

# Chai~Lights



February 1 - March 31, 2021

19 Shevat - 18 Nissan

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**Keys Jewish Community Center**

P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • [keysjewishcenter.com](http://keysjewishcenter.com)

# February 1 - March 31, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>FEB</b> Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3	4	5 Yitro Susan Horn & Gloria Avner <i>Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Gloria Avner, Beth Horowitz</i>	6
7 Sisterhood Meeting; Installation of Officers 10:00AM	8 Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	9	10 Meditation with Mindy Agler, LMHC 7:30PM	11	12 Mishpatim Sisterhood Service <i>Beth Hayden</i>	13 Shabbat Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler 12:30PM
14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> Board Meeting 9:00 AM Annual General Meeting 11:00AM	15 <i>President's Day</i> Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	16	17 Memorial Scrolls Trust Talk 7:30PM	18	19 Terumah Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Donna Bolton <i>Jane Friedman</i>	20
21	22 Book Club 12:30PM Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	23	24 Hamentaschen Workshop Jane Friedman 2:00PM	25 Megillah Reading 7:30PM	26 Tetzaveh Medina Roy & Gloria Avner <i>Rita Conklin</i>	27
28	1 <b>MAR</b> Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	2	3	4	5 Ki Tisa Steve Steinbock <i>Patricia Isenberg</i>	6
7 Sisterhood Meeting 10:00AM	8 Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	9	10	11	12 Vayakhel-Pekudei Laurie Blum <i>Medina Roy</i>	13 Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler 12:30PM
14 <i>Daylight Savings</i> KJCC Board Meeting 10:00AM	15 Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19 Steve Hartz <i>Gary Margolis &amp; Laurie Blum</i>	20
21	22 Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	23	24	25	26 Tzav Ken Atlas <i>Joyce Peckman &amp; Jane Friedman</i>	27 <i>Passover</i> Motzai Shabbat First Seder Time TBD
28	29 Book Club 12:30PM Drop-in Chat 2:00PM	30	31	Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm		

## 2020 - 2021 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

### President

Joyce Peckman

### Executive Vice President

Susan Gordon

### Vice Presidents

Gloria Avner • Michael Kaufman  
Medina Roy

### Treasurer

Linda Kaplan

### Recording Secretary

#### Adult Education

Beth Hayden

### Corresponding Secretary

Erica Lieberman-Garrett

### Financial Secretary

Donna Bolton

### Directors

Ken Atlas • Marc Bloom • Jane Friedman  
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Linda Pollack • Frank Rose • Laurie Blum  
Gary Margolis • Stuart Smith

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Beth Hayden

### Historian

Mary Lee Singer

### Librarian

Medina Roy

### Scholar Emeritus

Rabbi Richard Agler, DD

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Joel S. Cohen • Robert Faeges  
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Myron Rubin • Bea Graham • George Swartz  
Susan Horn • Jim Boruszak • Joel Pollack  
Jeff Schocket • Steve Steinbock • Alan Beth  
Stuart Sax • Bernard Ginsberg  
Sam Vinicur • Beth Hayden

### Editor

Gloria Avner

### Design & Production

Duotone Design Co.

### CHAI-LIGHTS is the

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**Keys Jewish Community Center**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



I feel like we are approaching the final lap of a long and difficult marathon, racing on streets we have never traveled before. We have made new friends, learned new skills and discovered strengths we never knew we possessed. We are powering through the pain, helping out fellow runners; and the end is now in sight. Now I find myself overcome with the fear of stumbling, of failing to be careful and falling or causing someone else to fall before we reach the finish line. One of my favorite Hebrew words is *savlanute* – patience. So, we hold on a while longer and maintain faith that in a few months we will gather together for prayer and fellowship at KJCC.

When our doors finally open, please take a few minutes to look at the antiquities display in the hallway, donated by Rabbi and Mindy Agler in honor of Judith and Stephen Beiner z”l. We were unable to have an on-site dedication due to Covid-19, but we finally held a virtual dedication on January 20th, with presentations by Dr. Beiner and Rabbi Agler, and photos of the relics as well as of Marcia Kreitman in the act of creating the museum-quality display. You will be able to find the recording of the dedication on our website.

Meanwhile, we try to boost our spirit, mind and body with Wednesday workshops and suggestions for on-

line programs from Adult Ed chairperson Beth Hayden. On February 10th, Mindy Agler will teach meditation techniques. On February 17th Lois Roman of Memorial Scrolls Trust will tell us the real story behind the Czech Torah in our shul. On February 24th Jane Friedman help us enrich our bellies as we bake *hamentashen* in preparation for the next evening's Purim celebration. Of course, we continue our Friday night services on Zoom and our Monday chats. Check Tuesday's emails for new events.

The matching fund was a success. Our thanks to those of you who helped us to reach our goal.

The annual General Meeting of KJCC will take place on February 14th at 11 a.m. We will miss Sisterhood's delicious lunch after the meeting, but the "meat" of the event is just as important. I will present the "State of KJCC," Treasurer Linda Kaplan will present next year's budget, and you will get to vote in the slate of new officers and directors. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the board, please contact me or Ken Atlas, the chair of the nominating committee, before February 12th, so that the names can be nominated from the floor. All nominees should be present (online) and in good standing. ◇

# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

Nothing is “up” within KJCC walls, but if you download Zoom.us, we will be able observe Shabbat and holidays, attend meetings and see each other virtually. We can even celebrate onegs if you bring your own cookies. Check Tuesday “President’s Notes” for further activities.

Every Monday • 2:00 PM Drop-in Chat

Friday, February 5 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Services: Susan Horn & Gloria Avner

Sunday, February 7 • 10:00AM Sisterhood Meeting; Installation of Officers

Wednesday, February 10 • 7:30PM Meditation with Mindy Agler, LMHC

Friday, February 12 • 7:30PM Sisterhood Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday, February 13 • Shabbat • 12:30PM Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler

Sunday, February 14 • 9:00AM KJCC Board Meeting • 11:00AM KJCC Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, February 17 • 7:30PM Memorial Scrolls Trust Talk

Friday, February 19 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Service: Erica Lieberman–Garrett and Donna Bolton

Monday, February 22 • 12:30 p.m. Book Club

Wednesday, February 24 • 2:00PM Hamentaschen Workshop – Jane Friedman

Thursday, February 25 • 7:30PM Megillah Reading

Friday, February 26 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Services: Medina Roy & Gloria Avner

Friday, March 5 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Services: Steve Steinbock

Sunday, March 7 • 10:00AM Sisterhood Meeting

Friday, March 12 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Services: Laurie Blum

Saturday, March 13 • 12:30PM Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler

Sunday, March 14 • 10:00AM KJCC Board Meeting

Friday, March 19 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Services: Steve Hartz

Friday, March 26 • 7:30PM Erev Shabbat Services: Ken Atlas

Saturday, March 27 • 6:00PM Motzai Shabbat • First Seder

Monday, March 29 • 12:30 p.m. Book Club

# NOSH

## Meditate with Mindy Agler

Watch for a link to a meditation eve on **Wednesday, February 10th at 7:30 p.m.** Mindy was a great help to us in the aftermath of Irma, leading discussion groups and guided meditation for those under stress. We are now enjoying her series here in Chai-Lights (see P. 29) on self-care in the time of Covid. This is one more opportunity coming our way thanks to Beth Hayden's Adult Education Committee and Mindy's generosity. Thank you, Mindy.

