Knowledge and Innovation Community), held in December 2018. This all-new microalgae product was created by students at the Technion's Biotechnology and Food Engineering Faculty. The "algalafel" took a year to invent. Because they're students, and the mandate was merely to feed the world, they had to not only develop the product but also create a business plan. "Algalafel" is made in the same manner as a falafel (deep-fried ball of ground chickpeas) but it incorporates extraordinarily protein-rich spirulina. The sesame-seed paste is enriched with astaxanthin, a powerful antioxidant. (It is also, by the way, the substance that turns flamingos pink; shrimp eat the algae that contain astaxanthin and then the birds eat the shrimp; it's like a dye job from the inside.) Both chickpeas and sesame seeds contain protein. But the cheaper and ubiquitous algae are the primary source in "algalafel." (South American and African cultures regularly ate Spirulina until the 16th century. By the way, it's gluten-free.) (www. haaretz.com, 12-27-18)

A Disturbing Report

According to the Anne Frank Center for Mutual Respect, nearly fifty percent of Americans cannot name a concentration camp and a quarter of millennials (ages 18-34) have never heard of the Holocaust. That's the bad news. The good news is that Anne Frank's story continues to this day to inspire millions. In 2018, the Center reached over 10,000 students with educational programs. Over 30,000 people visited their traveling exhibits. The Center uses Anne's diary and her spirit as "unique tools to advance her legacy, to educate young people and communities in the U.S. and Canada about the dangers of intolerance, anti-Semitism, racism and discrimination: and to inspire the next generation to build a world based on mutual respect." The Center's predecessor organization, the Anne Frank Foundation, originated in New York City in 1959 and began as American Friends of the Anne Frank House, with Anne's father, Otto Frank, as its first president. The house where they hid in Amsterdam was opened to the public in 1960. (www. annefrank.com, n.d.)

Breaking Away

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, a major Reform Synagogue in New York, have disassociated themselves from this year's Women's March. The top leaders of the March's organization have been accused of "engaging in or condoning anti-Semitism" and refusing to cut ties with Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam. They have also failed to listen to the concerns of its thousands of Jewish backers. A spokeswoman for the Alabama-based SPLC said the organization would be involved instead with local marches where they have offices. SPLC has designat-

ed the Nation of Islam as a hate group. Other organizations, including the National Council of Jewish Women and EMILY'S List - the latter an American political action committee that helps elect pro-choice Democratic female candidates - are also not on the list of partners for the Women's March 2019, Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, Senior Rabbi of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, said that his congregation will disassociate from Women's March, Inc., and that it will join the 2019 Women's March on NYC. "As early as 2017 we heard rumblings of troubling accusations of anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism within and amongst the leadership of the Washington march." Hirsch said in a statement. "At the time we pushed our discomfort aside in deference to what we considered the bigger issues threatening our country. But now, in the aftermath of Pittsburgh and mindful of the surge in anti-Semitic incidents in the past two years, anti-Semitism can no longer be a narrow concern. If you tolerate or are sympathetic to those who are prejudiced against Jews, we cannot stand with you. If you deny Israel's right to exist, we cannot stand with you." (www.ita.org, 1-14-19)

Searching After 75 Years

Divers from Zaka, an Israeli search-and-rescue organization, have begun searching the Danube River in Hungary for the remains of Holocaust victims who were killed some 75 years ago. In October 1944, as part of mass executions by members of the Arrow Cross Party, tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews were shot while standing on the banks of the river, their bodies then dumped into the water. Zaka representatives have spent three years in international negotiations seeking permission to begin the search operation. The decision was approved in early January following a meeting in Budapest between Arveh Deri, Israel's interior minister. and his Hungarian counterpart, Sandor Pinter. The divers are using a sonar device that can quickly identify objects and transfer the information and exact location to the operator of the device. Human remains were discovered during construction work on a bridge overlooking the Danube in 2011. DNA tests were run on the bones a few years later, which found that at least nine of the fifteen samples were Ashkenazi Jews from Europe. In 2005, a powerful memorial was

erected honoring those murdered along the Danube's banks. "Shoes on the Danube" consists of Sixty pairs of old-fashioned shoes made of cast iron lined up along the water's edge, where the Jews were ordered to step out of their footwear before being shot. (The Nazis did not want their shoes to end up in the water; the shoes had value, the people none.) (www.timesofisrael.com, 1–15–19)

In Memoriam

Simcha "Kazik" Rotem, very likely the last surviving organizer of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, died in December at the age of 94. The uprising was knowingly doomed Jewish resistance in April, 1943 in German-occupied Poland against Nazi Germany's decision to transport the remaining ghetto populations to death camps. The Warsaw Jews knew they were about to be murdered and chose, like many other fighters throughout Jewish history, to resist to the very last man. At the age of 19, Rotem helped lead the uprising. The Jewish fighters fought for nearly a month, managing to kill sixteen Nazis and wounding some 100. Rotem was a member of the Jewish Combat Organization (ZOB), serving as a liaison between the bunker inside the ghetto and the underground on the "Aryan" side of the city. (He was able to hide his lewish identity because of his fair appearance.) One of Rotem's most important missions was smuggling the last Jews out of the burning ghetto through sewage tunnels. After the war, he moved to Israel and got involved with bringing illegal immigrants who survived the war to what was then British Mandatory Palestine. Later, he worked as a manager in a supermarket chain until retiring in 1986. Schools across Israel observed a memorial day in his memory. (www.jpost.com, 12-23-18)

Georges Loinger, a member of the French Resistance during World War II credited with saving hundreds of Jewish children from the Nazis, has died. He was 108. Loinger was Jewish but looked Nordic, with his blond hair and blue eyes. He smuggled at least 350 children in small groups across the Franco–Swiss border. Their parents had either been killed or sent to concentration camps. Those children were in the care of the Oeuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE), a Jewish children's aid society founded in St. Petersburg in 1912. (According to OSE's records, the

organization saved some 5,000 Jewish children.) Loinger was taken prisoner by German armed forces in 1940 while serving with the French army. He was sent to a POW camp in Germany, later escaping and returning to France where he worked with the OSE. He was a cousin of Marcel Marceau, the mime artist who was also a Resistance fighter. Loinger was awarded the Resistance Medal, the Military Cross and the Legion of Honour by France. (www.haaretz.com, 12–31–18)

Amos Oz. one of Israel's most distinguished authors, whose writings embodied "a country struggling to find its footing while surrounded by conflict," died at the end of December. He was 79. Amos Klausner was a native-born Israeli and grew up in Jerusalem when it was still under British control. His grandparents on both sides were Zionists who had come from Eastern Europe. His father, a literary scholar and librarian. was born in Lithuania. The elder Klausner spoke eleven languages and read seventeen. Amos's mother committed suicide in 1952 when he was just twelve. Two years after his mother's death he moved to a kibbutz and changed his name to Oz, Hebrew for "strength." He left the kibbutz in 1986 and settled in Tel Aviv. He served in the Israeli military during two wars in the 1960s and 70s. Oz spent many years on a kibbutz (a collective farm) and later became one of Israel's most liberal voices, condemning the country's settlement of territory once held by Palestinian Arabs. "I love Israel but I don't like it very much." he once said. "I love it because of the argumentativeness, because every staircase in Israel is full of memories and stories and conflicting ideas." Oz was very troubled by his country's politics, what he saw as oppression of the Palestinian people, the occupation and the eroding of civil rights. These issues helped him create a portrait of his homeland in over 30 books, all in Hebrew. Oz depicted the emergence of Israel as "a vibrant, if imperfect, society reflected through the lens of flawed, often conflicted characters." In 2002, he wrote "A Tale of Love and Darkness." a memoir that became one of the best-selling books in Israel's history. (Two years later it was published in English; it was adapted as a film in 2015, directed by and starring Israeli-born actress Natalie Portman.) In his later years, Oz

taught at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and had many teaching fellowships and speaking engagements in the United States, Britain and other countries. (www.washingtonpost.com, 12–28–19)

Did You Know...

At the very end of December, the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers donated \$70,000 to aid the Jewish community and the families directly impacted by the October 27th 2018 attack on the Tree of Life-Or Simcha building while worshippers gathered for Shabbat morning services, leaving eleven dead. Steelers' owner Art Rooney II presented the check to the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's Fund for Victims of Terror. The following day, before their home game at Heinz Field, the team's logo, as always spray-painted onto the field, was edited to include a Star of David next to the words "Stronger Than Hate." They held a moment of silence before beginning the game. (www.jta.org, 1–1–19)

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-Massachusetts) has pledged her salary to HIAS, the Jewish immigration advocacy group that assists refugees (and the oldest refugee assistance organization in the world), for as long as the U.S. government is shut down. Warren has launched an exploratory committee, in essence running for president in 2020. (www.forward.com, 1-2-19)

Serge and Beate Klarsfeld, prominent French Nazi hunters, won the Jewish Book Council's top national book award in early January. "Hunting the Truth: Memoirs of Serge and Beate Klarsfeld" consists of first-person accounts of the couple's fifty-plus years of hunting Nazi war criminals. (www.jta.org, 1-19)

In mid-January, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," the show about a Jewish housewife in New York City in the late 1950s, won the Critics' Choice Award for Best Comedy Series. The show's star, Rachel Brosnahan (not Jewish) won for Best Comedy Actress. The awards are given by the Broadcast Film Critics Association and Broadcast Television Journalists Association. Both the show and its star also won awards at the Golden Globes a week earlier. The show is on Amazon Prime. Somewhere Gertrude Berg must be smiling. (www.ita.org, 1–14–19) \diamond

Keys Jewish Community Center

LEGACY

Monday
February 11, 2019
6:00 PM - Dairy Dinner
To be Followed by Learning
with Six Rabbis,
led by Rabbi Steven Sager

Rabbi Steven Sager is a long time Reconstructionist Rabbi, highly respected and well-known for creating Sicha, "a project to stimulate conversation between Jewish culture and contemporary Jewish needs."

"Legacy." How do we assess our lives as we move forward as growing, self-aware souls who deserve to contemplate our value, our places in the family, community, and beyond? Contemplating "legacy" is not just an obligation of those at a certain age, it is an opportunity for all, a gift to the self.

Contact Joyce Peckman
joycepeckman@email.com; 305 451-0665
to reserve your spot.

NO CHARGE DONATIONS ALWAYS ACCEPTED.

Keys Jewish Community Center Dr. Jan Louise Lindsay-Hartz

Swimming with Whales: A Spiritual, Scientific and Artistic Journey

Sunday, March 17, 2019
The presentation is open to the public
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



www.louiselindsay.com www.drjanhartz.com

KJCC member, Jan Louise Lindsay-Hartz, will share her experiences from a March 2018 trip to swim with and photograph humpback whales. This journey brought together several passions, including her love of whales and wildlife; her passion for swimming and the oceans; her background in biology, neuroscience and psychology; her mindful photography practice; her background in and practice of mindfulness meditation; and her spiritual practices, including her new passion for Hebrew. She will show a short video overview of her trip, and some slides, and will speak about this journey, with a focus on the spiritual dimension. Jan Louise is just completing a photography and poetry book, Resounding Joy, that emerged from this journey.







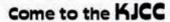
Jan has a Ph.D. and M.A. in clinical psychology, research and neuroscience, as well as a Bachelor of Science in biology. She has trained to teach, and has studied, taught, and practiced, mindfulness meditation.

In the artistic world, Jan is known as Louise Lindsay. Her photography images have been purchased privately, shown (and awarded) in juried gallery exhibits in Florida and New York, used on websites, displayed in various galleries and public places, including Everglades National Park, and published in a variety of calendars (FL Audubon), books and magazines.

For further information contact Medina Roy: hiitsmedee@gmail.com

PURIM & PIZZA

AND MOVIES TOO



Wednesday, March 20, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. to celebrate our story

MAKE FOUR MITZVOT IN ONE NIGHT:

Hear Megillat Esther -- The Ganze Megillah.



Share a Festive Meal (Salads and Pizza).

Share gifts of food with Neighbors and Friends.



Give Charity.

Special Guest Appearance by Oueen Vashti, inspirational original founder of the "me too" movement, accompanied on keyboard by Jules (Haman) Seder.



Wear masks, don costumes, drown out the name of Haman.

Stamp feet. Spin groggers. Be silly. Drink adult beverages (yes, it's a commandment).



Then laugh and enjoy a collection of humerous short movies.

Eat Hamantaschen. (Nu, what else?)



Contact: Gloria Avner (305) 619–0216, geetavner@gmail.com to let us know you are coming. Remember, it is a Mitzvah to hear the reading of the entire Megillah.

Donations will be accepted for pizza and tzedakah as we fulfill all four Purim Mitzvot.







A PURIM STORY: HOW HAMENTASCHEN GOT ITS NAME

hen KJCC had an active Sunday school, we would traditionally get ready for Purim by baking hamantaschen, those yummy triangle-shaped cookies, with poppy seeds, jam, or new variants of filling in the middle like chocolate, brie or Nutella. We, and teachers everywhere, taught our students that the cookies echoed the shape of the hat that Purim's archetypal villain, Haman, wore. But author Olivia Waxman (in an article found — and here abbreviated - in Time Magazine) finds a lot more history related to that cookie and its name:

Early versions of the cookies were more commonly known as oznei Haman, meaning "Haman's ears." The late Jewish food historian Gil Marks' Encyclopedia of Jewish Food traces that phrase — but not the cookie — to the Roman scholar and poet Immanuel ben Solomon (c.1261–1328) who, thanks to "a misinterpretation arising from the medieval Italian custom of cutting off a criminal's ear before execution," argued that Haman's ears had been cut off after he was hanged, at the end of the Purim story.

Whether the story behind the cookies is based on true historical events depends on whom you ask. Jewish-food guru Joan Nathan, whose next book is the upcoming King Solomon's Table: A Culinary Exploration of Jewish Cooking From Around the World, notes that the Purim story is based on "history in Iran. then Mesopotamia, in about the 8th century B.C." and that "Ahasuerus the king might have been based on Xerxes." Ionathan Brumberg-Kraus, a professor of religion at Wheaton College in Norton, Mass., says that Marks traces the first record of oznei Haman as something to eat back to a 1550 satirical Hebrew play that was produced for a Purim carnival in Mantua, Italy, and "is the oldest extant Jewish play," drawing from both religious stories and Italian dramatic traditions. The script contains a play on words in which one character thinks that the Biblical story of the Israelites eating manna in the desert is saying that the Israelites ate Haman; another character responds

with an interpretation that it must mean that lews are commanded to eat oznei Haman.

Rabbi Cheryl Peretz, a dean at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies of American Jewish University, says by connecting Purim treats to manna, the play, while satirical, resonated with audiences because it touched on an issue that still comes up today of "how you renew customs and traditions in meaningful ways in a contemporary world.

Sometime in the 18th or 19th century in Germany and Eastern Europe, a triangular pastry pocket filled with poppy seeds often called Mohntaschen — mohn meaning meaning poppy seed, and tasch meaning pocket — came onto the scene. The word became a pun around Purim: oznei Haman plus mohntaschen created hamantaschen.

Between the fact that the name hamantaschen is a pun and the carnival atmosphere of Purim festivities, it reflects the best of Jewish humor. The tradition "forged by life in exile and a vital element in dealing with it," wrote Gil Marks, "particularly manifests itself on Purim, a time when joking and frivolity is encouraged."

(Perhaps the commandment to drink excessively is to take away the bad taste and memory of our people's near collision with extinction. Here's to you, Esther, a l'chaim to go with our hamantaschen).



KJCC's Adult Education Program Proudly Presents Its

Third Annual KJCC Winter Film Fest

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For More Information, Contact Medina Roy: hiitsmedee@gmail.com



Sunday, January 20th, was a big day for KJCC. First we celebrated the Birthday of the Trees, Tu BiShvat (the 15th day of Shvat) by preparing three fruit trees for planting, an olive tree and two trees from Peru whose fruits are said to have medicinal properties. We danced around them and sang our gratitude song (Mayim, Mayim -- water, water). Then we were off to Steve and Barbara Smith's House, for our first ever mobile Minyan.





Five year old Sean will surely enjoy the fruits of these trees as they become grownups together.



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A MOBILE MINYAN

In a continuing effort to reach out to the entire Monroe Countv community. 13 KICC members traveled to Marathon to celebrate a Minchah (afternoon) service with fellow members of the KICC from the middle Keys on January 20, 2019. The service was attended by approximately 30 people, including members of the public and old friends of KJCC. It featured the full liturgy of Minchah. including the special melody of the Minchah chant and joyous singing by all attendees. Steve and Barbara Smith were generous and gracious hosts who not only provided their



home for the event, but also a wonderful meal for everyone after the service. President Beth Hayden expressed the gratitude of the KJCC to the Smiths for their hard work and generosity and expressed the view of all those who attended

that more events of this type would take place in Marathon in the future. As the

only synagogue from Homestead to Key West, the KJCC serves a growing membership of over 180. It was especially good to see, pray and sing with members who have wanted to attend services more frequently but who have not been able to make the drive. The atmosphere was truly that of an extended mishpocha, delighted to be together in Ylddishkeit, determined to do this again. - Steve Hartz





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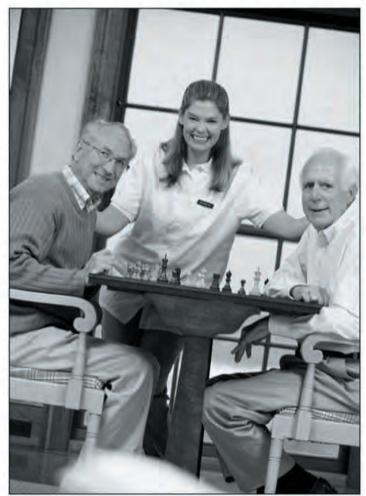
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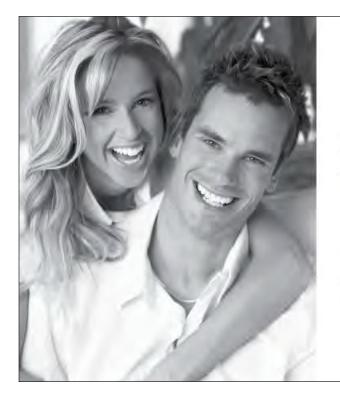
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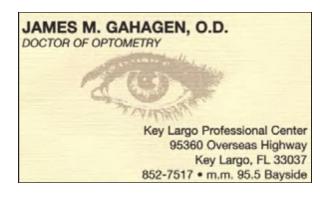
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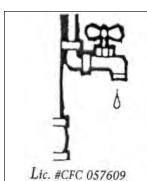
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John David Hawver, one of KJCC's most talented and nationally acclaimed artists, is having two shows over the next three months. If you happen to be in the Tampa area, check out the one that opens February 7th in Ybor City at Hillsborough Community College. But let's definitely make a field trip to Miami when his show opens there on March 27th and lasts until the end of April. More information coming in future announcements. It will be there for a full month. We have been extremely fortunate to have John's large lightful paintings and collages on our Sanctuary walls. His new exhibit is called "Sea the Light."

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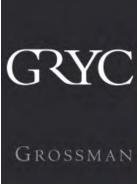
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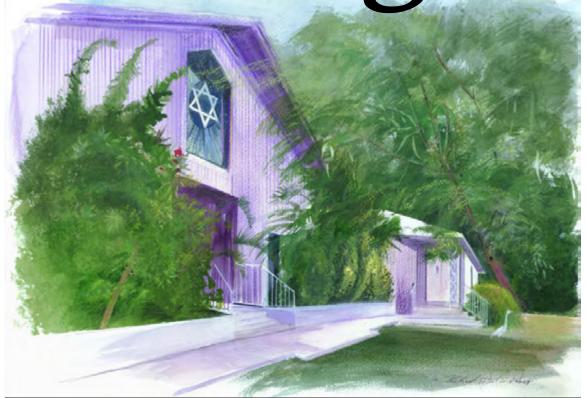
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April - May 2019

25th of ADAR II - 26th of IYAR 5779

What's Up at KJCC? – page 4

Scubi Jews, Joyful Noise and Purim Complexity – page 41

Passover: Seders Aplenty – page 33

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April - May 2019

Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM	2	3	4	5 Steve Hartz Nettie & Jules Seder	Torah Service Rabbi Agler 10 AM
7 Sisterhood Meeting 10 AM Women's Seder 5 PM	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM	9	10	11	Medina Roy Toby & Joel Bofshever	Movie: Fill the Void 7 PM
KJCC Board Meeting 10 AM	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM	16	17	18	19 Steve Steinbock First Seder	20 Second Seder Islamorada Fishing Club 6:30 PM
21	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM	23	24	Ira Sullivan in Concert an ICE event	26 Bernie Ginsburg Kathy & Joe Shabathai	Movie: Conspiracy 7 PM
28	29 Sisterhood Book Club at Mangrove Mike's 12 PM Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM	30	1 MAY	2	3 Medina Roy & Gloria Avner Sisterhood	4 Movie for Yom Hashoah - Sugi- hara: Conspiracy of Kindness 7 PM
Sisterhood Meeting 9 AM KJCC Board Meeting 11 AM	Jewish Meditation Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM	7	8	9 Trip to Jewish Museum & Inde- pendence Day celebration at Miami Beach JCC	10 Israeli Independence-Themed Dinner 6 PM Beth Hayden Bernie Ginsberg & Medina Roy	11 Torah Service Rabbi Agler 10 AM Film: Life in Stills 7 PM
12	13	14	15	16	17 Erica Lieber- man-Garrett & Donna Bolton Sisterhood	18
Film: Is That You? 7 PM	20	21	22	23	24 Ken Atlas & Art Itkin Medina Roy	25
Film: Inheritance 7 PM	27	28	29	30	31 Susan Gordon & Joyce Peckman	

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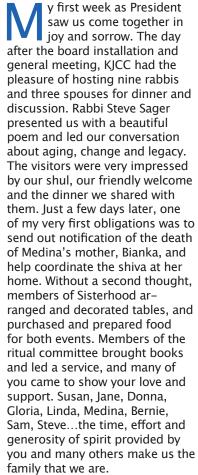
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CHAI-LIGHTS is the bimonthly publication of the Keys Jewish Community Center P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, Florida 33070 chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



Rabbi Agler once described us as "a chavurah with a building." A chavurah is a small group of like-minded Jews who assemble for the purpose of facilitating prayer services and learning, and sharing life cycle events. He was right on target. That is us; but we are so much more. We offer a place each of us can share their passion and their skills. Medina Roy has researched and curat-



ed her film series. Since I took office, Dana Grace has guided us in the art and benefits of meditation, Judy Greenman has shown us natural ways to relax and strengthen ourselves towards a pain-free life, and Jan Hartz has shared her art and experience swimming with humpback whales. Purim was a joyous lesson of shared silliness. We experienced the crafts of preparing food to feed the body, of researching Torah talks to feed the mind, and leading songs to nourish the soul, not to mention behind-the-scenes work of managing finances and making the physical building function well. A great many members have added to the life of KJCC, and we are always looking for more.

April brings Passover, the holiday that celebrates pivotal events that made us the Jewish people. What would we be without Passover and the seder? KICC makes three Passover Seders, each with its own following. The beloved Women's Seder, a fund-raiser for Tikun Olam sponsored by Sisterhood on April 7th, attracts the larger Keys community. KJCC first Seder on April 19th is a pot-luck KJCC family affair. KJCC Community Seder on the second night. April 20th, is a relaxing event (read that: Most of us don't cook.) held at the Islamorada Fishing Club that also fulfills our mission of offering lewish travelers a place to connect. I am proud to be a part of all that KICC does. \diamond

NOSH

Shabbat Morning Services

Rabbi Richard Agler, our KJCC Resident Scholar, announces two new dates for Torah learning services: April 11th and May 10th. Take advantage of this opportunity and come early. (that means no later than 10:00 a.m.) You'll be glad you did. These services and discussions are always inspiring and elevating, with Torah chanting and a Kiddush after each of these services. It's a wonderful way to spend Shabbat morning. After May 10th there will be a three-month hiatus, with no Shabbat morning services during the summer. We will miss them.

Confirmation for High Holidays

It's Official. Rabbi Agler will be our High Holy Days leader for 2019. We are ever so grateful. Thank you, dear members, for the donations you have made and continue to make to the Rabbi/Cantor Fund so that we may continue to hire this facilitator of high quality connection to our spirituality during the Ten Days of Awe. Rabbi Agler is a wonder and continues to provide us with the most meaningful, yet accessible experience possible.

How Jane's KJCC Garden Grows

No silver bells or cockle shells here, but she does take extraordinary measures to keep the iguanas from harvesting the bok choy before we do. Bring her your old, unwanted CD's and



they will be converted to new age scarecrows. Thanks. We are also proud to announce that one of the three recipients of our Tikkun Olam Women's Seder Fundraising Efforts this year will be the KJCC Organic Garden. Thank you for your efforts, Jane, on our behalf and on behalf of the whole Upper Keys Community via the harvests you regularly bring to Burton Memorial United Baptist Church's Food Pantry. We are grateful for your green thumb and to new member, retired surgeon Joe Levi, for fixing an issue with the irrigation system.

Women's Seder turns 16

On Sunday night, April 7th, at 5:00 p.m., the women of KJCC will celebrate our 16th Annual Women's Seder with art, music, and delicious homemade food, reading from a meaningful Haggadah focused on taking action towards repairing the world (Tikkun Olam). In addition to honoring a woman from our synagogue (Beth Hayden this year), deepening friendships among KJCC women and women from the greater community, we will raise money for three worthy projects. Cost is \$34.00 and your check is your reservation. For more information, see poster on p.16.

KJCC Community Second Night Seder

As we have done for decades. KICC will be holding its second night Community Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club on Saturday, April 20th, at 6:30 p.m. Sisterhood has done a marvelous job of training Vinnie and his staff in the making of matzoh balls, chicken soup and tzimmes, and the seder itself will be led by many of the KJCC ritual leaders. It is our tradition to offer this seder every year so that both our members and traveling visitors will have a place to celebrate the most loved and least synagogue-oriented of holidays, Passover. The price has stayed constant for both members and non-members at \$54 per adult. Children under 12 are our quests. We look forward to seeing many members from afar who make a special effort every year to be among us for this special event. Your check is your reservation, and we look forward to singing, drinking our four cups of wine, answering the

four questions, and having a warm, meaningful experience with you. RSVP to Erica Lieberman-Garrett at hippiejap@hotmail.com. For more information, see the poster on p.32.

KJCC Family Seder

This year, the first night of Passover will fall on April 19th, a Friday, for the third time in four years. As we have done in the past, we will welcome Shabbat with an early service at 6:30 p.m. KJCC members will be making a first seder, sharing the cooking and other responsibilities, as a KICC family should. A donation of \$20 per person is requested to cover expenses. Joe Shabathai will lead the service and Kathy Shabathai will coordinate the food donations. You can reach her at kathyshabathai@hotmail. com, or 305-772-3935. In order to maintain a comfortable atmosphere, participation will be limited to 55 KJCC members, the maximum we can fit in the Cathy Kaplan Social Hall. Your check, delivered to Donna, is your reservation.

Mezuzahs Save the Planet

Well, so far there is only a prototype, but one of our visiting Hillel College students has invented a way to make a beautiful mezuzah out of recycled plastic waste removed from the ocean by our students repairing the seas. Bravo for Tikkun HaYam. From debris to blessing. Look for it as you go from classroom to Social Hall. Kiss it. Photos next issue. This is late-breaking news.

Yizkor Services

The Torah mandates four special services during the course of the year at which we remember and say special prayers for our dear departed. The next mandated Yizkor service for this year will take place on Friday, April 26th at 7:30 and will be led by Dr. Bernard Ginsberg.

Movies, Movies, Movies

This year's movie series is loaded with stimulating choices hand-picked by our shul librarian, Medina Roy. On Saturday, April 13, we will watch "Fill the Void." On Saturday, April 27, the film will be "Conspiracy." There will be

four more films in May and titles may be found in "What's Up at KJCC" on p.4. All movies start at 7:00 p.m. (approximately) and are followed by refreshments and discussion. There is no charge and you are welcome to bring friends.

Jewish Meditation Classes Continue

Monday nights at KJCC have taken on a new character since classes in Jewish Meditation have begun. Sometimes in the sanctuary, sometimes in the social hall, Dana Grace has been treating us to a wide array of music, historical context and the use of all our senses in a variety of meditation techniques all intended to lessen stress levels and enrich our lives with practices from a Jewish perspective. The twelve-part series will continue every Monday from 7:00 p.m. (promptly) to 8:30 p.m. through May 9th.

Jazz at KJCC

Ira Sullivan, renowned Jazz musician, playing trumpet and saxophone, will take the stage (bimah) at KJCC on Thursday evening, April 25, at 7:00 p.m. The concert is a production of I.C.E. (Islamorada Community Entertainment), brought to us by impresario David Feder. It should be a very lively and entertaining evening. For more information, see poster on p.24.

Yom Ha'Atzmaut in Miami Beach

May 9th is Israel Independence Day, and we plan to celebrate it with a trip to the Jewish Museum in Miami Beach. We will leave in the morning, visit the museum, have a leisurely lunch and then return to enjoy more exhibits. The fascinating core exhibit details Jewish life in early Florida, but there are some excellent temporary exhibits as well, featuring the art work of photographer Andy Sweet, the sculptures and furniture of Steve Marcus, and a retrospective of the work of Edna Glaubman. From there we will go to The Miami Beach JCC to join in their Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration, which begins at 5 p.m. Contact Dave Mont to sign on, and help work out the details. He can be reached at moogoodave@yahoo.com or 305-393-9883. ◊

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

NAONIES NAEETINICS NAEDITATION AND NAORE

Monday, April 1	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM
Saturday, April 6	Torah Service with Rabbi Agler 10 AM
Sunday, April 7	Sisterhood Meeting 10 AM • Women's Seder 5 PM
Monday, April 8	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM
Saturday, April 13	Movie: Fill the Void 7 PM
Sunday, April 14	KJCC Board Meeting 10 AM
Monday, April 15	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM
Friday, April 19	First Seder – KJCC 7 PM
Saturday, April 20	Second Seder – Islamorada Fishing Club 6:30 PM
Monday, April 22	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM
Thursday, April 25	Ira Sullivan in Concert - an ICE event 7:00 PM
Saturday, April 27	Movie: Conspiracy 7 PM
Monday, April 29	Sisterhood Book Club at Mangrove Mike's 12 PM Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM
Saturday, May 4	Movie for Yom Hashoah - Sugihara: Conspiracy of Kindness7 PM
Sunday, May 5	Sisterhood 9 AM • KJCC board 11 AM
Monday, May 6	Jewish Meditation - Dana Grace 7-8:30 PM
Thursday, May 9	Trip to Jewish Museum & Independence Day celebration at Miami Beach JCC
Friday, May 10	Israeli Independence-Themed Dinner 6 PM
Saturday, May 11	Torah Service with Rabbi Agler 10 AM • Film: Life in Stills 7 PM
Sunday, May 19	Film: Is That You? 7 PM
Sunday, May 26	Film: Inheritance 7 PM

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.

- FEBRUARY 2019 ----

Unrestricted In Memory of In Memory of Advertiser's Dinner **Andrew Grant** Ion Tainow & Terri Willner-Tainow Mah Jongg Stuart & Geri Smith Ioan Wohl Susan Fllner Pauline Roller Stephen Steinbock Mitch Harvey Arthur Plutzer Bianka Kirschenbaum Michael & Lorena Kaufman Natalie Dorf Andrew Grant Yahrzeit Susan Fllner Patricia Isenberg Fannie Phillips Bianka Kirschenbaum Gloria Avner Jerry & Sheila Olsen Louis Weinstein **Book Plate** Ioan Boruszak Robert Kohlenbrener Barney Coltman Eve L. Greenstein - 8 years Larry & Dottie Wolfe Maxine Feinberg

- MARCH 2019 —

Patricia Isenberg

Unrestricted Yahrzeit In Memory of In Memory of Linda Pollack Bianka Kirschenbaum Robert Temkin Anne Temkin Bernie Ginsberg Bianka Kirsschenbaum Marshall & Myra Kaplan Monty Kaplan Luba Tuchman Franklin & Judy Greenman Steven & Marsha Harris Monty Harris Mah Jongg Erica Lieberman-Garrett Sam Lieberman Adam & Judy Starr Alexandra Starr Laurie Blum Annie Kleinfeldt Bernstein Janet Blum

	April 5 Steve Hartz	
ı	April 6 (Promptly at 10am)Rabbi Agler	May 11 (Promptly at 10am) Rabbi Agler
l	April 12 Medina Roy	May 17Erica Lieberman-Garrett
l	April 19Steve Steinbock	& Donna Bolton
ı	April 26 Bernie Ginsburg	May 24 Ken Atlas
	May 3 Medina Roy & Gloria Avner	May 31Susan Gordon & Joyce Peckman

Harry Phillips

April Birthdays

3rd	Janice Ichel Justin L. Lebofsky Larry Weber
	Larry Weber
	Thomas Brodie
	Jon Tainow
9th	David Feder
9th	Gene Silverman
	Abigail Everson
	Addison Greene-Barnett
	Richard Knowles
	Julia Berger
	Moira Knowles
13th	Samantha Lebofsky
	Sylvia Rimm
15th	Toby Bofshever
16th	Adam Starr
16th	Alfred Rimm
16th	Dave VanArtsdalen

17th	Katie Greenman
17th	Susan Ellner
18th	Jennifer Garrett
18th	
19th	
20th	
22nd	
22nd	
24th	
24th	-
24th	
25th	
26th	
27th	Liner Crossman
27(11	Ellilor Grossman
28th	. Joni Sages Dandrea
29th	David Goldfinger
29th	Linda Pollack
30th	
30th	Rachel Barrett

HOW CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC CAN INSTANTLY BECOME PERMANENT, LIVING MEMORIALS

Yahrzeit Plaques: KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400.

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 wonders that lie between these covers."

Tran of Life Leaves: We have three heautiful six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most en-

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, with an outdoor plaque included in the price.

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for information.

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. Joyce Peckman, 305–451–0665.

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT**: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Steve Steinbock, 305–394–0143, for annual rates.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, to make your donation.

GIFT SHOP: We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Sydney! Faye-Davis, 305-613-3010, or Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305–394–0143, to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225, or email her at joycepeckman@gmail.com.

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 Sydney Faye-Davis, 305-613-3010, or Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman 305-451-0665.

TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT: Bring your empty prescription and vitamin bottles to the KJCC and place in the collection box. We are assisting Burton Memorial Methodist Church with a project to provide empty medicine bottles to Haiti where they are needed.

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YAHRZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Call Sydney! Faye-Davis, 305-613-3010 to arrange your donation.

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. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund or General Fund.

May Birthdays

1st	Cheryl Margulies
2nd	Barney Coltman
4th	Laura Leigh Tallent
	Marissa Stein
	Richard Palacino
	Murray Rapoport
	Scott M. Pearl
	Skyler Bella Strasser
	Sidney Boruszak
	. Camden James Hudson
	Gary Margolis
	Reid Schur
	Richard Agler
	Sheila R. Steinberg
	Madelyn Ruby Pollack
12th	Nyan Feder
12th	Robert Silk
	Rose Marie Gordon
14th	Bernie Ginsberg
	David Ichel
14th	John Temkin
14th	Medina Roy
	Paul R. Schur

18th	Andrea P. Silverman
18th	Jaime Brennan
18th	Sheree Savar
19th	Jonathon Hodgson
21st	Jerry Herson
22nd	
22nd	•
23rdB	ianka Kirschenbaum
23rd	
23rd	-
23rd	
23rd	
25th	
27th	
27th	Jeffrey Pollack
27th	
29th	Liati Mayk
29th	Nancy Zinner
29th	
31st	Judy Starr
31st	Mark E. Silverman
31st	
31st	Wes Conklin

April Anniversaries

		rears
3rd	Jules & Nettie Seder	53
10th	Stuart & Geri Smith	54
19th	Barat & Rosemary Barefoot	33
20th	David & Janice Ichel	25
25th	Murray Rapoport & Barbara Osde	r 23
30th	Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz	12

May Anniversaries

	years
Alan & Chely Markowitz	18
Marshall & Myra Kaplan	47
Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl	60
Jay & Marissa Stein	23
George & Lori Richard-son	8
	Marshall & Myra Kaplan Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl Jay & Marissa Stein

Oneg Sponsors for April & May 2019

	April & May 2019
April 5:	Nettie & Jules Seder in Honor of their Anniversary
April 12:	Toby & Joel Bofshever in Honor of Toby's Birthday
April 19:	First Seder
April 26:	Kathy & Joe Shabathai in Honor of Passover
May 3:	Sisterhood
May 10:	Bernie Ginsberg & Medina Roy in Honor of their Birthdays
May 17:	Sisterhood
May 24:	Medina Roy

in Honor of Bianka Kirschenbaum

Dear Everyone at the KJCC,

I want to express my sincere thanks to you for the second award of my college scholarship. This was under the condition that I had a qualifying GPA after my first semester. I mention this, because that was easier said than done. I have always been a mostly A student in school — elementary, middle, and high school. However, after my transition and immersion into college, I discovered the level and difficulty were far from what I had ever previously experienced. Honestly, it became really tough and my chemistry class and lab were a real challenge. Despite that, I was finally able to gain the knowledge required. It feels good now, but at first, it was a struggle.

As you know, I recently graduated (with Honors, Cum Laude) from the Coral Reef Senior High School Engineering Magnet Program in Miami. I was then admitted as a freshman in the University of Florida Gator Engineering Program at Santa Fe (College) Program, here in Gainesville. To sum it up, this is indeed a quality educational experience. There are so many things that are new to me. It can almost be overwhelming, especially now, living on my own, so far away from home, family, friends and the KJCC for the first time in my life. And, as you also must know, missing my mother's cooking has been especially difficult for me.

On a good note, receiving the generosity of others to fund my educational pursuits has also been a new experience for me. I am really sincerely appreciative of the faith and confidence you have shown in me by awarding me this scholarship, and I have already put the funds to immediate use. I have applied for scholarships, awards, and grants to cover the costs of my tuition, books, housing and food; but, there are so many students requesting the same assistance from the same sources, that it has not been as successful as I'd hoped.

I mentioned in my essay, that I want to become an electrical engineer and serve my country in the U.S. Navy and government. As an engineer, I have a personal interest in creating-developing-discovering an alternative energy source, and especially the replacement of fossil fuels. I want that to be my contribution to this world for my life. My goals remain unchanged.

I can say that because of the core values that were instilled in me by my family, as an Eagle Scout, and in my years at the KJCC. I may not have been raised as a monetarily wealthy student, but I was raised as a student grateful for a quality education, a value system, and a heartfelt understanding of my heritage. Your award to me will help enable me to

pursue my goals and live the life I have envisioned. I am sincerely appreciative. There is a lot of hard academic work ahead of me, and, unfortunately, it will come at a price. That is something that worries me, as my family and I do not have the financial resources to meet all of the expenses, despite my best academic efforts. This is why the generosity you have bestowed on me is so very valuable and will be

life-changing. I want to express that to you, that your contribution to my future is taken very seriously, will not be wasted, and you will be proud of my future accomplishments.

I thank you for your confidence in me and for your financial contribution toward this educational opportunity in my life. I will succeed, and it will be, in part, due to your help.

Very respectfully, HARRY J. C. FRIEDMAN UF Gator Engineering Program



Harry Friedman and mom Jane celebrate his 21st birthday by becoming racecar drivers. Home from college, Harry catches up on his great love -- his Mom's cooking.

KJCC's Adult Education Program

Proudly Presents Its

Third Annual KJCC Winter Film Fest

Sponsored in part by Michael & Lorena Kaufman

In loving memory of their moms, Lucy Kaufman and Celeste Bravo Mendez



All films begin at 7:00 p.m.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME — There is no charge
REFRESHMENTS will be served afterwards
For More Information, Contact Medina Roy: hiitsmedee@gmail.com

DINNER WITH RABBIS NOURISHMENT FOR BODY & SOUL

On Monday evening, February 11th, we who were fortunate enough to attend, sat down for dinner with nine rabbis and their spouses. The dinner of course was wonderful, but what followed was even more unique, exciting, and uplifting. We were privileged to be part of a learning session in which the "rabbi of rabbis," Steven Sager,



he who was scheduled to hold seminars with Rabbi Agler and his colleagues all that week, shared his insights and skill with us. Ask anyone who was there and you will see eyes light up and hear superlatives flow. We are in discussion now with this inspiring rabbi to continue learning with him next year. How generous that our Resident Scholar, Rabbi Richard Agler, sent us this thank you letter when we of course are the ones truly thankful to him for sharing.

Dear All who helped make this happen,

On behalf of my colleagues and their spouses, please accept our deepest thanks for hosting us all last Monday evening at the KJCC. The program met every hope, goal, and expectation that anyone could have had for it.

It was an opportunity for the congregation to interact with a group of rabbis—likely the largest contingent ever assembled in Tavernier! And vice versa: my colleagues were likewise fascinated as they learned about our local Jewish community. In addition, we all had the chance to learn from Rabbi Steven Sager, a first-rate scholar of modern Jewish poetry and we were, of course, well fed.

So again, on behalf of us all, thank you to one and all who invited, prepared, and participated in what was a most memorable evening. We are most grateful!