## Sisterhood Service: February 12

This combination of voices and intent, all feminine and all enthusiastic, comes just once a year. It is an event we look forward to. Invite your friends. It's an especially happy time in a year without a Women's Seder.

## Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler

Last month we launched a new series of informal study sessions with our Scholar Emeritus, Rabbi Richard Agler. The David Saga is fascinating and more relevant to issues in today's world than many of us expected. Join us on zoom for an engaging hour of lively discussion on **February 13th and March 13th at 12:30 p.m.** Yes, Rabbi Agler has generously volunteered to lead us into this era of biblical history once each month. Bring your own lunch. You can be reading from Samuel 2 in your own Tanach/Bible or in the wonderful book "The David Story," by Robert Alter."

## KJCC Annual Meeting

**On Sunday February 14 at 11:00 a.m.,** KJCC will hold its Annual Meeting. President Joyce Peckman will talk on “the State of the Synagogue.” You will also have the opportunity to vote on a slate of officers for the coming year (see the letter of invitation on PP. 30). Watch for the Zoom invitation in Joyce’s Tuesday messages.

## The Society that Saved Our Torah

Sign on to Zoom on **Wednesday, February 17th for a 7:30 p.m.** program that will answer any questions you may have about our Holocaust Torah and how it got here. Lois Roman of the Memorial Scrolls Trust will be our speaker. Thank you, Laurie Blum and Adult Education, for arranging this event. See poster on PP. 36 for details.

Women's Seder is on Sabbatical.  
We will take a year off  
And come back stronger,  
And more vibrant than ever!!

## Hamantaschen Workshop with Jane Friedman

**At 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 24**, get out your flour and an array of fillings (not necessarily your grandparents' favorites). Creativity will abound, alongside tradition. Thank you for sponsoring this, Sisterhood. We will make the three cornered pastries on Wednesday and eat them on Thursday at the Megillah reading (See poster for details, PP. 14)

## Purim: Megillah Reading

On **Thursday eve, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.**, we will gather via Zoom for a reading of Megillah Esther. Wear a mask, but only over your eyes. Children who get dressed up will get a prize next day. There is a rumor that as part of the fun, we will be playing "Jeopardy." Bone up on Purim trivia (that may be the only category). Get creative and make your own noisemaker (how about a tin can filled with dry beans?). Remember, this holiday is not just about celebration of survival and drinking. Listening to the reading of Megillah Esther is a serious mitzvah.

## Passover Community Seder

On **Saturday night, March 27, at 6:00 p.m.** we will meet via zoom for our first Seder. Though we will not be physically together for this important and haimishe celebration, there are interesting plans afoot by Sisterhood and Ritual Committees to make this a fun and meaningful event. See poster on PP 22 and stay tuned to President's Tuesday announcements for further details. ◇

*Mazel tov to Joan Wohl on the  
birth of her first grandchild.  
We love to hear good news.*

## Shabbat Service Leaders

Feb. 5: Yitro..... Susan Horn &amp; Gloria Avner

Feb. 12: Mishpatim .....Sisterhood Service

Feb. 19: Terumah .... Erica Lieberman-Garrett  
& Donna Bolton

Feb. 26: Tetzaveh ..... Medina Roy  
& Gloria Avner

March 5: Ki Tisa.....Steve Steinbock

March 12: Vayakhel–Pekudei..... Laurie Blum

March 19: ..... Steve Hartz

March 26: Tzav ..... Ken Atlas

# ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

**BOOKPLATES** for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-687-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto: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, 305-587-7429, 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 Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at [hippiejap@hotmail.com](mailto:hippiejap@hotmail.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.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES & ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

### NOVEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021

#### Yahrzeit

	In Memory/Honor of
Rosalyn Kofler	Sam Kofler
Marshall & Myra Kaplan	Janet Kaplan
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	Chuck Margolis
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	Harris Warren
Hermine Taramona	Norma Robinson
Joan Boruszak	Julius Kohlenbrener
Nancy Cohn	David Cohn
Adam & Judy Starr	Hedy Kopecky
Libby Shapiro	Joseph Shapiro
Marilyn Rapp	Shelby Strean
	Russ Rolnick
Larry & Dorothy Wolfe	Adele Bayer
Nadine Thompson	Sheldon Paul Frankel
Donna Forst	Leo Forst
Lillian Tallent	Morris Estrin
Marshall & Myra Kaplan	David M Kaplan
Randy & Eileen Kominsky	Harry Stoler
Gerri & Frank Emkey	Nathan Weisberg
	Robert Kinney

#### Tzeddakah

Ellen Ecker & Barry Neumann    Keys to be the Change

#### Book Plate

Barney Coltman    Robert Coltman

#### Meditation Garden

Stephen Steinbock    Karen Hayhurst  
Stephen Steinbock    Herbert Feder

#### Unrestricted

Susan Ellner  
Ken, Jill, Eric & Justin Swartz    George Swartz's  
90th birthday

Anonymous

Bill & Donna Bolton

Meredith Cline

Arthur Plutzer

Carl Roy

In Memory of Pauline Roller,  
Al Roller & Joel Pollack  
In Honor of Linda Pollack

#### SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

##### Oneg Sponsorship

Steve & Amelia Kasinof	Anniversary
Terry Willner-Tainow	Health & Happiness
Jane Friedman	Birthday of Dad & Sister
Alfred & Sylvia Rimm	Anniversary
Erica Lieberman-Garrett	Birthdays of Erica & Ron
Gloria Avner	Memory of Bea Avner
Beth Horowitz	Birthday
Beth Hayden	Birthday
Jane Friedman	Harry Friedman's Birthday
Rita Conklin	Rita's Birthday
Patricia Isenberg	Birthday of Hannah Feig
Medina Roy	Memory of Carl Roy
Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum	Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Stross
Joyce Peckman	March Birthdays of Grandchildren
Jane Friedman	Jane's Birthday

##### Dinners

Linda Pollack	Hanukkah
Michael & Lorena Kaufman	Future Dinner
Kasinof, Steve & Amelia	Future Dinner

##### Leaves on Tree of Life

Jan Price	Chanock Shiloh, M. Arlene Hess, Raymond K. Hess Jean B. Price Jean B. Price II
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## CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED

### Tzedakah

Lynn Nobil

### Yizkor

Jan Price

Max Finklestein & Janis Remer

### Other

Susan Ellner

### Unrestricted

Susan Ellner

Ken, Jill, Eric & Justin Swartz      George Swartz's  
90th Birthday

### MATCHING FUND

Steve & Jan Hartz

Stephen Steinbock      Meditation Garden

Gloria Avner      Alex & Bea Avner

Richard & Mindy Agler

Donna & Bill Bolton

Joyce Peckman      Tikkun Olam–Vegetable Garden

Linda Kaplan

Susan Ellner

Erica Lieberman–Garrett

Linda Pollack

Michael J Marks Foundation

Linda Perloff

Stan & Jenny Margulies

Adam & Judy Starr

Marc Grobman      Hidalgo Sr. & Elpidio Luis Hidalgo, Jr.

Bernie Ginsberg

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Jerrold & Roos–Mary Benowitz

Stuart & Geri Smith

Hanna David

Joni Sages–Dandrea & Robert Dandrea      Lola Rosenberg

Beth Ann Cohen Williams

Darryl & Kim Youngblood

Elaine Schulberg

Medina Roy

### 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.

## February Birthdays

1st.....	Libby Shapiro	13th .....	David Levi
1st.....	Roy Pollack	13th .....	Hannah David
2nd.....	Jaxson Brandon Lebofsky	13th .....	Jerrold Benowitz
3rd .....	Beth Horowitz	15th .....	Judith Weber
5th .....	Rebecca Smith	18th .....	Beth Hayden
6th .....	Evan Harvey	18th .....	Evan Daddona
7th .....	Erica Lieberman-Garrett	22nd.....	Harry Friedman
7th .....	Larry Jacobs	22nd.....	Tomar Gross
8th .....	Devin Parker Morris	23rd .....	Sienna Rose Lebofsky
9th .....	Linda Pincus	24th .....	Muriel Swartz
9th .....	Ron Garrett	24th .....	Suzie Greenman
9th .....	Rosemary Barefoot	25th .....	Rita Conklin
12th .....	Johnny Knowles	26th .....	John D. Schur
12th .....	Paul Roberts		

## March Birthdays

1st.....	Sasha Dutton	16th .....	Steven Nobil
2nd.....	Nadine Thompson	17th .....	Daniel Friedman
3rd .....	Stephen Steinbock	19th .....	Michelle Palacino
5th .....	Annie James Brennan	20th .....	Janet Palacino
7th .....	Hannah Feig	20th .....	Susan Sachs
7th .....	Toby Goldfinger	21st.....	Barbara A. Calev
8th .....	Rita Rzepka	21st.....	James Jr. Nobil
10th .....	Kate Horowitz	21st.....	Joseph Palacino
10th .....	Thomas Davis Smith	23rd .....	Ken Atlas
11th .....	Bryan Schur	25th .....	Joe Gould
11th .....	Sandy Yankow	25th .....	Stephanie Coeurjoly
12th .....	Barbara Herson	25th .....	Sylvia Berman
12th .....	Heath Greenbaum	26th .....	Anna Verity Greenbaum
12th .....	Oceana Gross	27th .....	Sarah Hesterman-Kutz
13th .....	Ira Stein	30th .....	Chaplain Roger Dieckhaus
14th .....	Jenna Lane	30th .....	David VanArtsdalen
15th .....	Allan Boruszak	30th .....	Lee Schur
15th .....	Johanna Willner	31st.....	Jane Friedman
15th .....	Maria Cartagena	31st.....	Madison Bloom
16th .....	Jeff Margulies	31st.....	Sari Eliz. Goldstein
16th .....	Natalie Hope Markowitz		

## March Anniversaries

1st	Jerry & Sheila Olsen .....	62	16th	Frank & Gerri Emkey.....	13
2nd	Joe Gould & Marla Berenson .....	25	22nd	David & Patti Gross.....	24
7th	Joseph & Susan Sachs .....	56	24th	Joel & Toby Bofshever.....	53
8th	Adam & Judy Starr		30th	Jeff & Cheryl Margulies	



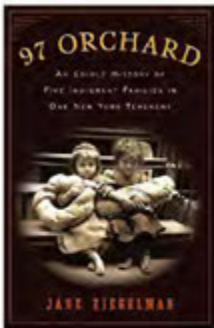
## Sisterhood Book Club

~ Books and dates for the coming three months ~  
Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom  
until further notice ~

January 25, 2021 ~ *97 Orchard* by Jane Ziegelman

February 22, 2021 ~ *Eternal Life* by Dara Horn

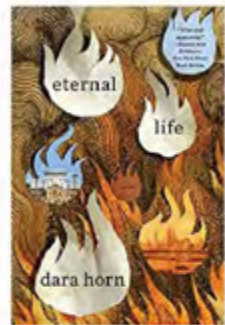
March 29, 2021 ~ *All Who Go Do Not Return* by Sholem Deen



Unique narrative of  
New York's immigrant  
culture



A moving and revealing  
exploration of Hasidic life, and  
one man's struggles with faith,  
family, and community



What would it really  
mean to live forever?

RSVP and more information - Joyce Peckman

[joycepeckman@gmail.com](mailto:joycepeckman@gmail.com)

Email Joyce to let her know you will be attending so she can send you an  
invitation to Zoom.

## SISTERHOOD

Beth Hayden



**S**isterhood met on January 3rd to elect officers and discuss a number of upcoming events. **Sisterhood is in urgent need of a Recording Secretary.** If you think you could fill that position, please let me know. We will all be available to help and answer any questions you may have. Sisterhood will meet again (virtually) on February 7th at 10 AM in order to install officers and update our Pesach plans.

Among the items discussed at Sisterhood's January meeting were the Women's Seder, the Community Seder, the possibility of drive through take-out meals from the KJCC on holidays and possibly monthly on a selected Shabbat. Linda Pollack's sister, Lani Moss, was a guest at our virtual meeting and explained how her temple has handled drive through take-out meals. Because of Covid-19, Sisterhood will not undertake a Women's Seder this year, however we do plan to offer a virtual First-Night Seder to which you are all invited. Please join us. The first Seder will be held on March 27th. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information as our plans solidify.

Prior to a virtual Purim party, Jane Friedman will conduct a virtual workshop on February 24th at 2 PM on how to make Hamentaschen. More information will be forthcoming in the President's announcements as to the materials needed in order to participate in the workshop.

Meanwhile, a small but dedicated group of volunteers have made great progress toward publishing a KJCC Sisterhood Cookbook. We have had many contributors from our membership, both near and far away, we have three gentlemen contributors, and a couple of people who are not KJCC members but who are friends of KJCC members and wanted to contribute. Front and back cover designs have been chosen – many thanks to Randy Klein-Gross for her help and thanks to David Gross for his wonderful photography. Linda Pollack has been nothing short of heroic in entering all these recipes in the required publisher's on-line program. Many thanks also to Donna Bolton and Susan Roberts who have given tirelessly of their time and efforts. Thanks to Laurie

Blum for her phone calls and reminders that really brought recipes rolling in. We hope to send the book to print by the end of February. So if you are looking for a Pesach gift or some outstanding Pesach recipes – you will want to pick up a copy of our new cookbook entitled "Recipes from the Rock – Favorite Recipes from the KJCC Sisterhood".