Best, shalom, u'lehitraot,

R

Now After Living Many Years

Now, after living many years, I am beginning to see that I did not rebel except a bit and I fulfill all the laws and commandments. I fulfill the law of gravity, the law of the earth's pull, with all my body, with all my might, and with all my love I fulfill the law of equilibrium and the law of preservation of matter, my soul and my soul, my body and my body, my soul and my body. I fulfill the fear of emptiness with my pain and with my joy I fulfill the law of interlinked vessels, past and future are returned to me. I rise and I raise with the law of the lever I begin to understand, as with a car that is already old how it works, the workings of pistons and brakes reward and punishment, be fruitful and multiply, forgetting and remembering, screws and springs fast and slow and laws of history. This is the utterance of the years of my life to the days of my life This is the utterance of my soul to the parts of my body, This is a sermon for the synagogue, a eulogy for the dead, burial and resurrection. The utterance of the man.*

(*2 Samuel 23:1, the final words of David.) Amichai/Sager שַׁלֹא מָרַדְתִּי אֻלָּא מִעַט וַאַנִי מִקְיֵם אֵת כָּל הַחַקִּים וְכָל מַמְצְווֹת. אָנִי מִקָיָם חֹק הַכּוֹבֶד, הוֹא חֹק מִשִׁיחַת הַאַדַמָה, בַּכַל גוּפִי וּבַכַל מַאדִי וּבַכַל אַהַבַתִי. אָנִי מִקַיָּם חֹק שָׁווּי מִשְּׁקַל וְחֹק שְׁמוּר הֶחַמַרִים, גופי וגופי נפשי ונפשי וגופי ונפשי. אַנִי מִקַיָּם אֵת פַּחַד הַרֵיקנוּת בִּכְאֵבִי וּבְשְּמְחַתִי אַנִי מִקַיֵּם חֹק הַכֵּלִים הַשָּׁלוּבִים, עַבַר וְעַתִּיד מַחְזֵרִים אַלִי. אַנִי קָם וַאַנִי מִקִים בַּחֹק הַמַּנוֹף. אַנִי מַתְחִיל לַהַבִּין, כָּמוֹ בָּמְכוֹנִית שָׁהִיא כְּבַר יִשְׁנַה איד היא עובדת, פעולת בכנות ובלמים שַּׁכַר וַענִשׁ, פַּרוּ וּרְבוּ, שַׁכוֹתַ וְזַכוֹר, בַּרַגִּים וּקְפַצִים מהר ולאט וחקי ההסטוריה. זָה נָאוּם שנות חַיַּי אֱל יְמֵי חַיַּי זה נאום נפשי אל חלקי גופי, זוֹ דְרַשַּׁה בָּבֵית כָּנֶסֶת, זָה הֶסְפֵּד לַמַתִּים, זוֹ קבוּרָה וְזוֹ תַּחַיַּה. נָאוּם הַגָּבֵר.

עַכְשַׁו אַחַר הַרְבָּה שִׁנוֹת חַיִּים אֵנִי מַתְחִיל לְרָאוֹת

















































KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER





























The State of Our Synagogue

An Address by Outgoing President Beth Hayden At KJCC's Annual Meeting

ur mission has been to be a spiritual, intellectual, and cultural center for our membership, offering worship experiences that appeal to mind, heart, and soul: offering support at all life cycle events; providing meaningful education to members of all ages: offering programs which foster friendship, warmth, and kindness inside this building; and providing connections to the Jewish community in general. The KJCC, because of its unique mission to provide these supports and services, fulfills an important and irreplaceable function; were we not here, the Keys would be without a formal Jewish presence. resource, or service for 130 miles extending from Homestead and South Miami down to Key West

We did not have to survive a destructive hurricane this year. Nevertheless we experienced hardships. We experienced the loss of several valued KJCC members during the past year including our beloved Matriarch, Pauline Roller, who left us at 103 years of age.

Regrettably, this year we continue with no religious school because we have no children of school age. The good news is that we do have children in the pipeline and once they are of age, the KJCC religious school will rise, like the Phoenix, from the ashes of slumber. We do have, once again, a very strong adult education program under the capable guidance of Medina Roy. Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will be back to continue educating us on Kabbalah later in the year. If you missed his presentation last year, I would really urge you to be sure to take advantage of his return. You will never regret it. Sylvia Rimm presented an outstanding program on managing smart children. Miles

Hoffman presented a witty and entertaining program on Jewish Contributions to American Music in early February that was very well received by all. Jan Hartz will offer an outstanding presentation on Swimming with Whales in March; we have so many activities, you might well consider pitching a tent in the back and saving yourselves the drive back and forth to Shul. We have an ongoing series of films here at the KJCC and other speakers, subjects and offerings Medina has lined up during the coming months. I, unfortunately, have had to cancel the March 31st program I planned to



After outgoing President Beth's Speech, Joyce, incoming President, presented her with a plaque honoring her contributions.

present because of recent events, but perhaps that means I can offer something more involved and longer later in the year. You are invited to all KJCC events – please attend – they are for your edification and entertainment.

This is certainly a testament to the unique position the KJCC occupies in the Keys – here we are at MM 93.1 with such a rich and varied offering of Jewish entertainment and education in the breadth of subjects covered. We should never be complacent about that or take it for granted.

Equally important, we have had community events to just enjoy each other's company or move the spirit as evidenced by our Shabbat dinners. For sure none of us will starve while at the KJCC. Tremendous thanks to Susan Gordon and Sisterhood for the absolutely outstanding contributions they make to the KJCC. We dine very well on a monthly basis with beautiful decorations and copious amounts of delicious food. Patrons like Linda Pollack and Joyce Peckman sponsor dinners so

that we do not have to charge our members. Great thanks to them and to all the wonderful cooks in our KJCC mish-pachah.

Then we must thank Gloria Avner - who does an outstanding job as Ritual Chair and, since she did not have enough to do. also took over as editor of Chai-Lights, From minor holidays to the High Holvdavs, Gloria enriches the

KJCC with creative rituals and services. And that leads to thanking all our service leaders and wait! I have more – thanks to Marc Bloom for his behind the scenes activities, Jane Friedman who manages the garden and makes us healthy with her wonderful dishes, Ken Atlas who quietly comes every month to update our Yahrzeit Boards and provides security at no charge at all for our High Holyday services, Steve Hartz and Linda Kaplan who keep me on the straight and narrow (more or less) Erica Lieberman– Garrett who organizes beyond organization. And Jules and Nettie Seder who are always there when you need someone. Do we have an emerging theme?

What is the state of the KJCC? It is currently very strong, because we are gifted with individuals who give of themselves to make the KJCC what it is. We have a beautiful building, we are financially on very solid ground thanks to the generosity of our members, in particular thanks to Stan



The entire new Board of directors swearing to work faithfully for the good of KJCC. We are so grateful to our hardworking, generous board members. These individuals make our Place a home away from home, both a shul and the warm, welcoming activity packed Jewish Community Center it has become.

and Jenny Margulies for their belief in the KICC and their generosity to us, and thanks to Linda Kaplan and Donna Bolton who have shepherded KJCC funds with extreme attention to maximizing our returns. Thanks also to Barney Coltman, who has donated hours without charge to assist us in keeping our financial records in compliance with standard accounting procedures. Joyce Peckman, you have filled a void and taken on the difficult task as incoming president. May haShem reward all of you as you richly deserve. Sisterhood has gained members for the KICC through its Book Club and thanks to Steve Hartz, who has begun an outreach initiative, we have been to Marathon and will, in the future, outreach to Ocean Reef. I think these outreach activities will strengthen our membership in the future. As we stand here today in the Margulies Family Sanctuary, I would like to ask all the members of the current Board to stand along with prospective Board members and I would ask you to offer them all a very sincere thank you and a well deserved round of applause. These are the people who make the KICC run.

So I think our emerging theme is that we are as strong as the people who enter this place and give of their time to make the KJCC what it is. Without the people who make this happen, we would have an empty shell of a building. A beautiful shell but, still, just a shell.

Right now we are strong. But we need to remain strong for the future. So I submit to you an urgent appeal to be ambassadors for our future. We need to have new people willing to donate their time and efforts in the service of KICC. We need bodies and minds in training to take over and become the future leaders of the KICC. That is crucially important to our future and I ask your assistance in helping us to accomplish that. I would like to sincerely thank all of the volunteers whose work makes this community so unique. The effort, enthusiasm, and care that you bring into this building are remarkable. In closing, the KICC is not the possession or undertaking of a single person - it is the result of composite efforts made by many individuals. The

Jules Seder led the swearing in ceremony



KJCC is a precious entity that belongs to all of us and depends on all of us to survive. Therefore I invite you to become actively involved and support your incoming President as she conducts the business of our Shul. One of the most fundamental differences between Christians and Jews is that Christians put great emphasis on what you believe, while Jews put great emphasis on what you do. One of my favorite Rabbis, Rebbe Nachum of Breslav asked "If you are not a better person tomorrow than you are today, what need have you for a tomorrow?" – Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

We are custodians of an ancient and modern system of laws and traditions that guide us in our actions. If the human experience can be likened to an orchestral concert of multiple voices, let us be part of the human symphony and let our voices ring loud and clear.

Thank you all for your attention and I extend best wishes for the incoming President and Board. ♦

Keys Jewish Community Center

16th Annual Women's Seder

Sunday
April 7, 2019
5:00 PM @ KJCC
Homemade Seder Dinner

Come celebrate the 16th KJCC Women's Seder.

Donation: \$18 chai + \$16.00 for 16 years -Total cost is \$34.

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

Limited seating - Please RSVP by April 1st Contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett hippiejap@hotmail.com (305) 393-1162

Mail your check, payable to KJCC Sisterhood, to PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.



SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



s we enter into springtime in the Florida Keys, we see our days getting longer, allowing us more time to enjoy the many rewarding outdoor activities that first lured us here. For me, that means boating, fishing, kayaking, swimming and bike riding. Those are just some of the things that keep me occupied during the daylight hours. Evenings are eagerly welcomed, while first taking the time to watch a beautiful sunset over Florida bay, transitioning from day to evening dusk by sounding three long blasts on my Conch Shell horn. Living life in the Florida Keys, even after 34 years, remains idyllic to me. My routines have most certainly changed, though. Until recent years, I was a dive business owner, wife, and mother raising a daughter, all of which kept me extremely busy. There was, however, always a constant -- the KICC, and my involvement within it. KJCC is, and always has been, my sanctuary. It is where I belong. The members of the KJCC are my Keys family. Everything that I do for the KICC feels natural to me. Life is good, and the KJCC makes it even better!

Holding the position of Sisterhood President gives me the opportunity, alongside other talented women, to plan and implement many activities to enhance the social experiences for the greater KJCC membership. I feel that, through these activities, we are bringing members together as friends and family. This is very important in our community. Each week, the women of Sisterhood work hard to ensure that everyone who attends Shabbat services is treated to a bountiful Oneg celebration following the evening prayer service.

We have two busy months ahead of us, filled with activities to look forward to. Sisterhood meets the first Sunday of each month at 10 am. We welcome and encourage all female members of the KJCC to attend these planning meetings. Please be sure to add to your calendars the mornings of April 7th and May 5th.

The Holiday of Passover brings the opportunity to

celebrate with other KJCC members by attending and participating in a Seder. Although Passover doesn't begin until April 19th, Sisterhood is holding our 16th Annual Women's Seder on the evening of Sunday, April 7th at 5pm. Cost is \$34. All proceeds are donated to three needy organizations as part of our Tikkun Olam efforts (to heal the world). Seating is limited, so please RSVP to Erica just as soon as you can. Sisterhood also organizes the KICC Annual Community Second Night Seder. This Seder, held at the Islamorada Fishing Club will be on the evening of Saturday, April 20th at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$54 per person. Please RSVP to Beth Hayden. Vegetarian options are available if you request when making your reservation with Beth.

The KJCC Sisterhood Book Club meets monthly on the last Monday of each month at 12 Noon. The book being discussed for April is "The Weight of Ink" by Rachel Kadish. Please join other members of our vibrant book club on Monday, April 29th at 12 Noon, at Mangrove Mike's Café in Islamorada. To RSVP, contact Randi Grant.

Looking ahead to May, we plan to celebrate Yom HaAtzma'ut, Israel Independence Day, on Friday, May 10th, at 6pm, with an Israeli food themed Shabbat Dinner. Services will follow; then be prepared to do some Israeli Folk dances during our Oneg celebration that evening! \diamond



In Memoriam – April 2019

Clara Bloom

By Marc Bloom

Baruch Epstein

By Joan Boruszak

Mark Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Frances Wolfe

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Belle Scaller

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

Gertrude F. Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Zelda Pearl

By Scott & Mary Anne Pearl

Jean Blumenfeld

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

Sylvia Weiner

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

Faye Klein

By Hanna David

Bill Gordon

By Susan Gordon

Harry Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

Nathan Klein

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Dorothy Ross

By Joyce Peckman

Audrey Pearlman

By William & Donna Bolton

Ellen Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

Maurice Field

By Carol Field

Marty Graham

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Stella Hartz

By Steven & Jan Hartz

Arlene Sugarman Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Erwin Moss

By Linda Pollack

Dr. Joel Pollack

By Linda Pollack

Dolores Feldman

By Jeffrey Schocket

Louis S. Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Ida Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

Louise Folks Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Richard Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Morris Smith

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Charles Kram

By Sanford Yankow

Sam Sax

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Ginger Lewis

By Robert Silk

Mrs. Anne Miller

By Shirley Stein

David Wernicoff

By Donald Zinner

Sanctuary Seat Plate

In Our Thoughts

Kurt Kluger

Sanctuary Seat Plate

In Our Thoughts

Fanny Kluger

In Memoriam – May 2019

Carol Steinberg

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Neil H. Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

Jerry Abramowitz

By Naomi Copeland

Vivian Faye

By Sydney Faye-Davis

Belle Kirschenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Morris Moshe Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

Fred Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Helen Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Charles S. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Gertrude Weisberg

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

Carmel Catanese

By Jane Friedman

Amalia Kahn

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

Rose Herson

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

Marilyn Janet Barr

By Michael Klimpl

Nat Feldblum

By Marc Bloom

Becky Kanowsky

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Alex Peri

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

Julie Gorson-Marrow

By Janice Gorson

Shirley Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

Esther Jacobs

By Lawrence Jacobs

Morris Kornbloom

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

George Nobil

By Lynn Nobil

Rene Rose

By Skip Rose

Sally Shabathai

By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai

Claire Smith

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Susan Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock

Benjamin Weber

By Judith Weber

Norma Cutler

By Donald Zinner

Rabbi Milton Greenwald

By Paul & Susan Roberts

Lilyan Sax

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Elaine Beth Silverman

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Cantor Alex Chapin

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Ida S. Reider

By George & Muriel Swartz

Dr. Milton A. Wohl

By Joan P. Wohl

Maryann Sandusky

By Skip Rose

Robert Schur

By Lee Schur

Robert W. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

Rose Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Phillip Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Hilda Mazur

By Sanford Yankow

by Saillord Tallkow

Dr. Joel Pollack

By Linda Pollack

Bill Gordon

By Susan Gordon

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SISTERHOOD SHABBAT DINNER



Israel's Independence Day is celebrated on the fifth day of the month of Iyar, which is the Hebrew date of the formal establishment of the State of Israel, when members of the "provisional government" read and signed a Declaration of Independence in Tel Aviv. The original date corresponded to May 14, 1948.

Join us on Friday, May 10, 2019, at

ישראל

6:00 p.m.

for Israeli Food, Music, and Folk Dancing!

יום העצמאות





- Contact Susan Gordon -

susangordon424@yahoo.com - (305) 766-3585 to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish. Please rsvp by May 5th - No Charge

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



An Important Step Forward

In early March, Pope Francis announced that a Vatican secret archive - one that scholars, both Jewish and non-Jewish, have for decades called upon the Vatican to open to the public - will indeed be opened to the public on March 2, 2020. This archive relates to the bitter controversy regarding the role played by Holocaust-era Pope Pius XII in the wartime treatment of European Jews. "The church is not afraid of history," Francis said, in announcing this major change to church policy. Pius XII was the pope from March 2, 1939 to October 9, 1958. For years, his role during the Holocaust has been vigorously contested. Critics accuse him of having turned a blind eye to Jewish suffering. The Vatican has long claimed that he worked behind the scenes to save lews. The most serious charge made against Pius XII by his critics, both Catholic and lewish, is that he was inactive, indifferent, and ineffective in the face of Nazi Germany's horrific policy of mass murder during the Holocaust and that Pius XII's "silence" and inaction, as Europe's most important moral voice, helped seal the fate of the lews in Europe. Information and records in the archive should help clarify, if not fully settle, the controversy. Bishop Sergio Pagano, Prefect of the Vatican Secret Archives, said that Vatican archivists began preparing the hundreds of thousands of pages back in 2006. "Pope Francis's decision to make these materials now fully open and available for international scholarly research is enormously important to Catholic-Jewish relations," said Rabbi David Rosen, American Jewish Committee (AJC) International Director of Interreligious Affairs. (www.washingtonpost.com, 3-4-19)

Seeking Ways to Reconnect

The results of unprecedented genetic research undertaken by dozens of professors from all over the world has provided evidence that almost twenty-five percent of Latinos and Hispanics have a significant amount of Jewish DNA. For decades there has been speculation that among the populations of Latin America, North America and Europe there is significant Jewish ancestry and much of that speculation was consistent with historical data. Hundreds of thousands of Jews had been forced to either convert or leave in Spain and then Portugal. These people have been referred to as Anousim, Marranos, Conversos and Crypto-Jews. An unknown number who fled the Iberian Peninsula came to the New World during the Age of Discovery, late in the 15th century.

The recently completed study, published in December 2018, revealed that the number of descendants of Spanish and Portuguese Jewish communities is much higher than ever suggested. There could be as many as 200 million descendants of these lewish communities around the world today (out of a total of approximately 770 million total descendants of Spain and Portugal - the last approximate number conducted by the United Nations in 2016.) An organization called "Reconectar" has a mission to facilitate the reconnection of the descendants of Spanish and Portuguese Jewish communities to the modern lewish world. It has conducted a number of studies exploring the attitudes of tens of thousands of these descendants towards their ancestry. The studies revealed that at least fourteen percent are interested in identifying in some way with the

Jewish people and that as many as thirty percent are aware of some Jewish ancestry. That indicates that millions of people outside the conventional Jewish community are searching, in varying ways, for reconnection. (www.jpost.com, 3-1-19)

The Disappearing Dead Sea

The Dead Sea - a natural wonder, Earth's saltiest body of water and the lowest measured sea-level on earth (plus a place where you can spread some mud all over your body and feel rejuvenated) - is quickly disappearing. In the 1930s, the Dead Sea (technically a lake) spread over 385 square miles. Today it reaches only 250. According to Israel's Water Authority, the drop in sea level is the result of two primary factors: the diversion of water sources and mineral extraction. Originally, water from the Jordan River and its tributary, the Yarmouk River, flowed south and filled up the Dead Sea. But in the past few decades, dams were built in Israel, Syria and Jordan, and as a result almost completely prevented the natural flow of water into the Dead Sea. The pumping carried out by the Israeli and Jordanian mineral factories on both shores of the Dead Sea has further worsened water levels. As a result, the Dead Sea's water level has been dropping at an astounding rate of three feet per year. This is "an ongoing ecological disaster generated by human activity," according to EcoPeace Middle East, an NGO that brings together Israeli. Palestinian and Jordanian environmentalists. Why care? The Dead Sea is a geologically and environmentally unique area, home to rare and special animals, vegetation and geological phenomena. (www.israel21c.org. 2-7-19)

The Secret Red Sea Diving Resort

In the early 1980s, Israeli secret agents opened a diving resort on the Sudanese shores of the Red Sea as a front to clandestinely operate a mission to rescue Ethiopian Jews from Sudan to bring them to safety in Israel. During the course of several years, the "resort" enabled some 6,000 Jewish refugees suffering from persecution, war and famine to flee by boat and plane to a new life in Israel. The mission – codenamed "Operation"

Brothers" - began around 1978. Undercover Mossad agents posing as a European tourist company rented an abandoned resort village in Sudan, an enemy country to Israel. Even though the operation was a front for the rescue, it did accept real tourists through a shell company in Switzerland so that the Sudanese authorities wouldn't be suspicious. The agents brought in Israeli diving experts and a deep-sea diver who spoke fluent German. "It's one of those stories that are hard to believe." said Gad Shimron, one of the Mossad agents who operated the "resort." "It was the only time when Europeans had extracted Africans from the continent not to be enslaved but to be freed." In 1984, not long after "Operation Brothers" ended, the Israeli government began the months-long "Operation Moses," another secret mission to rescue some 8,000 Ethiopian lews stuck in Sudan, "Operation Solomon" followed, this time rescuing more than 14,000 in May 1991, "The Red Sea Diving Resort" will be made into a feature film sometime later in 2019. (Watch for it at KJCC's Jewish Film Festival next season.) (www.israel21c.org, 1-21-19)

Israel Comes in at #10

In the Bloomberg Healthiest Country Index, published at the end of February. 169 nations were scored based on factors such as life expectancy, access to sanitation and availability of medical care. Countries were penalized for obesity and use of tobacco, among other health risks. The State of Israel was ranked number ten - 54 spots ahead of the United States. Not surprisingly, the Mediterranean diet - common in Israel as well as in Spain (who ranked number 1 on the list) and Italy (number 2) - was noted in Bloomberg's analysis, "The Mediterranean diet, supplemented with extra virgin olive oil or nuts, has a lower rate of major cardiovascular events than those assigned to a reduced-fat diet," a study cited by Bloomberg reported. The U.S. placed only 64th mostly because of its high obesity rate. The Centers for Disease Control recently released figures estimating that about 40 percent of U.S. residents - over 93 million of us - are obese. (www.jpost.com, 2-25-19)

Robert Kraft: The Good News

New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft. 77, is the winner of this year's \$1 million Genesis Prize, also referred to as the "Jewish Nobel Prize." Kraft plans to give the money "to initiatives combatting anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice as well as attempts to de-legitimize the State of Israel." Stan Polovets, Genesis Prize chairman and co-founder, called Kraft, the Jewish National Football League (NFL) owner and businessman, "one of the world's most generous philanthropists, whose charitable giving reflects the Jewish value of tikkun olam - repairing the world." The award honors individuals who serve "as an inspiration to the next generation of Jews through their outstanding achievement along with their commitment to Jewish values and the Jewish people." Over many years, the Kraft family has given over half a billion dollars to many causes, including cancer research and treatment, health care, education, the Jewish community, interfaith relations, Christian organizations and local needs. According to Forbes. Kraft has a net worth of \$6.6 billion and is the 79th richest American. He grew up in an Orthodox family in Brookline, Massachusetts. He will receive the award at a gala in Jerusalem in June. (www.jta.org, 1-9-19)

Robert Kraft: The Bad News

At the end of February, formal charges were filed against Robert Kraft (and two dozen other defendants) for soliciting prostitutes in a Jupiter, Florida spa that was part of a broader sex trafficking investigation. He was charged with a first-degree misdemeanor. The charge carries a mandatory \$5,000 fine, 100 hours of community service, and a mandatory class on prostitution and human trafficking. (The accused also face jail time of 60 days to one year, although prison sentences are usually not given to first-time offenders.) The sheriff's office which opened the investigation maintains that "the spa employees lived in poor conditions, never leaving the massage parlors and working seven days per week." Under its personal conduct policy, the NFL said that it will "take appropriate action as warranted based on the facts." It could levy fines on owners like

Kraft or suspend him from any or all activities involving the Patriots for breaking the league's code of conduct. Kraft has categorically denied that he engaged in any type of illegal activity. (www.jpost.com, 2–26–19)

Robert Kraft: The Update...

Stan Polovets, Genesis Prize co-founder, announced that Robert Kraft will still receive the Genesis Prize and has his full support, in spite of the prostitution sting charged against Kraft. "The incident...is unfortunate," Polovets said. "However, as of now, it remains an unproven allegation...In democratic countries, everyone is entitled to the presumption of innocence and I have no reason to doubt Robert's word." The twelve members of the two committees that choose Genesis Prize laureates selected Kraft unanimously. (www.forward.com, 2-28-19)

In Memoriam

Stanley Donen, filmmaker, director and choreographer, best known for the 1952 musical "Singin' in the Rain," died at the end of February. He was 94. Donen grew up in Columbia, South Carolina and faced anti-Semitic bullying. his family being one of the only Jewish families in his community. The movies provided an escape for him and turned him on to the world of acting and dancing. He met Gene Kelly when they worked on the original Broadway production of Rodgers and Hart's "Pal Joey," when Donen, then a dancer of sixteen, was in the chorus and Kelly was cast as the lead. (In the 1940 Broadway version, Joey was mainly a dancer.) They met again in Hollywood and began working together. He became Kelly's assistant, choreographer and later co-director. (Donen also worked with Cary Grant, Frank Sinatra and Fred Astaire.) His other notable films included "On the Town" (1949), "Royal Wedding" (1951), "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" (1954), "Funny Face" (1957), "Indiscreet" (1958), and "Charade" (1963). Donen never received an Academy Award nomination (though his films often did), but he was given an honorary Oscar for life achievement in 1998. (www.haaretz.com, 2-23-19)

Did You Know...

An Israeli spacecraft successfully launched

aboard a SpaceX rocket from Florida's Cape Canaveral on February 21st on the way to the moon. If it lands successfully, it will make Israel the fourth country ever – after the Soviet Union, the United States and China – to land a spacecraft on the moon. The craft is named "Beresheet," Hebrew for the first Book of the Torah. The lunar lander is expected to touch down on the moon in early April. (www.jpost.com, 2–24–19)

• By the end of February, more than 8,500 donors – individuals, companies and organizations – from across 48 states and some eight countries, had given more than \$6.3 million to a fund set up by the local Jewish federation for those affected by the tragic October 2018 Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh. The

bulk of the money (about \$5.3 million) went to the families of the eleven killed and others injured in the attack. Another \$500,000 was set aside for injured police officers, who will also receive other funds from outside the Jewish community. (www.jpost.com, 3-6-19)

• At the end of February, Israeli director Guy Nattiv won an Academy Award for "Best Live-Action Short" for his film Skin. The English-language film is set in America and follows the story of neo-Nazi racists. The last time an Israeli director won an Oscar was in 1978, when Moshe Mizrachi received an Academy Award for Madame Rosa. He won for the major category of "Best Foreign-Language Film." (www.israel21c.org, 2-25-19) \diamond



PHOTO GALLERY

Wedding of Gena Bofshever, daughter of Joel and Toby and sister of Dori, to Bobby Alon, on February 24 in Weston.

Celebrating Randi Grant's birthday @ mah jongg





Thank you, Activities Committee (Dave Mont and Susan Gordon for getting us to go see and hear the Isle of Klesbos, a very talented Klezmer band. We'll try to bring them to KJCC next year.



r. Steve Smith and Barbara are honored by Jan and Steve Hartz for hosting the mobile minyan at their home in Marathon.



Erica makes hamotzi after leading services



Richard Knowles treated us to his excellent voice and a moving Torah talk about the heart while leading Shabbat eve services on March 1st. Welcome back to the roster. (We are looking for more co-leaders too and will happily pair you with someone experienced. Contact Gloria Geetavner@gmail.com)



We are fortunate to have strong women like Linda Kaplan capable of carrying our Torahs in Shabbat morning services.



Newest Chai-Lights Advertisers Lacy Herlth and Katie Uhl ,partners in Duotone Design Co., and newly in charge of ChaiLights production.



Chana and Stu and Geri Smith



Rabbi Ed's Scubi Jews arrive for a week of "camping in" at KJCC and volunteering to do Tikkun HaYam work (repair of the seas). Looks like the happy campers (at least one) like to clean: they leave our Shul well taken care of. We love their youthful energy and commitment to making the world a better place, both on land

and sea. It's nearly 10 years since Rabbi Ed first came

here with his students. We love the learning he shares and the fact that he considers KICC his home away from home. Hope you enjoyed his Torah talk and Kabbalah teachings.





Judy Greenman offers introduction to exercises for pain-free living to KJCC members



Joe Shabathai leads post service kiddush (and will lead KJCC's first night Seder).

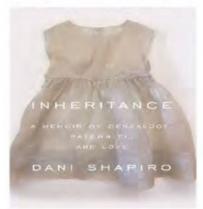


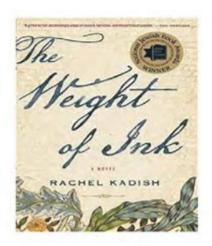
Nancy Kluger, Medina Roy and Marcia Kreitman at Gloria's Batik class. A date for KJCC Batik is in the works.



Monday
March 25, 2019 - Noon
Mangrove Mike's Cafe
MM 82.2 Bayside, Islamorada

INHERITANCE BY DANI SHAPIRO





Monday
April 29, 2019 - Noon
Mangrove Mike's Cafe
MM 82.2 Bayside, Islamorada

THE WEIGHT OF INK BY RACHEL KADISH

RSVP and more information - Randi Grant - rkgcpa@bellsouth.net 954-383-4320

KJCC Sisterhood Book Club Hosts Rabbi Agler

This gathering was a special event, on many levels. Exactly one year earlier, the Book Club had held its inaugural meeting in the same place, the beautiful home of Linda Pollack, with an equally large crowd and another generous potluck lunch. Since then the club had met strictly in restaurants, the attendees had been exclusively women, though men are welcome, and the numbers of attendees rarely hit double digits. But this was our Resident Scholar, Rabbi Richard Agler, coming to discuss with us his newly published book, The Tragedy Test, and though we

are familiar with the painful tale of Mindy and Rich's daughter's death, we had read the book and appreciated the shared insights, difficulties, struggles and breakthroughs that Rich had gleaned from the experience and shared with us.





Harold Kushner, author of "When Bad Things Happen to Good People," predicted that the book would be helpful to others who had also suffered inexplicable loss. He was right, and everyone in attendance was grateful for the sharing.

JAN HARTZ SHARES BEAUTIFUL WHALE TALES



One of three photographs taken by Jan up close and personal, now hanging in the social Hall.

and spirituality brought to us a wide array of interested and interesting people.

The faces were familiar, the comments enthusiastic and book sales seemed to be flourishing. It was good to see more KJCC members too than we usually see at this uniquely lovely evening presented by our Education Committee.

Make sure to look at the beautiful photographs created by Jan after her trip, now hanging in the social hall. There will be books here for sale in the gift shop as well. \diamond









Beth Kamenstein and recently returned Sam Weis enjoyed the night's program, the company and discussed possibilities for future arts programming.



Tuesday, April 20, 2019

6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

104 Madeira Road, Islamorada, FL 33036

MM 82.1 Bayside behind Lorelei



For information and reservations contact Beth Hayden

hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net (305) 773-0067

Your check is your reservation. Mail your check, payable to KJCC Sisterhood, to PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.

Reserve early as we will be opening this to the public after April 1.

Vegetarian options are available - please request when making your reservation.



Adults \$54; children 12 and under are our guests.

PASSOVER:

GRATITUDE FOR FREEDOM AND SOUL FOOD WITH CRUNCH

By Joyce Peckman

ews are called the "People of the Book" and on Passover our book is the Haggadah. This book is read around a dining table, along with friends and family. For me, that scene epitomizes what our faith is all about: history, prayer, thankfulness, friends, family and food.

Food is one of the more difficult aspects of Judaism. For the observant Jew, a lot is already off limits. No shellfish or fish without scales (eel, catfish, shark, skate are examples); no pork products (that includes bacon, Italian sausage and lard), no furry little animals like squirrel or rabbit. Then there is the prohibition against mixing milk with meat, so bye-bye cheeseburger.

Along comes Passover, and the strictures multiply. Many people, like me, who aren't very kosher outside their homes, will "become orthodox" with their food during the week of Passover.

Keeping kosher for Passover means abstaining from hametz, the fermented products of five grains: wheat, rye, spelt, barley and oats. Matzah is made from grain, but it is produced under highly controlled conditions to ensure that it does not ferment. Shemurah matzah is literally "quarded" from the moment the wheat is harvested. The wheat is ground in a mill which has been cleaned, dried and inspected by rabbis, then watched as it transported to the bakery, to make sure no water touches it. The dough is generally kneaded and shaped by hand. Holes are made to prevent air pockets from forming that might keep the dough from completely cooking within 18 minutes. Shemurah matzoh is believed to be similar to

the unleavened bread carried in haste by the Children of Israel as they fled Egypt. For that reason, many people believe that the prayers recited during the seder should be over shemurah matzah. My sons love the stuff, even though it is more expensive than the Streits or Manischewitz machine-made varieties. I think it sometimes tastes like cooked cardboard. Because it is baked quickly in a very hot oven, it is more burnt than the machine-made, and often has broken pieces. Although the broken pieces can't be used to make a blessing, they are just fine with charoset or chopped liver.

We are told in the Bible to remove all leaven from our homes. For me, that means using up the bagels and cakes in my freezer as the holiday approaches, then emptying my closets of opened cracker and cereal boxes, taking off the couch cushions to vacuum out cookie crumbs and thoroughly cleaning the fridge. Anything opened gets tossed. Anything unopened gets boxed or segregated in a taped cabinet. But it is still in my home...how to deal with that? The rabbis found a method: sell the chametz! Rabbi Zucker is my go-to-guy. I go to his website, give my address, and he arranges for a non-Jew to "buy" all of my stuff. In theory, this person could come to my house and take my cereals, rice cakes, beer and whiskey, but he never has.

Kitniot (or kitnios since this is an Ashkenazi issue) is the next Passover food issue. The word comes from the Hebrew word katan which means "small." It refers to the small grains not included in the grains listed above: rice, buckwheat/kasha, beans, peas, chickpeas, soybeans, sunflower, mustard and poppy seeds and corn are kitniyot. It is an Ashkenazi minhag (custom) that developed in Europe in

the Middle Ages. The reasons cited in Mishnah Berurah are that these grains are harvested, ground into flour and baked in the same way as the five grains of chametz. Because they are so small, they may have grains of chametz accidentally mixed in. Avoiding kitniot can be difficult. Corn syrup is found almost everywhere, as is corn and soybean oil. Vegetarians who rely on beans for protein have a right to complain as well. The evolving rabbinical discussion would take its own book. Those who keep strictly kosher look for the small P next to a regular kosher symbol. In the spring,

Coke makes a run of special soda using sugar instead of corn syrup. Many soda lovers stock up; it really tastes better! Most Sephardic Jews do not follow the rules of kitniyot, and enjoy rice and beans at their Seders. In the 19th Century, Reform Judaism formally permitted eating kitniyot, and in 1989 the Responsa Committee of the Israel Conservative movement ruled that Conservative Jews in Israel may eat it. Conservative Jews worldwide tend to avoid it, but attitudes are slowly changing.

However you celebrate it, I wish you a happy holiday. Enjoy the crunch. Chag Samaich! \diamond



CELEBRATING PESACH SEPHARDI STYLE:

SEPHARDI SEDER TRADITIONS

ost of our KICC members come from Ashkenazi background and tradition. There are differences, large and small, between Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jews - both in belief and practice. We like to focus on what unites rather than divides us, but at this time of year as we prepare for Passover, the differences stand out. None of these differences are "wrong" halachically because "minhag" (or a community's custom observed over long periods of time, carry great weight. The following exploration of Sephardi customs is excerpted, with great gratitude, to author Anne deSola Cardoza, Donald Harrison (The San Diego Jewish Press) and Rabbi Johnathan Chipman (The Jerusalem Post). Our interesting, even quirky Seder traditions are not "wrong," but examples of lewish differences that enhance us all. This year the KICC first seder will be led by Sephardi member loe Shabathai. G.

Rice – is considered kosher for Pesach by Sephardi Jews. It was a tradition among Egyptian Jews to purchase all the Pesach rice one month before the holiday. For some families that meant buying about 40 pounds of rice. The rice would be placed in the middle of the table and the family would sift and wash the rice then divide it into eight portions for the eight days of Pesach. Rice is part of a group of legumes known in Hebrew as "kitniyot." These foods are considered kosher for Passover by Sephardi Jews and include corn, millet, string beans, green peas, lentils, split peas, soybeans and chickpeas.

The Seder Plate in Southern Italy, Sicily and Morocco - The Seder plate is brought to the

Seder table with great ceremony. It would be covered with a beautiful scarf and the family would sing as the plate arrived at the table. Before it was set down, the Seder plate would be placed on a child's head and then rotated for everyone to see.

The Seder Plate in Tunisia, Sicily and Sardinia – As the plate arrives at the table, the Seder leader sets it on the head of the Seder leader. The plate is then passed from person to person around the table – held for a moment on each head by a family member. The Seder begins in this manner to demonstrate that we were once slaves in Egypt and carried heavy burdens on our heads.

The Matzah - At the point in the Haggadah where the matzah is described as "the bread of affliction." Italian and Moroccan lews would have ready three pieces of matzah tied up in a napkin, like a little sack. The sack would be passed around the table, shoulder to shoulder like this: First the sack would be held on the person's right shoulder and the leader would ask her/him, "Where are you from?" The person with the shoulder sack would reply, "I am from Egypt." The leader then asks the same person, "Where are you going?" Then the person with the sack would shift it to the left shoulder and say, "I am going to Yerushalayim. Will you come with me?" The sack is then passed to the next person at that table who says, "Yes." And the process repeats around the table.

The Ten Plagues - This custom is Italian but I am told it comes from the Yemenite Jews and as such has become "minhag" for many of us.

As each plague is said aloud, the Seder leader would pour a little bit of wine from his cup into a tin can. When all the plagues have been repeated, the matriarch of the family would take the tin can out into the farthest part of the yard, pour the wine into the ground and say in a loud whisper, "May this go to all of our enemies and haters. May they create no suffering for us or for themselves. Amen!" Those at the table remain very quiet, so that the loud whisper can be heard. In Greece this same ceremony is done with vinegar poured into a can as each plague is said.

Singing "Dayenu," - In Italy the Seder table is set with a green onion (with long stems), one for each person. When it is time to sing Dayenu, each person takes an onion and wields it like a whip. At the chorus, each person takes the onion and whips the wrist of the person next to her/him. The sound of the onion stems represents the sounds of the whips of our slave masters. In Iran Afghanistan and Irag the onions are gathered in a bunch and one person "whips" the person next to her/him, then passes the onion bunch along. Incidentally, this ritual is performed while singing Dayenu because Dayenu is the song of miracles, so the whipping reminds us that it was a miracle to be freed from the lash of oppression. (Yardena shared this custom with us and our Sunday School students. It became a favorite part of the school's family seder for years) The Charoset - is one of the most popular and well-remembered Seder foods. It is part of

the ritual food on the Seder plate, chosen to remind us of our lives as slaves where we had to mix mortar to make the bricks for Pharaoh's buildings. Sephardi charoset is often made with dates as the staple (in Ashkenazi homes the staple is apple) because the color of the dates is similar to the color of mortar. Other Charoset ingredients include a variety of nuts, apricots, cinnamon and wine.

Using this charoset at your Seder table will remind your family, especially the children, of the plight of Cuban Jews and all oppressed people around the world.

Mimouna - ("mee-moh-oo-na) Celebration for the end of Pesach - There are several ways to celebrate the crossing of the Sea of Reeds and our path to freedom. In Sephardi synagogues in Mediterranean countries, the synagogue is opened at one minute after midnight (the end of the eighth night). The Torah is taken from the ark and the Song of Songs is read while congregants dance in the aisles. Following the Torah reading, the Mimouna festival begins. (Mimouna can also be done on the evening of the ninth day with visiting of neighbors and friends.) The Mimouna celebration honors Rabbi Maimon, the father of Moses Maimonides who was the beloved leader of the Moroccan Jews. Traditional Mimouna foods include pita bread, cut into pieces and eaten by dipping a piece into honey. The meaning behind this tradition is that the pita and honey will glue the family together and slavery and oppression will never again separate us. \diamond

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Book Plate

In Memory of

Eve L. Greenstein 8 Years

by Barnet Coltman

KJCC WOMEN'S SEDER REPAIRS THE WORLD: SIXTEEN YEARS OF TIKKUN OLAM

By Linda Kaplan

he Women's Seder is hosting its 16th annual event on April 7th. This joyful occasion celebrates women's contributions to the shul, the community and the world and is dedicated to Tikkun Olam, (repairing the world). All of the food is donated so that all of the money raised can be donated each year directly to the three organizations and projects selected by the Seder Committee. The Sisterhood is especially excited about their choice of beneficiaries this year.

The three beneficiaries this year are the Talia Agler Girls Shelter (TAGS), The KJCC community garden and the Coral Shores High School Food Pantry.

TAGS, in Nairobi, Kenya, was established in January 2012 in memory of Mindy and Rabbi Agler's daughter, Talia, by Tali's mentor, Edith Murogo. It's mission is to offer direct assistance to girls aged between 10-24 years who are victims of human trafficking, child labor, forced migration and sexual abuse. To realize its objectives, the shelter works through 4Rs to: Reach, Rescue, Rehabilitate and Reintegrate "one girl at a time." TAGS accepts girls from Kenva and those who have been trafficked in neighboring countries as well. For more information, contact http://www.globalgiving.org/ projects/talia-agler-girls-shelter/. We have been supporting this worthy effort for four vears now.

The Community Garden at KJCC was built by Harry Friedman for his Eagle Scout Project and is lovingly tended to by his mother, Jane, our garden maven. Each year, the fresh vegetables

are grown and used to make delicious, healthy food for our Onegs and more importantly, are donated to the Burton Memorial Food Bank so that the clientele there have access to healthy, nutritious, fresh vegetables. The garden needs seeds, dirt and other supplies annually but at this time needs an upgrade of the irrigation system. We are happy to help.

The third beneficiary of the Women's Seder is the Coral Shores High School Food Pantry. We often hear of hunger in third world countries but don't usually realize that some of our local high school students are also food insecure. Some children receive their primary source of nutrition at school, where they have breakfast and lunch but then go home to an empty pantry. On weekends, they may have no regular meals. Coral Shores food pantry works to make sure that all of the students have access to food when they are not at school. The Coral Shores Food Pantry receives donations of money, food and gift cards and operates from the school. Some students volunteer to work in the food pantry as community service. The students organize the pantry and help pack food boxes. The food pantry provides for 26 families with students at the school by packing a box of food for each of these families every week.

The cost of the Women's Seder is \$34.00, but we ask seder attendees to consider being more generous this year so that we can provide even more in the way of Tikkun Olam for TAGS, The Community Garden and the Coral Shores Food Pantry. We have a wonderful time in the process, meaningful and delicious. \diamond



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Israel Independence Day Activity

Thursday, May 9th is Israel Independence Day Yom Ha Atzma'ut, and we plan to celebrate it with a trip to
the Jewish Museum in Miami Beach. We will leave in the
morning, have a leisurely lunch in Miami Beach near the
museum, then enjoy the exhibits at the museum. The
fascinating core exhibit details Jewish life in early Florida,
and there are some excellent temporary exhibits as well,
featuring the art work of photographer Andy Sweet, the
sculptures and furniture of Steve Marcus, and a
retrospective of the work of Edna Glaubman. From there we
will go to the Miami Beach JCC to join in their Yom
Ha'Atzmaut celebration, which begins at 5 p.m.
Contact Dave Mont to sign on, and help work out the details.

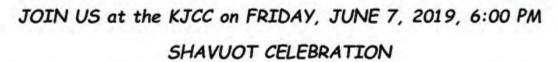
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- Contact Joyce -

joycepeckman@gmail.com - (305) 451-0665 to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish. Please rsvp by June 2nd - No Charge -

On Erev Purim, the first day of spring, with a full moon lighting up our back yard, generosity of Rabbi Zucker, daughter and son-in-law Esther and Mendel, and David Goldfinger), and we raised money for charity. This may have been our rowdiest Purim Eckerd College students to thank for that. Yay. Literally. Rabbi Ed expanded the noise hero, Mordechai and Esther, as the drowning out "grogger" noise we make whenever

daughter Maddie and her friend Leah, blowing their magic trumpets and you have a good idea of the level of levity that abounded. If you missed it, there is always next year to look forward to and more to be learned (Rabbi Ed filled us in on the Hidden

Rabbi Ed presented us with a wonderful gift before starting the reading. Look for it at the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it, It's a mezuzah that could save the world. It was designed by a Scubi Jew and made from the discarded plastic bottle refuse, pollution they pick up while removing debris from the ocean and mangroves... Bless Rabbi Ed and his group's efforts to spread Tikkun HaYam, Repair of the Seas. On

JOYFUL NOISE:
PURIM WITH THE SCUBI-JEWS

On Erev Purim, the first day of spring, with a full moon lighting up our back yard KJCC held a rollicking good Purim Party. We obeyed the mitzvot by reading the ganssa (whole) Megillah (the Scroll of Esther), having a joyous feast (Donna's and Joyce's salads and pizza (including a half dozen kosher ones brought to us by the generosity of Rabbi Zucker, daughter and son-in-law Esther and Mendel, and David Coldfinger), and we raised money for charity. This may have been our rowdiest Pur Party ever. We have Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, Shayna, ten Scuba Jews and six visiting Eckerd College students to thank for that. Yay, Literally. Rabbi Ed expanded the noi quotient of our celebration by insisting that we make as big a joyful noise for our hero, Mordechal and Esther, as the drowning out "grogger" noise we make whenew villain Haman's name is read.

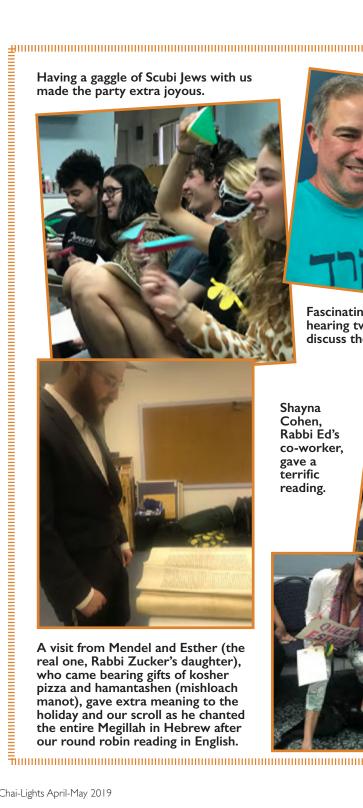
So think triple the noise, triple the enthusiasm, and two little girls, Mark Bloom's daughter Maddie and her friend Leah, blowing their magic trumpets and you have a good idea of the level of levity that abounded. If you missed it, there is always next year to look forward to and more to be learned (Rabbi Ed filled us in on the Hidden Mysteries of Purim).

Rabbi Ed presented us with a wonderful gift before starting the reading. Look for at the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it. It's a mezuzah that could sa the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it. It's a mezuzah that could sa the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it. It's a mezuzah that could sa the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it. It's a mezuzah that could sa the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it. It's a mezuzah that could sa the entrance to our Social Hall's kitchen door. Kiss it. It's a mezuzah that could sa the vorid. It was designed by a Scubi Jew and made from the discarded plastic bottle refuse, pollution they pick up while removing debris from the ocean and mangroves.

Near Hall Marcha Marcha Mar

-- overheard in a discussion at the rollicking were some very serious words: "Without water, there is no life.

the work that Ed and these young people are committed to, and doubly





hearing two rabbis discuss the difficult parts of the Esther story.









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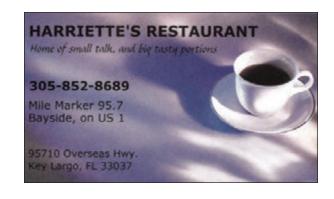
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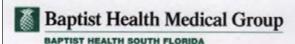
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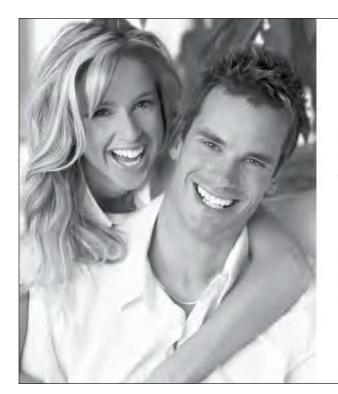
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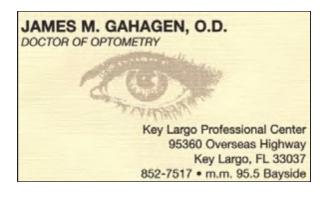
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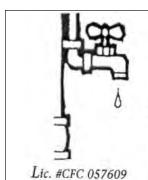
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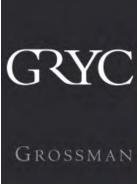
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2019 Joel Cohen Fellowship Award – page 15

A Look Back at Our Seders – page 24

Shavuot: Dairy Dinner, Yizkor, Learning – page 32

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
,	,					1 JUNE
2 Yom Yerushaliym Sisterhood 9:30am KJCC Board 11am Film "Beneath the Helmet" 7 pm		Rosh Chodesh Sivan	Passover in Nairobi, Rabbi & Mindy Agler 7 pm	6	7 Bernie Ginsberg Donna & Bill Bolton, Erica Lieberman-Gar- rett, Jane Friedman Shavuot Dinner 6pm Yizkor Service & learning 7:30 pm	8
9 Shavuot	10 Shavuot	11	12	13	14 Susan Gordon and Linda Pollack Steve & Jan Hartz Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21 Randy Klein-Gross & Family Beth Hayden	22
23	Book Club 12pm	25	26	27	28 Michael Kaufman Michael & Lorena Kaufman	29
30	1 JULY	2	Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	4 Independence Day	5 Joyce Peckman Geri & Stuart Smith Shabbabaque 5:30pm	6
7	8	9	10	11	Steve Steinbock Joyce Peckman	13
14	15	16	17	18	Erica Lieberman- Garrett & Donna Bolton	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Beth Hayden	27
28	Book Club 12pm	30	31	1 AUG	2 Steve Hartz	

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



s I write this, we are still within the period of mourning for Lori Gilbert Kave, murdered in the Chabad of Poway shul. The portrait of this brave, loving, vibrant woman is seared in my mind. This, only six months after eleven people were killed at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. After the shooting. Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, his bloody hand wrapped in a tallis, stood on a chair and told his congregation, "Am Yisrael Chai. We are a Jewish nation that will stand tall. Terrorism like this will not take us down.... We need to show them that evil will never prevail. Let us fill up the synagogue; let's stand tall; let's dance together."

Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein of South Africa wrote "He walked into a shul not only because it was a convenient place to find Jews gathering, but because it symbolized Jewish values and Jewish ideals. Thus, when we respond to anti-Semitism, attending to physical safety to keep out our enemies is only the beginning. Our enemies come up against us, not primarily to destroy our physical bodies and infrastructure. but to destroy our Divine values and ideals and our mission. To be a Jew is not only about our prayers in a synagogue. It is about how we live our life each and every single day, about how much we give to tzedakah and how we treat our fellow

human beings, how and when we pray, what we eat, who we are, what our ethics and values and morals are, and the place of Shabbat in our lives. The shul is a symbol of these values and a place where we gather, to be inspired and to renew our commitment to living a life of what it means to be a Jew in every part of our existence – at home, in our families, at work, in our schools, and in every part of society."

It seems as though a place of worship should be a place of safety; yet hate-filled people have brought death to Jewish Centers, churches and mosques here and around the world. We can react with blind fear, or we can stand tall, be aware, and take protective steps. KJCC's security committee has already made some changes that will add to our safety and continues to investigate further changes. We have had experts in the building, whose assessments are that we are more secure than many other places. We are following up on some of their suggestions. I thank Beth Hayden and Ken Atlas for spearheading this effort. Our goal is to provide a safe place for fellowship, prayer, celebrations, and activities that will bring positive energy into the world.

This will be the last Chai-Lights until September. Some of us will be heading north, and our activity level slows down. We continue to hold Shabbat services every Friday evening, as we have proudly done without fail for almost 40 years, even immediately after Hurricane Irma. We need the increased support of those who remain to ensure that anyone who is looking for Jewish fellowship or needs to say Kaddish or will find a welcoming minyan at KJCC every Friday.

Our next organized Friday dinner will be on June 7th, a Shavuot dairy celebration before

services and learning. Please come, enjoy and partake of a study session that will not last until midnight. Although the calendar now is sparse, events will pop up. Sisterhood Book club will continue through the summer, and there will probably be some films and outings. Check my weekly emails to see what is happening. Dave Mont is always looking for interesting trips and events, so contact him or me if you have any suggestions. \diamond

June Birthdays

2nd	Barbara Osder
2nd	
3rd	
3rd	Elanor Forbes
4th	
5th	
5th	
6th	Donna Bolton
6th	Nancy Kluger
6th	
7th	
7th	Joan P. Wohl
8th	Eina Fishman
8th	Elaine Solas
9th	
9th	
12th	
13th	
13th	
13th	
14th	
15th	Deborah Weiss

-	
15th	Bill Bolton
16th	Marvin Blumenfeld
17th	Leo Haviv
18th	Amelia Kasinof
18th	Kim Haviv
20th	Harvey Klein
21st	Aaron Quesada
21st	Nancy Hershoff
21st	Roberta Chester
21st	Taryn Nobil
22nd	James Patrick Brennan
23rd	Dale Chasteen
23rd	Steve Levine
24th	Delaney Rohde
24th	Rita Bromwich
25th	J <mark>ake</mark> Benjamin Markowitz
	Frank Emkey
27th	Kristy Moss
	Alan Ćooper
29th	Milo Tainow
30th	

Service Leaders

June 7	Bernie Ginsberg
June 14	. Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack
June 21	Randy Klein-Gross & Family
June 28	Michael Kaufman
July 5	Joyce Peckman Presentation

Luucis	
July 12	Steve Steinbock
July 19	. Erica Lieberman-Garrett
	& Donna Bolton
July 26	Beth Hayden
August 2	Steve Hartz

NOSH

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Come to a fabulous dairy dinner, remember our beloved departed in the final Yizkor service of this ceremonial year, led by Bernie Ginsberg, and take part in an after-service-learning experience along lines established more than six centuries ago by the mystics of Tsfat (Safed). It will be a full evening (double entendre intended). We thank Donna Bolton for sponsoring this dinner and Oneg in honor of her and Bill's birthdays and Anniversary; there will be no charge. The oneg is additionally sponsored by Erica Lieberman-Garrett and Iane Friedman to celebrate their wedding anniversaries. Please RSVP to Joyce Peckman at (305)-451 0665 or joycepeckman@gmail.com. (See Poster for details on pp. 32)

Shabbabeque

KJCC's Annual Independence Day Barbeque, fondly known as our Shabbabeque, will be held on Shabbat, Friday eve, July 5th, at 5:30 P.M. Skip Rose and Bernie Ginsberg will head the team manning the grills. Hebrew Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and veggie versions, with all the trimmings, will be served. There will be no charge, thanks to an anonymous donor. The after–service Oneg is sponsored by Geri and Stuart Smith, in honor of Pauline Roller. (See Poster for details on pp. 8)

KJCC Goes Bahamas:

KJCC is planning a three-day, two-night cruise to the Bahamas during a yet-to-be-

determined week in November, 2019. Rita Conklin is helping us find a moderately priced package. If you are interested, please contact Dave Mont at (305 393-9883) or moogoodave@yahoo.com.

Good News for High Holy Days

As we head into the quietest time of our ritual year, we are grateful to announce that our spiritual leader for Rosh HaShanah 2019/5780 will once again be our Resident Scholar, Rabbi Richard Agler. Cantor Michael Dzubin will be assisting, as he has for the past three years. We look forward to their guidance and a most meaningful experience in late September. Gratitude for their leadership can be expressed with a generous donation to our Rabbi/Cantor Fund. Unlike most Synagogues, we never charge for seats.

Book Club News

Eight members of the Sisterhood Book Club met on Monday, April 27 for an intense discussion of "The Weight of Ink," by Rachel Kadish, now available at the KJCC thanks to Joyce Peckman. It was an excellent, thought provoking read. If you liked "People of the Book," you will love this one. The overwhelming consensus was to continue meeting during the summer. Bobbie Chester, our new RSVP person, can be reached at bobbiebunkin@aol.com. The June book choice is "The Two-Family House," by Linda Cohen Loigman. The July choice is "Mazel," by Rebecca Goldstein. (See Poster on PP. 16) \diamond

Yahrzeit plaque

In loving Memory of our Aunt

Pauline Roller

11/05/1915 - 11/18/2018

by Karyn & Bruce Zoren Joyce & Mel Ruthen

Yahrzeit plaque

In Memory of

Hat Sidor Devito

11/03/1961 - 12/29/2017

From Michael DeVito Loving Husband "You Gave So Much"

WHAT'S UP AT KICC

MOVIES, MEETINGS, MEDITATION AND MORE

Sunday, June 2	Yom Yerushaliym • Sisterhood 9:30 AM • KJCC Board 11 AM Film "Beneath the Helmet" 7 PM
Tuesday, June 4	Rosh Chodesh Sivan
Wednesday, June 5	Passover in Nairobi, Rabbi & Mindy Agler 7 PM
Friday, June 7	Shavuot Dinner 6 PM, • Yizkor Service & Learning 7:30 PM
Sunday, June 9 & Monday, June 10	Shavuot
Friday, June 14	Flag Day
Sunday, June 16	Fathers' Day
Monday, June 24	Book Club 12 PM
Wednesday, July 3	Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Thursday, July 4	Independence Day
Friday, July 5	Shabbabaque 5:30 p.m.
Monday, July 29	Book Club 12 PM

I'd like to thank the Adult Education Committee – Gloria Avner, Sam Vinicur and Jeff Schocket – and our dedicated KJCC members who came to the Jewish Film Festival screenings this season. Thanks to all who bought, brought and prepared refreshments and helped with cleanup at the end of the evening. A special thanks to Sam for his technological solutions to unique problems that cropped up on occasion. He remained calm (while I panicked), made phone calls and traveled up north when necessary to find a fix for each tech issue. You all are great! Kol HaKavod! – Medina, Adult Education Chair

A huge thank you goes to Dr. Steve Smith. I was invited to his and Barbara's lovely home to go through Steve's extraordinary Jewish library of books and DVDs, which he offered to donate to the KJCC library. I came away with over 50 items to be added to our collection. Any more and I would have needed a U-Haul! There will be some re-arranging in our existing library to make room for these treasures. Thank you, Dr. Steve! – Medina, KJCC Librarian

We want to welcome our newest members to the KJCC "mishpocha" (or family). It's been delightful to see Joe and Linda Levi at so many functions since they've arrived, and we're happy to welcome back long-time friend Lynn Dils. Our community is all the richer for your having joined us.

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.

- APRIL 2019 —

Memorial Garden

In Memory of Karen Zoren & Joyce Ruthen Bench-Pauline Roller Mah Jongg Iim Boruszak Seder Leader Ioan Boruszak Stuart & Lauren Sax Sam & Lilyan Sax

Maryann Charlap Azzato Yahrzeit Plaque Arthur Plutzer

Baruch Epstein

Pauline Roller Karen Zoren & Joyce Ruthen

Yahrzeit In Memory of **Book Plate**

Gary Margolis Arlene Sugarman Margolis Barney Coltman Ellen Coltman & Laurie Blum

Joan Wohl Milton Wohl Gloria Avner David Gitin

Unrestricted

Ioan Boruszak

MAY 2019 -

Unrestricted	In Memory of	Sisterhood	In Honor of
Mah Jongg		Donna Bolton	Donna & Bill's Birthdays
Islamorada Community En	tertainment, Inc.	Donna Bolton	Donna & Bill's Anniversary
KJCC Sisterhood Steve & Jan Hartz		Anonymous	Sponsorship of May Israeli dinner
Yahrzeit		Mindy Agler	Richard Agler receiving Joel Cohen award
Jerry & Barbara Herson	Rose Herson	Rosemary Barefoot	Steve Steinbock's Birthday
Gerri & Frank Emkey	Alex Perl Gertrude Weisberg	Medina Roy	Medina's & Bernie Ginsberg's Birthdays
Skip Rose	Rene Rose	Beth Hayden	Oneg sponsorship
		Orlando Queseda	in appreciation for KICC Sisterhood

July Birthdays

Alex Hudson
Chely Markowitz
Eitan Loi-Kamely
Jennifer Gilson
Nelson Chester
Patti Gross
Dan Levi
Elissa A. Denker
Rabbi Ed Rosenthal
Joseph Moss
Max Finkelstein
Michael Kaufman
Mindy Ros <mark>enthal</mark>
Lucy Moss

8th	Gary Sherman
9th	Joyce Peckman
11th	Steven Hartz
12th	Rebecca M. Schur
12th	Richard Steinberg
13th	Dot Brooking
13th	Leslie Reamer
14th	David Gross
14th	Paul Eric Bernstein
15th	Danna Levy
17th	Foster Davidson
17th	John Hawver
17th	Shira Goldman
18th	Luzviminda Levine

HOW CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC CAN INSTANTLY BECOME PERMANENT, LIVING MEMORIALS

Yahrzeit Plaques: KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400.

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 wonders 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, with an outdoor plaque included in the price.

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305–852–8575, for information, or send your desired inscription to lindap4000@ymail.com.

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 Joyce Peckman, 305–451–0665.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, to make your donation.

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights or annually in our KJCC Directory. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for annual rates.

GIFT SHOP: We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305–394–0143, to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225, or email her at joycepeckman@gmail.com.

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.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 305-447-5225.

TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT: Bring your empty prescription and vitamin bottles to the KJCC and place in the collection box. We are assisting Burton Memorial with a project to provide empty medicine bottles to Haiti where they are needed.

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES, ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at lindap4000@ymail.com.

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: keysjewishcenter.com. 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. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.



A LETTER ABOUT DOORS FROM RABBI STEVEN SAGER

WE CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATION, WITH AN EYE TO A WINTER LEARNING SHABBATON



Dear Keys Jewish Center friends,

I have been thinking about you since my visit a few months ago, thanks to Rabbi Agler and the rabbinic conference that he arranged. I am particularly grateful to him and honored by you for the opportunity to learn with you.

Your hospitality—your wide-open doors—move me to send you this short introduction to the rich theme of doors, doorways, and transitions:

The door is a richly important element in Jewish religious imagination. The door presides over comings and goings, over transitions. It demarcates the responsibilities and commitments of in, on one side, and out, on the other side. We should be mindful of how we move from one realm to the next. What do we take with us on our journeys? What do we leave at the door as we go in or out? The mezuzah is a reminder that it is just at the place where in and out are hinged that we should be most thoughtful.

Teachers open doors for their students; colleagues and fellow travelers and friends open for, and to, one another. Opportunity knocks, the proverb tells us. The voice of my beloved knocks, says The Song of Songs. I knock expectantly: The past that is behind me and future before me meet at the opening door. The doorway is crowded with precedent and with expectation. Elijah, who symbolizes past and future, precedent and expectation, is usually found at the door.

In Jewish law, the door separates the inner Sabbath realm from the outer work—a—day world. It is precisely here, at the door, on the Sabbath, that ancient sages raise the question of how inner Sabbath tranquility opens to the presence of the needy who stand outside. Doors are barriers both for better and for worse. At the open door we might risk vulnerability. But the consequences of the closed door can be ignorance and indifference to a world that is shut out.

Doors of the spirit open to inner, personal life arcing over thresholds of perception, pain, tolerance, and knowledge. Some thresholds prompt us to lock ourselves safely within. At the same time, the Jewish year contains sacred seasons that are well-framed opportunities to open

inner doors that tend to remain closed. Study, prayer, and acts of kindness are ways of knocking on doors beyond and within hoping that they will open to inner and wider, deeper and higher worlds. Doors open to the possibility of joining all the compartments of the world's house, making the world one space and connecting all inhabitants.

A knock on the door rings hollow without imagining that a Listening Ear (Pirke Avot 2:1) makes response possible. Therefore, we knock and the heart quickens as we listen. We are hoping to see something that we have not seen before. According to the poet, Yehuda Amichai, we are not the only ones waiting at the door. He teaches that our frail lives are doors through which God enters the world to learn something previously unknown: But through the wound in my chest God peeks into the world/I am the door of his dwelling. \diamond

June Anniversaries

	Years			
1st	Jim & Rita Williams35			
1st	Joel Bernard & Joan Stark 33			
5th	Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Ron Garrett 25			
7th	Richard & Sheila Steinberg 60			
8th	Stephan & Jane Friedman23			
11th	Medina & Carl Roy47			
12th	Steven & Jan Hartz43			
12th	Bill & Donna Bolton26			
19th	Richard & Mindy Agler43			
21st	Nelson & Roberta Chester 49			
21st	Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake 32			
23rd	Stuart & Lauren Sax45			
25th	Herbert & Elinor Grossman 62			
28th	Lloyd & Rae Wruble50			
28th	Wes & Rita Conklin 49			
29th	Jerry & Betty Small 50			
July Anniversaries				
	Years			
2nd	Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross 19			
9th	Terry Willner-Tainow & Jon Tainow 47			

Oneg Sponsors for June & July 2019

lason & Debbie Madnick 24

	June a July 2013
June 7:	Donna Bolton (Dinner Sponsor) in Honor of Bill & Donna's Birthdays
	Donna & Bill Bolton in Honor of their 26th Anniversary
	Erica Lieberman-Garrett in Honor of her 25th Anniversary
	Jane Friedman in Honor of her Anniversary
June 14:	Steve & Jan Hartz in Honor of their Anniversary
June 21:	Beth Hayden Appreciation of KJCC
June 28:	Michael & Lorena Kaufman in Honor of Michael's Birthday
July 5:	Geri & Stuart Smith in Honor of Pauline Roller
July 12:	Joyce Peckman in Honor of her Birthday

August Anniversaries

		Years
3rd	Augie & Kristy Moss	6
7th	Larry & Dorothy Wolfe	62
14th	Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitze	er 47
15th	Richard & Barbara Knowles	20
15th	Paul & Susan Roberts	51
16th	Ira & Shirley Stein	61
16th	Jeff & Lynn Dils	34
21st	Jeff & Lisa Miller	42
22nd	Franklin & Judy Greenman	37
27th	Israel & Nissan Mayk	47

JOEL COHEN'S GRANDSON HONORS JOHN SINGER

Many of you will know this face and many of you won't. He wasn't a stepfather: he was a father who stepped up! He came into my life at just 7 months old, threw me over his shoulder when my parents divorced and never looked back! He taught me to be a man, responsible, and above all a good person to others. These traits radiated out of him. As of 2:20 pm, February 22nd, he went to be with God in Heaven. He was a believer . . . which is helping us all cope as best as we can. He was a Veteran and served his country during the Vietnam War. He always helped others, and you never saw him even remotely upset. He always taught us to understand

that we never sweat the small stuff, followed by everything is small enough to not get upset over. He believed in family and was always helping in anyway he could.



12th

SCUBI JEWS HELP TO REPAIR THE SEA IN THE FLORIDA KEYS DURING THEIR SPRING BREAK

By Linda Kaplan, Esq. and Dr. Jan Louise Lindsay-Hartz

Most people who live in the Keys care about the oceans and marine life and are aware that the oceans are being choked by plastic. But the problem seems overwhelming. Fortunately, we have a group of students that are helping and encouraging others to help "repair the sea". This group is the Scubi Jews, led by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal.

Rabbi Ed's writes in his recent blog about the Scubi Jews Spring Break trip:

"It's been an incredible Spring Break. The students have worked hard removing plastic and other debris from the ocean, mangroves and beaches in Key Largo. There is more plastic than anyone can ever imagine. We must reduce our use and remove what's already out there. It's killing the ocean... and if we don't Repair the Sea, the rest of the planet doesn't stand a chance.

Thanks to all of our friends at the Keys Jewish Community Center, Rainbow Reef Dive Center, Captain Slate, and Florida Bay Outfitters. A special thanks to Shayna Cohen who organized this amazing experience, and to all the students who could have been taking it easy over spring break but instead wanted to do their part to Repair the Sea.

Kayaks help our students access hard to reach mangroves during our debris clean ups. Piles of lobster trap lines, two piggy banks, and 1,436 other plastic debris items were removed from the roots of these important ecosystems on the north end of Key Largo.

Big thanks to Florida Bay Outfitters for donating the kayaks!"

Scubi Jews is an organization that started at Eckerd College as part of its Hillel organization. Hillel is the largest Jewish Campus organization in the world with branches in over 550 universities across the globe. Eckerd College Hillel led by Rabbi Ed. Rosenthal has taken Hillel in a new direction with the Scubi Jews program.

Based on the tenet of Tikkun Olam, which is the Hebrew word for the Jewish responsibility to repair the world, and focusing on the marine environment, Scubi Jews is dedicated to educating students about the intersection of Judaism and the Sea. Their programs are intended to help repair the damage done to the oceans, rivers and lakes of the world and the creatures that live in them. They call it Tikkun HaYam, which is Hebrew for "Repair the Sea." They sponsor local reef and waterfront cleanups, coral restoration dives in Key Largo, shark awareness dives in the Bahamas, manatee appreciation trips to Crystal River, speakers, movies and much more.

Scubi Jews is one of the most popular programs at Eckerd college for Jewish and non-Jewish students alike and has inspired the creation of Scubi-Jews organizations on numerous other college campuses . Scubi Jews have done many Coral Restoration Dive Trips to the Keys as well as waterfront clean-ups. Rabbi Ed will soon be hosting the world-wide head of Hillel in Key Largo, to teach him and his two sons to scuba dive and see for themselves what the Scubi Jews have been doing. Hopefully this will lead to more Scubi Jews organizations on more college campuses.

Many people in the Keys understand the importance of the water to our way of life. Hopefully the Scubi Jews will inspire us to take more action to Repair the Seas.



In Memoriam – June 2019

David Gitin

By Gloria Avner

Leo Blitzer

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strump-Blitzer

Louis R. Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

Michael Brooks

By Jeff & Lynn Dils

Betty Weiss

By Janice Gorson

Yolanda Haviv

By Leo Haviv

Max Tuchman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Rose Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Esther R. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Sam Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Leo Finklestein

By Max Finklestein

Barbara Gould

By Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

Andrew Hutchison

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Lucy Kaufman

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Samuel Segal

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Lois Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn

Clara Brooks

By Jeff & Lynn Dils

Bea Ginsberg

By Bernard Ginsberg

Kurt Scaller

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

Samuel Horn

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Celestina Bravo-Mendez

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Ruth Rosen

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Leo Wolynetz

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Carl C. Reiff

By Roberta McNew

Morris Rose

By Skip Rose

Jan Finer

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Candi Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Rose Fine

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Emilia Mendez

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Max Margulies

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Dale Gerber

By Dave Mont & Georgia Landau

Jean Shaw

By Skip Rose

Rose Graff Rosenfeld

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Leonard Tobin

By Andrew M. Tobin

Arthur Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Rick Mcnew

By Roberta McNew

Leslie Peckman

By Joyce Peckman

Milton Lang

By Skip Rose

Sam Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Irma Weihl

By Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl

In Memoriam – July 2019

Nettie Goodman

By Gloria Avner

Laura Bofshever

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Sylvia Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

Margaret Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

Les Reitman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Miriam Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Harold Rosenthal

By Ed & Mindy Rosenthal

Phyliss Bloom

By Marc Bloom

William Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn

Ronald Horn

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Pearl Jacobs

By Lawrence Jacobs

Otto Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

Fred Ross

By Joyce Peckman

Leon Kirschenbaum

By Medina Roy

Abraham L. Blumenfeld

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

Saul Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Jacob Ratchik

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Sydney Emsig

By Lawrence Jacobs

Fred Doellefeld

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Paula Travers

By Michele Riley

Frank Stanley Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Morgan Rowen

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Harvey Kelman

By Elaine Schulberg

Stanley H. Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Ben Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Alfred Eichler

By Judith Weber

Beth Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Sylvia Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Manya Starr

By Adam & Judy Starr

Mack Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Frieda Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Alan Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Jack Leonard Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Wally Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Milton Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Henrietta Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Leaf on Tree of Life

To Celebrate the Anniversary of

Hat Sidor Devito & Michael Devito

February 2, 2011

Book Plate

In Memory of

Ellen Coltman

by Barnet Coltman

In Memoriam – August 2019

Isaac Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Priscilla Leshin

By Joan Boruszak

Gary W. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Robert Davidson

By Foster Davidson

Henry Kirschenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Manuel Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

Chanoch Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Sidney Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Dick Bromwich

By Rita Bromwich

Sandra Kanarek

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Marty Faye

By Sydney! Faye-Davis

Florence Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

Nathan Herson

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

Pauline Rosenzweig

By Gunther & Shirley Karger

Ralph Bofshever

By loel & Toby Bofshever

Zelda Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

Ethel Feinberg

By Hanna David

S. Marshall Gorson

By Janice Gorson

Margaux Rene Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

Sheldon David Horowitz

By Beth Horowitz

Shirley Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Max Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Gizella Reiff

By Roberta McNew

Joel Reed Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Tom Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Mollie Z. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Erwin Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Seymour H. Levin

By Sanford Yankow

Mollie Lawent

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Leonard Pearl

By Scott & Mary Anne Pearl

Howard Shutan

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Bernard Solas

By Elaine Solas

Meyer G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Ida R. Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

Isaac Cohen Pardo

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Chanoch Shiloh

By Jan Price-Shiloh

Martha Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Olga Schuman

By Adam & Judy Starr

Samuel Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Ralph Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

2019 JOEL COHEN FELLOWSHIP AWARD

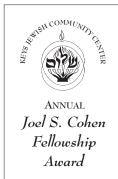
edina had just delivered her parashah on the last erev Shabbat before Pesach and announcements were complete. Though no one but previous winners knew it, it was time to present this year's Joel Cohen Fellowship Award, the highest honor that KJCC can give to one of its members.

Sam Vinicur, building the suspense, explained the history and meaning of the award beautifully, reminding everyone that "KJCC is an organization of volunteers, founded by a remarkable group of people . . . motivated and determined to make KJCC both a haven and a success. . . . At some point it became clear to the founders that an annual award needed to be established, to

recognize those who stood out, who seemed to have bottomless reserves of time, talents, and especially their hearts to give to KJCC." Joel Cohen, our founding father, was the first recipient and the award was named after him. The winner is determined solely by a vote of previous recipients, each of whom can recommend and then vote on the person deemed most deserving of this honor.

Sam asked all previous winners to stand for the presentation. Bernie Ginsberg, Steve Steinbock, Steve Smith, Linda Pollack, Susan Gordon, Marc Bloom, Nettie and Jules Seder, Medina Roy, Joyce Peckman, Sam Vinicur and Gloria Avner all stood for the presentation as Gloria read the words from the plaque.





Rahhi Kichard Agler

For all the years

You've enriched our KJCC community,
Offering Innowledge as Resident Scholar,
Welcoming us to your home at Sukkot,
Sharing your rabbinic friends & teachers,
Giving Jewish perspective to everything
From art history to acts of human darkness,
Always deepening our monthly Shabbat
Mornings with learning beyond ritual.

For this and more, we honor you, With gratitude and love.

April 2019 Pesach 5779

It was a big surprise to Rabbi Agler, and well deserved. Mindy knew but didn't tell, though she did sponsor the Oneg in his honor. Thank you again, Rabbi Richard Agler.

Dear Friends,

Once again, thank you so much for this wonderful honor. As I mentioned on the evening of its presentation, in addition to being a complete and unexpected surprise, it was also, upon reflection, something of a reverse gift.

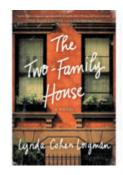
Since Mindy and I moved to the Keys full time seven years ago, the KJCC has been a great blessing to us. Not only as a place for worship, learning and community, but also, specifically for me as a rabbi, a place to serve and to continue to fulfill a portion of my calling—free from the burdens that customarily accompany it in congregational settings. Whatever I have been able to do at, for and with the KJCC is a direct result of the membership and leadership's endorsement of this relationship. It is for this that I am most grateful and this is the reason that it truly belongs to the entire community.

Thank you specifically to the previous recipients who made the selection. And once again, to the entire Keys Jewish community for being ours.

L'shalom, Rabbi Richard Agler, DD



Mangrove Mike's Cafe · MM 82.2 Bayside, Islamorada



The Two-Family House by Linda Cohen Loigman

Monday, June 24 · Noon

Brooklyn, 1947: In the midst of a blizzard, in a two-family brownstone, two babies are born, minutes apart. The mothers are sisters by marriage: dutiful, quiet Rose, who wants nothing more than to please her difficult husband; and warm, generous Helen, the exhausted mother of four rambunctious boys who seem to need her less and less each day. Raising their families side by side, supporting one another, Rose and Helen share an impenetrable bond forged before and during that dramatic winter night.



Mazel by Rebecca Goldstein

Monday, July 29 · Noon

Mazel means luck in Yiddish, and luck is the guiding force in this magical and mesmerizing novel that spans three generations. Sasha Saunders is the daughter of a Polish rabbi who abandons the shtetl and wins renown as a Yiddish actress in Warsaw and New York. Her daughter Chloe becomes a professor of classics at Columbia. Chloe s daughter Phoebe grows up to become a mathematician who is drawn to traditional Judaism and the sort of domestic life her mother and grandmother rejected.

RSVP and more information - Bobbi Chester - bobbiebunkin@aol.com 630-430-7100

SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



We should expect to see some winding down of activities as we enter into the steamy-hot summer months here in the Florida Keys. Several of our "mostly year-round residents" head for cooler climates, even if it's just for a couple of months, to escape the humidity, which creeps into our lovely island community at this time of year.

We've had a full season at the KJCC, with several wonderful activities enjoyed by many. Our Passover Seders were outstanding. The 16th Annual Women's Seder was held on Sunday April 7th at the KJCC. There were 43 women in attendance. I've been told by several women that this was the best women's seder ever. It truly was wonderful! Through our Tikkun Olam efforts, we raised \$2,250.00 in donations to support three selected organizations. This year's beneficiaries are the Coral Shores High School Food Pantry, the Talia Agler Girls Shelter and the KJCC Community Garden. Each year, we honor one of our own women within the KJCC Community and recognize her contributions to the KJCC and Sisterhood. Our honoree this year is Beth Hayden. She has done so much for the good of the synagogue during her two year term as KJCC President, and currently serves as Sisterhood Vice President.

The Second Night Community Seder was held at the Islamorada Fishing Club on Saturday, April 20. There were 46 people in attendance. The waterfront club is a delightful venue, and Vinny, the food & beverage manager, is a joy to work with. I would like to thank those who led the lovely seder along with me that evening; Steve Hartz, Beth Hayden, Gloria Avner, and Steve Steinbock. The following month, on Friday May 10, we celebrated Yom HaAtzma'ut, Israel Independence Day, with an Israeli food themed Shabbat Dinner. The buffet was overflowing with an enormous selection of mouth-watering home-cooked Israeli specialty dishes, all prepared by our talented KJCC Sisterhood members.

Festive Israeli Folk music was playing in the background as we dined. It felt more like a party than a dinner, and nobody left the table hungry!

Our next holiday dinner is scheduled for the evening of Friday, June 7, at 6:00 p.m. This will be a traditional Dairy Shavuot Shabbat dinner. Please take a look at the flyer in this issue of Chai-Lights and direct your RSVP to Joyce Peckman. There is no charge for the Shavuot Dinner. Many thanks to Donna Bolton who is sponsoring the dinner in celebration of her and Bill's upcoming birthdays!

Please plan to join us for our last official Sisterhood meeting of the season on Sunday, June 2nd, at 9:30 a.m. We will then take a two-month vacation from meetings before returning in early September to plan for the High Holidays, which will begin on Sunday, September 29, with an Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner before services.

The women of Sisterhood are planning to enjoy a relaxing "End of Season" Luncheon on Sunday, June 9. at 11:30 a.m., at Buzzard's Roost Restaurant. Please let me know if you plan to attend, as I will need to make a reservation with the restaurant by June 5th.

The Sisterhood Book Club will meet on Monday, June 24, at 12:00 noon at Mangrove Mike's Café in Islamorada. The book chosen for the month of June is The Two-Family House, by Linda Cohen Loigman. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Bobbi Chester.

Although not officially a Sisterhood event, Please add to your calendar the evening of Friday, July 5, for the KJCC Annual Patriotic Shabbabaque. The traditional cookout will begin at 6:00 p.m. Be sure to wear your Red, White & Blue! Skip Rose & Bernie Ginsberg are the co-chairs for the dinner, with Jane Friedman's assistance. Please RSVP to Skip Rose. You will find the flyer for the Shabbabaque in this issue of Chai~Lights.

Wishing all a relaxing and enjoyable summer!

A Bashert Hour: KJCC Meets a Unique Jewish Artist, By Accident



e hadn't planned to be there: he was on his way out of the Jewish Museum while we were coming in. The bearded young man sharing stories with us was a cross between cartoonist and documentarian—a New York City born

and bred Sephardic sculptor, painter and preserver of all things Jewish — authentic, but with a contemporary, very humorous, dry-wry twist.

He makes yads that incorporate the tips cut off from

Shofar horns so they may

be blown (one has a kudu tip and came from Botswana). His ink is made from soot the same way ancient Torah scribes did it, and the paint he makes uses milk with casein as a key

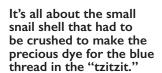


ingredient, the same as used on 18th and 19th century painted furniture. His name is Steve Marcus and the exhibit is called "Through the Hat: A Cartoon World of Jewish Folk Art."

Our little KJCC Activities Group was beyond happy to meet him.

Though our intent on this very warm Yom

On the bottom left is the yad (Torah pointer in form of a hand) made with kudu horn tip and lost wax cast bronze hand.



These carved wood figures are no more than 3 inches tall.





We are grateful to Dave Mont for putting this excursion together.

HaAtzmaut Day was to celebrate the anniversary of Israel's birth by visiting the Jewish Museum in Miami Beach, we saw much more than the photographic exhibit that brought us there, Andy Sweet's "Shtetl in the Sun" collection, with its images of bubbies and zadies walking Miami's beaches and sitting on hotel porches. We saw the museum's main South Florida memorabilia collection too, and an exhibit of exotic antique Groggers (that we'll save to show you next Purim), but our hour with Steve Marcus and his wide, wild assortment of works, from paintings of classic Brooklyn street scenes to applewood mezu-

zahs to handmade lecterns to miniature carved rabbis and butchers, delighted us more than anything we could have imagined. As the poster promised, it was definitely "better than salami." We invited him to visit KJCC and join us for Shavuot dinner. We want you to meet and love him too. His art may well be gracing our walls this winter. Lucky us. \diamond



We were a happy crew.



Marcus' take on the

diamond district.

PHOTO GALLERY



Maddie Pollack made a beautiful Queen at her School's Junior Prom Gala. Congratulations, Maddie and Grandmother Linda Pollack.

Gloria Avner and Medina Roy after leading the Yom HaShoah Memorial Service





Yes, this is a very excited iguana (whose tail was twice as long in real life as portrayed here) who might have given us a fine Scot Joplin routine after Sisterhood meeting last month if the lid to Beth Hayden's Steinway had not been closed. From here he leapt to the bimah where Susan Gordon wrestled him into catatonic submission and took him, wrapped in swaddling (a towel), outside the building. Hopefully he was as traumatized as we were and will not come back. Bravo, Susan (and Linda Pollack, for taking this once-in-a-lifetime photo)

Sisterhood President, Susan Gordon, proudly presents KJCC President, Joyce Peckman with \$2500 donation.





We could call these two well-clad ladies the KJCC twins far from home, looking lovely in Texas. Thanks, Stuart Sax, for sending us these pics of past Sisterhood Presidents Lauren Sax and Joan Boruszak.



Rabbi Agler dresses Torah for return to the Ark after Joyce reads three verses of Kidoshim at the last Shabbat Morning Learning Service until Autumn.