This has been a long, tough haul for all of us as we have quarantined ourselves because of Covid-19. But the end is in sight. We have two vaccines available and a third on its way. Stay strong and be cautious. Now is not the time to slip up or to throw caution to the wind. B'ezrat haShem we will be together again in this new year. Wishing you all health and happiness.

B'shalom, Beth ◇

### Oneg Sponsors

- Feb. 5 Erica Lieberman-Garrett**  
Birthdays of Erica & Ron
- Feb. 5 Gloria Avner**  
Memory of Bea Avner
- Feb. 5 Beth Horowitz**  
Birthday
- Feb. 12 Beth Hayden**  
Birthday
- Feb. 19 Jane Friedman**  
Harry Friedman's birthday
- Feb. 26 Rita Conklin**  
Birthday
- Mar. 5 Patricia Isenberg**  
Birthday of Hannah Feig
- Mar. 12 Medina Roy**  
Memory of Carl Roy
- Mar. 19 Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum**  
Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Stross
- Mar. 26 Joyce Peckman**  
March Grandchildren Birthdays
- Mar. 26 Jane Friedman**  
Birthday

# Keys Jewish Community Center



Adult Ed Presentation

## Meditation 101 with Mindy Agler, LMHC

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021 ~ 7:30 p.m.**

**This class will offer opportunities to:**

- **Share any past experiences you've had with meditation**
- **Learn about different meditation techniques**
- **Develop a personal practice that will include your favorite Jewish ritual**

Ms. Agler received a BA in Psychology from Barnard College, NYC, in 1978, and her Master's degree in counseling from Florida Atlantic University in 2001. She has experience working in both inpatient and outpatient settings, and had a private practice in Boca Raton, FL from 2005-2012. She has been a member of the Task Force on Addiction and Recovery of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and has worked with Faith Partners of St. Paul, MN, to promote addiction recovery and education to religious institutions. Ms. Agler is committed to helping individuals facing addiction, trauma, grief, and mental health issues. She relocated to Tavernier, FL, in the Florida Keys, in 2012, where she established a private practice, and continues to provide online services to Florida residents since her move to San Diego, CA in September 2020.

For further information contact  
Adult Ed Chairman Beth Hayden  
[hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net](mailto:hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net)

Zoom invitations will be sent out  
prior to the presentation..

# *In Memoriam – February 2021*

**Sue Steinberg**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

**Joshua Daniel Blitzter**

By Murray Blitzter & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Marvin Galanty**

By Marc Bloom

**Eve Greenstein**

By Barnett O. Coltman

**Harry Kaplan**

By Marsha Garrettson

**Robert Greenbaum**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

**Archie Zacks**

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

**Lou Roazen**

By Sylvia Berman

**Judy Strumer Hartman**

By Murray Blitzter & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Sylvia Chait Weiner**

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

**Nathan Weisberg**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Rose Gilson**

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

**Ilona Ban**

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

**Ida Ratchik**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

**Robert Berman**

By Sylvia Berman

**Mathew Strumor**

By Murray Blitzter & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Sylvia Weiner**

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

**Robert Kinney**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Charles Gilson**

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

**Nella Gross**

By Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross

**Fannie Phillips**

By Patricia Isenberg

**Pinchas Kamely**

By Yardena Kamely

**Luba Tuchman**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Sara J. Cohen**

By Lynn Nobil

**Malka Frank**

By Linda Pollack

**John A. Schur**

By Lee Schur

**Miriam Blinder**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

**Sally Sussman**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Irving Stockser**

By Sandy Kaplan

**Marian Rose Klimpl**

By Michael Klimpl

**Irene Nobil**

By Lynn Nobil

**Maria Quesada**

By Orlando Quesada

**Isadore Seder**

By Jules & Nettie Seder

**Sarah Felder**

By Stuart & Geri Smith

**Sara J. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Monroe (Monty) Kaplan**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Oscar Margulies**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

**William Pollack**

By Linda Pollack

**Bianka Kirschenbaum**

By Medina Roy

**Ida Seder**

By Jules & Nettie Seder

**Mr. Harry Miller**

By Shirley Stein

**Ann R. Kapulskey**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Abe M. Reider**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Samuel Wolfe**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

**Herbert Frankel**

By Nadine Thompson

**Sydney Zinner**

By Donald Zinner

**Morris Feinberg**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

# *In Memoriam – March 2021*

**Harvey Roazen**

By Sylvia Berman

**Robert Kohlenbrener**

By Joan Boruszak

**Faye Klein**

By Hanna David

**Arlene R. Brenner**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

**Rachamim Levy**

By Yardena Kamely

**Joseph Krissel**

By Michael Krissel

**Annie Kleinfeldt Bernstein**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Jean Blumenfeld**

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

**Louis Weinstein**

By Rita Bromwich

**Leroy Weisberg**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Anna Horn**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

**Gertrude F. Kaplan**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Shirley R. Krissel**

By Michael Krissel

**Janet Blum**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Audrey Pearlman**

By William & Donna Bolton

**Mark Hitzig**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Maxine Kaplan**

By Marsha Garrettson

**Harry Phillips**

By Patricia Isenberg

**Frank Kaplan**

By Sandy Kaplan

**Samual Lieberman**

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Joseph Kaufman**

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

**Louis Weinstein**

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

**Denise Moss**

By Linda Pollack

**Dolores Feldman**

By Jeffrey Schocket

**Esther Schur**

By Lee Schur

**Mrs. Anne Miller**

By Shirley Stein

**Ida Tallent**

By Lillian Tallent

**Alice Weber**

By Judith Weber

**Dorothy Ross**

By Joyce Peckman

**Cissie Rose Lang**

By Skip Rose

**Nate Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Louis S. Smith**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

**Theresa Steinbock**

By Stephen Steinbock

**Anne Temkin**

By Robert Temkin

**Deborah Eichler**

By Judith Weber

**David Harvey**

By Linda Perloff

**Leslie Allen Sachs**

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

**Sondra Lundy**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Louise Starr**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Gilda Tainow**

By Jon S. Tainow &  
Terry Willner-Tainow

**Larry Ira Frankel**

By Nadine Thompson

**David C. Willner**

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

**Maxine Ruby Feinberg**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

**Irwin Cutler**

By Donald Zinner

**David Wernicoff**

By Donald Zinner

# Bikkur Cholim/Caring Kehilah

Joyce Peckman, Gloria Avner, and Laurie Blum continue learning through the Greater Miami Jewish Federation's Mishkan Miami's Refuat Ha'Nefesh program. Since our last Chai-Lights edition, the class has focused on understanding ourselves as well as the person we are visiting, the spiritual life of seniors, and the modalities of healing.