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



This "Heart" Needs to Learn How to "Behave"

Scientists at Israel's Tel Aviv University say they have created the world's first 3D-printed heart, with human tissue and blood vessels. The researchers are hoping this technology could one day be used to help human patients in need of a heart transplant, Lead researcher Tal Dvir said that, while other scientists in the past have managed to print a 3D structure of a heart. this is the first time an entire heart with cells, blood vessels, ventricles and chambers has been printed. "Our results demonstrate the potential of our approach for engineering personalized tissue and organ replacement in the future." Dvir said. The scientists' research was outlined in a paper published in the peer-reviewed journal, Advanced Science. They used fatty tissues taken from human patients to create the heart. The cellular material in the tissue was reprogrammed to become stem cells. The remaining extracellular material - including molecules such as collagen, a protein that supports cell structure - was processed into a hydrogel. The scientists used the hydrogel as a printing "ink." The final result was a heart - the size of a rabbit's heart with properties that match the immunological, cellular, biochemical and anatomical properties of a specific patient. The team's next step is to cultivate the organs in a lab and teach them how to "behave" like hearts. Dvir's 3D-printed hearts can currently contract, but the cells still need to be able to have pumping ability. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease is the leading cause of death in both men and women in the United States. Some 610.000 people in America die of this disease every year - about one in every four deaths. And why is this amazing new technology necessary? The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that, at the present time, there are over 3,700 candidates waiting for a heart transplant in the U.S. (www.huffpost.com, 4–17–19)

Help for "Smartphone Zombies"

Two Israeli cities - Ashkelon and Tel Aviv-Yafo, are experimenting with creative ways to keep pedestrians safe from what has become a serious problem. You've seen them...walkers thoroughly engrossed in their phones and drivers distracted by texting or talking on their own phones. According to the Or Yarok (Green Light) Association for Safer Driving in Israel, 79 percent of pedestrian injuries occur in crosswalks. The southern city of Ashkelon has painted a "three-dimensional" pedestrian crossing. The lines catch one's attention and are an optical illusion using color and shadows, causing drivers to slow down as they approach. Tel Aviv-Yafo is taking a different approach. The largest Israeli city has chosen to fight all the "smartphone zombies" roaming its streets by installing Israel's first LED light strips at a pedestrian crossing near City Hall. The light strips are connected to existing traffic lights and are installed at the edges of the pavement. They change color to red and green at the same time as the traffic lights. The goal of this floor lighting is to prevent texting pedestrians from crossing the road at a red light. Ashkelon is following a strategy first tried in India three years ago. Tel Aviv is following cities in Europe, Singapore and Australia that use similar lighting strategies at crosswalks. (www.israel21c.org, 4-9-19)

An Award for "Gold"

Among the 2019 winners of the prestigious James Beard Foundation award was Zahav, an Israeli eatery in Philadelphia. Zahav won the award for "Outstanding Restaurant." Michael Solomonov, a native Israeli, and Steve Cook founded the restaurant in 2008. (Zahav means "gold" in Hebrew). The two men previously won the foundation's Best Book award in 2016 for "Zahav: A World of Israeli Cooking" and Solomonov won the

Best Chef award the following year. Solomonov moved to Pittsburgh as a child and returned to Israel as a teenager for a short time. He moved away from his classical European training and became more interested in cooking food that reflected his Israeli heritage. (www.jta.org, 5–7–19)

A Pulitzer for the Pittsburgh-Post Gazette

The 2019 Pulitzer Prize in breaking news reporting went to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for its coverage (ten stories total) of the Tree of Life Synagogue massacre last October, when eleven people were shot and killed by a gunman as they gathered for Shabbat morning services. (The front-page headline of the newspaper contained the first four words of the Mourner's Kaddish prayer using Hebrew letters.) The prize, the most prestigious in journalism, was awarded to the newspaper's entire reporting staff. The prize committee recognized the newspaper for "immersive, compassionate coverage... that captured the anguish and resilience of a community thrust into grief." (www.forward.com, 4-15-19)

Einstein's Call for Jewish Solidarity

Shortly before Hitler invaded Poland in 1939, triggering World War II and the Holocaust, Albert Einstein wrote a letter calling for lewish solidarity. "The power of resistance which has enabled the Jewish people to survive for thousands of years has been based to a large extent on traditions of mutual helpfulness," Einstein began. He continued, saving..."We have no other means of self-defense than our solidarity and our knowledge that the cause for which we are suffering is a momentous and sacred cause." The letter was addressed to Dr. Maurice Lenz of New York. Lenz was an activist helping European Jewish refugees to enter the United States. That original letter recently sold at an auction by Los Angeles-based Nate D. Sanders Auctions for \$134,343. Bidding for the letter opened at \$12,000 but escalated steadily with intense competition among 23 bidders. The final price exceeded by far the previous high sale of \$53.504 among the twenty Einstein letters offered by Sanders since 2017. Even the original iconic photo of Einstein sticking out his tongue at the photographers came in second at \$125,000. Einstein mailed the letter from Princeton, New Jersey on June 10, 1939 as Jews were fleeing Nazi Germany and Hitler was less than three months from his launch of World War II. Einstein concluded his letter to Lenz saying, "It must be a source of deep satisfaction to you to be making so important a contribution toward rescuing our persecuted fellow–Jews from their calamitous peril and leading them toward a better future." (www.timesofisrael.com, 3–31–19)

"A Leader in Medical Science..."

Newsweek magazine has named Israel's Sheba Medical Center at Tel HaShomer in Ramat Gan (a suburb of Tel Aviv) as one of the top ten best hospitals in the world. Sheba came in at number ten on the list that includes the Mavo Clinic and the Cleveland Clinic. The magazine partnered with a global market research and consumer data company to develop the list. Newsweek called Sheba "a leader in medical science and biotechnical innovation, both in the Middle East and worldwide. The center's collaborations with international parties have advanced innovative medical practices, hospital systems and biotechnology." Sheba Medical Center, Tel HaShomer was founded in 1948 and is affiliated with Tel Aviv University. It serves over one million patients a year. (www.jpost. com, 5-7-19

Arachnophobia? Study Says Go to the Movies!

Researchers from Bar-Ilan University and Ariel University suggest that short exposure to the Marvel superhero movies featuring Spider-Man can reduce symptoms of arachnophobia (the class that includes spiders, scorpions and ticks) by up to twenty percent. The researchers' goal was to test the theory that exposure therapy to phobic stimuli can counteract irrational fears. Until now, the effects of positive exposure have not been tested in cognitive behavioral therapy. Professor Menachem Ben-Ezra and Dr. Yaakov Hoffman exposed some 400 subjects to seven-second excerpts from Marvel's Spider-Man and Ant-Man movies to see what effect it had on those with spider and ant phobias. "Seven-second exposure to insect-specific stimuli within a positive context, reduces the level of phobic symptoms," the researchers wrote in the study published in the journal Frontiers in Psychiatry. Ben-Ezra and Hoffman are continuing

their research in this area and will also examine the effects of Marvel movies on those suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. (www. timesofisrael.com, 4-24-19)

Israel at 71

Some interesting facts:

- As of May 2019, Israel's population is 9,009,000. About 74.2 percent are Jews, 21 percent Muslim or Christian Arabs and the rest non-Arab Christians and others.
- Israel has the highest number of startups per capita in the world.
- Israel's expenditure on research and development (R&D) as a percentage of its GDP (4.21 percent) is the highest in the world.
- Israel ranks #2 among top 10 countries for scientific research, based on the number of scientific research papers released, the number of patents registered, the percentage of GDP spent on R&D and the number of researchers per 1,000 people.
- Israel has the lowest rate of diet-related deaths in the world.
- Since its establishment in 1901, the Jewish National Fund (JNF) has planted more than 240 million trees in Israel.
- Israel is one of the only countries in the world that ended the 20th century with more trees than it had at the start.
- Israel recycles 87 percent of its wastewater for agriculture, much more than any other country in the world.
- Israel has the highest number of engineers and scientists per capita.
- Israel boasts a literacy level of 97.8 percent of citizens above the age of 15.
- Israel is home to 66 institutions of higher education.
- Tel Aviv has the highest number of pet dogs per capita in the world – one pooch per every seventeen residents. (www.israel21c.org, 5–7–19)

In Memoriam

Menachem Mendel Taub, the Rebbe of the Kaliv Hasidic dynasty in Jerusalem, died at the end of April. He was 96. Taub devoted his life to memorializing the Holocaust and helping fellow survivors. He was born in Transylvania, what was then Romania. He was deported with

his siblings to Auschwitz. The notorious Dr. Josef Mengele experimented on him and, as a result, Taub was unable to grow facial hair. His siblings were killed in Auschwitz and Taub was transferred to the Breslau and Bergen-Belsen camps. He married his first wife before the war. (She died in 2010.) They were reunited after the war and moved to Cleveland, Ohio. In 1962, they immigrated to Israel and reestablished the Kaliv community in B'nei Brak, a suburb of Tel Aviv, where it is still active. Taub encouraged the memorialization of Holocaust victims at public events in Israel. Because of his life's work and stature, thousands attended his funeral. (www.forward.com, 4–29–19)

Henry Bloch, co-founder with his brother Richard of the international tax giant H&R Block, died at the end of April. He, too, was 96. (The brothers used the name "Block" for the company in order to make sure clients pronounced their name correctly.) When Bloch returned to Kansas City from World War II, he was 24, a decorated veteran of the Army Air Corps, having flown 32 missions as a navigator, mostly over Germany. He then started a bookkeeping service. In 1955, he and Richard began the tax preparation service which quickly grew. In its first tax season, H&R Block prepared some 2,700 income tax returns and brought in \$20,000. The following year, revenue tripled. Since its beginnings, the company has prepared more than 800 million tax returns and now prepares one in every seven U.S. taxpayers' returns. Henry Bloch was a philanthropist who contributed to many causes. He established a foundation in 2011 with his wife, listing seven areas of focus including "organizations that advance social and economic justice issues in the Jewish community." He made headlines in 1990 when it was reported that he was denied membership in the Kansas City Country Club because he was lewish. As a result. Tom Watson, a famous pro golfer whose then-wife and two children were lewish, guit the club in protest. He rejoined only when the club extended membership to Bloch. Asked to comment on the incident, Bloch told reporters, "It's the first time I ever made the sports page." (www. washingtonpost.com, 4-23-19) ◊

A Look Back at Our Seders

WOMEN'S SEDER 16 YEARS OF TIKKUN OLAM

For sixteen years, the women of the Keys Jewish Community Center have focused on raising funds to repair the world (Tikkun Olam, in Hebrew) by having an extra Passover Seder, a week before the official start of Pesach. We invite friends and family, Jews and non-Jews, and ask them to join with us in a most meaningful celebratory evening, a ceremony focused not just on our history (and her-story), but on taking action in the present working to pursue justice and freedom, and promote wellbeing in the world beyond our small extended family. This year we raised more funds than ever before. There were the most first time attendees this year too. Our friends love adding their names on decorated pieces of fabric to our giant tablecloth of honor. Already a tour of the cloth has become, in many ways and places, a hanging of remembrance.

We will forever know that these women from our larger-than-KJCC community were here with us, helping us educate once-trafficked girls in Kenya, cultivate our garden so produce can go to Burton Memorial Church's Foodbank, and add to the resources at Coral Shores High School so 26 families of high school students will not go hungry on weekends.

We honor a woman of our own each year and add her name to our special hanging. Congratulations, Beth Hayden. We honor a woman from the past, this year the brave and talented songwriter/martyr Hanna Szenes. But it is also moving to hear every woman speak her mother's and grandmothers' names, and then to bless the symbolic foods reminding us of our gifts and our struggles, to sing the traditional songs we love so much, to make a joyful noise with a myriad of instruments (thanks to Susan Bazin, Key Largo School Band teacher). The refrain "Dayenu!" ("that would have been enough"), reminds of how much we have to be grateful for (and I haven't even mentioned the magnificent homemade food!). We opened our pocketbooks a little wider this year, and our hearts. Next year in the KJCC Social Hall! We will do it again.



beautifully. We all are moved.

BETH HAYDEN WOMEN'S SEDER HONOREE OF 2019

Beth Hayden grew up in Upstate NY. She earned her BA in Piano Performance at Ohio's Oberlin Conservatory, and her Masters and Doctoral degrees from Boston University. For the next ten years she taught piano performance, music history and music theory at the State University of NY in Plattsburgh, but then, in 1978 Beth resigned her tenured position and went to Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, Beth went to Ulpan to study Hebrew, took the name Elisheva, taught at Hebrew University's Rubin Academy and performed. Her performances were played on Jerusalem's classical music radio station. She married Mischa Steiglitz, an immigrant from Russia who was serving in the Israeli army. They were only married for eight years, when he was killed in Lebanon.

Beth eventually returned to the United States, settled in Miami and began a second career in health administration and management. She began at Florida's Health and Rehabilitative Services, eventually becoming AIDS coordinator at the Prevention and Treatment Center, a dedicated HIV/AIDS Clinic, on Miami Beach. She was then hired in an administrative capacity to manage quality management for the Miami-Dade County Ryan White Part A Program (a 24 million dollar federal grant funding medical care and support services for indigent HIV/AIDS patients) and staff support for the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership, an advisory board to the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Commissioners.

Beth used to drive down to the Keys when she first came, because she liked its ambience. She would see the KJCC sign and wonder what kind of Jews lived in the Keys. One September, after looking but never finding a synagogue that she liked in Miami, she called KJCC and asked how much it would cost for High Holy Day tickets. Jim Boruszak told her, "No need to buy tickets; just come and see if you like it." She did and became a member, making the long drive from Homestead. The following year Beth became recording secretary, an extremely important position that she held for many years, and now holds again, after just completing a two-year stint as President of KJCC. Several years ago, Beth sold her house in Homestead, and bought the house off Route C-905, where she now lives with her Chinese Crested dogs.

After falling in love with Chinese Cresteds on an AKC televised dog show, Beth bought books about these adorable little dogs. There was not a lot of information available about them. She then joined the online Chinese Crested Matchmaker Society and purchased Pumba, and a year later Zap. One of the breeders warned her, "They are like potato chips, you can't have just one." She wanted a dog for agility training, so got Ollie. Thus within three years, she had 3 dogs. Beth and Ollie loved doing agility and he won a first prize, but he hated the loud noises at the trials, so she bought Kohengi, Kohengi is a Maori name meaning "gentle breeze" to honor the memory of the wonderful New Zealand agility handler, Lis Kristof, who ran Chinese Cresteds and who died of breast cancer and chemically induced leukemia. Kohengi, within a year, escaped the fenced yard and was hit by a car, eventually making a miraculous if expensive recovery. Ollie has become a licensed Therapy dog, bringing joy to residents of Mariners' Hospital and Plantation Key Rehabilitation. Shai, Hebrew slang for "freebie" was rehomed from Miami. Pumba and Zap have since passed away, but now Cheekah and Turbo have been added to the family to again make five Chinese Cresteds that keep Beth busy.

Beth Hayden has labored quietly for many years for the welfare of the Keys Jewish Center, fought for the care of those stricken with life –threatening illness, and continues volunteering her time to bring comfort to hospital and rehab patients. We are proud to have Beth Hayden as Women's Seder Honoree of 2019. \diamond

WOMEN'S SEDER CONTINUED

Cleo Hancock, a first time visitor, bottom, told friend Donna, this Seder was a "life-changing experience."





Squares of cloth, decorated with the names and dates and symbols of 10 years' worth of seder attendees, adorn this memorial tablecloth, affixed and added to every year by artist Marcia Kreitman, our own version of Judy Chicago



Seder plate with Donna's homemade horseradish.





Moses parts the Red Sea in this spectacular fruit sculpture creation by Barbara Bernstein.

Joyce honors Hannah Szenes with the third cup of wine.





So good to have multitalented Sam Weis back among us.

KJCC HAIMISCHE FIRST SEDER



Following our four-year old/new tradition of holding our own first night family Seder, (created originally when Passover began on a Shabbat evening), 50 souls from the KJCC Mishpocha gathered around our extended social hall family table For a homemade, in every sense of the word, pot luck Seder. Acting as *pater familias*, Joe Shabathai led the traditional rituals, with round robin retelling of our most significant story. Kathy Shabathai coordinated the food and set up, with a hardworking crew of Donna Bolton and Sam Vinicur. An excellent time was had by all.

First Seder at Beth Kaminstein's with David and Suzi-Sara Feder always has extended KJCC family/ mishpocha round the family table(s), including devoted commuters from St. Pete, Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake. It's especially good when the next generation makes to the top of the head table. Good to see Nyan Feder, Brieze and Stellar Levy and a gaggle of

Toby and David Goldfinger's kids and grands.









SECOND SEDER

As far back as any of our members can remember, KJCC has celebrated the second night of Pesach, or Passover, as a Community. First night seders were traditionally held in our homes, around a dining room table, with family and friends. But on second night we put it together in a restaurant, with our extended family, open to guests and friends and Jewish tourists passing through and wanting to celebrate Pesach. We try to make it as homey and welcoming as possible. The meal is catered, though we bring our own ceremonial foods (thank you, Donna Bolton, for the horseradish, and Beth Hayden for the charoset, and Erica Lieberman–Garrett, for teaching Vinnie at the Islamorada Fishing

Club to make a really fabulous chicken soup with matzoh balls). One or two or more of us have been sharing leadership of the ceremony for years and everyone present pitches in as we answer the Four Questions and tell our story, round-robin style. We are grateful for the children who chant the four Questions, who open the door for Elijah and search

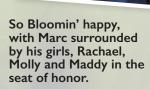
for afikomen. Thank you, Susan Gordon and Sisterhood for the tremendous amount of work you do to make this a memorable and satisfying event.

Susan Gordon and Beth Hayden do Ceremonial Handwashing.

We start off the Seder, as we do at all ritual events with a candle-lighting ceremony, welcoming the sundown start of a new day, the second evening of Pesach, or Passover.



Barbara and Paul Bernstein with photographer Richard knowles on break.





Steve Hartz chants a beautiful melody for the Yom Toy Kiddush.



A lovely moment between the lovely

Rachel Levine and Maddie Bloom have the honor of holding the door open for Elijah. Oh, the anticipation!



So nice to see happy faces of the shining Starrs at end of Seder.



Good to meet grandson of the Rzepkas.



Stan and Jennie Margulies liked the vegetarian option.

A special thank you to Barbara and Richard Knowles Photograpy

A Gift of Ancient History

To KJCC From Mindy and Rabbi Agler

Antiquities were not what brought me to the rabbinate but once I came to understand them, they became a cherished component of my ongoing Jewish learning.

I credit the spark in my interest to Stephen Beiner Z"L, and his wife Judith, of Boca Raton, who were more than willing to share their love of collecting with anyone who was willing to listen. One of those people was me.

These ancient artifacts are far more than the dusty and inanimate objects they may appear to be at first glance, No, when we are holding an antiquity in our hands, we are literally holding history. When an oil lamp or juglet or amphora dates to the time of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs, to the time of the Hebrew Prophets and Kings, or to the time of the Maccabees, how can touching it not be a wondrous experience?



Now, here at the KJCC, we look forward to dedicating the collection, compiled over the years by Mindy and me, with gratitude to Stephen and Judith for inspiring our interest. We expect that it will engender appreciation for our Jewish roots in the Land of Israel in the eyes of all who behold it. We are honored to be able to make this gift. *Rabbi Richard Agler*





Collection of clay oil lamps, the largest and simplest being the oldest.





One of the prime pieces in this collection, this original Astarte sculpture may be the rarest of the objects in the collection. There is definitely a connection in biblical times between such fertility goddess symbols and our own Esther, through whom we inherit King David (come hear Dr. Bernie Ginsberg tell his favorite story at Our Tikkun Leil Shavuot on June 7).





Imagine seeing pottery vessel fragment with a handle attached sticking out of the desert sand in a remote area of Israel and being told you can pick it up. That's what happened to Rabbi Agler while he was still studying to become a rabbi. On a field trip with

fellow students, in this exciting moment, a seed was planted, and the reverence for living history has never dimmed. We are grateful to him for sharing this love and his and Mindy's collection. We are also grateful to his mentor and will honor her memory.



Marcia Kreitman, long-time artist and educator, holds biblical era juglet for oil, working on display decisions.



Ancient arrowhead, 2 inches long.

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It is time to receive the Torah.

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DAIRY DINNER, SHABBAT SERVICES, YIZKOR REMEMBRANCE SERVICES at 7:30 P.M.

After Services there will be a TORAH LEARNING EVENT led by Rabbi Agler along with a delicious cheesecake-laden ONEG.

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- Contact Joyce -

joycepeckman@gmail.com - (305) 451-0665 to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish. Please rsvp by June 2nd - No Charge -

SHAVUOT: AS IF WE WERE THERE

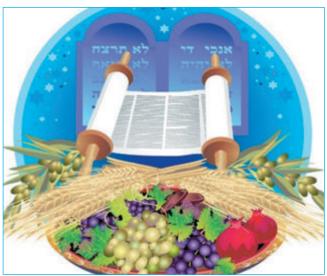
My family never celebrated Shavuot. We joined a Reconstructionist shul in the 1950's, just in time for me to be Bat Mitzvahed, but the 40-day journey through the desert, the counting of Omer, and the process of developing the inner strength required to become a "light unto the nations," well, none of that ever came up. I was asleep at the wheel. Maybe you were too.

Then, a handful of years ago, Rabbi Ed Rosenthal sat us down in our Social Hall, asked us to close our eyes, and pretend we were standing in an immense crowd of newly freed Jewish slaves at the foot of Mt. Sinai while lightning roared and thunder flashed. He asked us not to look at him but just to listen while he put his own shofar to his lips (the one he's had since his student days as a trumpeter when he made a Jerusalem shofar shop owner let him try out every single one). The blast did it. The room could have shattered. He blew our minds as well as his spiraling shofar.

We may be "the people of the book" but we are also people of the imagination, inventive and often groundbreaking. Time and again, in Haggadahs, song and psalm we are asked to walk inside our history, to make it new, to cast ourselves in the roles of escapee, dependent, brave warrior, oppressed, and to immerse our children in the story of how we became a people devoted to learning, justice for all, human betterment, and acts of loving-kindness. If we just repeat words from a page, how deeply can meaning penetrate? Our story is not an ordinary soap opera. It is Cecil B. DeMille quality.

We are at a disjointed time in our history. We just celebrated Israel's Birthday—a land of our own that is now so old it would be receiving Social Security if it were a person—and the same week we were called upon to mourn not only the victims of the

Holocaust but lews attacked in our own country in a Synagogue on what should have been a Chag Sameach, the last day of Pesach. Rabbi Goldstein, minus a finger and a dear friend, told all of us to show up in shul that Shabbat. That's our defense, he said, our victory, our joy. That is what will renew us and keep us strong despite the heat and thirst and fatique of the forty-day march into the unknown, across the wilderness, to receive the gift and the covenant of Torah. Keep showing up, learning. And there will be food. Gloria &



Shavuot:

Omer Counting, the 49-Day Walk to Sinai, and Polishing Our "Rocks" to be Worthy of Torah

by Gloria Avner

An old friend of mine, and the synagogue's, gifted me with a small book twelve years ago, a spiritual guide that forever transformed my view of Shavuot. It is called "Counting the Omer: Forty-nine Steps to Personal Refinement According to the Jewish Tradition," written by Rabbi Simon Jacobsen. Say thank you to Chaim Shaffer, creator of "Shabbos Shirts," the next time he visits. Ritual Committee bought several books and they are available in the office for your perusal. The counting of omer is about more than barrels of barley.

There is a teaching (reinforced by Rabbi Agler in a Shabbat Gadol learning service years ago) that our centuries of slavery in Egypt degraded us to such a degree that had we sunk one more level, we could never have recovered. We could never have become worthy of receiving the Torah, the precepts upon which our life as a people is built. The process of receiving the Torah—"instruction"—actually begins 49 days prior to the moment at Sinai, the period traditionally called "Sefirat Ha'Omer," the Counting of the Omer.

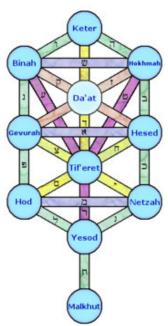
Ancient Israel's economy was based primarily on agriculture. On a purely physical level, the "waves" of grain were offered up every day from Passover to Shavuot as sacrifices in the Temple. But is that the whole story? Of course it isn't. We are talking about

Judaism. We take the physical and through it reveal the metaphysical, unearthing ever-deeper 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); it is the same word that is used to describe personal character traits or emotional attributes. Isn't our 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.



Each week is represented by a specific attribute, and each day of the week is represented by an aspect of that attribute. Imagine a grid, with each of the attributes standing for one week along the left hand side. Then imagine seven columns that represent days, again with each of the sefirot listed at the top. We begin to make a repair by focusing on the interaction of two attributes every day. There are forty-nine squares. On the first day, for example, we would focus on chesed b'chesed--lovingkindness in lovingkindness, On Day Two of Week One, we focus on g'vura she'b'chesed—the aspect of restraint in lovingkindness. On Day three of Week One, the focus is tiferet she'b'chesed—harmony in lovingkindness. On we go for seven weeks.

In consciously counting the Omer, we take opportunity to focus on one aspect of personality and character on every one of our 49 days' walk toward Mt. Sinai and the Torah. We repair ourselves one trait at a time. We polish our facets as if we were the gem, the brilliant sapphire.

Spiritually and emotionally uplifted, we can then receive the Torah properly, as much more than a legal and historic document. Torah becomes a resource guide not just to behavior in daily life but to attaining higher and deeper spiritual connection to



חג שבועות שמח! HAPPY SHAVUOT! our source. Bring your brightly polished self to KJCC on the evening of June 7 at 6:00 P.M. to enjoy a home cooked dairy meal, to pray, remember our loved ones at the fourth and final Yizkor service of the Jewish year, study and discuss the Book of Ruth with Bernie Ginsberg, stay as long as you can to correct our ancestors' mistake of almost sleeping through the giving of the Torah. We'll help each other stay awake. Let's receive Torah with open arms and hearts. Come celebrate all the aspects of Shavuot with your KJCC mishpocha. \diamond



Come and spend some time walking around our peaceful and beautiful Meditation Garden.

Bricks and benches can be purchased as honorariums or memorials and as gifts. Trees line the walkway and are available for dedication to our loved ones or to memorialize a happy occasion.

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Information regarding pricing for orchids, bricks and benches can be obtained by visiting our website, keysjewishcenter.com.

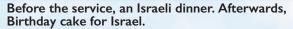
We Remember Them Yom Hazikaron – Israel's Memorial Day

om HaZikaron is the national day of remembrance for all Israeli military personnel who lost their lives in the struggle that led to the establishment of the State of Israel and for those who have been killed subsequently while on active duty in Israel's armed forces. It is observed in Israel on the 4th of Iyar, the day before Israel Independence Day, a reminder of the price paid for independence. As of Yom HaZikaron 2019, that number was 23,741.

The evening before Yom HaZikaron a siren is sounded at 8:00 pm, just about sunset. The siren is heard all over the country and lasts for one minute, during which Israelis stop everything, including driving on highways, and stand in silence, commemorating the fallen and showing respect. Memorial candles are lit in homes, army camps, schools, synagogues, and public places, and flags are lowered to half-mast. By law, all places of entertainment are closed that evening and the next day, Yom HaZikaron .Regular television entertainment ceases, and instead the names and ranks of every soldier who died for Israel are displayed in a 24-hour television broadcast. A two-minute siren is sounded at 11:00 the following morning, and again, all movement ceases. This marks the opening of the official memorial ceremonies and private remembrance gatherings.

Beth Hayden led a moving commemoration of Yom HaZikaron that Friday night. She lit memorial candles before the lighting of Shabbat candles, explained the history of the day, and asked for several poems to be read. The service ended with the singing of Hatikvah.







WE REMEMBER THEM POEM BY RABBI SYLVAN KAMENS & RABBI JACK RIEMER

In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
we remember them.
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.
In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember them.
In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them.
In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we remember them.
In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.



THE SILVER PLATTER POEM BY NATAN ALTERMAN

And the land grows still, the red eye of the sky slowly dimming over smoking frontiers

As the nation arises, Torn at heart but breathing, To receive its miracle, the only miracle

As the ceremony draws near, it will rise, standing erect in the moonlight in terror and joy

When across from it will step out a youth and a lass and slowly march toward the nation

Dressed in battle gear, dirty, Shoes heavy with grime, they ascend the path quietly

To change garb, to wipe their brow

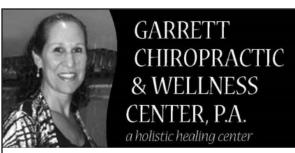
They have not yet found time. Still bone weary from days and from nights in the field

Full of endless fatigue and unrested, Yet the dew of their youth. Is still seen on their head Thus they stand at attention, giving no sign of life or death

Then a nation in tears and amazement
will ask: "Who are you?"
And they will answer quietly, "We Are the silver platter on which the Jewish state was given."

Thus they will say and fall back in shadows And the rest will be told in the chronicles of Israel.





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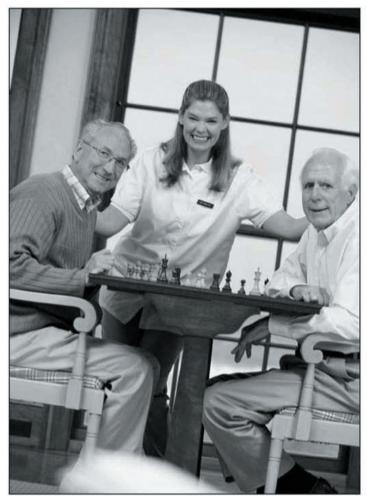
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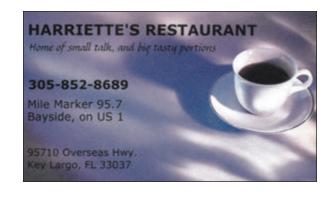
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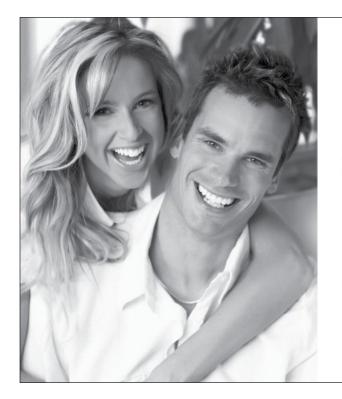


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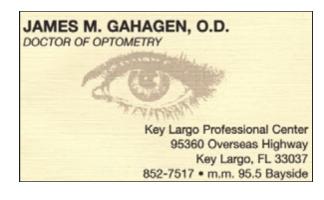
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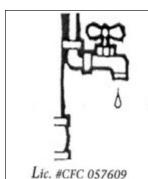
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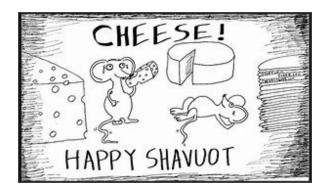
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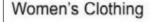


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August - September 2019

9 Tammuz 5779 to 1 Tishrei, 5780

High Holiday Schedule – page 12

Shabbabeque Photos – pags 22-23

Tikkun HaYam, Reverse Tashlich and Rabbi Ed – pages 30-31

August - September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nā	Italicized names	ers of Friday Serv are Oneg sponsor Friday at 7:30 p.m	S.	1 AUG	Rosh Chodesh Av Bernard Ginsberg	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Joyce Peckman	10 Erev Tisha B'Av
					Barbara & Richard Knowles	LIEV TISHA D AV
11	12	13	14	15	16 Tu B'Av	17
Tisha B'Av					Beth Hayden Susan & Paul Roberts Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	
18	19	20	21	22	Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton	24
					Lynn Dils	
25	26 KJCC Sisterhood Book Club	27	28	29	30 Ken Atlas & Art Itkin	Rosh Chodesh
1 SEPT	noon 2	3	4 Tikkun HaYam Meeting with Rabbi Ed 7pm	5	6 Joyce Peckman	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Erica Lieberman- Garrett & Laurie Blum	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Gloria Avner	21 Selichot Service, Pizza & Movie 7pm
22	23	24	25	26	27 Beth Hayden	28
Rosh HaShanah Dinner 5:30	RoshChodesh Tishrei R.H. 1 Services 9:30 am		1		1	1

2019 - 2020 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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Gloria Avner

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



have spent the past few weeks working on the membership packet that goes out each summer. It has been both a joyful and sobering experience. Beth Hayden, Donna Bolton, Susan Gordon, Linda Kaplan and Alan Beth are the unsung heroes who do so much of the directory work that goes out under my signature. I am grateful to have them as friends and allies.

In preparation for writing the letters, I reviewed our activities of the past year. Considering our size, our list of activities is incredible. We have had learning series: Yiddish 101 with Rabbi Zucker, Jewish Meditation with Dana Grace and "Sunday School for Grown-ups" presented by Bernie Ginsberg. We had superb presentations by renowned experts: Reconstructionist leader Rabbi Steven Sager; child psychologist, author and TV personality Dr. Sylvia Rimm and NPR's music commentator Miles Hoffman. Our own members Jan Hartz and Rabbi Richard & Mindy Agler shared their fascinating and inspiring experiences. We have continued our excellent film festival. These activities could not have happened without the behind-the-scenes work of Sam Vinicur, Medina Roy and Gloria Avner. We periodically host Hillel's Scubi-Jews on their missions to clean our shores and reefs. We are

rewarded not only with cleaner waters, but with delightful presentations by Rabbi Ed. We have had varied outings just for fun, including a sunset cruise, a trek to the lewish Museum in Miami Beach and several concerts in Homestead coordinated by Dave Mont. The energy of the ladies of Sisterhood seems boundless. Their book club has been meeting monthly at local restaurants. Attendance at our monthly Shabbat dinners continues to be strong, due in no small part to the quality and variety of our pot-luck dishes. Our entrance hallway now houses an antiquities collection from Israel donated by Rabbi and Mindy Agler.

Revising the directory, I was forced to look at the names crossed off. Some have moved away and several have not rejoined. We will miss them and hope to see them again. But others will never again appear in the directory nor in our doorway: Dick Bromwich, Barry and Natalie Dorf, Andy Grant, Mitch Harvey, Pauline Roller, Alan Schulberg and Nancy Yankow. They were a part of our lives, and we continue to feel their absence.

Events farther away impact our lives. Hate-inspired murders force us to face the growth of anti-semitism. We take comfort in the support that our Keys community has shown us, but that does not diminish our need to protect ourselves. We have paid for surveillance, for police protection on occasion, and now have a Ring system that allows us to lock the doors after prayer begins, and have designated volunteers monitor the doorway to let in late comers. So join us

at 7:30 sharp for Friday services, especially over the summer, to help make a minyan when so many are traveling. Look for the packet that went out in July, and be generous in your support, so that Judaism will continue to have a home in the Keys. \diamond

August Birthdays

1st 1st	Nicholas Rivera
2nd	
4th	
5th	
8th	
8th	
9th	Delia Grace Smith
9th	Eric Freundlich
10th	Barbara Smith
10th	Emma Feig
12th	Larry Weiss
12thS	ooner Brooks-Heath
13th	Gina Moritz
13th	
14th	
15th	Danielle <mark>Zinner</mark>

15th	Patricia Isenberg
16th	Alan Lindenbaum
16th	Alison Thompson
	Tom Brennan
19th	Pamela Friedman
20th	Amanda Nobil
21st	Jay Stein
21st	Rachel Zinner
22nd	Murray Blitzer
	Dave Mont
	Carl McNew
	Mikhaela Bitton
27th	Jaimee Marshall
27th	Judy Greenman
	Robert Temkin
	Sue Ann Weihl
31st	Brynn Borisoff

August Anniversaries

August Alliliversaries			
	Years		
3rd	Augie & Kristy Moss 6		
7th	Larry & Dorothy Wolfe 62		
14th	Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer 47		
15th	Paul & Susan Roberts51		
15th	Richard & Barbara Knowles 20		
16th	Ira & Shirley Stein 61		
16th	Jeff & Lynn Dils34		
21st	Jeff & Lisa Miller 42		
22nd	Franklin & Judy Greenman 37		
27th	Israel & Nissan Mayk 47		

Welcome to our newest members, Laurie and Gary Grossinger! We look forward to seeing you at our activities and getting to know you better.

September Anniversaries

	rears
Jay & Nancy Hershoff	20
Neal & Cathy Rakov	35
Steven & Barbara Smith	41
Rita & Harry Rzepka	62
Gary & Lyn Sherman	
Marsha & Tom Garrettson	29
	Neal & Cathy RakovSteven & Barbara SmithRita & Harry RzepkaGary & Lyn Sherman

Book Plate

In Memory of

Louis R. Coltman

by Barnet Coltman

NOSH

Rolling Stones Tribute Concert

On Saturday night, August 17th, the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center will present a tribute to the Rolling Stones: A Classic Albums Live recreation of their 1969 hit "Let It Bleed." This is a terrific group that specializes in recreating the sound and energy of entertainers as we remember them in their prime. Tickets are available at SMDCAC.org. Contact Dave Mont if you want to coordinate seating, join a car pool or want to meet up for dinner in Homestead. You can call him at 305-393-9883, or email at moogoodave@yahoo.com.

High Holiday Greetings

It's not too early to start thinking about the message you'd like to send to your KJCC friends and Mishpocha for Rosh HaShanah. Membership Packets are in the mail or already in your hands. Fill in the greeting form and get it back to us with your check for \$18 by the end of August and your words are guaranteed to be seen add to the sweetness of our 5780 fresh start.

Book Club Meetings

KJCC Sisterhood continues to read, meet, eat and discuss its chosen works over the summer. Mazel is the book for Monday, July 29th, and the Nightingale, by Kristen Hannah, is the selection for Monday, August 26th. Both meetings start at noon at Mangrove Mike's in Islamorada (See flier for details on PP 4). RSVP to Bobbi Chester at 630–430–7100.

Tikkun HaYam with Rabbi Ed

Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will be at KJCC on September 4th, 7:00 P.M. with Shayna Cohen and Josh Keller to make plans with us and members of the community-at-large for planning actions that will lead to repair of the seas and our planet. Tell your friends who run dive shops, who are educators, politicians and people who care about keeping our Keys strong and healthy. It will be an important and enlightening evening. Rabbi Ed is an inspiring speaker.

Selichot -- Prayers, Pizza and a Movie

We begin our cycle of High Holiday ritual September 21 with Selichot, the short prayer service that is a warmup to the prayers of repentance and forgiveness we will be repeating throughout the ten "Days of Awe." Many thanks to Linda Pollack for sponsoring this meaningful event once again. Pizza will be served after the service and before the movie, whose title will be announced in the President's Tuesday announcements (See flier on PP 16).

Erev Rosh HaShanah Dinner

Although it doesn't take place for nearly two months, planning is in full swing to make this the best Rosh HaShanah Dinner ever. The menu is set, and baking and freezing has already begun (thank you for our future tableful of desserts, Donna Bolton, and yes, there will be brisket). You can RSVP any time to Erica Lieberman–Garrett at 305–393–1162. Send your \$18.00 check to KJCC (see flier on PP 20 for details).

Shabbat Shuvah Havdalah

There is so much to look forward to as Autumn approaches. In what has become a nearly annual event, we will meet for a Havdalah service, the shortest and sweetest of all services, at Linda Pollack's home on Saturday, October 5th, the Shabbat between the beginning of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, time to be announced. Directions will be given in Joyce's announcements.

Oneg Sponsors for August & September 2019

August 9: Barbara & Richard Knowles in Honor of thier Anniversary

August 16: Susan & Paul Roberts in Honor of thier 51st Anniversary Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis in Memory of Laurie's grand-

mother Mollie Lawent

August 23: Lynn Dils in Honor of her 34th Anniversary



Sisterhood Book Club

Monday

July 29, 2019 - Noon

Mangrove Mike's Cafe

MAZEL

BY REBECCA GOLDSTEIN

Mazel means luck in Yiddish, and luck is the guiding force in this magical and mesmerizing novel that spans three generations. Sasha Saunders is the daughter of a Polish rabbi who abandons the shtetl and wins renown as MM 82.2 Bayside, Islamorada a Yiddish actress in Warsaw and New York. Her daughter Chloe becomes a professor of classics at Columbia. Chloe's daughter Phoebe grows up to become a mathematician who is drawn to traditional Judaism and the sort of domestic life her mother and grandmother rejected.





Monday August 26, 2019 - Noon Mangrove Mike's Cafe MM 82.2 Bayside, Islamorada

The Nightingale tells the story of two sisters in France during World War II, and their struggle to survive and resist the German occupation of France. It was inspired by the story of a Belgian woman, Andrée de Jongh, who helped downed Allied pilots to escape Nazi territory.

THE NIGHTINGALE BY KRISTIN HANNAH

RSVP and more information - Bobbi Chester bobbiebunkin@aol.com 630-430-7100

SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



e had a good deal of activity during the past couple of months at the KJCC. I am looking forward to enjoying a quiet & relaxing August here in the 'steamy- hot humidity' of the Florida Keys before the rush of the High Holiday activities begin.

Our last sisterhood meeting before the summer began took place on June 2nd. We worked on planning our two "Summer Season" dinners, the Shavuot Dairy Dinner and, although not officially a Sisterhood event, the Annual Patriotic Shabbabaque. We decided that, since Rosh HaShanah isn't until the very end of September this year, we would give ourselves a two-month break from meetings, and convene again on the morning of Sunday, September 8th at 9:30am.