Joyce and Gloria have been doing more socially distanced visits with congregants while Laurie has been doing more phone visits. KJCC is so blessed to have so many caring members. You know who you are. You are doing the socially distant visiting and checking in phone calls already. Why not step up and be part of the Bikkur Cholim/Caring Kehilah Committee? We need you!!! We won't require you to do anything that you aren't comfortable with or that conflicts with your schedule. We are pleased that Susan Gordon has agreed to be part of this committee, and we'd love to also include you. If you are interested, please contact Laurie at [blum1212@gmail.com](mailto:blum1212@gmail.com) or 414-698-5647. Perhaps you know of someone who would welcome an occasional call or visit. Perhaps you might benefit from an occasional call or visit. Don't be shy. KJCC is family. If the quarantine or something else has you seeking more communication with the rest of the world, again, please let Laurie know. The committee won't share your personal circumstance with the congregation unless you specifically want us to. Tell us you'd like a weekly call; we can make sure one of our committee members checks in with you. Only the committee needs to know. And of course, KJCC offers its weekly Tea Time & Chat on Mondays at 2 PM via Zoom.

It's a great place to hang out with members and share as much as you are comfortable with or just listen.

We are pleased to say that KJCC's first healing service was held on January 29, 2021. It was a beautiful well attended service. This service while welcoming in and honoring Shabbat and acknowledging the Tu B'shevat holiday that occurred the day before, also offered some much needed healing for the attendees as well as the world. Laurie plans to do another healing service on March 12th and would welcome your feedback. What did you like and didn't like? What would you like to see/hear more of and less of? Please let her know at the email or phone number above. ♦



# **KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

## **SISTERHOOD**

### **Hamentaschen Workshop**



**Wednesday March 24, 2021 2:00 p.m.**

Sisterhood invites all KJCC members, men as well as women, to join in the making of our favorite Purim dessert: Hamantaschen!!!

Bring your own wine and cheese and crackers and we will enjoy a happy hour hamantaschen bake.

Jane Friedman will lead us in the making of these scrumptious morsels. We will publish information prior to the session telling you what supplies you will need to have on hand, and of course we will send you the Zoom link as well.



# PURIM Around the World

We will all be celebrating Purim a little differently this year, on screen and maybe not as well-costumed as in previous years. Masks won't seem so special. But here are some fun glimpses into our favorite Megillah celebrations around the world in other times and cultures:

**FRANCE** – Children would write Haman's name on smooth stones, and strike them together during the Megillah reading whenever Haman's name was mentioned, in order to erase it: "I shall surely wipe out the memory of Amalek."

**BUKHARA UZBEKISTAN** – Since the ground would usually be covered with snow at Purim time, a large "Snow-Haman," with funny-shaped torso and long, thick legs, eyes of charcoal and carrot nose, was created near the synagogue. After the meal, the whole community would gather around it and make a fire. They would stand and watch Haman melt in the heat and disappear, singing until he was completely gone.

**AFGHANISTAN** – Children would draw pictures of Haman on planks, and during the Megillah reading, the planks were thrown to the ground and trampled on. Wooden gloves, a kind of wooden sandal, would be held in the hands and clapped together, making a loud noise.

**PERSIA** – One of the wealthy men of the community would host a huge Purim feast in his home for the whole congregation. In the courtyard a large and ridiculous Haman effigy would be hung on a pole. During the meal, all would march out and watch the effigy being burned, while shouting, "May the memory of Amalek be erased!" As the fire went out, the children took turns jumping over the coals, just as they did during celebrations in Talmudic times.

**CAIRO** – Revelers would take to the streets in costume, young and old alike. Most went about on donkeys who were dyed in stripes and patterns, or who also wore costumes. In the synagogue, every person was given a candle to light and hold during the reading of the Megillah. Beggars would take advantage of the community being all in one place, and would seldom be refused. Giving *tzedakah* is one of Purim's mitzvot after all.

**MINSK (White Russia)** – Congregants would show their creativity during the Megillah reading and growl like bears, roar like lions, bark like dogs and bleat like goats to block out the name of Haman the Evil.

**And what will we do here in on our string of skinny tropical islands?** We will eat our homemade *Hamantaschen* (created under Jane Friedman's and Nettie Seder's guidance), pretending they are Haman's hats or ears or pockets and drown out the hated villain's name with homemade noisemaker groggers. (Think a soup can filled with stones or dried black beans). Let's make some baskets filled with food too, and bring them to a neighbor. Satisfy the mitzvah of *Shalach Manot*. *Drink up and celebrate one more near miss for the Jewish people. Thank you Esther and Mordechai and all who stand up to attempts at genocide. Chag Sameach!* ◇



# Keys Jewish Community Center

Adult Ed Program

**LUNCH (bring your own)**

**AND LEARN (with our mispachah)**

An Opportunity to Learn

THE DAVID STUDY

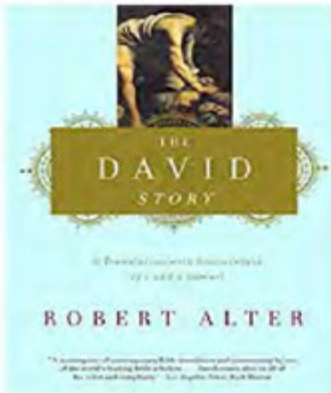
with Rabbi Richard Agler

Saturday, February 13, 2021, 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 13, 2021, 12:30 p.m.



Rabbi Agler has been our High Holiday leader for eight 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 Emeritus, will add new spice to the mix. Though we will no longer have a Shabbat morning service, we will continue our Torah study and return to discussing the David Saga. 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!"



*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?"*

This translation by Robert Alter is a particularly good one and can be purchased used and inexpensively at Amazon.

## 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.*

*Join us for the learning—and the drama—of this incredibly fascinating biblical history!*

Email Beth Hayden, Adult Ed Chairperson, [hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net](mailto:hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net), before the session date to let her know you will be attending and she will send you an invitation to Zoom.

## PHOTO GALLERY



Meet Judy Greenman's granddaughter, daughter of Kelly and Gadi. Lev - which means 'heart' in Hebrew - not only further connects our daughter's name to Orit, but also connects to her heritage in Israel, to her cousins who have the same middle name, and to the history of the Jewish state, where the original name was formed. The name we chose, and the name that chose us, for our daughter is Orli Lev Rouache.

Orli was chosen to honor and remember Gadi's mother Orit Lev, who was taken from us too soon after a 15 year battle with cancer. Orit, in Hebrew, means 'little light' and Orli means 'my light' or 'light of mine.'

Orit embodied compassion, love, strength and so many other values that we hope for our daughter to embrace and live by. Gadi's poem (full version attached) captures the essence of Orit that we hope to pass along:

She'd take an interest in everyone, She'd treat them like her own  
She taught us all to be confident, To be kind and polite  
To Treat the world like family, Stay up and talk all night  
She'd encourage you to be opinionated, Long as you keep an open mind  
To pursue knowledge, justice, happiness, however you define,  
To love the earth and each other, As the core of the divine

The David Saga Continues.  
Rabbi Agler recommends  
this book.



### MOLLY BLOOM WINS SPECIAL HONOR

"This will forever be at the top of my greatest accomplishments list, 2020-2021 Inclusion Teacher of the Year! I am so lucky to work along side such an amazing group of educators that have recognized the work that I do with our kiddos!"