The Shavuot Dairy Dinner was held on Friday, June 7th. Many thanks to Co-Chairs Joyce Peckman & Erica Lieberman-Garrett for planning the dinner; thank-you also to the setup crew, Donna Bolton, Susan Roberts, Erica Lieberman-Garrett and Stuart & Geri Smith. The dinner was delicious and the selection of food was plentiful, thanks to the many members who prepared their specialty dishes. The dinner was sponsored by Donna Bolton in celebration of her and her husband's birthdays.

On Sunday, June 9th, the women of Sisterhood met for a relaxing "end-of-season luncheon" at the Buzzard's Roost Restaurant.It's so nice for us to get together at a restaurant and be able to just sit and talk while enjoying our meal together — no planning, setting up, cooking, serving or cleaning! There were 14 of us around the table, and we had a great time! Buzzard's Roost was a good choice.

The July 5th Patriotic Shabbabaque was a fabulous event. Many thanks to Chairperson Skip Rose, who took the helm this year! Although this is not officially a "Sisterhood Event", it seems that whenever food is involved, the women always tend to get involved! Thanks to the crew who came early in the day to assist me with the

decorating and set-up and to everyone who cooked and brought in so many delicious and varied side-dishes. Three cheers to the three grill cooks; Skip Rose, Joel Bofshever and Stuart Smith, and to Jane Friedman, our resident 'shopper', who always knows where to purchase the needed supplies (at the best prices)!

The KJCC Sisterhood Book Club has met all summer long, enjoying their monthly book discussion and lunches at Mangrove Mikes Café in Islamorada. The meetings are usually held at 12 noon on the last Monday of each month. Please take a look at the August/ September Book Club flier in this issue of Chai~Lights, and plan to attend. RSVP please to Bobbi Chester at (630) 430–7100.

I am looking forward to a quiet and relaxing August, but High Holiday planning and preparations are already in full swing! The planning committee of Sisterhood met in early July to begin organizing everything that goes into the dinners, breaks, luncheons and the 'highly anticipated' Break-the-Fast meal. Erica Lieb-erman-Garrett has graciously offered to act as Chairperson for all of these events. Thank you, Erica! Please look for the fliers and schedule in this issue of Chai~Lights for detailed information about all High Holiday events at KJCC, beginning with S'lichot, going through to the Break-the-Fast.

Our next Sisterhood meeting will be held on Sunday morning, September 8th at 9:30am. Please note the change from our usual date which is on the first Sunday of each month. We have made this change because of the Labor Day weekend which falls on September 1st. Please join our "wonderful, welcoming and wildly-energetic" group of Women as we finalize plans and preparations for the New Year!

Wishing everyone a Happy & Healthy 5780! ♦

CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through 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 specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

- IUNE & IULY 2019 -

JOHE & JOE! 2017				
Unrestricted	In Memory of	Sisterhood	In Honor of	
Sisterhood Tikkun Olam		Erica Lieberman Gar	rett 25th Wedding Anniversary	
Mah Jongg		Kaufman Family	Michael's Birthday	
Richard Finklestein		Naulillali Fallilly	wiichaer's Birthday	
Robert Marion & Beth Scho	oenbaum			
Michael & Lorena Kaufmai	n	Kaufman Family	Shavuot Dinner	
Linda Pollack	Barry Avner	Joyce Peckman	Michal's Bat Mitzvah & Her Birthday	
Linda Pollack	Lili Perrotti	Donna & Bill Bolton	Dinner Sponsor Birthday & Shavuot	
Book Plate			26th Wedding Anniversary	
Barney Coltman	Louis R. Coltman	Steve and Jan Hartz	Wedding Anniversary	
Yahrzeit	In Memory of	Susan Roberts	51st Anniversary Micah Sima's 3rd Birthday	
Gloria Avner	David Gitin	Geri & Stuart Smith	Pauline Roller	
Medina Roy	Leon Kirschenbuam	Beth Hayden	Appreciation of KJCC	
Donna Forst	Erna Forst	Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis Finishing Irm		
Marshall & Myra Kaplan	Max Tuchman	Repai		
Marshall & Myra Kaplan	Les Reitman	Barb & Richard Knov	vles 20th Anniversary	
Adam & Judy Starr	Manya Starr	Joyce Peckman & Mich Kaufman's Birtho		
Hermine Taramona	Robert Robinson	Lynn & Jeff Dils	34th wedding Anniversary	
		Jane Friedman	Wedding Anniversary	
		Steve Steinbock	His Sister Karen	

Service Leaders			
August 2 Bernard Ginsberg	Sept. 6Joyce Peckman		
August 9Joyce Peckman	Sept. 13Erica Lieberman Garrett		
August 16Beth Hayden	& Laurie Blum		
August 23 Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton	Sept. 20Gloria Avner		
August 30Ken Atlas & Art Itkin	Sept. 27Beth Hayden		

September Birthdays

2nd	•
4th	Chase Barrett
4th	Debby C. Block
6th	. Steven Greenbaum
7th	Mindy Agler
7th	
8th	
8th	Susan Horn
9th	Jacob Klimpl
10th	Gerri Emkey
13th	Andy Tobin
13th	Lisha Lane
13th	Shawn Borisoff
16th	Larry S. Schur
16th	. Samuel Grossinger
17th	Ellen Ecker

17th	Judd Daddona
18th	Avery Haviv
18th	
19th	.Barbara Bernstein
19th	Brenna Nobil
19th	Joel Bofshever
19th	Steven Schur
22nd	Fred Hudson
23rd	Lauren Schur
24th	Noah Bitton
24th	. Orlando Quesada
25th	Marla Berenson
25th	Michel Bitton
27th	Blake Rose
27th	Shirley Karger

HOW CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC CAN INSTANTLY BECOME PERMANENT, LIVING MEMORIALS

Yahrzeit Plaques: KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400.

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 wonders 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, with an outdoor plague included in the price.

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305–852–8575, for information, or send your desired inscription to lindap4000@ymail.com.

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 Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, to make your donation.

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights or annually in our KJCC Directory. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for annual rates.

GIFT SHOP: We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225, or email her at joycepeckman@gmail.com.

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.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225.

TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT: Bring your empty prescription and vitamin bottles to the KJCC and place in the collection box. We are assisting Burton Memorial with a project to provide empty medicine bottles to Haiti where they are needed.

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES, ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at lindap4000@ymail.com.

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: keysjewishcenter.com. 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. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam – August 2019

Isaac Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Priscilla Leshin

By Ioan Boruszak

Gary W. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Robert Davidson

By Foster Davidson

Henry Kirschenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Manuel Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

Chanoch Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Sidney Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Dick Bromwich

By Rita Bromwich

Sandra Kanarek

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Marty Faye

By Sydney Faye-Davis

Florence Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman

Nathan Herson

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

Pauline Rosenzweig

By Gunther & Shirley Karger

Ralph Bofshever

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Zelda Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

Ethel Feinberg

By Hanna David

S. Marshall Gorson

By Janice Gorson

Margaux Rene Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

Sheldon David Horowitz

By Beth Horowitz

Shirley Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Max Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Gizella Reiff

By Roberta McNew

Joel Reed Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Howard Shutan

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Bernard Solas

By Elaine Solas

Meyer G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Ida R. Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

Mollie Lawent

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Leonard Pearl

By Scott & Mary Anne Pearl

Thelma San Filippo

By Michael (Sandy) San Filippo

Martha Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Olga Schuman

By Adam & Judy Starr

Samuel Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Ralph Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

Isaac Cohen Pardo

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Chanoch Shiloh

By Jan Price-Shiloh

Clara Zirofsky

By Michael (Sandy) San Filippo

Tom Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Mollie Z. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Erwin Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Seymour H. Levin

By Sanford Yankow

In Memoriam – September 2019

Harry Carman

By Julia Berger

Stephen Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Morris Abramson

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Sydney Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

Ida Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Sadie Suchman

By Foster Davidson

Natalie Field

By Carol Field

Sam Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Mae U. Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Jim Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

Ronald Repka

By Nancy L. Cohn

Abraham Kanowsky

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Albert Improta

By Carol Field

Jesse Ginsberg

By Bernard Ginsberg

Goldie Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Molly Feldblum

By Marc Bloom

Lillian Goldstein

By Joan Boruszak

Evelyn O. Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

Leo Rosenberg

By Robert & Joni Sages Dandrea

Hannah Improta

By Carol Field

Nettie Gorson

By Janice Gorson

Albert L. Ichel

By David & Janice Ichel

Eva Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Billie Kornbloom

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Rosie Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Jim Nobil

By Lynn Nobil

Toby Mitchell

By Linda Pollack

Santi San Filippo

By Michael (Sandy) San Filippo

Leah Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Sadie Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Burton Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Josephine Margulies

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Erik S. Persoff

By Lynn Nobil

Melvin Richardson

By Lori Richardson & George Smyth

David Gulkis

By Elaine Schulberg

Leonard Roberts

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

David J. Levine

By Steve & Luzviminda Levine

Sidney Blum

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Anne Hendin Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Beverly Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Lorraine Martell

By Skip Rose

David Schur

By Lee Schur

In Memoriam – September 2019

Max Rosenfeld

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Solomon Felder

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Mrs. Freda Shipman

By Shirley Stein

Saunders G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Doran David Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Mollie Silverman

By Morton & Gene Silverman

Irving Kopecky

By Adam & Judy Starr

Iames Nobil

Charlie Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Selma Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Roger Starr

By Adam & Judy Starr

Erik S. Persoff

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

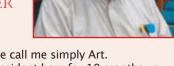
Sarah Wernicoff

By Donald Zinner

CAMPAIGN SPEECH FOR ARTHUR ITKIN

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENTOF RESIDENT COUNCIL, CRYSTAL HEALTH & REHAB CENTER

Art, we are proud of you! -Your KJCC Mishpocha



My name is Arthur- that's the name on the ballot, but many people call me simply Art. I am running for President of the Resident Council, I have been a resident here for 18 months- a vear and a half.

If elected, my primary responsibility will be to help take care of you. I am not a Nurse, not an Aide, and not a Therapist. I am not a Magician, but I promise to do whatever I can to make this place as good as we can. We want you to like being here and to be comfortable as much as possible.

In order to do this, I ask for your help. I will need to know how you feel, what you like, what you don't like- even if you complain about me. Please remember that I, like you, am a resident here and I will be representing you.

I plan to visit you once a week, even if it's no more than exchanging a "Good Morning" between us. I will not be invisible.

You will always be able to talk to me. Don't hesitate to come to my room. If I'm eating in the dining room, come on over. Your concerns are more important than my eating.

If you can't leave your room- or simply don't feel like leaving your room- and you want to talk or simply communicate, ask your aide to come get me. I will visit you.

You- and all of the residents not here at this meeting- are my priority. Devonne, our Director of Activities, cares very much about you.

I care about you. Your vote will be appreciated.



KJCC High Holiday Service Schedule 5780 (2019-2020)

Rabbi Richard Agler and Cantor Michael Dzubin



Saturday, September 21, 2019	
S'lichot - Pizza, Service and Movie	6:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 29, 2019	
Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner	5:30 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	7:30 p.m.
Monday, September 30, 2019	
Rosh Hashanah, Day 1 - Service Lunch	9:30 a.m.
Tashlich - Ocean Pointe	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 1, 2019 Rosh Hashanah, Day 2 - Service Lunch	9:30 a.m.
Saturday, October 6, 2019	
Shabbat Shuvah Service	10:00 a.m.
Havdalah Service at Linda Pollack's	TBA
Tuesday, October 8, 2019	
Erev Yom Kippur - Kol Nidre Service	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday,, October 9, 2019	
Yom Kippur Service	9:30 a.m.
Yizkor Service	11:30 a.m.
"Fast Talk" with Rabbi Agler	2:00 p.m.
Neilah Service	5:30 p.m.
Havdalah Service	7:00 p.m.

Note: Afternoon times are approximate.

For further information, please call the
Keys Jewish Community Center
305-852-5235. Website is www.keysjewishcenter.com

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



RBG Lends a "Hand"

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, affectionately known as "RBG," is donating \$9,000 to a network of bilingual Hebrew and Arabic public schools in Israel. The grant to the schools is operated by Hand in Hand: Center for lewish-Arab Education in Israel. The schools operate in six locations across the country. The organization's goal is "to transform fear and mistrust into friendship and cooperation," proving that Arabs and Jews can live and work side by side. The funds come from prize money that the justice was awarded when she won the 2019 Gilel Storch Award from a Stockholm-based organization called lewish Culture in Sweden. Ginsburg divided the award, worth some \$27,000, evenly between Hand in Hand and two other organizations that also work to promote tolerance, one in Sweden, the other in the United States, "From the earliest grades, the children are taught to speak, read, and write in Hebrew and in Arabic. They learn the shared values of Jews, Muslims, and Christians, among them, helping others, welcoming guests, opposing oppression, and caring for the earth," Ginsburg said of her decision to grant part of the award to Hand in Hand. (www.haaretz.com, 6-28-19)

Hank's Record is Finally Broken

Ryan Braun, outfielder for the Milwaukee Brewers, has broken Hank Greenberg's record for the most home runs by a Jewish player. (Purists might point out that Greenberg volunteered to serve in World War II, spending four of his prime playing years in uniform fighting Nazis.) Braun, 35, hit his 332nd career home run in a game in June against the Pittsburgh Pirates. He has spent his entire career with the Brewers (after playing collegiately for the local Miami Hurricanes) and now holds the team's all-time home run record. He got in a bit of trouble in 2012 after testing positive for outlawed perfor-

mance-enhancing drugs, lying about his use of them and persuading fellow players to support his false claims. Braun is the son of an Israeli father, often quoted as saying he's proud of being Jewish but that he is non-observant. (www.jta.org, 6-11-19)

Israel's "Iron Dome:" For Mosquitoes?

Israelis are excellent at finding solutions to existential problems. A classic example is the "Iron Dome," a mobile all-weather air defense system created to intercept and destroy shortrange rockets before they hit areas populated with Israeli civilians. Its success has been proven: the Iron Dome has hit 90 percent of the rockets aimed at populated areas. Now Bzigo, a Tel Aviv-based start-up, has developed a device that scans and locates mosquitoes in a room, sending a message to a phone app, thereby allowing one to easily kill these super-annoying insects. (Future models will be capable of eliminating them, not requiring a human swat.) Mosquitoes have killed many more humans than all the wars in history. It's the most dangerous creature in Africa, for example, killing more Africans than anything else through the spread of malaria, dengue fever and other diseases. (Malaria kills over a million on the African continent every year, most of the victims being children under the age of five.) Developed over three years. the Bzigo device looks like a box the size of a compact smartphone. It can be connected to the wall or stand alone on a flat surface. An infrared camera gives the mosquito's exact location with a red laser once it lands, sending a message via WiFi to one's smartphone. (Will it stay there and wait for us to come kill it?) Bzigo was developed by Saar Wilf, 45, and company CEO Nadav Benedek, 38, both of whom served in an elite IDF

intelligence unit. The initial model was made for home use. Going forward, the plan is to produce a model suitable for industrial use, such as to kill pests on farms and in hothouses. (www.united-withisrael.org, 6–12–19)

Among the Best of the Best

Six Israeli universities made the list of the top 1,000 higher education institutions in the world. Hebrew University was named Israel's best university in the QS World University Rankings for 2020, coming in at number 162 worldwide. The other five are Tel Aviv University (219), The Technion-Israel Institute of Technology (257), Ben Gurion University (419), Bar-Ilan (551) and the University of Haifa (651). The top three universities on the world list are Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University and Harvard University. The universities are evaluated based on academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty/student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty ratio and international student ratio. (www.israelnationalnews. com. 6-19-19)

A Disturbing Report

According to a World Wildlife Fund report published in June, Tel Aviv is the Mediterranean city with the third-highest amount of plastic waste that washes up on its shores. (Coming in as worst are the beaches of the Cilicia region of Turkey and those of Barcelona, Spain.) The authors of the report did not examine all of the cities along the Mediterranean. Rather, they chose a select list. A more extensive survey would probably have found cities with beaches just as bad. The amount of plastic waste accumulated on one kilometer (0.6 miles) of beach per day in Tel Aviv is estimated at 46 pounds. The country with the highest amount of plastic waste that is not disposed of properly is Egypt - 42 percent of all waste, followed by Turkey (18.9 percent) and Italy (7.5 percent). The report claims that these three countries alone account for two-thirds of the pollution of the environment by plastic items. Across the entire Mediterranean, the amount of plastic waste produced per year is close to 24 million tons. Disposable plastic items make up the largest source of pollution. The amount reaching the

sea is equivalent to 33,000 plastic bottles a day. (www.haaretz.com, 6-10-19)

In Memoriam

- Velvel Pasternak, musicologist who worked to preserve lewish musical heritage, died in June. He was 86. He published more than 150 volumes of Jewish music. Pasternak also conducted and arranged music. In 1971, he founded Tara Publications. The earliest publications were collections of Chasidic songs based on recordings arranged and conducted by Pasternak himself. Adding to those were Israeli, Yiddish, klezmer, choral, cantorial and instrumental music collections. In addition, he published anthologies of Sephardic music including Ladino, Spanish-Portuguese, and from such places as Bosnia, Sarajevo and Calcutta, Pasternak also published a volume of Holocaust music. Born in Toronto to Polish immigrant parents, he graduated from Yeshiva University and studied at the Julliard School, receiving a master's degree in music education from Columbia University. To mark his 50 years in Jewish music publishing, his daughter said that her father's work was significant in "preserving an entire heritage that had never been documented by anyone else." Pasternak was buried in Israel. (www.ita.org. 6-12-19)
- Tom Derek Bowden, non-lewish British soldier, one of the 5,000 volunteers from 60 countries who fought with the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in Israel's 1948 War of Independence, helping to fulfill the dream of a lewish state. has died. He was 98. When he was seventeen, Bowden enlisted in the British army and was sent to British Mandate Palestine to help put down the Arab Revolt against the British. He was transferred to the European theater and was captured by the Germans in 1944 after parachuting into Arnhem. He was found with letters from Jewish friends: when his SS interrogator saw the papers. Bowden was sent for a month to Bergen-Belsen, where he was forced to pile corpses onto carts and tipping them into pits during a typhus outbreak. The combination of fighting alongside Jews in Palestine and witnessing the atrocities of the Nazis was burned into his psyche. He returned to Palestine in 1948 to join thousands of other volunteers when Arab armies attacked following the UN declaration of the State of Isra-

el. He fought – and was badly injured – alongside Moshe Dayan, who went on to become the IDF commander and then defense minister. The thousands of Jewish and non–Jewish volunteers from abroad were known by the Hebrew acronym 'Machal' (Mitnadvei Chutz La'Aretz), Hebrew words meaning "volunteers from abroad." After the war, Bowden stayed in Israel and founded the IDF Parachute School and led the Tzanchanim, the Israeli Paratrooper Brigade. The group was crucial to Israel's military victories in the 1956 and 1967 wars. Bowden married five times, once to his Israeli girlfriend Eva. He moved back to England in 1955. (www.jewishnews.timesofisrael.com, 6–11–19)

• Eva Mozes Kor, who, along with her twin sister, underwent experiments in Auschwitz, has died. She was 85. Kor and her sister Miriam were one of some 1.500 sets of twins who were experimented on by Josef Mengele. The sisters were born in Romania and were the only members of their family to survive the Holocaust after being sent to Auschwitz in 1944. They were liberated eighteen months later by the Soviet army. The two moved to Israel in 1950. where Eva served in the Israeli army as a Sergeant Major in the Engineering Corps. In 1960 she married a fellow Holocaust survivor and moved to the United States. In 1985 she founded CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Terre Haute, Indiana. (CANDLES is an acronym for "Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Lab Experiments Survivors.") She returned to Auschwitz annually to share her experience with tour groups. Kor often spoke about the power of forgiveness. She publicly forgave Mengele and the Nazis. (www.jta.org, 7-4-19)

• Michael Maor, a Holocaust survivor who was instrumental in the capture of Nazi leader Adolf Eichmann and the secret delivery of him to Israel, died at the end of June. He was 86. In 1960, while serving as a Mossad agent, Maor broke into the offices of the General Prosecutor in Frankfurt, Germany, where he searched for and photographed documents incriminating Eichmann. It was later revealed that Fritz Bauer, a chief prosecutor – and a German Jew – "invited" the Mossad to break into his office and "steal" the Eichmann papers. Several weeks later, with these photos and documents, the Mossad team

abducted Eichmann in Buenos Aires and flew him to Israel for trial. He was convicted and executed in Israel in 1962. Born in Halberstadt, Germany in 1933, the year the Nazis rose to power, Maor and his family fled to Zagreb, Yugoslavia. The family fled again to an area controlled by the Italians, only to find themselves incarcerated with other Jews in a concentration camp on the Italian-occupied island of Rab. In 1943, when the Italians surrendered to the Allied forces, the family fled to partisans in Yugoslavia, where they were subjected to German attacks. They escaped into the forest. Maor's parents urged him to run ahead and when he returned, they had been murdered. After the war, he was picked up by fighters of the Jewish Brigade and brought to Israel in June 1945. He was drafted into the paratroopers in 1951 and went through officer training. He joined the Mossad posing as a photographer. Maor participated in numerous successful missions. He also set up the intelligence section of the Israeli Border Police force and led it for fifteen years. (www.haaretz.com, 6-26-19)

Did You Know...

The Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh is donating more than \$650,000 to victims of the Christchurch, New Zealand terror attacks on the two mosques where 51 worshippers died in an attack last March. Of that, \$60,000 was raised by the Tree of Life congregation which had been attacked five months prior. "...We recall with love the immediate, overwhelming support Tree of Life received from our Muslim brothers and sisters in Pittsburgh," the congregation wrote on the GoFundMe page it set up two days after the Christchurch attack. (www.forward.com, 7–1–19)

French-Israeli billionaire Patrick Drahi recently bought Sotheby's auction house for \$2.7 billion. Drahi, 55, currently lives in Switzerland. He is estimated by Forbes magazine to be worth \$9.1 billion. He was born in Casablanca, Morocco to Jewish parents and moved to France at the age of 15. Drahi made his fortune in cable and mobile phones. He plans to take Sotheby's private after 31 years as a public company. Drahi is an avid art collector. He reportedly collects works by 19th and 20th century artists and admires Impressionist art. (www.ita.org, 6–18–19) \diamond

Sichof

Saturday, September 21, 2019 6:00 p.m. S'lichot Service led by Beth Hayden 6:30 p.m. Pizza and Salad followed by Movie, TBA

> Before High Holidays comes Elul, a month of t'shuvah, returning, atonement, and asking for Divine mercy.

Some synagogues blow the shofar each day and read Psalm 27, asking G-d to "hear our voices and be gracious unto us."

S'lichot prayers for forgiveness on the Saturday before Rosh HaShanah are the culmination of Elul's spiritual self-examination.



rsvp to Linda Pollack lindap4000@ymail.com so we know how much pizza to get

SPONOSORED EVENING -NO CHARGE

21st Century Tisha B'Av New Take on Old Sorrow

by Gloria Avner (updated from article written in 2016) (photos from 2017)

isha B'Av (the 9th day of the month of Av) is a hard sell (August 10-11 this year). It marks the end of the three-week period of ever-intensifying mourning that began on the 17th day of Tammuz, when we remembered all that led to the conquest of Jerusalem by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E. and the destruction of the first Temple. Rabbinic tradition says that on this summer day in Av. over the course of two millennia. more destruction of Jewish people, landmarks, institutions and culture occurred than on any other single day, affecting so much and so many that I will enumeratehere only the most devastating, the destruction of the First and then the second Temple in Jerusalem, millennia ago, and the expulsion in 1492 of all the Jews in Spain (refer to the chart for a complete and horrifying list). Each separate tragic event led to what has seemed like an eternal Diaspora.

Far from our fallen Temple, we have traditionally observed this day with a fast (second in seriousness only to Yom Kippur), allowing no bathing, no sex -- in fact no pleasure of any kind - just weeping in a darkened room and reading aloud from Jeremiah's "Eichah," the Book of Lamentations. Here, in five chapters, Jeremiah describes and mourns the Temple's destruction in vivid detail (Here's one example from chapter two: the prophet pictures the glory of Israel thrown from Heaven to the ground. Jerusalem is on fire. Children die of hunger, beg their mothers for food, and then expire on their mothers' bosom. "There is no comparison in history to bring you comfort,"proclaims the prophet.).



The fast day inevitably arrives in the season of blossoming gardens, baseball games, warmth and languorous vacations. Jews don't get a whole summer when "the livin' is easy." (Never mind that those words -with a tinge of irony - were written by the Jewish Ira Gershwin.) We know it is important to remember tragedies, to learn from history. Remembrance is an antidote to re-occurrence, but when can we stop crying? According to Reconstructionist rabbis and many Reform synagogues, it's time to let in some light. We mourn our losses, but we honor our heroes and then move on. Simply mourning is not enough. We need to create ways to celebrate the achievement of those who lived through the losses so that we could be here now, living examples of the culture that refuses to die.



Rabbi Lewis Eron, of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, wants us to acknowledge that the world has changed and we need to change as well. The fact that we have a country of our own is proof that we have overcome the innumerable setbacks and obstacles that have houndedJews for centuries:

...Today we are no longer in exile. Our people have returned to our ancient homeland and rebuilt its towns and cities. We are no longer powerless...Our existence today is a triumph of our people's spirit. Any commemoration of Tisha B'Av that does not acknowledge this reality is inadequate. There is something miraculous about the Jewish people, our culture, and our faith. (We) need to discover new paths to cherish all that we have gained...Our chief worry is not being crushed in our weakness but becoming arrogant and careless with our success and power...We must not take for granted and foolishly lose all that for generations we could only obtain in our dreams.



Though a small but long-standing contingent of ultra-orthodox Jews insist that a re-built Temple is necessary to hasten the coming of the messiah, more and more mainstream Jews see that focus as a threat to the fragile peace in Jerusalem. They prefer to view the destroyed Temple as a call for introspection rather than rebuilding, just as the Yavneh rabbis, after the destruction by Rome of the second Temple, ensured the survival of Judaism by making prayer the avenue to communication with God instead of the old practice of sacrificing animals on the altars of the Temple.

I was struck by one synagogue's project that resonated with us to the point of moving us to action. They gave a formal burial to sacred books too damaged to use - an intentional contrast to the book-burnings and Torah destruction perpetrated for centuries byJew-hating (or Jew-scapegoating) regimes across the globe. I am proud of us for act-

ing on it after many years of holding on to all the old Siddurs we no longer use, the Maxwell House Haggadot we have long since replaced, the Yizkor books now out of date and even the printed handouts we use for special learning services that contain the names of God on every page. They have been held and viewed and prayed with by us and by those who came before us. They cannot be thrown away, but must be dealt with respectfully. Now we have our own "genizeh," (a special storage place), where



we can collect the holy books and papers we no longer use, and re-open their grave. It's time to do it again. Watch Joyce's announcements for a date. Gather your worn out books and papers now. In Havana I was deeply moved, visiting the Ashkenazi cemetery and seeing their genizah semi open among the other graves.



The call today to make this a day of remembrance and honor makes sense to me. We want to find more and newer ways to give deep thanks to those ancestors of ours who lived through the tragedies and hardships the rabbis tell us occurred on Tisha B'Av. We want our observance to show our gratitude for their steadfastness and refusal to lose faith in the heritage they worked so hard against painful odds to keep intact for us. Then we can bathe and return to summer joy renewed. Maybe the fish will still be "jumpin'." ◊



KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SISTERHOOD

invites you to our



Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner

On Sunday, September 29th, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. we will gather at the KJCC for a haimische dinner followed by

7:30 p.m. Services

Rosh Hashanah Oneg following services

Cost \$18

Children under 13 - no charge



RSVP to Erica Lieberman-Garrett

hippiejap@hotmail.com (305) 393-1162 by September 23rd

Please send in your payment payable to KJCC Sisterhood PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070

Meat Dinner with Vegetarian Options available



Keys Jewish Community Center Food Drive

Wednesday, October 9th, 2019

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.





SHABBABEQUE 2019





Keys Jewish Community Center



ISLAND PRINCESS

December 16-20, 2019 open to KJCC members, family and friends

Cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Amber Cove and Dominican Republic

Itinerary -

December 16 Depart from Ft. Lauderdale-4 PM

December 17 Day at sea to enjoy all the offerings of the ship

December 18 Amber Cove in Dominican Republic-8 AM to 5 PM

December 19 Day at sea to enjoy all the offerings of the ship

December 20 Return to Ft. Lauderdale-7 AM

Rates-

Interior \$266 + \$105 Port fees and taxes - mid ship = \$371

Ocean view- \$311 - \$317 + \$105 Port fees and taxes - midship = \$416 - \$422

Balcony \$404 + Port fees and taxes - mid ship = \$509

Insurance for all three classes is \$39 to \$59 per person depending on coverage.

Gratuities are \$58 per person.

If there is military service, either retired or active, there is a \$50 on board credit for that person.

All food is included. (Several specialty restaurants have a very reasonable up charge and need reservations)

Email Rita Conklin at <u>wesandrita@aol.com</u> for any questions and to register. She will get back to you either by phone (305 849 3374) or by email.

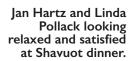
To ensure a cabin, please register before August 1, 2019. As the summer goes on, cabins become limited. A 20 percent deposit is required; final payment is due October 1, 2019.

There is a long established Jewish community in the town of Sosua with a significant history. We are looking into arranging a tour to the synagogue and museum.

PHOTO GALLERY

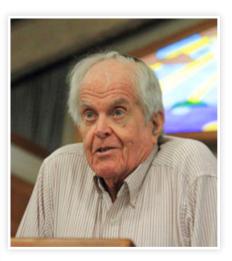


A large and lively contingent of KJCC Mishpocha and friends caravaned off the rock to enjoy an excellent production of Aida at the Seminole Theater.

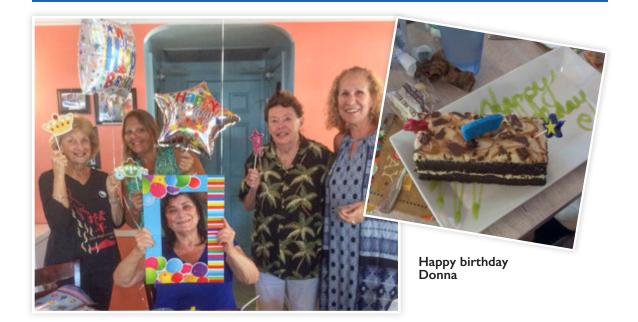


Susan Gordon and Michael Kaufman led a wonderful service on June 28th and Mike and Lorena sponsored our Oneg in celebration of both their anniversary and Mike's birthday.

MY DADDY



We are always interested in what Art Itkin has to say when he gives a Torah talk



KJCC Sisterhood gathers to celebrate a full season of successful programming, dinners, and helpful Yiddishkeit. It was a lovely luncheon at Buzzard's Roost. Gratitude to all the women who participate in making KJCC such a warm, welcoming, and nourishing place to be.





Jane brings one last big batch of greens to Burton Memorial Church's Food Bank. The KJCC organic garden, created by Harry Friedman and mom, has officially been put to bed for the season. Thank you, Jane, for all the wonderful veggie dishes we've enjoyed all year. You are a treasure.

There was much to celebrate on July 12th at Our Oneg. Steve Steinbock was honoring the memory of his late sister Karen. Barbara and Richard Knowles were celebrating their anniversary and we had not one but two birthdays. Happy healthy year to both Joyce Peckman and Michael Kaufman.



How many people get a street named after them (or a sign anyway) for a birthday present?



Susan Gordon did double announcement duty with Joyce away celebrating her birthday with family.

Thank you Barbara and Richard (Barbara Knowles photography) for the photos from this happy night.

Savta Peckman s



Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Dairy Dinner
after the Havdalah service
at Yom Kippur's end

We welcome your home cooked dairy dish, prepared with love, to share with your KJCC Mishpacha

Please Contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett
hippiejap@hotmail.com
(305) 393-1162
to coordinate your dish and to reserve your space.

RSVP: by October 2nd Sponsored by the KJCC Sisterhood No Charge - Donations welcome



Susan Gordon, president of KJCC's Sisterhood presents Jane Friedman, gardener extraordinaire, with a check for \$700, 1/3 of the "Tikkun Olam -- Repair the World" proceeds raised by this year's Women's Seder, one of our most joyous, meaningful, and delicious events. The money will be used by Jane to expand and buy supplies needed for the Organic Garden constructed by Harry Friedman to supply the Burton Memorial Church Food Bank with fresh produce.

Susan Gordon presents the second of three checks, money raised by the women of the KJCC at our special tikkun olam (repair the world) Passover Seder, to Trish Biondoletto. Trish happily accepts the \$700 on behalf of the Coral Shores High School Family Food Bank, which provides needy students with food while they're at school and enough to help their 27 families have nourishment through the weekend. We are grateful to be able to support our youth and larger community this way.





On the night that Rabbi Agler and Mindy gave their riveting presentation on the Passover Seder at the Talia Agler Girls Shelter in Nairobi, Susan Gordon presented the third Women's Seder Tikkun Olam check for \$700 to the Aglers, in support of the Shelter named for their daughter.

Reverse Tashlich

On Rosh HaShanah, Jewish communities around the world symbolically cleanse themselves by casting sins into a body of water. But this is not the only time humans cast their "sins" into the sea. Yearly, approximately six millions tons of human made trash enters the water, posing health and safety hazards



to the animals that call the sea their home. This disregard for the natural world and use of the ocean as a dumpster is a violation of the lewish tenant Ban Taschit, the prohibition of needless waste. So in 2016, Scubi Jew® students at Eckerd College, led by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, felt it would be a meaningful experience to reverse the process of Tashlich and remove human "sins" from the water. They organized a cleanup of the waterfront on campus, the first ever Reverse Tashlich, and removed more than 100 pounds of trash from the mangroves, beach, and water around campus.

Since then the Reverse Tashlich program has grown. In 2018, 307 participants from Hillels, synagogues, and Jewish Community Centers across Florida cleaned nine waterfront locations. This year, Tikkun HaYam is looking to collaborate with the Keys Jewish Community Center on October 6th to bring Reverse Tashlich to the Florida Keys' crystal blue waters.

If you're interested in being a part of this innovative and restorative program, or if you'd like to make the Keys a cleaner place, we invite you to join us on the evening of September 4th for a night of water Torah and program planning with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal. We hope to see you there.



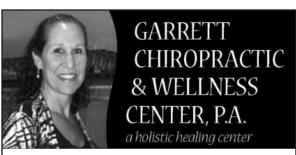
MEET JOSH KELLER HILLEL SCUBI JEW GOES LOCAL

You may know Josh from one of his many trips to the Keys, working on coral restoration projects, diving with paraplegics or cleaning up post hurricane trash in the mangroves. He has always stayed here in the KJCC school room with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal's Hillel group of Scubi-Jews. We are going to see a lot more of him.

Josh has opted for temporary Conch-hood and will be living in the Upper Keys as an intern for Rainbow Reef. Among group efforts he will head up will be a beach cleanup at Harry Harris Beach and Boat Ramp area. Josh has already listed the KJCC as a Tikkun Hayam location on the national website, and he will be our contact person and organizer interface with Rabbi Ed. Don't miss an important meeting with Rabbi Ed and Josh on September 4th in the KJCC Social Hall at 7:00 P.M. Rabbi Ed's talks are always enlightening, and we will be encouraging the larger community to join us.



Josh Keller grew up in Highlands, New Jersey, attending Congregation B'nai Israel for services and his Hebrew school education. Throughout his childhood he volunteered with CBI and other organizations like Clean Ocean Action doing beach cleanups to do his part in keeping the shore a beautiful place. He graduated from the Marine Academy of Science and Technology where his highschool education was focused in marine and environmental sciences. He then proceeded to graduate from Eckerd College with a degree in marine science and a computer science minor. During his time at Eckerd he was the President for two years of Scubi Jew: Eckerd College's Environmental Divers. As Scubi lew president he led his fellow students on trips such as bimonthly Dive Against Debris aboard their vessel, the Ally's Way. He also brought the Scubi lews down here to Key Largo where they stayed overnight at the KJCC during their Diveheart and Coral Restoration Foundation programs. After graduating college, Josh is now one of the new Rainbow Reef interns completing his training to become a Master Scuba Diver Trainer. He hopes these certifications will aid him in his journey to help repair the sea, continuing his involvement with Scubi Jew's parent organization, Tikkun Hayam. Josh is excited to be a part of the Rainbow Reef team and is very thankful to be so graciously welcomed into the KJCC community.



Dr. Erica Lieberman-Garrett, B.SC., D.C.

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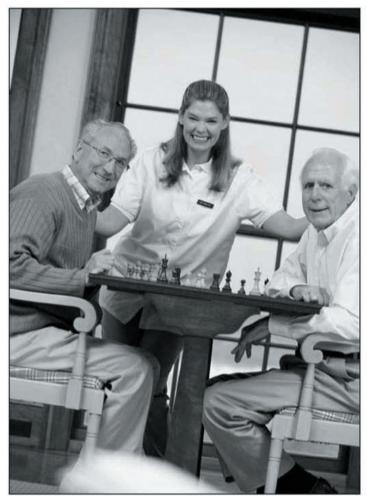
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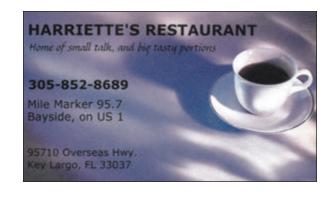
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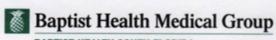
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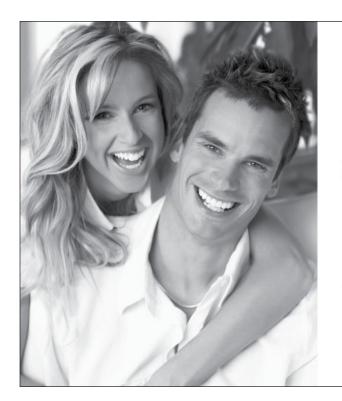
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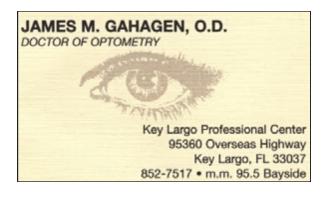
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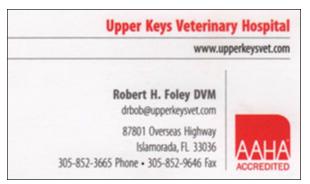
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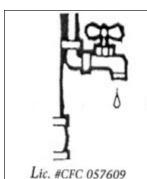
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October 1 - November 30, 2019

2 Tishrei -2 Kislev 5780

KJCC Security Update – page 21 HIGH HOLIDAYS 5780 – pages 22-27 Oceana Gross Reports From Europe – page 35

October - November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Names deno of Friday S Italicized are Oneg s Services every Fr	Services. I names sponsors.	Rosh Hashanah 9:30 am	2	3	Joyce Peckman James Brush	5 Shabbat Shuvah 10 am Pollack Havdalah 7 pm
6 Sisterhood 9:30 am KJCC board 11 am R. Tashlich 3:30 pm	14	Kol Nidre 7:30 pm	Yom Kippur 9:30 am Yizkor 11:30 pm Neilah 5:45 pm	17	Laurie Blum Stuart & Geri Smith 18 Gloria Avner	12
Put up Sukkah 11 am	1st Day Sukkot	2nd Day Sukkot			Jane Friedman Sukkah Oneg	Agler Havdalah 7 pm
20 Hoshana Rabba	21 B. Ginsberg & B. Hayden Yizkor Service/ Simchat Torah Celebration 7:30 pm	22 Simchat Torah	23	24	Joe & Kathy Shabathai	26
27	Book club Noon at Bitton's	Rosh chodesh Cheshvan	30	31	1 NOV Gross-Klein Family Cheryl & Jeff Margulies	Rabbi Agler 10 am
Daylight savings time ends Sisterhood 10 am	4	5	6	7	8 Erica Lieberman- Garrett Sisterhood	9
KJCC Board 10 am	11 Veterans' Day	12	13	14	Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton Linda Kaplan	16
17	18	19	20	21	Steve Hartz Gloria Avner	23
24	Book Club Noon	26	27	28 Rosh Chodesh Kislev Thanksgiving	Medina Roy & Gloria Avner	30

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



spent this morning watching Rabbi Menachem Bialo loving-Iv and painstakingly examine and make minute repairs to the Hebrew letters of our Holocaust Torah, which was unfurled across several tables in the Kamely classroom. A couple of people dropped by to watch him work and to talk to him. He told us that our Czech Torah is about two centuries old, and like every Torah, has 304,805 letters. He looked at each one. He said that each Torah is different from every other; just as each person has his own handwriting. He particularly loves ours, with its large, clear letters and broad spaces between the columns of writing. While I was there, I packed up the silver ornaments from our Torahs. They will be polished and shiny for the New Year.

These Torahs are physical representations of the laws, customs and history that make us who we are, that bind us to something far beyond ourselves.

Most synagogues are full on the High Holidays, and most charge for seats. We at KJCC are an exception. Many of our members are still up north, so we have room and are glad to welcome all. Rabbi Agler and Cantor Dzubin will again lead our services and they promise to be intimate, interesting and inspiring. We will be organizing the Rosh Hashanah and Yom

Kippur honors over the next several weeks. If you know when you will be here and can accept either a Torah honor or an English reading, please drop me a note at joycepeckman@gmail.com as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing you.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are a much more valuable and meaningful New Year than lanuary 1. They offer us the gift of a clean slate. It is customary, perhaps obligatory, to ask forgiveness of those we have wronged, maybe without even being aware. This is a time to open hearts and discussions. knowing that your friend should be more open to forgiveness at this time of year. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks notes that it's hard. perhaps even unnatural, to forgive people who have done you wrong. Why even bother? To which his answer is that there is no worse self-inflicted injury than harboring a sense of grievance. Life's too short to bear a grudge or seek revenge. Bad has happened, but it won't be made better by dwelling on it. Let it go. Release the weight. Move on. And so, if I have inadvertently offended you or slighted you, please let me know, and I ask your forgiveness.

Wishing you and your loved ones a happy, healthy 5780. ◊

October Birthdays

2nd	Michael Gilson	20th Barbara Knowles
4th	Michael Kanarek	20th Sydney Faye-Davis
4th	Michael Krissel	21stSammy Knowles
	Mathew Tainow	22nd Daniel Tainow
5th	Shayne Robinson	22ndJoseph Shabathai
6th	Joel Bernard	22ndSusan Roberts
7th	Jordan Feig	23rdJoe Levi
11th	Olivia Landes	24th Stacy Temkin
12th	Benay Krissel	25th Landon Strasser
13th	Richard Kaufman	25thRichard Wolfe
14th	Paul Friedman	26th Addison Daddona
14th	Samantha Sherman	29thAdriana Sherman
	Marcia Kreitman	29th Shyella Mayk
	Michael Tallent	30thFranklin Greenman
16th	Kiersten Persoff	30thKatie J. Schur
17th	Jay Hersh <mark>off</mark>	30th Mark Hitzig
17th	Stacey W. Seewald	31st Brittany Schur
18th	Payton Borisoff	

October Anniversaries

		Years
2nd	Paul & Barbara Bernstein	25
15th	David & Toby Goldfinger	60
16th	Jerry & Barbara Herson	20
28th	Michael & Suzanne Gilson	18
31st	Harvey & Judith Klein	65

Book Plate

In Loving Memory of

My Brother Barry

He loved Yiddishkeit Missed by Gloria

Book Plate

Honoring

Grandchildren Luke, Nathan & Anna Quarberg

Love, Grandma Susan & Dot-Dot

November Anniversaries

		rears
6th	Thomas & Renee Brodie	26
14th	Donald & Nancy Zinner	32
23rd	Marcia Kreitman & John Hawver	5
27th	Stanley & Jenny Margulies	
28th	Sam & Leslie Janowitz	22
29th	Louis and Linda Ulman	38

Book Plate

In Memory of

Evelyn Coltman

by Barnet Coltman

Book Plate

In Memory of

Bubby & Zaide Lieberman

by Dr. Erica Lieberman-Garrett

NOSH

Dip and Dine

KJCC's Erev Rosh HaShanah's Best Ever Home Cooked Dinner, a Sisterhood Event is coming soon. Circle the date, Sept. 29th at 5:30 p.m. and send in your check. It's your reservation. Let's dip our apples in the honey and welcome sweetness into our lives at the beginning of this New Year. For more information, see the poster on P. 16.

Don't Forget to Feed the Fish

At 4:00 p.m. on September 30, the first day of Rosh HaShanah, we will meet at Ocean Point to pray, sing and metaphorically throw our bad deeds, the ones that missed their mark, when we were not our best selves, into the water in the form of bread (bagel?) crumbs. Tashlich is a short traditional ceremony in a beautiful place with expansive ocean view. Let the ocean carry away your bad behavior, leaving room for new and good.

Havdalah at Linda P's

Once again, as she has for many years, Linda Pollack will host us at her lovely home for a pot luck meal and the shortest sweetest service of all, Havdalah. That morning, October 5th at 10:00 a.m., we will be in our KJCC Sanctuary for the Shabbat Shuvah Torah Service, always taking place on the Saturday between Rosh HaShanahand Yom Kippur, deepening our commitment to become our better selves. That evening we will wait for three medium stars to come out so we can say goodbye to Shabbat with wine, spices, fire from a many wicked candle and song. The internal work deepens as we move closer to Yom Kippur.

Feed and Fast

We are not talking about eating quickly, but about fasting meaningfully. When you come to services on Kol Nidre eve, (or any time the week before), bring a bag of non-perishable groceries with you. Help feed those less fortunate than we are. When Yom Kippur is over, we will load up a van with the bags we've collected and bring them to Burton Memorial's Food Bank, feeding the hungry and strengthening our ties with our neighbors. For more information, see the poster on P. 24.

Break-the-Fast

After a full 25 hours of meditation, prayer, chanting, repenting and learning with Rabbi Agler,

the Days of Awe, Yamim Noraim, come to their climactic moment and conclusion. The Shofar is sounded with one long blast—the tekiah g'dolah—and when the Havdalah candle sputters out in the dish of wine, it's over. Except for what's next. Come break the fast with us at the most bountiful dairy dinner you can imagine, as soon as the afternoon and early evening services are over. For details, see the poster on P. 20.

In Our KJCC Sukkah

Come on Sunday Oct. 13th at 11 a.m. to help us decorate our succah. We will have an Etrog and lulav available to wave before services on Friday October 18th, and will say Kiddush and break bread there afterwards.

Sukkot at the Aglers

Rabbi and Mindy Agler have again invited us to a pot-luck dinner at their home on the Shabbat of Succot, at 7 p.m. October 19th, followed by havdalah and grapes in their bay-side succah. The address is 168 Sunset Drive, Tavernier. RSVP to Erica Lieberman-Garrett. For details, see the poster on P. 28.

Torah Services Begin

Lucky us. Torah learning Shabbat morning services are set to resume on the morning of November 2nd. The Parashah of the week will be Noach. If you've been to Rabbi Richard Agler's services before, you know you want to come. If you haven't, make a special effort. Our Scholar-in-Residence makes Torah study a warm, rewarding and engaging experience, a wonderful way to spend a Shabbat morning. There will be refreshments in the afterwards. Services start promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Reverse Tashlich

On Sunday, October 6th we will join Jewish communities across the country in a Hillel-sponsored "Reverse Tashlich" as we remove the sins of the community in the form of trash on the shore. We will meet at 3:30 p.m. in the KJCC parking lot, bringing gloves and grabbers (if you have) and wearing shoes that can handle walking in the wet mangroves. We will provide trash bags, more gloves and grabbers, and proceed to the mangrove area near Donna Bolton's ocean-side home to provide a cleaner environment for sea life. Call Susan Gordon at 305-766-3585 if you would like to be part of this worthwhile effort.



Sisterhood Book Club

Monday
October 28, 2019
- Noon



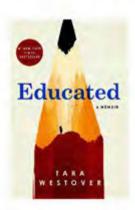
The Nightingale tells the story of two sisters in France during World War II, and their struggle to survive and resist the German occupation of France. It was inspired by the story of a Belgian woman, Andrée de Jongh, who helped downed Allied pilots to escape Nazi territory.

Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches. In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard.

The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when Tara's older brother became violent.

Then, lacking a formal education, Tara began to educate herself. She taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University, where she studied history, learning for the first time about important world events like the Holocaust and the civil rights movement. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

Monday November 25, 2019 - Noon



RSVP and more information - Bobbie Chester - bobbiebunkin@aol.com 630-430-7100

SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



t's hard to believe that the New Year is already upon us! I would like to wish everyone a Happy & Healthy 5780. May we all have a year filled with enjoyment and contentment while enjoying our friends, family, and our varied activities, and content with our lives and how we choose to spend our time this coming year.

The women of the KJCC Sisterhood have been guite busy throughout the month of September, planning and preparing for the many High Holiday events. After taking a two month break from Sisterhood meetings during July and August, we met on the morning of Sunday, September 8th to plan these Holiday meals. This past August marked two years that I have held the position of Sisterhood President, I can honestly say that I enjoy our monthly meetings. I feel supported & surrounded by likeminded, intelligent, hard-working women who share the common goal of making the KJCC a great place for all to enjoy and feel connected to one-another while celebrating the traditions of Iudaism.

The Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner which is scheduled for Sunday, September 29th at 5:30pm promises to be a delicious & bountiful buffet, worthy of celebrating the New Year in our usual KJCC style! During the following two days, Monday, September 30th and Tuesday, October 1st, Sisterhood will provide a lovely luncheon for all to enjoy at the conclusion of the Rosh Hashanah prayer services on each day, Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we will gather at the home of Linda Pollack on the evening of Saturday, October 5th at 7:00pm to enjoy a (hopefully) colorful bayfront sunset, participate in a sweet Havdalah service, and share an 'End of Shabbat Shuvah' meal together. Havdalah is one of my favorite traditions; smelling the rich aroma of the spices,

lighting the multi-wicked braided candle in darkness, blending our voices in song while we say goodbye to another restful Shabbat. At the conclusion of a full day of Yom Kippur services on Wednesday, October 9th when everyone is weary from prayer and the feeling of hunger is setting in, Sisterhood will, once again, offer an exceptional buffet to the congregants of the KJCC. Please join us as we enjoy a traditional "Break-the-Fast" meal. This year, Erica has volunteered to organize all of the High Holiday Dinners and Luncheons. I am certain that every woman in the KJCC Sisterhood will agree with me, that we are very fortunate to have the 'perfect gal for the perfect job.' Somehow, Erica makes it all look so easy to plan these big functions!

Participating in the Sisterhood at the KJCC is rewarding in so many ways and on so many levels. If you are already a 'regular' at our monthly meetings...thank you! If you have not yet attended, please try to come sometime. All female members of the KJCC are automatically members of Sisterhood. Meetings are held on the first Sunday morning of each month. I look forward to welcoming you on Sunday, October 6th at 9:30am, as we begin a New Year with great enthusiasm! \diamond

Book Plate

In Memory of

Dr. Victor Herman

by Bernie Ginsberg

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We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through 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 specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

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Bernie Ginsberg

Unrestricted

Mah Jongg

Linda Pollack

Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis

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Margaux Rene Grossman

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Mollie Laurent Burton Margolis

Evelyn Coltman

Victor Herman

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Gloria Avner

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Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

Rich & Mindy Agler

Adam & Judy Starr

Thomas and Renee Brodie

Medina Roy

Ierrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz

Linda Pollack

Joe & Susan Sachs

Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Michael Klimpl

Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages

Gerri & Frank Emkey

Stuart & Geri Smith

Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Melvin & Joyce Ruthen

Karyn Zoren Elaine Schulberg

Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Nelson & Bobbie Chester Jerry & Barbara Herson

Jamie & Laura Goodman

Marcia Kreitman & John Hawver

Gloria Avner

Stephen Steinbock

Holocaust Education Fund

Lillian Tallent Claire Tallent

Patricia Isenberg

Adam & Judy Starr

Tzeddakah Fund

Medina Roy

October 11

October 25

Lvnn Nobil

Scholarship Fund

Lillian Tallent

Claire Tallent

Linda Pincus

Adam & Judy Starr

Medina Roy

Chai-Lights

Linda Pincus

Adam & Judy Starr

Nancy Kluger

Linda Pollack

Elaine Schulberg

Arthur & Johanna Willner

Library

Steve & Amelia Kasinof

Tikkun Olam

Linda Pincus

Rich & Mindy Agler

Other In Memory of

Wes & Rita Conklin

lim & Rita Willliams

Mary Lee Singer Robert W & Jon R Singer

Gloria Avner Barry Avner

Oneg Sponsors

September 27 Geri & Stuart Smith In Honor of

Geri's Parents' Anniversary

Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis

Yahrzeit of Laura's Dad Sidney Blum

October 4 **James Brush**

In Memory of his great grandfather

Stuart & Geri Smith In Honor of

Mets World Series 50th Anniversary

October 18 Iane Friedman

In Honor of Paul Friedman's Birthday

Joe & Kathy Shabathai

in Honor of Their Birthdays

November 1

Cheryl & Jeff Margulies in Honor of KICC

November 8 Sisterhood

November 15 Linda Kaplan In Honor of Her Birthday

November 22 Gloria Avner

In Honor of Her Birthday

November 29 Sisterhood

December 6 Frank Rose

In Honor of His 90th birthday

8 Chai-Lights October-November 2019

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for information, or send your desired inscription to lindap4000@ymail.com.

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 Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, to make your donation.

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights or annually in our KJCC Directory. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for annual rates.

GIFT SHOP: We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225, or email her at joycepeckman@gmail.com.

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.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225.

TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT: Bring your empty prescription and vitamin bottles to the KJCC and place in the collection box. We are assisting Burton Memorial with a project to provide empty medicine bottles to Haiti where they are needed.

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES, ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at lindap4000@ymail.com.

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: keysjewishcenter.com. 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. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

HOW CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC CAN INSTANTLY BECOME PERMANENT, LIVING MEMORIALS

Yahrzeit Plaques: KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400.

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 wonders 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, with an outdoor plaque included in the price.

November Birthdays

2nd 2nd 2nd		16th
4th	Zoey Barrett	20thBetty Small
	Joel Stein	22ndGloria Avner
7th	Michele Lindenbaum	22ndJohn Luis Greenbaum
	Nico Wilbur	24th Arthur Lee Willner
11th	Cathy Dutton	24th Will Travis Pollack
13th	Marilyn Greenbaum	25thNancy L. Cohn
13th	Tami Antelman	26thJohn Douglas Greenbaum
14th	Larry Wolfe	28th Nicole Hudson
	Rae Wruble	29thBenjamin Rakov

Service Leaders

October 4 Joyce Peckman	November 2: Rabbi Agler 10 a.m.
October 11Laurie Blum	November 8Erica Lieberman-Garrett
October 18Gloria Avner	November 15 Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton
October 25	November 22 Steve Hartz
November 1Gross-Klein Family	November 29 Medina Roy & Gloria Avner

In Memoriam – October 2019

Perren Gerber

By Gloria Avner

Fanny Grossman Bernard

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Steven V. Calev

By Barbara A. Calev

William Chait

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

Sadie Suchman

By Foster Davidson

Stanley J. Goodman

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

Henry Walter Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

Stephen Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Gertrude Widlan

By Norbert Birnbaum

Arnold Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

Ida Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Muriel Catanase

By Jane Friedman

Simon Skolnick

By Susan Gordon

Leah Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Mae U. Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Molly Feldblum

By Marc Bloom

Sydney Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

Abraham Kanowsky

By Wes & Rita Conklin

H. Melvin Berkon

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

Joseph Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Rebekah Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Minnie Kaplan

By Sandy Kaplan

Eliza Christensen

By Nancy Kluger

Joel S. Cohen

By Lynn Nobil

Santi San Filippo

By Michael (Sandy) San Filippo

Maurice Singer

By Lee Schur

Solomon Felder

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Carol Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Sadie Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Sidney Blum

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

David Frank

By Linda Pollack

Bradley Schocket

By Jeffrey Schocket

Jon R. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

Mrs. Freda Shipman

By Shirley Stein

Sarah Wernicoff

By Donald Zinner

Neel Christensen

By Nancy Kluger

Rosie Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Rosalyn Rose

By Skip Rose

Patty Silver Schocket

By Jeffrey Schocket

Morton I. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

Mr. Harry Stein

By Shirley Stein

Doran David Zinner

By Donald Zinner

In Memoriam – November 2019

Eugene Agler

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Loretta Messer

By Marc Bloom

Harriet Feder

By David & Suzi-Sara Feder

Fanny Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Leonard Weiser

By Randi Grant

Michal Kamely

By Uri Kamely

Ron Levy

By Beth Kaminstein

Shirley Leventhal Strumor

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

Harold Goldstein

By Joan Boruszak

Nettie Fishman

By Eina G. Fishman

Lilian Goldenberg

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Helene Tulsky

By Patricia Isenberg

Michal Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Sol Levy

By Beth Kaminstein

Audrey Bloom

By Marc Bloom

Jacqueline Berger

By Lynn Dils

Lillian Skolnick

By Susan Gordon

Donald Graham

By Mrs. Marty Graham

David Jacobs

By Lawrence Jacobs

David Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Esther M. Klein

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Jacob S. Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Jose (Pepe) Cohen Charaf

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Murray Pincus

By Linda Pincus

Abraham Travers

By Michele Riley

Albert Kaminsky

By Elaine Schulberg

Samuel Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

Diana Wolfe

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Fanny Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

lise Doellefeld

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Tillie Pollack

By Linda Pollack

Selma Moore Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Shirley Singer

By Lee Schur

Kenny Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Morris Mazur

By Sanford Yankow

Ethel Hankin

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

Benjamin Margulies

By leff & Cheryl Margulies

Raymond K. Hess

By Jan Price-Shiloh

Shirley Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Marianne Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock

Esther Gold Willner

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

Katy Kram

By Sanford Yankow

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



Found - David's City of Refuge from Saul

An international team of archaeologists claims to have identified the lost city of Ziklag, the town where the Bible says David was given shelter by Philistine King Achish. Based on artifacts and carbon 14 dating results of excavations since 2015, the scientists believe that the archaeological site of Khirbet a-Ra'i, in the Judean foothills, is the site of the ancient Philistine town. The Book of Samuel states that Ziklag provided refuge to David (before he was king) when he was on the run from King Saul. David settled at Ziklag for fourteen months with 600 of his men and their families and used it as a base from which to raid neighboring peoples. After his time in Ziklag, David was anointed King in Hebron. Later, in the Book of Nehemiah, the town is mentioned again as a base for Jews who returned from Babylon, Archaeologists have been searching for Ziklag for a very long time. Roughly a dozen sites have been suggested but all have been dismissed due to a lack of evidence as described in the Bible. But this site at Khirbet a-Ra'i has all the required specifications, and after seven dig seasons the archaeological team found the evidence they were looking for, typical of the period of King David. Finds at the site provide evidence of a settlement from the Philistine era lasting until the 6th century B.C.E. Some 100 complete pottery vessels found are identical to those found in the 10th century B.C.E. - around the time that David lived - fortified Judean city of Khirbet Qeiyafa (biblical Sha'arayim) in the Judean foothills. (www.timesofisrael.com, 7-8-19)

A Very Special Gift

Israel's national women's lacrosse team did something unique during their match against Kenya. In early August, Israel defeated Kenya 13-4 at a match during the 2019 Women's Lacrosse Under 19 World Championship in Ontario. Although victorious, the Israeli women knew something was not right: the two teams literally

were not "on equal footing." None of the Kenyan players had cleats, which automatically put them at a disadvantage. And so, the Israeli women surprised their opponents with brand-new footwear. The night before the match, it rained and the Kenyan women were slipping and sliding all over the field because their shoes didn't have the needed traction. Eighteen pairs of shoes - all the correct sizes for the Kenyan team - were purchased by the Israeli teens' parents. The next day, the Kenyan coach brought his team to the Israel-Belgium game under the ruse that they were scoping out the Belgian team, who the Kenyans were scheduled to play the following day. The truth was that the Israeli team wanted them there to present them with their new cleats. (The Kenyans went on to beat Belgium 17-3.) (www.kveller.com, 8-12-19)

Another Special Gift

Employees of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, the newspaper which won the Pulitzer Prize this past April for its coverage of the deadly shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue, have donated the \$15,000 prize money to that synagogue. The paper won the prize for their "immersive, compassionate coverage" of the shooting at Tree of Life, where eleven people were killed and seven others wounded last year in October. The employees stated that splitting the money among those who covered the news "just didn't seem right." Publisher John Robinson Block suggested the money be donated to the synagogue to help it repair its bullet-riddled interior. The check was presented to the synagogue's rabbi and president of the congregation. "We feel bound to you and your congregants - by memory and duty," said Keith Burris, the Post-Gazette's executive editor. "And we offer you, in humility, our service - as scribes and witnesses." (www.forward.com, 9-6-19)

Root Canals a Thing of the Past?

A team at Tel Aviv University has invented fillings that prevent tooth decay from recurring. The new nano-filling prevents the secondary tooth decay that takes place beneath cavities. The product could reach trial stage in a year or two. Cavities have become among the most widespread bacterial conditions in the world. And because of our extended lifespans, more cavities develop beneath the fillings. This is known as secondary tooth decay. It affects an estimated 100 million patients a year, costing some \$30 billion. Bacteria adhere to fillings and, over time, the composite material used for fillings begins to shrink: bacteria love getting into these new cracks and crannies that are created. The Israeli team set out to create a filling that would prevent secondary tooth decay and that didn't have toxic effects like certain old-school metal fillings. The new material contains antibacterial nano-assemblies and bacteria do not cling to it. It does not kill bacteria but does repel them, and theoretically could last forever. The team is also looking at other health applications including wound dressings, (www.haaretz.com. 7-4-19

A Triumph Over Evil

Holocaust survivor Shoshana Ovitz had a special request to celebrate her 104th birthday: that her descendants - some 400 of them - come together for prayer in Jerusalem at the kotel (the Western Wall). Ovitz survived Auschwitz 74 years ago. In the camp, her mother had been taken to Nazi doctor Josef Mengele, he of the medically unethical experiments on prisoners. After the war, she met a man who would later become her husband. He had lost his wife and four daughters in the camps. The two searched for surviving relatives and lived in Austria before eventually settling in Israel. She worked as a seamstress and helped her husband run a chicken shop. According to one family member there might be more descendants. And, oh, her birthday request was granted: photos of the event show the huge group posing in front of the Wall, one intrepid Jewish life spawning hundreds. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 8-7-19)

The Return of Catacombs

Iewish (and Muslim) burial customs require burying the dead in the ground, prohibiting cremation. Tel Aviv and other crowded cities have adopted vertical cemetery structures to meet demand. Now Israel is looking for solutions below ground. Har Hamenuchot Cemetery overlooks the main highway leading into Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. It is almost at capacity with some 250,000 graves. After three years of labor, the first underground section of an extensive subterranean gravevard consisting of a mile of tunnels with tombs is almost complete and will provide 8,000 burial sites. (Eventually, this first section will have some 23,000 grave sites.) The limestone walls are lined four high with tombs inspired by the ancient lewish custom of cave burials found around Israel like the UNESCO heritage site of Beit She'arim, near Haifa. Those catacombs were active burial sites between the second and fourth centuries. They were recognized by the United Nations as a World Heritage Site in 2015. Amit Reem, Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologist, said that families would bury the deceased's remains in the catacombs, then seal the door with a rock for eight months. When they opened the door of the cave only the skeleton remained. The bones were then collected and placed in ossuaries. stone boxes, inside the cave chamber. The burial chambers being built now will be sealed with a grave marker. The executive director of the Jewish burial association in Ierusalem said the site is "100% acceptable according to Jewish tradition." (www.timesofisrael.com, 8-29-19)

And the Prize Goes to...

Early in September, David Hertz, a Jewish social entrepreneur from Brazil, was named the winner of the 2019 Charles Bronfman Prize, which comes with a check for \$100,000. He was awarded the prize in recognition of his efforts to alleviate world hunger. Hertz is the co-founder of Gastromotiva, a Brazilian-based organization that fights unemployment and social inequality. He uses cooking classes and nutrition education as tools to "create opportunities for those living on the margins of society." The Charles Bronfman Prize was established by the children of the philanthropist. It honors humanitarians under age 50 "whose innovative work, informed

by Jewish values, has significantly improved the world." (www.jpost.com, 9-6-19)

In Memoriam

• George Rosenkranz – one of three Jewish chemists who synthesized progesterone, the main ingredient in birth control pills – died in June. He was 102. Born in Hungary, Rosenkranz studied organic chemistry in Switzerland before fleeing to Cuba to escape the Nazis. After World War II he became the research director of Syntax Corporation, a pharmaceutical lab in Mexico.

In 1951, the three chemists developed Norethindrone, which at first was used as a fertility treatment. After five years of trials, the drug demonstrated its effectiveness for use as a method of birth control. Rosenkranz later became chief executive and chairman of Svntax, which grew into a diversified international pharmaceutical and biotechnology company. He wrote hundreds of articles and scientific papers and was named in 150 patents. Rosenkranz was also a world-class bridge player, winning a dozen American championships. He wrote fifteen books on bridge and invented the "Rosenkranz Double" and "Rosenkranz Redouble." In 1984, his wife, also a top bridge player, was kidnapped at the North American Bridge Championships in Washington, D.C., and ransomed for one million dollars. The FBI captured the kidnappers and the money was returned. (www.jta.org, 6-2-19)

- Harold "Hal" Prince, legendary Broadway producer and director who brought "Fiddler on the Roof" to the stage, died at the beginning of August. He was 91. Prince's credits include "West Side Story," "Damn Yankees," "Cabaret," "Sweeney Todd" and "Phantom of the Opera," among others. (His production of "Phantom of the Opera" is currently the longest-running musical.) Prince received a record 21 Tony Awards and was a recipient of a Kennedy Center Honor, Born in New York City, Prince described his parents as "privileged, upper-middle-lower-rich-class" German Jews whose families had immigrated here soon after the Civil War. He's quoted as saying that "Saturday matinees were part of a New York Jewish child's intellectual upbringing." (www.nytimes.com, 7-31-19)
- Krystyna Danko, a non-Jew remembered as "an angel of goodness" and recognized by

Israel's Yad Vashem for saving Jews from the Holocaust, has died at the age of 102. Prior to the outbreak of World War II, she was an orphan taken in by a Jewish family, the Kokoszkos, near Warsaw. Later, after the war broke out, life for the Kokoszkos became extremely difficult. Danko, at great personal risk, went to incredible lengths to help the family escape the Nazis. She almost singlehandedly rescued all four of them. She hid the father, the mother and the oldest daughter in a secret location in a nearby village. She put the voungest daughter, Maria, who was eleven, on a train to a Polish orphanage in Warsaw where she was registered as a Catholic child. Danko became the liaison between the family and Maria by carrying messages and information back and forth throughout the German occupation. She provided the Kokoszkos with food, clothing, and money while they were in hiding. Danko asked nothing in return for her efforts. claiming it was her moral obligation as a human being. They all survived the war. In 1998, Danko was named "Righteous Among the Nations" by Yad Vashem. At the time of her death, Danko is said to have been one of the oldest living rescuers. (www.timesofisrael, 8-9-19)

· Semion Rosenfeld, the last survivor of the 1943 Sobibór uprising, died in June at 96. Rosenfeld was born in Ternovka, a small village in Ukraine. He joined the Red Army in 1940 to fight the Nazis. He was captured and became a prisoner of war, was sent to a concentration camp in Minsk, and in 1943 was deported to Sobibór in German-occupied Poland. In the uprising, eleven SS guards were killed along with several Ukrainian guards. The rebels cut all forms of communication and stormed the barbed wire fences and main entrance to the extermination camp. Some 300 people managed to escape but almost all were killed. In the end, only 47 survived the uprising. Rosenfeld managed to survive in the forest along with a small group of escapees. It wasn't just the rebels who died; in all, at least two hundred and fifty thousand Jews were murdered at Sobibór. In 1944, following the liberation of the nearby town of Chelm by the advancing Red Army, he rejoined and fought with the group that helped take Berlin. In 1990, Mr. Rosenfeld moved from Ukraine to Israel. (www.jpost.com, 6-4-19) ◊

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SISTERHOOD

invites you to our



Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner

On Sunday, September 29th, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. we will gather at the KJCC for a haimische dinner followed by

7:30 p.m. Services

Rosh Hashanah Oneg following services

Cost \$18

Children under 13 - no charge



RSVP to Erica Lieberman-Garrett

hippiejap@hotmail.com (305) 393-1162 by September 23rd Please send in your payment payable to KJCC Sisterhood PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070

Meat Dinner with Vegetarian Options available



Holocaust Torah gets Touch-up, Stays Kosher

Rabbi Menachem Bialo smiled happily as he unrolled our two hundred year old Holocaust Torah scroll for its second annual Maintenance Inspection visit. He said it was one of his favorites, with its large clear Hebrew script and very wide margins between the columns. He was pleased with its condition but wanted it to be perfect and spent hours carefully examining each of its 304,805 letters, using a hand cut quill and special ink when a letter was beginning to crack or fade, just as sofers (scribes) have done for thousands of years.

Sam Vinicur, who stayed with Rabbi Bialo for the entire seven hours that the sofer/rabbi was working, enjoyed the educational sharing that is a big part of what the rabbi brings to us along with the work. We can be proud and grateful for all that this sofer/friend and the members of our congregation have accomplished over the last four years in defense of this meaningful Torah's state of kashrut.

unrolled in all its glory.



Linda Perloff leans forward to watch closely as Rabbi Menachem Bialo of sofer-on-site examines and makes corrections to the sacred text. Mitch, of blessed memory, and Linda were both big supporters of our Torah Restoration Project.

Sichor

Saturday, September 21, 2019 6:00 p.m. S'lichot Service led by Beth Hayden 6:30 p.m. Pizza and Salad followed by Movie

An all-star ensemble cast shines in this comical and poignant look at breakups, breakdowns and breakthroughs. Joel (Jim Carrey) is stunned to discover that his girlfriend, Clementine (Kate Winslet), has had their tumultuous relationship erased from her mind. Out of desperation, he contacts the inventor of the process, Dr. Howard Mierzwiak (Tom Wilkinson), to get the same treatment. But as his memories of Clementine begin to fade, Joel suddenly realizes how much he still loves her.



rsvp to Linda Pollack lindap4000@ymail.com so we know how much pizza to get

SPONSORED BY STEVE STEINBOCK LINDA POLLACK

In the Keys Community

The Ocean Life Series at the Murray Nelson Center

This fascinating free series is held monthly on Thursdays at the Government Center, 102050 Overseas Highway in Key Largo. On September 26th, it features Dr. Rachel Zuercher from FIU. The topic is "Mapping Reef fisheries at the Florida Reef Tract." On October 24th Dr. Douglas Wartzak of FIU will discuss underwater acoustic marine mammals. On November 21st Sarah Fangman, Superintendent of the Keys National Marine Sanctuary, will talk about protecting the Florida Keys marine ecosystem. All events begin at 6:30 PM with a happy hour prior to lecture from 6:30 to 7:00 PM.

A new Key Largo Library event, Great Discussions, provides an opportunity to better understand how international policy works and our place in the world.

The first four events will take place once a month on Fridays (Sept. 27, Oct. 18, Jan. 24 and Feb. 28) between 1 and 3 p.m. in the library community room. Each of these will be based on the Great Decisions series, created by the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association (www.fpa.org/great_decisions) that has been educating and inspiring discussion on international themes for over 50 years. Each event will include a 20-minute video on a current topic such as: Cyber Politics, Global Migration, Trade with China or US/Mexico Policy. Jill Zima Borski who has several years of experience with the Great Decisions program at Ocean Reef Club, will be leading this group discussion.

Coralhead Blues Festival

This full day event at Marathon Community Park on October 19th benefits United States veterans and local charities. Bring your own blankets and chairs, but no outside food is permitted. Tickets are \$14 in advance, \$19 at the door. Go to coralheadmusicfest.com for more information.

Ukelele Jam

Every first and third Wednesday, from 1:30-3:00 p.m. at the Key Largo library. All levels are welcome, and instruments are available to borrow.

If you know of any fun events, send Joyce an email and we will try to include them in Chai-Lights.



Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Dairy Dinner
after the Havdalah service
at Yom Kippur's end

We welcome your home cooked dairy dish, prepared with love, to share with your KJCC Mishpacha

Please Contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett
hippiejap@hotmail.com
(305) 393-1162
to coordinate your dish and to reserve your space.

RSVP: by October 2nd Sponsored by the KJCC Sisterhood No Charge - Donations welcome

ADL/ JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY SECURITY CONFERENCE LESSONS LEARNED FROM TREE OF LIFE SYNOGOGUE

By Joyce Peckman

n October 27th we will mark the oneyear anniversary of the shooting at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue. Since then, KJCC has had police unofficially assess our building. We made some significant changes to increase our security, and were pronounced safer than most, but we will improve. A big "Thank You!" to those of you who sent in extra money with your dues for our security fund and to Dr. Robert Foley of Upper Keys Veterinary Hospital, who is also helping us.

On September 10th, I drove to the Greater Miami Jewish Federation building on Biscavne Boulevard to attend part one of a three part Community Security Conference series, which are a joint effort of the Federation and the ADL. The hall was filled with about 200 people, including many from national, state and local law enforcement. The meeting was opened by Stephanie Viegas, Greater Miami Jewish Federation's new Director of Community Security, who comes with an impressive background in law enforcement. She asked several people to introduce themselves, and then asked me to stand. As a representative of the Kevs Jewish Center, I actually received a round of applause!

One of the first speakers was Tony Casteneda of the FBI, who spoke about having a layered approach to safety. Yael Hershfield of the ADL gave an overview of the dramatic increase in reported incidents since 2016. Every state in the US except Alaska had anti-Semitic incidents in 2018, from Maine with 9 to California with 341. Florida had 79 reported incidents last year.

Many of these were vandalism in public places, like schools or parks. She stressed how important it is to report everything, no matter how minor, to the ADL. Hateful acts usually progress from minor to more significant; the ADL can track and investigate things that police cannot prosecute.

Brad Orsini was the featured speaker of the morning. He retired after 23 years with the FBI, which included being a lead officer in the NJ response team after 9/11, to become Director of Community Security at the Pittsburgh Jewish Federation, a job he still holds. Mr. Orsini spoke at length of the massacre at Tree of Life, bringing diagrams. films and survivor interviews. He demonstrated how training is the key: there had been three training exercises in the building before the shooting, which saved many lives. In a nutshell the three basics are: 1) Get out if possible - and don't return! (two who broke that rule perished.) 2) If you can't leave - hide and don't come out until you know it is safe. Don't peek (one man died that way). 3) Fight as a last resort. He gave number of concrete examples on how to prevent, prepare for and, as in this case, deal as a community with an unthinkable tragedy.

I met with people who will help us get a free, official risk assessment, and will help us write grants. We will receive notices and warnings of anything happening in South Florida. Jewish Federation and ADL now know who we are, and I am pleased that we are associated with these exemplary organizations. \diamond

KJCC High Holiday Service Schedule 5780 (2019-2020)

Rabbi Richard Agler and Cantor Michael Dzubin



Saturday, September 21, 2019	
S'lichot - Pizza, Service and Movie	6:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 29, 2019	
Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner	5:30 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	7:30 p.m.
Monday, September 30, 2019	
Rosh Hashanah, Day 1 - Service	9:30 a.m.
Lunch	4.00
Tashlich - Ocean Pointe	4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 1, 2019	
Rosh Hashanah, Day 2 - Service	9:30 a.m.
Lunch	
Saturday, October 6, 2019	
Shabbat Shuvah Service	10:00 a.m.
Havdalah Service at Linda Pollack's	TBA
Tuesday, October 8, 2019	
Erev Yom Kippur - Kol Nidre Service	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday,, October 9, 2019	
Yom Kippur Service	9:30 a.m.
Yizkor Service	11:30 a.m.
"Fast Talk" with Rabbi Agler	2:00 p.m.
Neilah Service	5:30 p.m.
Havdalah Service	7:00 p.m.
	600

Note: Afternoon times are approximate.

For further information, please call the
Keys Jewish Community Center
305-852-5235. Website is www.keysjewishcenter.com

From the Rabbi's Desk Erev Rosh Hashanah, 5780

"These are the times that try men's souls." — Thomas Paine, 1776

It's amazing how some words never go out of style. With only a slight tweak for gender-sensitivity, Paine's 1776 observation remains more than valid in 2019. It has probably also been applicable for every year in between.

The words and themes of the High Holyday season are likewise, perennially on target. The Rabbis understood that the struggle of life, especially the struggle to live a decent and honorable life, is nothing if not a soul-trying experience.

Every year the prelude to the Days of Awe is familiar. We may have accomplished little or much, but we have also fallen short. We have not become all we had hoped to become—neither individually nor collectively. Our tradition teaches that we have fallen short in the eyes of God as well. The Jewish New Year is the time of Reckoning and for settling our Account on High. Without this, no improvement is possible.

Spiritual growth and character refinement are, undeniably, struggles. Anyone who claims to be fully satisfied with their life's progress, anyone who is unwilling make an effort to reach high-

er and deeper, has missed the point of Jewish life—and perhaps the point of life altogether. When it comes to our spiritual development, there is no such thing as being "done." All of us need betterment; we can all add a measure of goodness, decency, and love to a world that needs it as badly as ours does. None of us has earned the right to say, "No thanks, I'm good."

The Days of Awe are the time to take our personal inventory, to examine our better and lesser qualities, to address the shortcomings we find, and to emerge as better human beings. What a gift to be given days for such a purpose! How fortunate are we who do our best to make the most of them.

Once again this year, we will endeavor to bring these themes to life through our program of High Holyday worship, learning, and sharing. I am honored to be with you on the journey.

Mindy joins me in wishing all of our KJCC family a High Holyday season of meaning, fulfillment, and renewed strength for the soul-trials we will surely encounter in 5780.

L'shana tovah, Rabbi Richard Agler, DD ◊

L'Shanah Tovah Greetings!

Shana Tovah to my KJCC Mshpocha - Dr Erica Lieberman-Garrett

L'Shana Tovah. Wishing all a Happy & Healthy 5780 - Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

L'Shana Tovah to My KJCC Friends - Love from Philadelphia, Joan Wohl

Thank you KJCC, Nancy was not Alone
- Sandy

We wish all Our KJCC Friends a Happy & Healthy 5780 - Joel & Toby Wishing you a Year of joy,Health & Friendship - Joyce Peckman

L'Shana Tovah. I am blessed Tto have such a wonderful KJCC family! - Susan Gordon

Wishing everyone a happy New Year
- Linda Pincus

Shana Tovah to our KJCC Family - Mindy & Rich Agler

With best wishes For 5780 to all KJCC and all our loved ones - Adam & Judy Starr

Keys Jewish Community Center Food Drive

Wednesday, October 9th, 2019

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.





Decídíng Our Fate, B'Rosh HaShanah

by Cantor Michael Dzubin

"B'Rosh HaShanah y'kateavoon, u-v'Yom tsom Kippur yea-chateamoon (On Rosh Ha-Shanah they are inscribed, and on the Fast Day of Atonement they are sealed)." As the Mishnah teaches, on Rosh HaShanah, all people are judged individually, like sheep passing single file before their owner. God will decide the general fate of entire populations (Kammah ya-avroon, v'khammah y'barea-oon (how many will pass, and how many will be created)). God will also decree the fate of individuals (Mee yichyeh, u-mee yamoot (who will live, and who will die); Mee v'kitso, u-mee lo v'kitso (who (will die) at his intended time, and who will not (die) at his intended time)).

For those who are condemned to die, God determines how it will be brought about (Mee va-mayim, u-mee va-aish (who by water, and who by fire...), including Mee vara-ash (who by storm)). This last one is actually translated in our Machzor (and a number of others) as 'earth-quake', but according to the rabbis, it includes death by lightning, hail, hurricane, or any of the other violent means known as "acts of God".

For those whom God has deemed they have earned a right to live another year, there is even a ranking of what sort of life they will be entitled to live. It is traditional that the Cantor or Sheliach Tsibbur increases the rate of speed at which he is reciting at this point: Mee vanoo-ach. u-mee yanoo-a (who will rest, and who will wander); Mee vishakeat, u-mee vit-tareaf (who will live in serenity, and who will be distraught); Mee vishaleav, u-mee vityassar (who will enjoy tranquility, and who will suffer). According to tradition, this is done intentionally, so as not to tempt Satan as he listens to the listing of the various decrees in the prayer, much like the minchag (custom/tradition) for the Ba-al Koreh (Torah Reader) to chant the specific verses in the Torah portions B'Chukkotai and Kee Tavo,

known as the "Tocheichah" (admonition or reproof), quickly and quietly. This is in keeping with the belief, going back to medieval times, that even reading these verses (recounting God's curses against a disobedient Israel) could result in those curses becoming reality. So they were read in a relative whisper in the hopes that they won't come true, much like the way many people used to (and some still do) whisper the word "cancer", in fear of a loved one somehow 'catching it' if it was mentioned too loudly.

In South Florida, we all too frequently face the risk of a looming hurricane. We remember very well how Hurricane Irma devastated much of the Keys as a Category 4, with 130mph winds (and some of our friends and fellow congregants are still feeling the effects, as they continue to try to recover from Irma's visit to the Keys), and then tore into the mainland as 'only' a Category 3 hurricane with 110mph winds, as it began its march up the spine of the state. Then, less than two years later (only weeks ago, as you're reading this), South Floridians found ourselves in the crosshairs of the "cone of uncertainty" of a monster Category 5 Hurricane Dorian, as it crawled through the northern Bahamas, blowing down and drowning just about everything in its path. We were horrified at what was happening to our neighbors in the Bahamas. However, with the recent memories of Hurricane Irma, and for those of us who have been here a bit longer, the memories of Hurricane Andrew, we were glued to the news coverage, maybe not entirely to empathize with what they were going through, but to also watch for signs to indicate whether we were going to be hit next, while praying fervently that Dorian would follow the example of Hurricane David (1979), and make a sharp turn northward just 50 miles before reaching our shore.

Unfortunately, as we see or read in the news

all too often, each day brings a degree of uncertainty to our lives. (For the more superstitious who may be reading this, may God prevent any of the following being mentioned from befalling any of our congregation, or any of our loved ones.) Is this our year for a mass shooting, or a visit from another hurricane (or for our loved ones in other parts of the country, an earthquake, a raging inferno, flash flooding, with overflowing rivers running through town)? Or, on an individual level, is this the day that will be one of our turns to be involved in a car accident (and with the crazy drivers here in South Florida, that can happen ANYTIME!), or to receive a tough medical diagnosis, or to face some other unnamed threat? I had a bit of a taste of one of these myself earlier this year, just a week before Pesach (Passover), when I cut one of my fingers pretty badly at work, slicing through the nerve and what was later determined to be (when the doctor began to attempt to stitch the wound closed) the "main artery" in that finger. Fortunately, being an Eagle Scout, my First Aid training immediately kicked in, and I had instantly applied direct pressure and elevation to minimize the bleeding until the paramedics arrived. Still, there was a lot of blood at the scene, and the doctor who stitched me up at the urgent care seemed very impressed with how much more blood I lost at their facility. But for the proverbial "Grace of God", combined with my years of Scouting experience, the situation could

have turned out so much worse. At some point, we will all have to confront our vulnerability, and even mortality; some sooner than others.