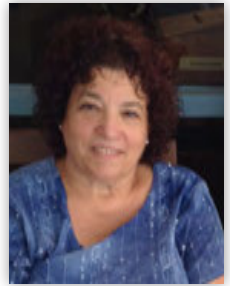
KJCC wants to encourage our members to help families with young children in desperate need of adequate nourishment. Emily Harper, the school Social Worker in charge of identifying needy families from Key Largo School to Plantation Key School, is the liaison between the schools, the families and the organization “Keys to Be the Change.” A generous KJCC member contacted our Tikkun Olam Committee (Repair the World) and donated \$150 to purchase a Publix gift card. Here Susan is presenting the card to Emily, who will do the shopping and deliver the food. If you are moved to participate in this worthy cause, call Susan Gordon at (305) 766-3585.

Joyce’s family visited her and had the unforgettable experience of being guided by Susan Gordon through the mangrove trails.



## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



### Stand with Israel...Even Stuck in Traffic

Daniel Ackerman, a graphic designer from Boca Raton, won a contest to create a specialty license plate saying "Florida Stands with Israel." The blue, white and orange design was selected from some 100 submissions in a competition sponsored by the Israel-American Council. A bipartisan slate of four lawmakers, along with Gabe Groisman, the mayor of Bal Harbor, served as the judges. Ackerman said, "The concept focuses on Florida's state flower, the orange blossom. The beauty of this flower, contrasted against the Star of David in the form of a tropical leaf, represents the Florida-Israel relationship and the fruit this partnership bears, ultimately benefiting both states. The symbol interacts with the two waves on top and bottom giving nod to the Israeli flag, Florida's tourist destinations, and Israel's deserts in bloom." The plate will go into production as soon as 3,000 applicants have paid for presale vouchers. Some of the proceeds will go to Hatzalah of Miami-Dade, an organization of volunteer paramedics. ([www.sun-sentinel.com](http://www.sun-sentinel.com), 12-17-20)

### Celebrating Julius Rosenwald

In December, Congress passed an act that will create a path toward a national park named for Julius Rosenwald, the Jewish philanthropist who founded thousands of schools for African-American children neglected by their local public school systems. The legislation was initiated by Senator Dick Durbin and Representative Danny Davis, both Democrats from Illinois, where Rosenwald lived, and Representative Steve Cohen, Jewish Democrat from Tennessee, where a number of the Rosenwald schools were located. The son of Jewish immigrants from Germany, Rosenwald was president of the Sears, Roebuck department store chain. He died in 1932. The text of the legislation reads, in part, "the embodiment of the Jewish concept of 'tzedakah,' righteousness and charity, Rosenwald used his fortune for numerous philanthropic activities, particularly to enhance the lives of African-

Americans." Rosenwald, with the help of Booker T. Washington, helped establish 5,300 of what became known as "Rosenwald Schools" in fifteen states in the American south. The schools sought to correct the neglect that segregated schools suffered under Jim Crow. The bill requires the Interior secretary to study Rosenwald's legacy and establish where a national park honoring him would be appropriate. This park would be the first named for a Jewish American. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 12-22-20)

### A First for Israel

A young woman from Boston who decided against a medical career in the United States has become the first American female Israeli Air Force (IAF) pilot. Twenty-one-year-old Lt. O – Israel's military censors do not allow her given name to be published – was one of only two female pilots to complete the grueling three-year course. An Israeli native who was raised in the United States, she was trained to fly a Boeing 707. Her role will consist of aerial refueling operations and hauling cargo, including medical supplies needed for the COVID-19 pandemic. She is following in the footsteps of her father Boaz, a longtime IAF navigator before moving to the U.S. Her mother Naomi worked as a Delta flight attendant for many years following her service as an IDF communications officer. Naomi now works for the charitable group Friends of the Israel Defense Forces. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 12-23-20)

### His Name's Been Removed

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recently announced that it will rename its most prestigious award, currently named after Abraham Flexner (1866-1959), a Jewish educator called the "father" of modern medical education, in an effort to take a stand against racism and sexism. Flexner authored "Medical Education in the United States and Canada," known better as the "Flexner

Report.” The report called for major reforms to medical education. He believed that medical schools should raise their admissions standards, follow the scientific method and receive oversight from state boards. The model he created is still widely used today: two years of medical education followed by two years of clinical training. But in the report which was published in 1910, Flexner wrote that while women were newly free to enter the profession, “they show a decreasing inclination to enter it,” claiming what he perceived as “women’s obvious limitations.” He also wrote that Black people’s “particular ignorance” should not be taken advantage of and that “a well-taught Negro sanitarian will be immensely useful; an essentially untrained negro wearing an MD degree is dangerous.” Even though Flexner’s report resulted in more rigorous standards for medical schools and improved medical education, it caused 89 of the original 155 schools to close. Only two of the seven Black medical schools survived. These school closures greatly limited access and inclusion for women and Blacks wishing to enter the field. The award is being renamed the AAMC Award for Excellence in Medical Education. “Just as we recognize the positive impact that Flexner had on modern medical education, we also can no longer ignore the negative repercussions of Flexner’s words and work,” AAMC’s chief medical education officer said. ([www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com), 11-25-20)

### **New Research Project for Breast Cancer Detection**

Dr. Albert Grinshpun, of Jerusalem’s Hadassah University Hospital, is working on a new approach for early detection of breast cancer. Every day, women worldwide get mammograms and many are then sent for biopsies to confirm or rule out the presence of breast cancer. Grinshpun is looking to change the painful, anxiety-filled experience which often doesn’t return accurate results. His goal is “to perfect a universal liquid biopsy approach to early detection of circulating, cell-free DNA in breast cancer patients long before the cancer can spread and threaten their lives.” A liquid biopsy typically examines the blood for evidence of cancer, allowing researchers to isolate genetic material known as cfDNA, circulating cell-free DNA from bodily fluids. The procedure detects DNA in the blood from tumor tissue. Grinshpun began a new three-year research project in September financed by the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) and Conquer Cancer, which joined forces with ICRF. “...Our goal is not to avoid mammography but to avoid unnecessary biopsies,” Grinshpun said. ([www.thejewishnews.com](http://www.thejewishnews.com), 11-26-20)

### **Biden’s Jewish Appointments: Minyan-Plus**

Here is a list of Jewish officials who have been appointed by President Joe Biden:

1. Ronald Klain: White House Chief of Staff
2. Merrick Garland: Attorney General
3. Anthony Blinken: Secretary of State
4. Wendy Sherman: Deputy Secretary of State
5. Alejandro Mayorkas: Director of HomelandSecurity
6. Avril Haines: Director of National Intelligence (Biden’s first Cabinet pick and first woman to lead the intelligence community.
7. Janet Yellen: Treasury Secretary (and first woman to hold this office)
8. David Cohen: Deputy Director of the CIA.
9. Anne Neuberger: National Security Agency, Cybersecurity Director
10. Jeff Zients: Head of Biden’s COVID-19 team
11. Rochelle P. Walensky: Director of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
12. Jared Bernstein: Member of Council of Economic Advisors
13. Jessica Rosenworcel: Acting Chair of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
14. Stephanie Pollack: Deputy Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration
15. Eric Lander: Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy
16. Rachel Levine: Deputy Health Secretary (and first known transgender person to be nominated for a position that requires Senate confirmation.