What will we do with that increased awareness of our fragility? Will we give up, either by morosely accepting our 'fate', or by taking the hedonistic path of "eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we may die"? Or will we "seize the day", and perhaps make more of a concerted effort to knock out a couple more of our "todo's" that we keep putting to the bottom of the list? Maybe, we'll be inspired to find ways to be a better friend, spouse, parent, child, neighbor; to contribute more to our society and community; to become a better version of ourselves?

The prayer reaches its climax, as the Sheliach Tsibbur and the congregation cry out together: U-T'shoovah, u-T'fillah, u-Ts'dakah, ma-aveereen et ro-a ha-g'zearah (But repentance, and prayer, and charity can remove the evil (severity) of the decree)!

May this prayer, B'Rosh HaShanah, inspire each of us to become a more selfless, rather than selfish version of ourselves, and may we take the hint from the rousing piyyut (poem) that is part of the conclusion of our Mussaf (Additional) service both on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, which begins each verse with the word "HaYom" (Today)!

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu! (May you all be inscribed for a Good Year!) \diamond

L'Shanah Tovah Greetings!

To my KJCC Friends a Happy and Healthy 5780 - Beth Horowitz

Wishing all our Mishpachah a wonderful New Year - Cheryl & Jeff Margulies

May this year bring health. Happy New Year - Elaine Schulberg

To all our Keys friends: Happy & Healthy 5780 - Dotty, Larry & Sons Jeff, Rick & Jack Shana Tova to all our Friends and Congregants
- Joseph & Kathy Shabathai

"Wishing our 'family of friends' at the KJCC a happy and healthy New Year".

- Geri and Stuart Smith

To my dear Mishpocha I wish you a Sweet and Healthy 5780 - Love, Gloria

A happy, healthy 5780 to all of the KJCC - Beth Hayden

Keeping Kosher: Comments on Deuteronomy 11:26 –16:17

by Art Itkin

The following has been condensed from a "dvar" (Torah talk) given by Art Itkin on August 30, 2019 at KJCC. These are his views and do not necessarily represent any official position of KJCC.

n Parsha Re'eh, Moses continues his farewell speech to the Israelites, just before he passes away. He reviews his instructions regarding many topics; among them are the laws of kosher foods. Moses reminds the Israelites about what we call Kashrut.

Many Jews today view Kashrut as outdated since it was an ancient Israelite practice and feel it is no longer relevant to modern day life. But let us consider the purposes of keeping kosher. In this week's parsha, we are told what foods we can and cannot eat. Many believe that the Biblical restrictions were made for health reasons, but the parsha makes no such claim. It simply states that the eating prohibitions are part of the Israelites' path to holiness.

Many commentators have tried to explain why certain foods are ritually pure and therefor acceptable to eat, but just consider the fact that Moses has simply given us a list of dos and don'ts. According to the Torah, G-d asks us to abstain from certain foods as an expression of our devotion. The restrictions can be considered to be like the requests of a loved

one. We may not understand them, but we are asked to follow them as a sign of our love.

Keeping kosher is meant to connect us to Jewish tradition, to other Jews and to G-d. Eating is an ordinary activity, but lewish rituals turn it into moments of spiritual awareness. The observance of kashrut can be expanded to incorporate other ethical and environmental concerns. Was the food produced under conditions that respect people and the environment? Were the food workers paid a living wage? Did the production process treat animals humanely? The answers to these guestions should influence our choices about what to eat. lewish tradition teaches us that our relationship to G-d and each other encompasses all of life. It is not something we just do on Friday nights or the High Holidays.

Back in 1992, Rabbi Ed Rosenthal (not our member) argued that it is a mitzvah to not eat meat. He wrote that it is an ethical mitzvah given by G-d. We should not kill another living creature, not harm human life by filling ourselves with harmful chemicals and not waste food that could be used to feed starving children instead of feeding animals destined to be slaughtered. It is a mitzvah to not contribute to the destruction of our global environment, for the world is a gift that cannot be replaced. \diamond



PHOTO GALLERY

What We Did on Our Summer Vacations...



Jan Price and Luigi enjoying the pleasures of NYC

Susan Gordon
was delighted to
be in Tennessee
for her
grandson Hank's
first birthday
celebration.
We can imagine
the rest of the
decorations.

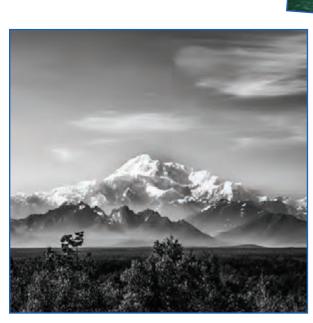


Susan's grandson Rhett, on the far right, is apparently becoming quite an enthusiastic singer; all the boys love when their grandma comes to visit.





Steve Hartz went on zodiac tours with Jan's sister, Judy (who visited the KJCC in March 2017). They are the two people waving from the zodiac. Jan went on kayak tours, paired with a cruise ship staff member. Steve took the picture of the beautiful iceberg floating by with a peekaboo hole in the ice.



Steve and Jan experienced a magical land and sea tour of Alaska. They had the special treat of seeing Denali reveal herself for over 2 days.



Cantor Michael Dzubin takes a camping trip by canoe for his summer vacation, the blue glove protecting a nearly severed thumb tip. Stay well, Cantor Dzubin. We're counting on you.



What a handsome photo of Linda Pollack's and Skip Rose's families.



Roy Pollack with Will, Maddy and Elizabeth on glacier in Alaska.



Erica had quite a travel-filled summer vacation. Here she is in Toronto celebrating multiple birthdays with her family.



Erica goes for a big wheel ride in Colorado woodlands. We want to hear more about this.

Keys Jewish Community Center

Shemini Atzeret - Yizkor Service Simchat Torah Service and Celebration

Monday, October 21, 2019 - 7:30 P.M.

Come remember our dear departed in the second Torah-mandated Yizkor service of our ceremonial year, led by Dr. Bernie Ginsberg.

Stay for Simchat Torah service as we sing and dance with our Torahs seven times around the Sanctuary. Service will be led by Beth Hayden.

Followed by Chocolate Oneg Extravaganza









Sponsored by Joyce Peckman





Ken Atlas makes haMotzi after leading a wonderful service with the assistance of Art Itkin delivering a "d'var" or Torah talk on Kashrut, printed in this issue on P. 27



Barbara and Richard Knowles celebrate their anniversary!

Keys Jewish Community Center



ISLAND PRINCESS

December 16-20, 2019
open to KJCC members, family and friends

Cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Amber Cove and Dominican Republic

Itinerary -

December 16 Depart from Ft. Lauderdale-4 PM

December 17 Day at sea to enjoy all the offerings of the ship

December 18 Amber Cove in Dominican Republic-8 AM to 5 PM

December 19 Day at sea to enjoy all the offerings of the ship

December 20 Return to Ft. Lauderdale-7 AM

Rates-

Interior \$266 + \$105 Port fees and taxes - mid ship = \$371

Ocean view-\$311 - \$317 + \$105 Port fees and taxes - midship = \$416 -\$422

Balcony \$404 + Port fees and taxes - mid ship = \$509

Insurance for all three classes is \$39 to \$59 per person depending on coverage.

Gratuities are \$58 per person.

If there is military service, either retired or active, there is a \$50 on board credit for that person.

All food is included. (Several specialty restaurants have a very reasonable up charge and need reservations)

Email Rita Conklin at wester and to register. She will get back to you either by phone (305 849 3374) or by email.

To ensure a cabin, please register before August 1, 2019. As the summer goes on, cabins become limited. A 20 percent deposit is required; final payment is due October 1, 2019.

There is a long established Jewish community in the town of Sosua with a significant history. We are looking into arranging a tour to the synagogue and museum.

Oceana Goes to Europe: Shares Insights with KJCC

his summer I was able to partake in a trip with students around the country thanks to the KJCC. I am eternally grateful to you for letting me have such an amazing experience. This helped me encounter situations I'm not usually put in and it gives me great gratitude with which I'm excited to share a few stories of my trip.

We first arrived in Paris on July 2nd at 1:00 PM after a agonizing 7-hour overnight flight. Everyone was incredibly tired after the earlier day of traveling and only being able to get small amounts of sleep on the plane. I, personally, hadn't slept since I woke up at 5:00 AM on the 1st to catch my connecting flight. We took a bus to our hotel to drop off our luggage and maybe change clothes then practically immediately went on a long walk around the 10th Arrondissement. Then for dinner we went to a Creperie and then tucked in for the night. That was my first day in France with more exhaustion than excitement but that changes the next day where along with seeing Notre Dame and the Louvre we went to the Marais which is well-known as the historic lewish district. The word "marais" means swamp which they used to disparage the lewish people but in a turn of fate, it has not only become one of the most expensive and sought after neighborhoods in Paris but it's also become very popular and trendy. The area felt very homey despite all the other tourists and when we stopped in a cute little restaurant with Star of David's painted on the wall I could hear the chefs and waiters conversing in Hebrew in the kitchen. After a few



July 11, This was in front of the Castle of Haroue in France that is still lived in by a honorary princess whose dog we got to meet.

more days in Paris we headed in Nancy where we would meet our host families. We didn't do much those days except explore the French countryside and one day our group traveled to Strasbourg where we learned about the European Union and how it affects all the countries in and around it. We left Nancy with lots of tears for our host families and headed East to Germany, which was, without a doubt, my favorite part of the trip. We went on a walking tour right when we got to Freiburg and all I could describe the place as is classically refined. They had small canals running down almost all the streets and canopies of flowers crisscrossing along the alleys. Fountains could be found throughout the city that spewed forth cold water purified just for people to drink. It was stunning and we learned that it had many sister cities on the tour and one of them was Tel-Aviv. After all of this we walked back to our hotel and on

the way we stumbled upon the synagogue which was explained to us as the new one because the old one was burnt down but there was a memorial for on the past site, which we also passed when walking back from the train station. The trip calmed down after that and we left Germany. We did a few other things such as biking and canoeing in France before we headed back into Paris to leave. Before we did though we were allowed in small groups to explore and do activities alone in Paris. My group went to the Catacombs. The night before we left evervone was to sad to go to sleep and not spend more time in the City of Lights and we stayed up all night just talking and hanging out before we left to the airport at an ungodly 3:00 AM to fly 9 hours to New York.

I think this trip helped me learn that no matter how far away you are from everything you know, language, food, people, you can find something familiar to help you regain your senses. For me that was the Marais or my rambunctious host brother and even the latkes the hotel in Germany served for breakfast. I believe

this experience that I was able to witness is something every person should strive for in order to find out what they love about their own culture.

-Oceana G.



July 20, Walking my bike down a vineyard near Munster, France. We got to experience beautiful views while getting in a 26 km bike ride.



July 16, A plaque in front of the City Hall of Frieburg, Germany. Frieburg has many sister cities and Tel Aviv was one of the 12.

July 10, A picture of myself and a few other participants on the train coming back from visiting Strasbourg and the European Union where we learned what the EU offers it's members.

Did you visit any places in Germany related to the Holocaust?

In Freiburg we got to visit the site of the old synagogue which was burned down during World War II and where a memorial currently stands. In Paris though, we visited a park dedicated to French Jews who were displaced after the German takeover.

Were any of the other kids in the group Jewish?

There were no other practicing Jews however there was another girl who was half Jewish and very interested in learning more about that part of her.

Did you have to write anything for the trip?

Yes, the Experiment program requests that participants write a post program essay on something we observed in the countries we visited. My writing was on the lack of access to public drinking fountains and bathrooms while in France but the abundance of in Germany and how that affects the area.



July 16, A picture of myself in front of the Synagogue of Frieburg. It was nestled in a beautiful little square and it was totally coincidentally that we were walking past.



July 4, We spent our 4th of July visiting all the huge landmarks of Paris.

What do you think was the overall goal of the people sponsoring the trip?

This program is known for producing curious learners and future leaders. I am so thankful to the KJCC for helping me achieve this experience and I believe it really demonstrates the family that we have in the Keys and their generosity to making sure the youth are being able to experience everything the world has to offer them.

Your biggest take-away?

I believe my biggest take-away wasn't actually on the culture but how people adjusted to it. For example, some participants are from areas where it's not uncommon to be loud and freely expressive but in France it's not normal to be loud in public or to make a scene. These people had the most trouble ,to my observations, fitting in and adapting to the culture as the trip was focused on doing just that. It really presented just how different people can be from one another and that is one thing I will never forget from my trip. \diamond



MEET AT THE KJCC PARKING LOT AT 3:30PM CLEAN-UP LOCATION:

140 Canal St. Oceanside MM90 just south of Coral Shores High School

WHAT TO BRING:

Bring drinking water in a NON plastic bottle!

Wear closed-toed shoes or boots for walking along the shoreline & Mangrove roots.

If you have garden gloves, long handled nets or grabbers please bring them.

Hat, Sunscreen, Bug repellent

On Rosh Hashanah, it is customary to go to a body of water and symbolically cast our sins into the water during the Tashlich Service. At Reverse Tashlich, we do the opposite and, as a united community, remove our sins from the water and clean up our water fronts.

Reverse Tashlich

On Rosh HaShanah, it is customary for Jews to go to a body of flowing water and symbolically cast away their sins during the Tashlich Service. On Sunday, October 6, 2019, Hillels of the Florida Suncoast & Scubi Jew will sponsor the second annual Reverse Tashlich. The Reverse Tashlich is intended to reverse the process and, instead of throwing sins into the water, will remove human sins from the water by cleaning up the local water fronts.

The KJCC is proud to join along with our friends at Scubi Jew/Tikkun HaYam and participate in the 2019 Reverse Tashlich. Our KJCC team will be headed up by Susan Gordon and Josh Keller (an Eckerd College alum and past Scubi Jew president living in Key Largo).

Reverse Tashlich was the brainchild of the Scubi Jew students at Eckerd College. Four years ago, the students organized a Reverse Tashlich on campus, and wanted to make it a bigger program with a broader reach, so the decision was made to bring the program to the community-at-large. "Reverse Tashlich brings members of the Jewish community together for a day of Tikkun Olam (Repair the World), or Tikkun HaYam™ (Repair the Sea). It gives us all a chance to do this very meaningful work for the benefit of the marine environment in a Jewish context. Last year's Reverse Tashlich saw 307 volunteers remove over 650



pounds of marine debris. This year, the Reverse Tashlich has become a Hillel-wide initiative, with Hillels and synagogues across the nation participating. Some of the other Hillels taking part are, University of Miami, University of Florida, Stetson University, University of South Florida, University of Tampa, University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin, University of Iowa, University of Oregon, University of Western Washington, Emory University, Brandeis University, USC and, of course, the Hillel at Eckerd College.

If you would like to join the KJCC team, go to https://www.repairthesea.org/re-verse-tashlich and select "Key Largo - Keys Jewish Community Center" when you register.

What will make the KJCC experience special this year is that we will not only be picking up trash from the sea for Tikkun HaYam but we will be doing it close to the home of Mishpocha members Donna and Bill Bolton, both of whom are recovering from health issues that make it impossible for them to clean their trash ridden waterfront personally. We are grateful to be able to help. \diamond





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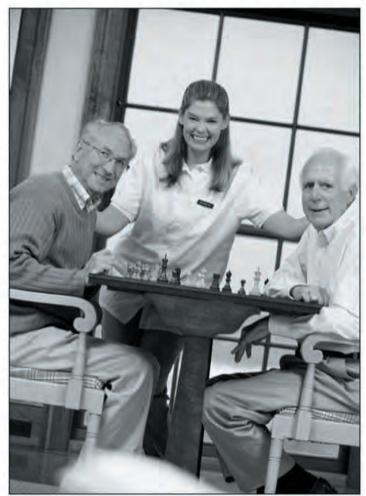
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1. Continuum of Care -

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

2. Palace Training & Education Center

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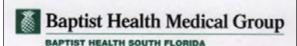
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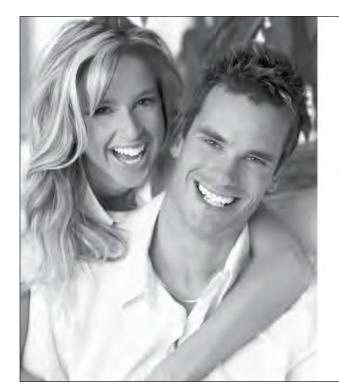


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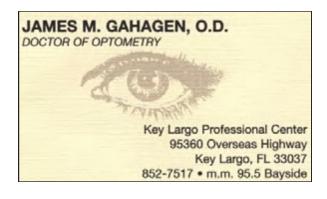
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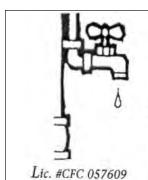
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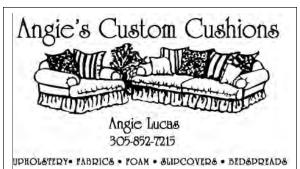


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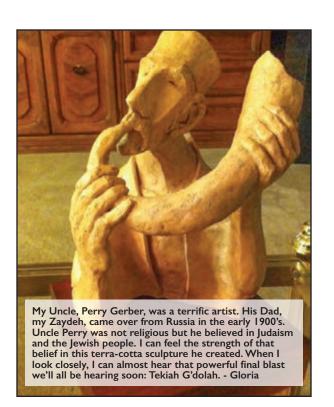
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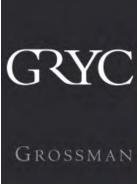
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December 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020

Kislev 3 - Shevat 5, 5780

Photo Gallery – page 25

Happy Challah Days – page 28

Rosh HaShanah Reprise – pages 31-35

"The Only Jewish Kid" by Maddy Pollack – page 37

December 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020

Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm

					Services every Friday	at 7:30pm
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sisterhood Meeting 10:00am	2	3	4	5	6 Laurie Blum Steve & Jan Hartz Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	7
8 Board Meeting 10am Followed by Safety Drill	9	10	11 "How and Why" with Rabbi Richard Agler 7pm	12	Gary Margolis Frank Rose	14
15	16	17	18	19	Joyce Peckman Terry Tainow	Rabbi Agler Torah learning Service, 10am Homeless Memorial, 12:30pm
22 First night of Hanukkah	23 Sisterhood Book Club, 10am Hanukkah Party with Rabbi Zucker, 7pm	24	25	26	27 Hanukkah Dinner 5:30pm Klein-Gross Family Steve & Amelia Kasinoff Linda Pollack	28
Rosh Chodesh Tevet	30	31 New Year's Eve	New Years Day Blessing of the Fleet	2	3 Medina Roy Steve & Amelia Kasinoff Stan & Jenny Margulies	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Susan Gordon & Donna Bolton Barbara & Richard Knowles	11
12	13	14	15	16	Gloria Avner Sisterhood	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Day	21	22	23	24 Steve Steinbock Steve Steinbock	25 Rabbi Agler Torah learning Service 10am
26	27 Sisterhood Book Club, 10am Rosh Chodesh Shevat	28	"Make a Joyful Noise" Monks' visit & concert 7:30pm	30	Steve Hartz Beth Horowitz	

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



om Kippur has just passed, and the secular new year is around the corner. This is the time of the year when we do some introspection and open our minds and hearts in self-examination. Who are we, what have we accomplished, where have we disappointed, where are we headed and where do we want to go? I would like to give you my KJCC self-assessment.

Who are we? Rabbi Agler once commented that we are a chavurah with a building. The word chavurah is linked to the Hebrew word chaver (friend) and translates as "fellowship." It is a small group of Jews who meet, often informally, without any clergy, in order to celebrate Shabbat, holidays and lifecycle events, and maybe do some Jewish learning. We started out that way 40 years ago and have kept that spirit of friendship, serving as a substitute family when parents, children and siblings are far away.

What have we accomplished? We have held lay-led Friday services every week for almost 40 years. We have provided a place where Jews of different religious or non-religious backgrounds can feel comfortable together. We have provided a Sunday School for our children, leading to bar and bat mitzvah, and have begun a Tot Shabbat program for ages 4–7. We have reached out to the Keys community and had that support returned when, after the massacre

at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, this room was filled to capacity with people expressing solidarity with us. We have an amazingly talented group of people who have shared their knowledge by giving fascinating classes that recently ranged from art projects to art history. bread-making, lewish meditation, Kabballah, raising exceptional grandchildren, swimming with whales and Yiddish 101. We have had marvelous quest lecturers, including Rabbi Steven Sager and NPR's Miles Hoffman. We have a film series curated by our resident librarian. And I can't even begin to describe the festive meals that have been enioved here!

Where have we disappointed? We have been unable to reach many of our Jewish neighbors, who don't feel the need to affiliate with the only Jewish institution between the mainland and Key West. I know that there are Jewish children in the public schools who have not come to us looking to be bar or bat mitzvah.

Where are we headed and where do we want to go? We want to be a place of life-long learning. We want to continue to be the place where members can exhibit their art (as you can see in our entrance and social halls), where they can share their passions, (see the Steinway given a

home here by Beth Hayden, and examine the antiquities collected and donated by Rabbi Richard and Mindy Agler) and, as you will see when you come for any meal: not just challah, herring and store-bought chicken, but dishes loving crafted by our members.

We want to be the place where you come to stretch your mind and soul. We will be having a

seminar on December 11th, presented by Rabbi Agler, on how to understand and lead a religious service and how to write a "dvar," or Torah speech. I hope that you will all attend, and that some of you will be brave enough to step forth and join an experienced leader on a Friday night. We love your ideas, and this is a welcoming place to bring them. \diamond

December Birthdays

1st	Paul Hudson
2nd Jose	
3rd	Ashley Berk
3rd	Cammie Berk
4th	Jan Hartz
4th	Jodi Yeager
4th	Judith Klein
5th	Geri Smith
5th	Joseph Beth
5th	Stuart Sax
6th	Haley Borisoff
6th	
7th	Franklin Rose
7th	Gary Grossinger
7th	
7th Vada Charit	y (Bella) Greenbaum
9th	George Swartz
9th	Jacob Grossinger
10th	
12th	Laurie Blum
13th Robi	
13th	Sarah Boruszak
16th	Diana Lal
16th	Samuel Klimpl

•	
17th	Ariel Fishman
	Jeffrey Schocket
17th	Lilian Forbes
18th	Emelyn Anne Juenger
18th	Jerry Small
	Jonah Gross
19th	Lorena Kaufman
19th	Terry Willner-Tainow
21st	Micah Silverman
22nd	Lisa Miller
	Stuart Smith
23rd	David Morris
	Steven Smith
27th	Claire Tallent
	Steve Kasinof
	Elaine Schulberg
28th	Emily Sherman
	Kayla Silverman
28th	Len Levi
28th	Michael Klimpl
	Tyler Jacob Morris
	Joan Stark
31st	Michele Riley

January Birthdays

1st	Justin Wade Gilson
1st	Laura Goodman
2nd	Sherrie Willner
4th	Howard Gilson
4th	Randi W. Freundlich
6th	Stanley Margulies
8th	Jan Price (Karen) Shiloh
8th	Matthew Barrett

9th	Cathy Rakov
9th	Sarah Kamely
11th	Michelle Zinner
12th	Alex Dutton
	Amy Nobil
14th	Tovah Fishman
	Charlie Horowitz
15th	Heather Gilson

NOSH

Service Leader Seminar

Whether you have ever led a service or not, helped with one or had nothing to do with one, we know you will find this organic exchange with Rabbi Agler and our own roster of leaders an engaging experience. We will find out what must be included, and what can be left out. We will get to question "why". There will be tips for those of us who deliver Torah talks. We'll brainstorm how to get and give the most out of our services; maybe, you'll even make a commitment to try partnering with one of our experienced service leaders. It can actually be fun. Wednesday, December 11th, 7:00 to 9:00 in the KJCC Social Hall. See poster on P. 22.

Rabbi Agler's Torah Study Services

We have two new dates and one new topic to announce for this 5080 season: December 21st will be the next Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Agler, and the following month the service will be on January 26th. Those who have been attending know the services get richer every season as we delve deeper and deeper into the stories behind the stories. But this year we add another dimension. Beginning in December and extending through the whole season, a part of our study time will be devoted to the fascinating story of David. We will still be looking at and discussing the Parashah of the week and we will still be having a Torah service, but every month we will add a portion of the David story to our reading. Rabbi Agler recommends the David Alter translation (which you can read free on your Kindle app if you have Amazon Prime). Please bring a Tanach with you if you have your own or wish to donate one to our reference library. KJCC is in need and will be purchasing several. We look forward to seeing you at 10:00 a.m. sharp. Don't miss this engaging experience. For more information, see P. 36.

Book Club:

KJCC Sisterhood Book Club is keeping up a lively schedule of conversation and deepening friendships with its monthly, animated discussions of good books. See the poster on P.10 for the next four book selections. Please note the new venue and time. Future meetings will be held at the homes of members and will start in the morning at 9:30 a.m., with coffee and cake for refreshments. RSVP to Bobbie Chester at (630) 430–7100 or bobbiebunkin@aol.com.

Tot Shabbat:

KJCC has begun offering a new program for 4 to 7 year olds on the first and third Erev Shabbat of every month. With teacher Rachael Bloom, the children will learn Shabbat blessings, begin Hebrew study, learn Bible Stories following the parashah of the week, discuss Jewish Holidays and join the congregation for Aleinu and our Oneg. It was a delight to have them up on the bimah on the night of their first program. If you know of any families with Jewish children of this age group, please share their names with Susan Gordon, at 305–766–3585 or susangordon424@yahoo.com

Chanukah Dinner and Latke Party

It will be Lotsa Latke time at KJCC on December 27, starting at 5:30 p.m. Many thanks to the members of Sisterhood, who will be cooking side dishes for this traditional Dairy dinner and to Linda Pollack, who is sponsoring the annual dinner and group lighting of our personal and family chanukiahs. There will be no charge, though donations are always welcome. Make sure you R.S.V.P. to Erica Lieberman–Garrett at (305) 393–1162 or hippie–jap@hotmail.com Eat latkes, light candles, chant blessings and sing Chanukah songs with the kids. For more information, see poster on p. 18."

Happy Anniversary to Us

We are entering Middle Age, maturing (but not old), ready and eager to celebrate. KJCC has been in existence for 40 years and we're going to have a party. Michael and Lorena Kaufman have graciously offered to host us for this event at their beautiful waterfront home in the month of March. Stay tuned to the President's Tuesday Announcements for date, time, details and ways you can help.

Say Hello to Our New Members:

We offer a hearty welcome to new members of our mishpocha: Gary and Laurie Grossinger, David & Wendy Morris, Brad & Susan Mattison, Jeff and Chris Cohen, Maria Cartagena & Binyamin Rivera (who have been coming for years, bringing delicious soups and the energy of a four-year old), and our newest members, a delightful mother and daughter team, Nadine Thompson and Miriam Frankel. We can add mother to our artist roster. In an era when so many shuls are shrinking, we are blessed to be balancing losses with gains.

Movie Series Begins Again

Medina Roy, our Library Chair and Head of the Adult Education Committee, is back. Soon we will publish a schedule of stimulating offerings for the winter season. They will be uplifting, mysterious, historically relevant, and hysterically entertaining. The company and after–nosh is always as good as the movies. Follow the President's announcements for a full listing of dates, times and titles, personally selected by Medina and your Adult Education Committee. Many thanks to Michael and Lorena Kaufman for the generous offer to sponsor 5780's Winter Movie Season. The Series will be dedicated to the memory of Michael's and Lorena's mothers.

Active Shooter Training

Sunday, December 8, after our Board Meeting, as part of our ongoing efforts to increase KJCC's security, we will hold our first ever live drill. Watch for

details in the Tuesday night President's message.

Memorial for Keys Homeless

Rev. Pam Feeser is asking KJCC members to join with other congregations and clergy to honor the homeless people who died in the Florida Keys this year. It is always a beautiful service and we are counted on to say Kaddish. We will gather at 12:30 p.m in Settlers Park, Oceanside in Tavernier, on the Winter Solstice, December 21, the darkest day of the year. They have kindly changed the event time to accommodate our Shabbat Service.

Blessing of the Fleet

Jewish boats will not go without a Jewish blessing this year. Walk to the center of Whale Harbor Bridge with Joyce Peckman on January 1st at 10:00 a.m. for this annual event and gathering of clergy, always a day of brilliant blue sky, fresh start optimism and a gorgeous line up of boats.

December Anniversaries

Years
Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum9
Linda & Bruce Pincus 30
Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner54
Jamie & Laura Goodman 14
Larry & Deborah Weiss 36
Joe & Linda Levi
Dave Mont & Georgia Landau 8
January Anniversaries
Years
Steve & Amelia Kasinof38
George & Muriel Swartz 39
Alfred & Sylvia Rimm 62
Michele & Ed Riley 46

Book Plate

In Loving Memory of my parents

Bianka & Leon Kirschenbaum z"l

by Medina Roy

Yahrzeit Plaque

In Memory of

Mercedes Ruth Pietromartire

4/7/1943 - 6/19/2019

Service Leaders

December 6	Laurie Blum
December 13	Gary Margolis
December 20	Joyce Peckman
December 21	Rabbi Agler 10am
December 27	Klein-Gross Family
January 3	Medina Roy

Leauers	
January 10 Susar	Gordon and Donna Bolton
January 17	Gloria Avner
January 24	Steve Steinbock
January 25	Rabbi Agler 10am
January 31	Steve Hartz
•	

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for information, or send your desired inscription to lindap4000@ymail.com.

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 Joyce Peckman, 732–447–5225.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, to make your donation.

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights or annually in our KJCC Directory. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for annual rates.

GIFT SHOP: We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Susan Gordon, 305-766-3585.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305–394–0143, to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

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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.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225.

TREE OF LIFE LEAVES, ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at lindap4000@ymail.com.

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: keysjewishcenter.com. 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. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through 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 specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2019 -

Plaque

Beth Kaminstein

Siddur

Gloria Avner

New Year's Greetings

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Rabbi & Cantor

James Brush

Nelson & Bobbie Chester David & Toby Goldfinger

Marcia Kreitman & John Hawver

Gloria Avner

Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Richard & Barbara Knowles

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Alan & Chely Markowitz

Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Security

James Brush

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Stephen Steinbock

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Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Bernie Ginsberg

Barry Neuman & Ellen Ecker

Garden

Stephen Steinbock

Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Yizkor

Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Jerry & Barbara Herson

Jamie & Laura Goodman

Marcia Kreitman & John Hawver

Gloria Avner

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Scholarship

Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Beth Kaminstein

Chai-Lights

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Tikkun Olam

Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Other

In Memory Of

Mary Lee Singer

Gloria Avner

Robert W & Jon R Singer Barry Avner

6 Chai-Lights December 2019 - January 2020

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Joel Bernard & Joan Stark
Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Nelson & Bobbie Chester
Michael & Suzanne Gilson
Jerry & Barbara Herson
Robert & Adriana Sherman
Marcia Kreitman & John Hawver
Joe & Linda Levi
David & Wendy Morris

David & Wendy Morris
David & Patty Gross
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Paul & Susan Roberts

Yahrzeit

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Mah Jongg
Elaine Schulberg Jack Steinberg
Linda Pollack Jack Steinberg
Michael & Lorena Kaufman Slichot
Slater Family Rosh HaShanah
Joe & Kathy Shabathai

Iose Cohen Charaf

Tot Shabbat program

Book Plate

Alfred & Sylvia Rimm

Barney Coltman Evelyn Coltman
Bernie Ginsberg Dr. Victor Herman

Oneg sponsorship Occasion Bloom Family Birthdays Memory of Great Grandfather **James Brush** Iane Friedman Paul Friedman's Birthday Beth Hayden Turbo & Ollie's Birthdays Gloria Avner Birthday Roy Pollack Will Pollack's Birthday Richard & Barbara Knowles Fthel Hankin Beth Havden Kohengi's Birthday 90th birthday Skip Rose Terry Willner-Tainow Birthday Steve & Amelia Kasinof Steve's birthday Steve & Amelia Kasinof Wedding Anniversary Stan & Jenny Margulies Stan's birthday Joe & Kathy Shabathai Wedding Anniversary Beth Horowitz Birthday Erica Lieberman-Garrett Birthday Sylvia Rimm Sylvia & Alfred's Birthdays Rov Pollack Madelyn Pollack's Birthday Erica Lieberman-Garrett Wedding Anniversary Donna & Bill Bolton Their Birthdays Steve & Amelia Kasinof Amelia's Birthday

Dinner Sponsorship

Lauren & Stuart Sax Shabbos Project Dinner
Linda Pollack Hanukkah Dinner

Donation

Orlando Quesada
Rita Conklin High Holidays
Stuart & Geri Smith High Holidays
Barbara & Richard Knowles Yom Kippur
Steve Steinbock Yom Kippur



Fifteen years ago we had a party in the KJCC Sanctuary; it was a dance, with an orchestra (Maybe the photos and faces on these pages will wake up some memories). Now we are preparing to celebrate again. It's been 40 years since our little shul without a building came into being. That's a long time. It is a special mitzvah to create a Jewish house of worship where there had never been one. We were settlers, our own brand of pioneers. Some of our founding members are still with us. Let's honor them. Some of our early b'nei mitzvot have children now and are planning their own rites of passage for a new generation. The new students in our Tot Shabbat program, with work and good fortune, will lead to our next group of B'nei Mitzvot.

Your Board of Directors has declared it time for a new party.

Stay tuned for more information on this event coming in March. If you want to help with the work of planning or fundraising, contact our President, Joyce Peckman, or Chairman Bernie Ginsberg, and let the fun begin. More information to follow.

Say "Thank you" to the lovely Lorena and Michael Kaufman, who have offered to host our "Gala Anniversary" at their waterfront home.



Rabbi Agler's Yom Kippur Teaching



Rabbi Agler's talks during the High Holy Days can be found on his website: rabbiagler.org. Here is his summation on Yom Kippur, with a final story:

Everything leads to what Rabbi Akiva called the Torah's greatest principle: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." When we do, it responds to all of Yom Kippur's questions, because more than any other quality, love speaks from, and to, the deepest part of our humanity. The more healthy love there is in our lives, the more meaningful our existence will be.

I was in New York last spring and had occasion to travel on the subway. I lived in the city for many years and a subway ride is nothing new for me. But I hadn't taken one in a while. It's hard to be on the subway without thinking about the people who are on the train with you. I mean, who can help but wonder, "Who are they? Where are they going? Where are they from? What are they doing? Who's in the home they came from—or are going to? Are they happy? Are they struggling? Will they make it?"

Given our cultural norms, there's really no way to ask these questions, much less get answers to

them, so I started pondering different ones. What do all of these people, all of us, have in common, all of the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-racial people — people of different ages, different religions, different orientations? What do we all share, beyond our biological classification as homo sapiens?

As it happens, we share a lot. We all harbor hopes and dreams. We all want a better life—however we define it. We all want meaning and fulfill—ment—however we define that. We all want health. We all want love. We all have to work for it.

Even in these divisive and contentious times, especially in these divisive and contentious times, just contemplating exactly what we all share, can be powerful, and meaningful. So let's review Yom Kippur's questions once more, this time with responses.

What should I be doing here? Honoring every fellow human being as a child of the Most High.

How do I make my life worthwhile? By loving our fellow creatures as we love ourselves.

What really matters? The ability to recognize and respect our irreducibly individual complexity.

I pray that these teachings will help guide all of us to lives of purpose, meaning, and worth in the year ahead, and in the years beyond. $\lozenge - R$. Agler

HOW CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC CAN INSTANTLY BECOME PERMANENT. LIVING MEMORIALS

Yahrzeit Plaques: KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400. 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 wonders 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, with an outdoor plague included in the price.



Sisterhood Book Club

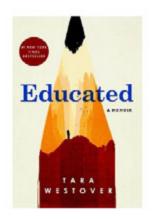
Books and dates for the coming four months –

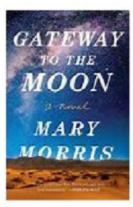
Meetings will be rotated amongst book club members' homes.

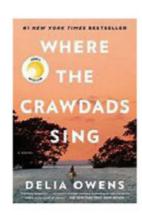
November meeting will be at the home of Linda Pollack.

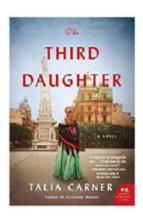
10 a.m. – Coffee and cake

November 25, 2019 <u>Educated</u> by Tara Westover
December 23, 2019 <u>Gateway to the Moon</u> by Mary Morris
January 27, 2020 <u>Where the Crawdads Sing</u> by Delia Owens
February 24, 2020 <u>The Third Daughter</u> by Talia Carner









RSVP and more information - Bobbie Chester bobbiebunkin@aol.com 630-430-7100

SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



y very first message as Sisterhood President was published in the September 2017 issue of Chai-lights. Although I wrote that I knew it was my time and felt very positive and highly motivated to take on the role of Sisterhood President, I don't mind telling you now that I was also feeling quite apprehensive about taking the job and questioned my abilities for the position. I ended that message by saying that I looked forward to a wonderful, nourishing year with my mishpocha at the KJCC and thanked you for showing your confidence in me as Sisterhood President. I have enjoyed 2 ½ wonderful and nourishing years serving as Sisterhood President with my KICC mishpocha. Your confidence in me has given me the self-confidence that I needed to embrace the position. Thank you to all of the women who encouraged me to work to the best of my abilities. Together, we accomplished a lot, and we created the type of social environment which I had envisioned.

In that first message in 2017, I wrote that I feel blessed to be working with a focused and organized group of women who share the common goal of making the KJCC the most fulfilling environment possible in which to enjoy one another's camaraderie, while celebrating our common bond of Judaism. I am happy to say that we have accomplished that goal quite successfully, and for that, I still feel blessed!

Our new slate of officers will be presented at the December 1st Sisterhood meeting. The incoming officers will take on their new positions during the first meeting of 2020, on January 5th. I encourage all female members of the KJCC to join us for a meeting. Our meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month at 10:00am. All are welcome. Participation is fun, important, and it deepens friendships!

Chanukah arrives rather late this year -- on

the first day of winter. We will light the first candle in our homes on Sunday, December 22nd. Please be sure to note on your calendar, the evening of Friday, December 27th. KICC Sisterhood is planning our annual "Latke Dinner and Chanukah Celebration." It will be the 6th night of the Festival of Light, so please bring your menorah (chanukiah) to participate in the community lighting. See the flyer in this issue of Chai - Lights, on P. 18, for more details about the party. We promise a full buffet, complete with lots of delicious latkes and other specialty dishes, all prepared with love by our wonderful KJCC members! The Chanukah dinner has been generously sponsored, therefore there is no charge to attend although donations are always welcome. Erica Lieberman-Garrett is the Chairperson for the celebration. Please contact Erica by email at hippiejap@hotmail.com or call her at 305-393-1162 to RSVP.