Chuck Schumer: Senate Majority Leader. Schumer is now the highest-ranking elected Jewish official ever. He was of course not appointed by Biden but became the Senate Majority Leader after three new democrats were sworn into office on January 20th. We all know about the Second Gentleman; Doug Emhoff, married to Kamala Harris, the first-ever woman to serve as Vice President of the United States. He is the first-ever Jewish (or non-Jewish, for that matter) “Second Gentleman.”

And President Joe Biden himself? All three of his children married into Jewish families. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 1-20-21)

### **In Memoriam**

• Jack Steinberger, the Jewish physicist who shared the 1988 Nobel Prize in Physics with two other Jewish colleagues, died in December. He was 99. The three researchers received the award for their discoveries about the neutrino, the world’s smallest atomic particle. Born Hans Jakob Steinberger, he was the son of a cantor in the small Jewish community

in Bad Kissengen, in Bavaria, Germany. His family immigrated to the U.S. in 1934. (We all know the reason.) Dr. Steinberger studied and worked with Enrico Fermi and J. Robert Oppenheimer, two of the 20th century's leading physicists. Throughout his career, Steinberger refused to do research for building weapons. After the war, he worked with Melvin Schwartz and Leon Lederman in the 1950s and 60s. Together they created a beam of neutrinos that significantly furthered the study of these small particles. In addition, it opened up the study of the "so-called weak interaction – one of physics' four main forces, along with gravitation, electromagnetism and the strong interaction, which holds the parts of an atom together." The team also discovered that there are many kinds of neutrinos. At the time of the award, the Nobel committee said the trio "opened entirely new opportunities for research into the innermost structure and dynamics of matter." ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 12-18-20)

- Sheldon Adelson, Jewish-American billionaire casino magnate, major donor to the Republican party and a strong supporter of Israel, died at the age of 87. He made his fortune by operating casinos around the world. Adelson used his wealth to dramatically influence politics in both Israel and the United States. But his political spending was highly criticized in both countries and became a symbol of how "big money" affected politics, especially in 2011, a year after the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in "Citizens United" made it easier for billionaires to spend unlimited amounts of money on political campaigns. Mr. Adelson was a generous benefactor to many charitable causes, particularly those involving medical research – many run by his Israeli-born wife Dr. Miriam Adelson, an addiction expert. Organizations promoting pro-Israel and Jewish heritage education also benefitted greatly from his philanthropy. He has donated \$127 million to Birthright, the ten-day program that brings young Jews on free, organized trips to Israel since 2007. And he was a major backer of Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Adelson was born in Dorchester, a Boston neighborhood he termed Boston's "Jewish Ghetto." His father was from Lithuania and worked as a cabdriver. He started working when he was 12, borrowing money from his uncle to buy a newspaper corner in Boston. In the 1950s, he created dozens of business ventures, including selling vending machines, which he claimed made him a millionaire by the time he was 30. He became one of the

richest people in the United States and among the 20 richest in the world. In 2018, Adelson was worth close to \$36 billion. In 2007, he created the Israeli daily newspaper, Israel Hayom (Israel Today). The free daily paper was unquestionably supportive of Netanyahu and became the country's most widely circulated newspaper. As of 2014, Adelson had poured some \$200 million into the papers' operations and attempted to stifle outlets critical of Netanyahu. In American politics, Adelson has been one of the Republican party's most prominent megadonors in recent election cycles. He donated some \$100 million to Mitt Romney's attempt to defeat Barack Obama in 2012. He was the largest donor to Donald Trump's 2016 presidential bid, donating \$25 million, as well as the nation's biggest giver in the 2012 election, donating nearly \$93 million. Adelson was also a major backer of the Republican Jewish Coalition and was a significant funder of AIPAC, the Israel lobby. But in the early 2000s, he shifted his support to the Israeli-American Council, a more conservative pro-Israel organization because he felt AIPAC's positions on the Palestinian issues were too moderate. The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), a right-wing pro-Israel group, also received huge donations from Adelson. ([www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com), 1-12-21)

### Did You Know...

- Rutgers University will name a residence hall after the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Ginsburg taught classes on women's rights and gender equality at Rutgers law school from 1963 to 1972. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 12-21-20)
- When newly elected Senator Jon Ossoff, the first Jewish senator from Georgia, took the oath of office on January 20th, he was holding a book of Hebrew scripture once owned by Rabbi Jacob Rothschild, whose synagogue building had been bombed in 1958 by white supremacists. The Hebrew Benevolent Congregation Temple in Atlanta sustained massive damage from the explosions, but luckily, no one was injured. Rabbi Rothschild was a prominent civil rights movement supporter. At the same time during his swearing-in, Ossoff, 33, had copies of the manifests from the ships that brought his great-grandparents to the United States from Eastern Europe in his jacket pocket. ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 1-21-21 and [www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 1-21-21) ◇

# KJCC Sisterhood

Invites You via Zoom to our

**First Night**

## Passover Seder

Saturday, Motzei Shabbat

March 27, 2021, 6:00 p.m.



Happy Passover ~ Chag Sameach

Watch for updated information in the  
President's weekly announcements.

# "Avadim Hayinu, Hayinu": Once We Were Slaves Pesach and the 2021 Path to Freedom

by Gloria Avner

In ordinary times, come the beginning of Spring (this year, think March 27th), we and nearly every other Jew in the world would be sitting around a big laden table with family and friends, singing the words at the heart of the Passover Seder: "Once we were slaves. Now we are free people." We'd be holding the celebration of our freedom in the intimate setting of our homes. We'd invite strangers to share our bounty, our pleasure and recollection of our pain. Even the poorest man on Passover is commanded to relish the symbols of freedom, to recline on pillows, a free man as he dines, and to partake of four cups of wine as well as ceremonial food. This year, like last, will be different. This year our sharing will be facilitated by a "cloud" and a technological screen device. Zoom rooms will displace our social halls, sanctuaries and dining rooms.

Fortunately, even more important than the food and the symbols themselves, is our story. We are commanded to tell the tale of our journey to freedom and to feel as if we are inside the story at the very moment of telling. This annual mega-ritual is not just a mandated festival. It is our super-power, responsible for our survival as a people for more than three millennia.

Are we to act "as if?" Maybe it is not a question of "acting." Maybe we are being encouraged to look at our lives today and see in what ways we are still enslaved. Maybe we are being encouraged to model our lives after our immigrant ancestors and take that very leap, fraught with fear of the unknown that they faced, having the faith that our lives will be the better for the leaping. Are we enslaved by Covid 19, by political discontent, by depression at the state of the world?