We have so much to look forward to during the upcoming new year. I have learned so much during my time as Sisterhood president, and I am very happy that I had this experience. I wish everyone a wonderful 2020, a year of peace, friendship, love, good health and happiness! \diamond

Yahrzeit Plaque

In Loving Memory of Mom & Dad

Barbara S. Gould 1/30/1931 - 5/29/2012

Jack L. Gould 5/25/1929 - 7/21/2019

Forever in our Hearts

In Memoriam – December 2019

Alex Avner

By Gloria Avner

Daniel Birnbaum

By Norbert Birnbaum

Julius Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Robert Scott Coltman By Barnet O. Coltman

Edward Deutsch Davis

By Sydney Faye-Davis

Harry Wolfe

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Stephan Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

Rose Beth

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Joseph M. Bloom

By Marc Bloom

George Paul Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

Morris Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Sidney P. Finklestein

By Max Finklestein

Andrew Grant

By Randi Grant

Fannie Zacks

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

J.D. Stanlake

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake By Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver

Burton V. Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

Leatrice Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

Molly Sandroff

By Channa David

Harry Friedman

By Jane Friedman

Susan Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

Sylvia Joan Ichel

By David & Janice Ichel

Kurt Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

Adele Kaufman

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

M. Arlene Hess

By Jan Price-Shiloh

Rhonie Lee Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Yahrzeit Plaque

In Beloved Memory of

Shirley R. Krissel

9/18/1920 - 4/2/2019

Steve Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock

Eve W. Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Gary Kreitman

Mitch Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Harvey Sherman

By Alfred & Sylvia Rimm

Sylvia L. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

Bertha Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Deborah Krissel Cannon

By Michael Krissel

Claire Lempel

By Linda Pincus

Raymond Martell

By Skip Rose

Murray Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Bernard Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Yahrzeit Plaque

In Memory of

Nancy Kram Yankow

Beloved Wife of Sandy Yankow

In Memoriam – January 2020

Talia Agler

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Laurie Beth

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Teddy Sharenow

By Marc Bloom

David Pearlman

By William & Donna Bolton

Betty Weinstein

By Rita Bromwich

Yetta Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Alvin S. Gross

By David & Patti Gross

Bea Avner

By Gloria Avner

Annette Bitton

By Michel Bitton

Ivy W. Blumenfeld

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

Emma Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

David Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Larry Daddona

By Channa David

Sylvia Sarah Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

Bernice Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Ellen Bloom

By Marc Bloom

Betty Abramson

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Irving J. Kulick

By Thomas & Renée Brodie

Eva Levine

By Barnet O. Coltman

Marvin Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Ernest Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

Sylvia Emsig

By Lawrence Jacobs

David M. Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Harris Warren

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Daniel Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Nat Gulkis

By Elaine Schulberg

Joan Kaminsky

By Elaine Schulberg

Steven Garfinkel

By Betty Small

Dinah Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Walter Hankin

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

Charles Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Clayton Allan Rakov

By Neal & Cathy Rakov

Bea Gulkis

By Elaine Schulberg

Joseph Cohen

By Jules & Nettie Seder

Karen Hayhurst

By Stephen Steinbock

Evelyn Stockser

By Sandy Kaplan

Goldie Schweitzer

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

John Evans

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Ruth Greenwald

By Paul & Susan Roberts

Paul Kaminsky

By Elaine Schulberg

Jacob Menahem Shabathai

By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai



Sunday, December 1	Sisterhood Meeting • 10am
Sunday, December 8	Board Meeting • 10am Followed by Safety Drill with Miami Jewish Federation Supervision
Wednesday, December 11	"How and Why" with Rabbi Richard Agler • 7pm (Upgrading Our Friday Night Services)
Monday, December 16 – Friday, December 20	KJCC Cruises the Island Princess
Saturday, December 21	Rabbi Agler Torah Learning Service • 10am Homeless Memorial • 12:30pm
Sunday, December 22	First night of Hanukkah
Monday, December 23	Sisterhood Book Club • 10am
Monday, December 23	Hanukkah Party with Rabbi Zucker • 7pm
Friday, December 27	Hanukkah Dinner • 5:30pm
Sunday, December 29	Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Tuesday, December 31	New Year's Eve
Monday, January 1	New Years Day • Blessing of the Fleet
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King Day
Saturday, January 25	Rabbi Agler Torah Learning Service, 10am
Monday, January 27	Sisterhood Book Club • 10am • Joyce's house Rosh Chodesh Shevat
Wednesday, January 29	"Make a Joyful Noise" Monks' Visit & Concert • 7:30pm

Oneg Sponsors —				
December 6	Steve & Jan Hartz In Honor of Jan's birthday		Linda Pollack Sponsor Hannukah Dinner	
	Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis In Honor of their Anniversary	January 3	Steve & Amelia Kasinoff In Honor of their Anniversary	
December 13	Frank Rose In Honor of his 90th Birthday		Stan & jenny Margulies In Honor of Stan's Birthday	
December 20	Terry Tainow In Honor of her Birthday	January 10	Barbara & Richard Knowles In Honor of Father's Yahrzeit	
December 27	Steve & Amelia Kasinoff	January 17	Sisterhood	
	In Honor of Steve's Birthday	January 24	Steve Steinbock	
	& Hannukah	January 31	Beth Horowitz In Honor of her Birthday	

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



"A New Vision" for Tree of Life Synagogue

Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue building. the site of the horrific attack a little over a year ago that left eleven Jewish worshippers dead - the worst attack on Jews in U.S. history - will reopen with a new vision, as a "center for Jewish life in the United States." (A date for the opening has not yet been set.) The desecrated synagogue is home to three different congregations; their building has not reopened since the attack in October. 2018 because, according to a statement issued in their name, the shooting left the building "unsuitable for worship." Tree of Life's vision for the future of the property calls for the space to be a "cooperative and collaborative space that brings together stakeholders in a shared environment that includes places for Jewish worship; memorial, education and social engagement; exhibit space for archival historical artistic expression, as well as classrooms and training spaces." (www.jta.org, 10-20-19)

Outrageous!

A British elementary school teacher was fired after telling Jewish students that she would "ship them off to the gas chambers" if they didn't finish their schoolwork. The teacher allegedly told the students that she was joking and asked them not to tell anyone. However, word spread on the messaging app "WhatsApp" and she was fired. There were eleven Jewish students in the class of twenty eight. (www.dailymail.co.uk, 10-15-19)

"Who by Fire ... "

Just a few days before Yom Kippur, some 38,000 pounds of frozen bagels met an unfortunate demise when they were burned in a truck fire. An Indiana state trooper saw that an 18-wheeler about 90 miles southeast of Chicago was smoking heavily from the rear axle. When the trooper pulled the truck over, the fire was spreading to the trailer and the rear tires exploded. The driver was unharmed. It's very likely that after the last blast of the shofar, several synagogues had

no bagels to serve at their break-the-fast. (www. nypost.com, 10-8-19)

Another Win for RBG

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 86, was recently awarded the 2019 Berggruen Prize for Philosophy and Culture as a "thinker whose ideas have profoundly shaped human understanding and advancement." The \$1 million prize, first awarded in 2016, is given annually by the Berggruen Institute, a Los Angeles-based research organization dedicated to "improving governance and cross-cultural understanding." Recipients of the award direct the prize money to a non-profit organization of their choice. The prize committee called Ginsburg a "lifelong trailblazer for human rights and gender equality" and "a constant voice in favor of equality, the rights of workers and the separation of church and state." Previous winners have all been noted philosophers. Five hundred people were nominated for this year's prize. Justice Ginsburg accepted her award during a private ceremony at the New York Public Library in December. (www.nytimes.com, 10-23-19)

New Female "Firsts" in Israel

For the first time in Israel's history, a woman has been nominated to serve as the chief intelligence officer for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Central Command, which operates in the West Bank. For security reasons, she can only be identified by her rank and first initial (in Hebrew) of her name – Col. "Nun." (Will her autobiography be titled "A Nun in the IDF?") She was drafted into the IDF in 2000, serving in several positions within Military Intelligence before her appointment to this new high-ranking and highly sensitive role. Col. "Nun's" appointment comes a few weeks after another IDF first – a woman being appointed to command an air force aviation squadron that

operates surveillance aircraft. (www.timesofisrael. com, 10-29-19)

A World Series Record

Alex Bregman, of the Houston Astros, set an all-time record in October for the most playoff home runs (he hit five) by a third baseman. He also became the youngest American League player – he's 25 – to hit three in a World Series since Mickey Mantle in 1956. One of his home runs was a grand slam and, though he hit only .207 in his team's Series loss to the upstart Washington Nationals, he led the Astros with eight runs batted in through the seven games.

Probably today's most prolific Jewish player, Bregman had a fabulous year, hitting .296 with 41 home runs and 112 RBI; by the time you read this, we'll know if he was voted American League MVP. But his mom. lackie, will tell you that her son is more than a baseball player. His foundation, AB for AUDS, provides computer tablets to children with autism and Down Syndrome. In elementary school, the young Bregman defended classmates being bullied. He was also on the receiving end: a boy made fun of Alex's pending Bar Mitzvah and a Chinese-American teammate on Alex's basketball squad stood up for him. The experiences, Jackie said, "taught him what it was like to be marginalized." Bregman dedicated Game 7 to his maternal grandfather Stan, who died just hours before the game. Stan had worked as a lawyer for the old Washington Senators many years before. He gave his grandson a card collection of Jewish baseball players. Bregman's mom, referring to the card set of Jewish players, said, "I hope that one day he's in that collection." (www.timesofisrael, 10-30-19 and www.jta.org, 3-27-18)

Bee-Free Honey?

A team of Israel's Technion researchers was recently awarded a gold medal at the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM) in Boston for producing bee-free honey. The team developed a sustainable "BeeFree" honey using engineered bacteria, "which processes a nectar-like solution using secreted enzymes that mimic the honey stomach environment." The significance of this development is important because of the unexplained decline of bee populations in many parts of the world. This is the sixth medal the Technion has won since joining the competition in 2012. The iGEM Foundation was

created in 2004 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Teams from some 300 universities around the world participated in this year's competition. (www.worldisraelnews.com, 11-10-19)

Israel Takes a Walk in Outer Space

lessica Meir. Israeli-Swedish NASA astronaut. participated in the first all-female space walk in mid-October. Along with Christina Koch, the two women floated out of the International Space Station's Quest airlock in order to replace a failed power control unit. Meir brought an Israeli flag to the space station as one of her permitted personal items. She posted photos of Israel that she took from space. Meir's late father was born in Iraq but immigrated with his family to pre-state Israel as a young child, later fighting in Israel's War of Independence in 1948. He became a doctor and took a job in Sweden where he met Meir's mother. They then moved to Maine when he was offered a job there. The mid-October spacewalk was the latest in a long series; fourteen women and 213 men have looked back at Earth while both astronaut and planet floated in space. (www.haaretz. com, 11-3-19)

Sunlight to Power all of Israel?

The Arava region of southern Israel, which includes the city of Eilat, will reach its goal of being 100 percent reliant on solar energy during the daytime by 2020. The team responsible for this achievement, along with other experts, is lobbying for legislation that would make the entire country 100 percent solar-energy-reliant during daytime hours by 2030. Currently, fossil fuels provide 95 percent of Israel's electricity. Inspired by climate protests in Tel Aviv and Greta Thunberg, the riveting sixteen-year-old environmentalist from Sweden who spoke at the UN Climate Action Summit in September, there is public pressure to get something done. At \$0.06 per kilowatt, the cost of solar energy is about one-third the price of natural gas, but that fact is conveniently hidden by politicians and the natural gas company. (www.jpost.com, 10-20-19)

UNESCO Votes

A vote was scheduled for December on the removal of the credentials of the Aalst Carnival from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Intangible Cultural Heritage list. It is the first time that a

place or event has been selected for removal. This year, the carnival, an annual parade in Belgium, featured a float depicting anti-Semitic caricatures of ultra-Orthodox Jews. The float had two ultra-Orthodox men, one with a rat on his shoulder and both surrounded by money bags at their feet. The parade provoked outrage and (justified) accusations of anti-Semitism. There had been previous evidence at the same parade - in 2009 a float featured men dressed like Orthodox Jews wearing fake hooked noses and Palestinian symbols, and the 2013 parade had revelers dressed like Nazis holding canisters labeled "Zvklon B" walking alongside caged individuals dressed like concentration camp prisoners. (Zyklon B was the poison developed by the Nazis to kill Jews in the gas chambers.) Aalst's mayor and carnival organizers have dismissed all criticism, claiming freedom of expression and parody. (Note: at the time of this writing, the UNESCO vote had not yet taken place.) (www.jpost.com, 11-9-19)

In Memoriam

• Danny Cohen, a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering, whose pioneering research on computers helped shape how we use the internet, died in August at the age of 81. It is because of Cohen that we can make internet voice and video calls on platforms such as Skype, that we can watch YouTube videos or store data in the cloud. His obituary hailed him for helping set the stage for the digital era. Cohen was born in Haifa. His father immigrated to pre-state Israel from Russia and his mother came from Hungary, He was a member of Hashomer Hatza'ir Zionist youth movement. In the 1950s, he studied mathematics at the Technion Israel Institute of Technology and was fascinated by the first computers he saw. He read an article describing the computer as an electronic brain and he was hooked. He served as a parachutist in the IDF and saw combat in the 1956 Arab-Israeli War. After his army service, he was one of the founders of Kibbutz Horshim in the Sharon region. Cohen did his graduate work at MIT and Harvard and his doctoral work at Harvard under the guidance of Ivan Sutherland, considered the father of computer graphics. Together the two developed an algorithm that bears their names. In the 1960s, Cohen worked on a number of areas in the field of information processing and computer communications that led the way for the computers and internet we use today. In many ways he was also responsible for the development of streaming technology. He was heavily involved in developing cloud computing technology, enabling a number of computers to be linked together to process and manage data. Cohen was a member of the Virginia-based Internet Society's hall of fame. (www.haaretz.com, 8-23-19)

 Gert Boyle, who was pushed into managing her family's struggling outerwear business and helped build it into the multibillion-dollar Columbia Sportswear Company, died at the age of 95. Boyle was 46 and a stay-at-home mom when her husband, Neal, died of a heart attack. The company was loaded with debt and she knew very little about the business. Boyle, a Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany, had arrived in the United States when she was thirteen, speaking not a word of English. The family settled in Portland. OR, where her father opened a hat company that grew into Columbia Sportswear, naming it after the Columbia River, in part to hide its lewish ownership. With the help of her mother and son, she kept the company afloat. She fired employees who suggested that a man might do a better job leading the company and received support from Ronald E. Nelson, executive of Nike, who became her mentor. An advertising campaign presenting "Ma Boyle" with a "Born to Nag" tattoo led to the company's expansion. One ad had her son Timothy stand in an automatic carwash showing that Columbia Sportswear could take harsh treatment. In another ad, she strapped him to the top of her car and drove through rain and mud. Sales grew from \$13 million at the campaign's launch in 1984 to \$260 million in 1994. In her 90s, Boyle remained active in business and philanthropy. She donated \$100 million to the Knight Cancer Institute, part of Oregon Health and Science University. (www.washingtonpost.com, 11-7-19)

Did You Know...

• Marilyn Monroe's menorah went up for auction at Kestenbaum & Co. in New York on November 7th. It sold for \$112,522. Monroe was given the menorah by her in-laws, playwright Arthur Miller's parents, when she converted to Judaism and married him. At its base, the menorah has a wind-up mechanism that plays Hatikvah, Israel's national anthem. The couple divorced in 1961. Last year, her personal siddur was auctioned off for \$26,250. (www.fpost.com, 11-9-19) \(\)



From Darkness to Light our chanukah legacy

By Gloria Avner

t's rare that Chanukah begins at exactly the darkest time of the year, the Winter Solstice, and ends just as we approach New Year's Eve. It happened four years ago. It happened twenty years ago when my father was dying (he went into a coma on the first day of Chanukah and left us on the eighth) and this year it is happening again. On the shortest day and longest night of the year, we will light our first candle and do our part to brighten the darkness. The world definitely seems tilted to the dark side as we approach Chanukah this year with all parts of our country and the world suffering from incivility and divisiveness among people of different races, religions, value systems and political beliefs.

What exactly did Isaiah envision when he channeled that assignment from G-d to our forebears and eventually to all of us: "be a light unto the nations." Was it the light of civility, of kindness and inclusion, of a moral code embracing freedom and justice for all, a society that would take care of its weakest and leave the corners of its fields to be gleaned by the hungry? Ancient rabbis had their view and modern rabbis have their own take. Several years ago, I quoted from a publication by the CCAR, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, but now their article seems even more prescient and important. It was titled "CCAR Seeks Chanukah's Light at a Dark Time."

The article was a position paper published five years ago with heart-felt intent, kavanah, well before the developments they were focused on were thrown into even greater relief. The rabbis were concerned about racial injustice, unchecked gun

violence and the disastrous consequences to our planet if the commitments made in Paris were not kept. The rabbis saw that violent religious extremism was threatening world peace, and that the threat to women's reproductive liberty had never been greater. There were 2000 of these American rabbis and they got very specific, calling for an 'opening of hearts and borders to rigorously vetted Syrian refugees." Their concerns sound political, and we often make a point of not bringing politics into shul, but let's look at the Maccabees. Who were they? At this point in history surely we can acknowledge that the real miracle is less about oil and more about this tiny band of students, not warriors but yeshiva bochurs, who defeated the greatest civilization of its time.



The boys took back the Temple and however you look at it, as fact or metaphor and myth, the truth is that re-dedication happened. The everlasting light, the ner tamid, was re-lit, and we are supposed to keep the light of Jewish values burning, especially in a dark time.

As the largest organization of Jewish clergy in the world looked back at the days when a festival was called for to bring light into darkness, they offered this prayer, "As we praise our Creator, Who worked wondrous miracles for our people at this season in ancient days, we pray that the Divine source of blessing may grant light to every dark corner or our troubled world, to our people and to all people, at this and every season."

Soon we will be lighting the candles of our family chanukiahs. We will do it twice in our KICC community with our extended mishpocha, once on Monday night, the 23rd of December at a party in the social

hall with Rabbi Zucker, and again on the 6th night, the 27th, at a sponsored dinner and latke party before Shabbat services. The light will grow brighter and brighter as we approach the eighth day. How significant that the final Chanukah candle will be lit this year just two days before the new year begins. Let's do as our ancient rabbis commanded us. Let our light shine. Invite friends and neighbors in for latkes. Let the brilliance of our chanukiahs glow in the windows of our houses and, as our contemporary rabbis ask, in our actions.

We will sing and feast on December 27th. The light will be dazzling. Isaiah's words will echo in our ears along with the traditional songs: "One for each night, they shed a sweet light and remind us of days long ago." May they also remind us that we, as God's partners, are meant to bring that light forward into action not just for eight days, but for the whole year and beyond. Chag Sameach and a happy healthy New Year to all. <



Eye on the Arts & Education

Alligator Alley

Friday, December 6 • Key Largo Library
This Bluegrass group will perform their lively,
free concert at 6 p.m., finishing in time for you
to head to KICC services afterwards.

True Pirate Tales of the Florida Keys with historian Brad Bertelli Wednesday, December 11

The Keys History and Discovery Center, located at 82100 O/S Hwy offers lectures, always on Wednesdays, that start with social time at 5:30 p.m. and presentation beginning at 6, lasting about 45 minutes with time for questions. Free to members of Keys History & Discovery Center, \$10 for non-members. Reservations strongly encouraged. info@keysdiscovery.com

Pops in the Park - Suite Dreams Saturday, December 14

At ICE Amphitheatre, Islamorada Founders Park. 4 p.m. Bring your blanket, dogs and kids for a free presentation by the Keys Community Concert Band

Morada Way Arts Walk Thursday December 19 • 6-9pm Thursday, January 23 • 6-9pm

You never know what or who you will find at this monthly indoor/outdoor event that takes place the third Thursday of each month at MM 81.5 in Islamorada. Expect lovely crafts, art, food and music.

Conch Music video festival

Friday, January 3 – Sunday, January 5
Marathon Community Park – Conch Music video festival highlights and records over 100 live local musicians, from Country to Rock. This three-day event benefits the Marathon Wild Bird Center and other local non-profits. For information go to conchrecords.com.

The Mona Lisa Tribe

Friday, January 10 • Key Largo Library • 6pm This folk band specializes in three-part harmonies and original, fun folk music.

Pops in the Park - "What a Wonderful World" Saturday, January 18

ICE Amphitheatre, Islamorada Founders Park. 4 p.m.- The Keys Community Concert Band presents International music as you relax on the lawn.

Art Under the Oaks Saturday, January 18

San Pedro Church, MM 89.5 bayside - food, arts & crafts

FLKCA presents the Glenn Miller Orchestra Monday, Jan. 20 & Tuesday, Jan. 21

At 7:30 p.m. This is the first of their six-concert series, with Monday at Marathon HS and Tues-day in Islamorada's Coral Shores Performing Arts Center. Tickets for the entire series cost \$110, or you can purchase just this concert for \$45. For information go to www.Floridakey-sconcerts.com or contact Joyce at 305-451-0665.

"The Delicate Balance of Nature" Wednesday, January 22

Once again John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park presents "The Delicate Balance of Nature" lecture series. This always interesting and popular free eight-week series is held Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8 p.m. in the visitor center.

Rising Star Youlan Ji

Monday, January 27 & Tuesday, January 28 FLKCA presents Rising Star Youlan Ji, young winner of the 2018 New York International Piano Competition. Monday at at 7:30pm at Marathon High School. Tuesday at Island Community Church, MM 83, Islamorada. Single ticket is \$30. www.Floridakeysconcerts.com

Keys Jewish Community Center

HOW and WHY PROGRAM

with Rabbi Richard Agler

-Friday Night Services -How and why to make them betterWhy do we do what we do?
How can we get more out of services?
How can we prepare a meaningful parsha?
More Meaningful, More Joyful, More Enjoyable You have a Voice!

Prospective Leaders are Invited.

Everyone is Invited.

We are all part of the Congregation.

Wednesday December 11, 2019 -7:00 PM

Contact Gloria Avner
geetavner@gmail.com; 305 619-0216
for further information

Simchat Torah in Florence, Italy: At the Great Synagogue

by Joyce Peckman

s my stepmother Edna approached her 94th birthday, she let it be known that she wanted to visit Florence, Italy with her children, and we should make it happen. So shortly after Yom Kippur, six months after her birthday, we arrived in Italy. I am not going to write about walking miles of narrow cobblestone streets with an energetic cane-wielding old lady, nor about the beautiful churches and museums with their incredible artwork, nor about the delicious food we consumed. Instead I will describe the history of Jews in Florence and what it is like to celebrate Simchat Torah in its Great Synagogue.

There have probably been Jews in Florence working in textiles and banking since the late 9th century, when Florence was one of the largest cities in Europe. In 1437, Cosimo de'Medici summoned a group of lews to set up banks in Florence to substitute for Christian moneylenders, whose activity was prohibited by the Church. The celebrated "Golden Era" of Lorenzo the magnificent. Medici patron of Botticelli, Leonardo Da'Vinci and the young Michelangelo was a golden era also for Jewish culture, producing intellectual exchange between Jewish scholars from all over Italy with famous philosophers and poets of Lorenzo's court. Beautiful illuminated manuscripts give witness to the wealth. But after Lorenzo's death in 1492 the situation became precarious. The glorious time of Machiavelli and Michelangelo's David was not glorious for the Jews. In 1570 the ghetto was instituted in Florence and neighboring Siena. From then until the end of the Medici dynasty in 1737. life and work of the lewish community was very restricted. They could not own property, even in the crowded Ghetto, were banned from many occupations and pressured to convert. When the Lorraine Family took power after the Medicis, they repealed many restrictions. Jews were able to build synagogues, thanks to assistance from wealthier Jews. When Napoleon's troops reached Florence



and introduced "liberty, equality and fraternity", the Ghetto gates were finally torn down.

By 1861the lews were active in all aspects of Florentine life and had moved out of the Ghetto entirely. They wanted a synagogue which reflected their new status and prosperity, and which would be used by both the old Italian and newer, wealthier Sephardic communities. Since Florence was about to become the capital of united Italy, the entire city was being transformed. Many medieval districts, including the dilapidated old ghetto, were demolished. A new, large, central location was found. Cavalier David Levi, who had no heirs, bequeathed his entire estate for construction of the new synagogue. The Moorish style was chosen to reflect both the Sephardic and Middle East roots of the Jewish people, and to be clearly distinctive from the churches. Its magnificent green copper dome is clearly visible from any vantage point. The interior is covered with glorious mosaics and Moorish pattern painting. The enclosed garden has a large lawn and pomegranate trees among its plantings.

When my family went to see the Synagogue and museum during the intermediated days of Sukkot, I asked about attending Simchat Torah services there, when they are closed to tourists. The docent told me that I should come to the side entrance at



3:00 p.m. on the holiday. I arrived at 2:45 and was asked to wait. Casually dressed Italian–speaking people were ushered in with a smile, some apparently coming from a group luncheon. At 3:00 p.m. sharp, I was allowed in. I checked my phone with the security guard as requested, and I walked to the women's section, found a seat and sat down. A lady asked me politely in Italian to please move over. She thanked me, pulled a key from her pocket and proceeded to open the little locked cabinet in front of her seat. Inside was a tiny storage place for her books. Apparently, the seats belong to individuals, who make a home for themselves.

The section filled up with women and children talking happily in Italian as the prayer leader and 100 or so men began the short service. I had difficulty finding my place, even with a book. The cavernous hall resonated with an echo, and the tune sounded like it was written by Verdi. It quieted down when the choir began, again with unfamiliar melodies. Then they began to take out the dozen Torahs, all adorned in silver and what looked like dresses. Four young girls with large bouquets of multi-colored flowers, and four pre-adolescent boys holding torches took their places at the front and back of the procession. where they were joined by several dozen other children. After the first go-around, wondering what songs they were singing, I was approached

by a woman who suggested in broken English that I go upstairs, where I would have a better view. As you can see from the photo, it was quite a way up, but I was able to see the entire vista as the Hakafot proceeded. There were other women there, also enjoying the view. At some point, the shul emptied out, so I ran downstairs to see what was happening. The Torahs had been taken out to the garden and women were singing and carrying them. Then the men took them back inside and returned them to the ark. The shul emptied again, with people nodding and smiling at me, and families returning home. I was approached by a woman who spoke English. She welcomed me, and spoke to me a while, inviting me to spend Friday dinner with her family. (She was from the Chabad house around the corner.) She told of how, just before the Nazi occupation, Church fathers offered to keep the Synagogues' Torahs, silver and precious ancient manuscripts safe. Indeed, the Nazis did come to loot and were disappointed to find nothing, but allowed the churches to keep what they were holding. After the war, everything was returned to those who survived. The artifacts, however, did not survive the disastrous flood of 1966, when fears of bursting dams on the River Arno caused a massive discharge of water upstream. The water flooded Florence. Priceless artwork, books and manuscripts of all faiths were destroyed. She told of people's livelihoods washed away, and how 92 Torahs and hundreds of medieval manuscripts had to be buried

We wished each other a "Chag Sameach", and I rejoined my family for a wonderful Italian dinner. \diamond



PHOTO GALLERY



Zaydeh Bernie Ginsberg passes on the rite of Hamotzi to our next generation.



We were joined for Rabbi Agler's first Shabbat Torah learning service by Pastor Tim Crutcher from Church of the Nazarene in Key Largo and friend John. The discussion was fascinating. You won't want to miss the next one, Dec. 21.



What a delight to inaugurate our new twice monthly Tot Shabbat class with Maddie, Sean, and Binyamin shepherded by teacher Rachel Bloom.

The cool weather is starting as Jane begins the clean up work in son Harry's KJCC Community Garden. It takes huge time, effort and love. Your Mishpocha and the folks who depend on the Food Pantry at Burton Memorial next door are very grateful to the Friedmans.



Erica slices raisin challah at Oneg after leading Shabbat service.



Barbara and Richard Knowles sponsor an Oneg in memory of Barb's mom.



We love celebrating Torah and follow it with our now traditional Chocolate Extravaganza.



Michael Kaufman and son Sean parade with Israeli flags in Simchat Torah celebration.



Brava to Jane Friedman and the other strong women carrying Torahs down the Sanctuary aisle for the seven HaKafot.



Edna Ross, Joyce's 94 year old stepmom is taking Italy by storm.





Nettie and Jules Seder couldn't be more proud of their grandson Joey at his Bar Mitzvah.



It is always a special time decorating our Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake Sukkah for the eight Day Harvest Festival.

The Klein-Gross family draft Scubi-Jew friend Josh Keller to help lead services.



Rabbi Agler speaks on our Harvest Holiday, Sukkot, under the stars.



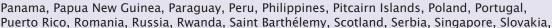
Bernie sniffs the "besamim" spices passed in the Agler's Sukkah





KFCC Worldwide Shabbos Project: Happy Challah Days

As part of the worldwide Shabbos Project, we joined in celebration of Shabbat with Jews in: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Curaçao, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, England, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, French Guiana, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan,



South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam, Wales, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

And as we were baking our challah on Thursday, a Guinness world record was being broken in Sydney, Australia, where a 32-foot long challah was baked. It required over 150 pounds of dough and took ten hours to bake.



Shayna, Stuart and Lauren Sax's doggie (and sister to Steve S's) likes to celebrate Shabbat too, while visiting with Kathy Shabathai and Beth Hayden, who sponsored the oneg in honor of two of her doggies. A theme emerges:-)



Past presidents of Sisterhood and KJCC, Lauren and Stuart Sax, admire all the new improvements made since they left us to head to Texas. We're happy to have you visit! And we're happy you're happy.



Once more, KJCC women and friends (alas, no men responded to the invitation) came together for our annual Challah Bake. Sisterhood provided the ingredients, the wine and some nourishment. In honor of the worldwide celebration of this Shabbos Project, the happy bakers went home with their braided challahs (and a few very creative ones like the ones stuffed with peanut butter, chocolate and raisins, or the one shaped like a turtle), ready to bake and bring them back to KJCC the next night for a special Shabbat dinner!



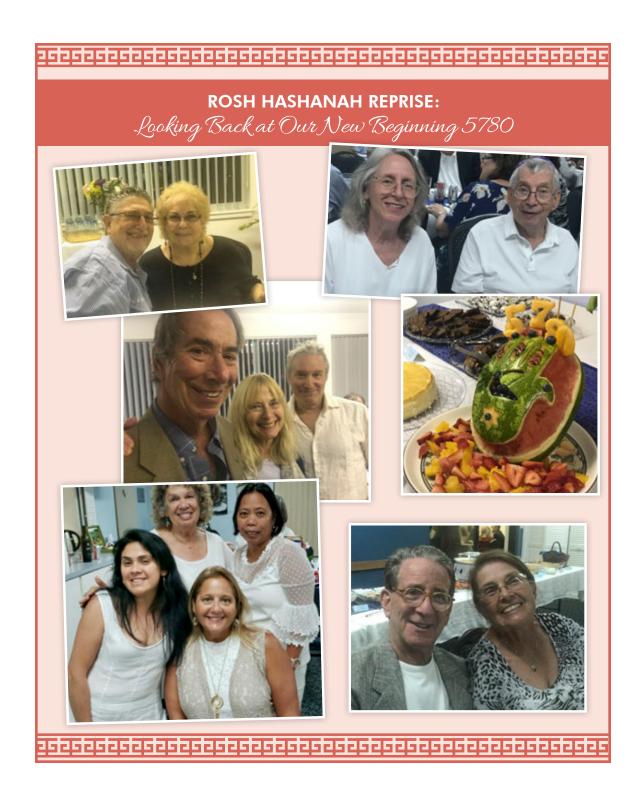


A New Take on an Old Rosh HaShanah Practice

On October 6th, Jewish communities across Florida and the country reversed the process of Tashlich and removed human 'sins' from the water in waterfront clean-ups in the Tikkun HaYam's 2nd Annual Reverse Tashlich. Many of us and some young neighbors and scouts took part in this nationwide effort, meeting at KJCC, led by Hillel alumnus Josh Keller. We proceeded to the refuse-ridden manarove beach near the home of Donna &

Bill Bolton, wearing appropriate shoes and boots. Over three hours, we gathered over 300 pounds of plastic litter, old rope, metal, a loggerhead turtle shell, dozens of flip flops, a headless angel and a truckload of indescribables. Jane and Randy and Josh were fearless leaders, wading in to their waists for waste. Thank you for the snacks, Donna and Bill. We hear the crew did such a great job, you're inviting us back again next year.





They work hard for us and never stop smiling. We begin our erev Rosh HaShanah Dinner with Jane Friedman's chicken soup and matzoh balls.

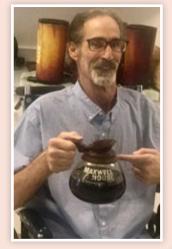




We love when Jeff and Cheryl join us from Homestead (armed with trays of roasted vegetables).



As Jews all over the world have done for millennia, we gather on the afternoon of Rosh HaShanah Day One at a body of water to pray, sing and discard our unworthy actions (in the form of stale bagels), intent on becoming our better selves. The fish and seagulls at Ocean Pointe, and our souls, are grateful.



What a delight to see Mark Bloom back in the kitchen making a welcome pot of coffee for Day 2 earlybirds.

The entire congregation is much moved by and grateful for the stellar Shofar blowing by Jonah Gross while proud mother Randy called out the notes. We all have a new understanding of "Tekiah G'dolah."



Rabbi Agler and Gabbai Bernard Ginsberg confer.



Beth Hayden and Stanley Margulies take a break before musaf service with a John Hawver painting in the background.



Cantor Michael Dzubin makes HaMotzi before lunch on Day 2.

Members gather to celebrate and journey together into the new year 5780.



Keys Jewish Community Center

Something New is Coming:

Another Opportunity to Learn Shabbat Morning Torah Services get Richer

There is a midrash that says once we die we will be asked important questions before the final judgment:

"Were you honest in your dealings with other people?" and "Did you make a serious effort to study Torah?"

Rabbi Agler has been our High Holiday leader for seven years. We are profoundly grateful. When he volunteered to lead monthly Shabbat morning Torah learning services, we felt even more fortunate. Now Rabbi Agler, our Scholar-in-Residence, will add new spice to the mix! Without adding time to the service or neglecting the Parashah, each service will include a small portion of the David Story. We are "people of the book," and we love learning. Read Rabbi Agler's description below, and make a special effort to attend. When you are asked the final question, you will be able to say "Yes!"

THE DAVID SAGA

Power, violence, betrayal. Love, faith, history. All this and more are waiting for us in the David saga, the story of Israel's most famous King.

We will be adding the story of David to our Torah learning program on selected Shabbat mornings beginning December 21 at 10 a.m.

For a head start, or just for your own enjoyment, I invite you to begin reading the Book of First Samuel, either in hardcopy or online, where plenty of easily readable translations are available. We'll look to cover the first five chapters on December 21.

Join us for the learning—and the drama—of this incredibly fascinating biblical history!



This translation by Robert Alter is a particularly good one and can be purchased used and inexpensively at Amazon.

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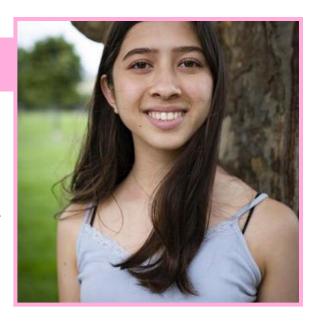
We are proud to publish, with permission from both the author and editor, an article that was originally published on Jewish Women, Amplified, the blog of the "Jewish Women's Archive" and was written as part of the "Rising Voices Fellowship" (with "Jewish Women, Amplified" in italics). JWA provides a platform to amplify young Jewish women's voices through the Rising Voices Fellowship, a leadership development program for female-identified teens who have a passion for writing, and a strong interest in feminism and Judaism—particularly as they relate to social justice.

by Maddy Pollack

hen I was in third grade, my teacher asked me to tell my class about the Jewish New Year. I was not only the only Jewish kid in my class, I was also the only Jewish kid (aside from my brother) in the whole school. My innocent eight-year-old self stood proudly in front of all my classmates and explained the meaning of Rosh Hashanah. I explained to them how, on Rosh Hashanah, our fate for the upcoming year is written and, on Yom Kippur, it is sealed. Just as I finished, one of my classmates shouted, "I'm glad I'm not Jewish!" and it was followed by a chorus of amused agreement from the other kids. In an instant, all of the pride that I felt to be sharing my Judaism melted away.

It wasn't the first or last time that I received a comment like this. We lived in a small town in Texas with a population that was less than 2,000 people, and barely ten of those residents weren't white and Christian. I can't tell you how many times someone asked us, "When are you joining a church?" The town wasn't a very accepting place, and not just for me. One day, my brother came home and told us that there was a new Muslim kid at school, and that his peers had already deemed him "a terrorist." I knew that it was wrong, even though the people around me seemed to not give it a second thought.

Growing up in that environment, I developed a hard shell to deflect feelings of being different in any way. I wouldn't dare wear my Star of David necklace to school, much less tell anyone outside



of my closest circle of friends that I was Jewish. I would save "being Jewish" for Shabbat services and Sunday school, when my family would drive over an hour to the nearest synagogue. Yes, an hour!

Flash forward a few years to seventh grade: I was now in the bustling city of Austin, Texas. I transferred to a new middle school that was far more diverse, where well over half of the students were people of color. I had never seen so many non-white people in my life. The first few days of school were mind-blowing. I couldn't imagine what my friends back home would think.

Among all of the changes I was experiencing, there were glimpses of hope for me. I remember the first time that someone told me it was okay to be Jewish. I was walking in the hallway with one of my new middle school friends and she asked me what I was doing for Christmas.

"Oh, I don't celebrate Christmas. I'm Jewish," I said. Then I immediately panicked. "But I'm not even that religious or anything, so don't worry."

I couldn't believe I had accidentally given myself away. Her response?

"Oh. I don't care."

Just like that, hope manifested into reality, and my protective shell began to crack. It felt genuinely wild to me to think that there were people who didn't care what my religion was. I still hate the way that I tried to justify my identity by at-



tempting to water it down, but no one had ever told me they didn't care before. In my hometown, when people found out that I was Jewish, they would say things like "I'm just so worried about your salvation" or "But Jews don't believe in God." Yes, they seriously thought that Jewish people don't believe in God.

Over time, the acceptance I found in my new home healed me. A year later, in eighth grade, my Austin friends were thrilled to come to my Bat Mitzvah. I started wearing my Star of David necklace to school. Yes! For actual other humans to see! In high school, I joined Jewish youth groups. Considering how shocked I was by one friend not caring about what my religion was, you can imagine how I felt to be surrounded by a community that celebrated and embraced my Judaism. It was incredible to be around people my age that were so open and proud of their faith. I wanted to be just like them.

While I might have preferred to be surrounded by more Jewish people when I was younger,

the special moments my family shared together as the sole Jews in our community are moments that I cherish. We didn't have Jewish friends to celebrate Hanukkah with so, instead, my dad taught us the blessings and we prayed together as a family of four, lighted by the candles of the hanukkiah. My brother and I would skip school on the High Holy days and we would drive to the city for services with our parents, sitting in quiet excitement the whole way.

Sometimes I think that the shell I wore for so long may never fully go away. I'll still occasionally feel the pangs of fear and insecurity that I experienced growing up, tucking my necklace into my shirt or silently freaking out when a stranger finds out I'm Jewish. Every day, I feel like I have to relearn that I'm allowed to exist as a Jew. I have lost touch with almost everyone from my hometown, but I'm grateful to now be surrounded by wonderfully supportive friends. When I remember the embarrassment I felt looking down from the bimah and seeing the looks on the faces of some of my old friends at my Bat Mitzvah (who were extremely uncomfortable to be attending a Jewish service) I'm glad to have gotten the heck out of that town. Some of my high school friends have told me. "I wish we would've gotten to come to your Bat Mitzvah!" Now that's the kind of glow-up worth waiting for.

I cherish my Judaism because it is mine, because it has stayed close to my heart despite the fact that it's sometimes easier to say "Don't worry, I'm not that religious." In this new year, the third grader inside me is prouder than ever to be a Jew. To finally experience that feeling, and to truly believe it, is sweeter than charoset.

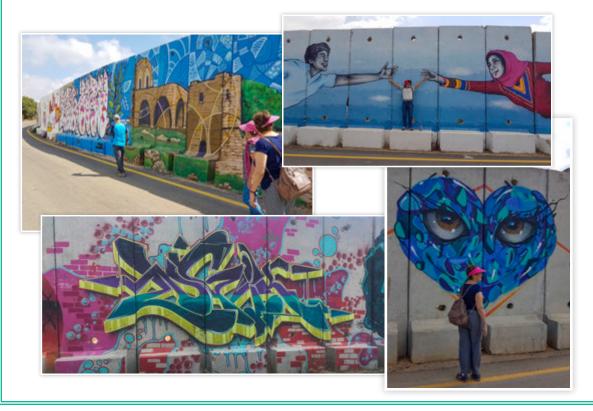
This piece was written as part of JWA's Rising Voices Fellowship. ♦

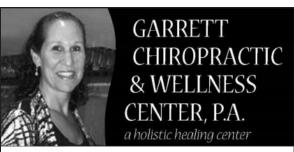
Maddy Pollack is a senior at the Liberal Arts and Science Academy in Austin, Texas. Her favorite things include theater, ballet, and, of course, reading and writing. She has a dog named Roxi and she is passionate about gun control, climate change, and reproductive rights. She is the granddaughter of Linda Pollack a D.C. Daughter of Roy Pollack. (We, her out-of-state KJCC family, are very proud of her)



Beth Hayden Sends Visions of Hope from Israel: Peace and Good Relations Through Art

Shetulah is a relatively new settlement in Israel (less than 10 years old). It is situated on the Israeli/Lebanon border. When the settlement was established, a wall was built on the Israeli side of the border to protect the settlement from Hizballah attacks. Artists 4 Israel (Artists 4 Israel prevents the spread of anti-israel bigotry through art and helps communities and people affected by terrorism and hate) have decorated and painted the protective wall with visions of peace and good relations. Here are the pictures from Shetulah.





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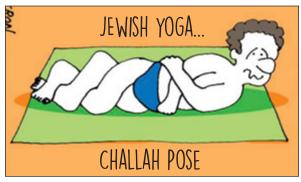
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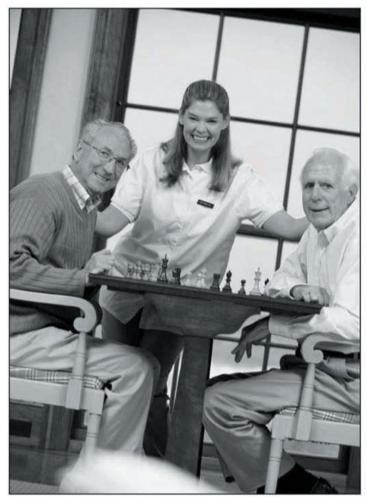
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For nearly 25 years, The Palace Gardens Assisted Living Community in Homestead has been known as a leader in providing outstanding care to seniors. While our grounds and the campus are beautiful, there are more than a few reasons why The Palace Gardens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



1. Continuum of Care -

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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 -

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

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



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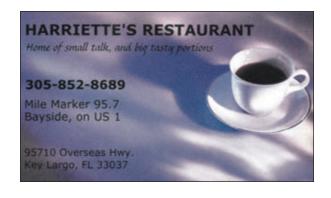
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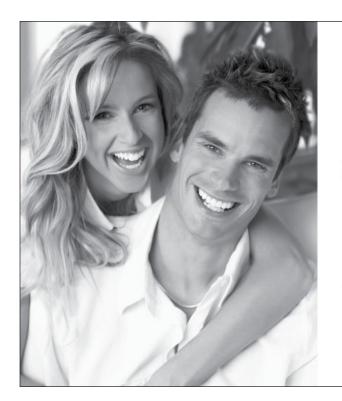
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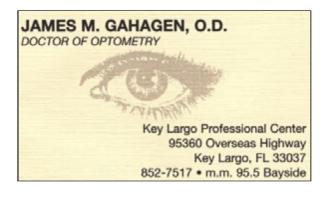
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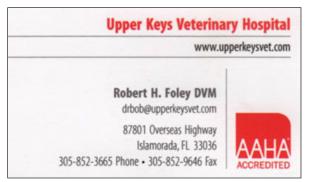
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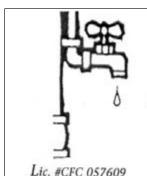
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