There is an understanding that not every Jew heeded God's word through Moses. In fact, some rabbis say that only twenty percent of the Jewish slaves in Egypt packed up and left when the going was good. If the understanding is that as many as 600,000 Jews did leave Egypt, it would mean that nearly as many Jews as were killed in the holocaust may have died in Egypt. Do we say, "What was wrong with them? Why didn't they go when they had a chance?" Or do we look within and understand the temptation of the known, the knowledge that you and your children will at least be fed, that you will be familiar with your abuse and abuser, rather than face the unknown perils of a harsh desert.

Could they have known God would provide manna? Only if they had faith. Even among the Jews who fled and followed Moses, there were many, weak of mind and spirit, who time and again would complain (dare I say kvetch?), longing for secure life under Pharaoh, Jews who would willingly revert to putting faith in a golden calf, the ultimate symbol of all things material.

An old poem says: "Stone walls do not a prison make. Nor iron bars a cage." We were enslaved in *Mitzrayim* (Egypt), a word that in Hebrew literally means, "a narrow hemmed in place." In English, when we are in a difficult situation, we say we're in a "tight spot." How do we get out of our tight spots? How do we break out of the iron bars we make for ourselves and enable ourselves to work not just for our own freedom but for the freedom of others, for "*tikkun olam*," repairing the world?"

Jews are very blessed. We not only have access to the wisdom of our ancestors and the support of *HaShem*, we have the energy of the Passover Season, the *Pesach* moment, to engage for our own redemption. We can use this energy as a booster shot. It will support us in inner growth, in our resolve to change old habits, our commitment to let that which does not serve us drop away. We can look at each others' faces on the zoom screen and be grateful to recite our blessings apart but together. We will sing our songs, ask our four questions and tell our stories so that all may hear. I'm not sure what we'll do about *afikomen* if we don't have children in the "house." Technically, the meal is not over until the hidden matzah is found, redeemed and share as dessert. With a little luck however (*a bisseleh mazel*), we will see Sean Kaufman, Binyamin Cartagena and Maddy Bloom's shining faces grinning out at us from the screen along with other children we will be delighted to meet, holding the napkin with the hidden treasure, eager for their reward. *Dayenu!*

Looking inward more than outward, we can take on new challenges, go beyond our need for the known and the secure. We can squirm through those tight places and reach for true freedom. We can be grateful to those who left Egypt. We can tell their story to our children and honor their immigrant bravery in the face of insecurity and the unknown by being brave ourselves with honesty, faith, and firm resolution to improve ourselves and the world. And at the end of this year's *seder*, maybe we can say with confidence: "next year in a great big room, maybe at the KJCC, hugging each other, free to live our lives without social distancing. *Dayenu! Zai Gezundt! And Chag Sameach.* ◇

# HEALING PRAYERS IN THE TIME OF COVID

Thank you to Laurie Blum who brought us these new prayers  
Published by Mlshkan Miami in: Prayers, Poems and Reflections

## • PRAYER FOR THE HEALERS •

Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen

May the One who blessed our ancestors

Bless all those who put themselves at risk to care for the sick

Physicians and nurses and orderlies, Technicians and home health aides

EMTs and pharmacists, Hospital social workers and respiratory therapists

(Please include other frontline healthcare workers. And bless especially \_\_\_\_\_)

Who navigate the unfolding dangers of the world each day, To tend to those they have sworn to help.

Bless them in their coming home and bless them in their going out. Ease their fear. Sustain them.

Source of all breath, healer of all beings,

Protect them and restore their hope. Strengthen them, that they may bring strength;

Keep them in health, that they may bring healing.

## • A PRAYER DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC •

*(part 1--to be continued next issue)*

Rabbi Leah Richman

Please Hashem, may it be Your will to save those who are struggling at this very moment to live;

we pray for a refuah shleyma--a complete healing--and that you grace them with life.

May You mercifully send a refuah shleyma to those who feel they cannot breathe, or find relief from their fevers, or whose bodies ache. For those who were already sick and for those who never thought they would ever get sick; for those who have sufficient health care and for those who are not receiving any health care--we ask for Your blessing.

We beseech you to send solace to those with anxiety- to those who already suffered from anxiety and for those who have now developed anxiety. Ease our fears about catching the virus from others, or the fear of touching surfaces and objects, or the fear of our loved ones or ourselves getting sick, or the fear we will not have enough- not enough food, water, and necessities.

Uplift the spirits of those who are suffering from depression- for those who already suffered from depression and for those who have now developed depression--for those who have become listless from missing the sunshine and outdoors, or deadened by loneliness and isolation, or whose moods have plummeted from lack of exercise, or who endure painful sadness for not being able to gather in community.

We entreat you to impart shalom bayit--household peace--to those whose family dynamics have become stressed because of constant seclusion, for those parents with children secluded at home to entertain, educate, feed, and care for, and for those who must take care of their children while working remotely. We appeal to you, Maker of Peace, to make family relationships whole amidst the sudden change in routine.

# Dedication of a Gift

## The Beiner Collection

### Antiquities from the Land of Israel

Thank you, Mindy and Rabbi Richard Agler. The collection of pottery pieces used in everyday life by our ancestors millennia ago, collected by you and then gifted to the KJCC is comfortable now in its custom-built protective showcase. It was wonderful hearing you and Judith Beiner talk back and forth about the

individual pieces.

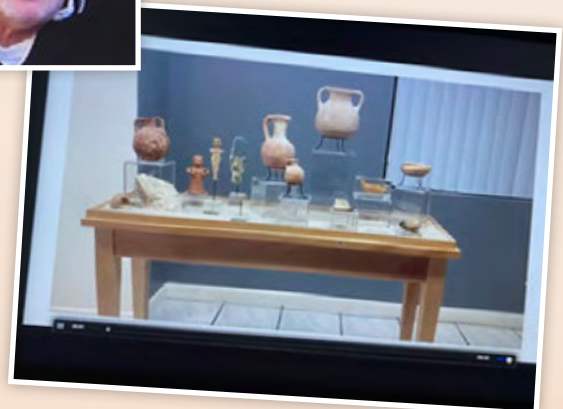
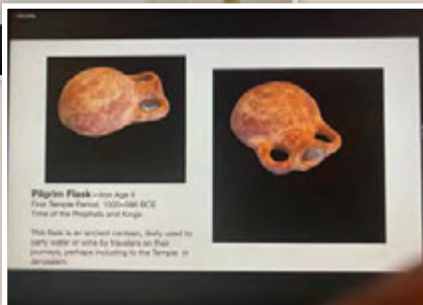
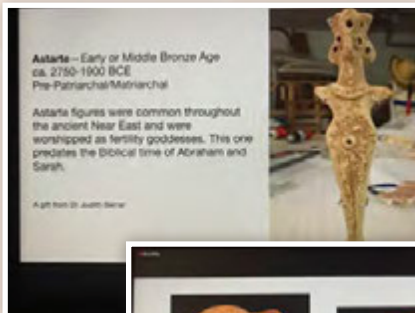
If anyone was not able to enjoy this zoom event as it happened, you'll be happy to know that the talk was recorded and you'll be able shortly, at the click of a link on our website, to enjoy the whole evening again. ◇



We had a full house for the talk and dedication and you are welcome to watch it again.



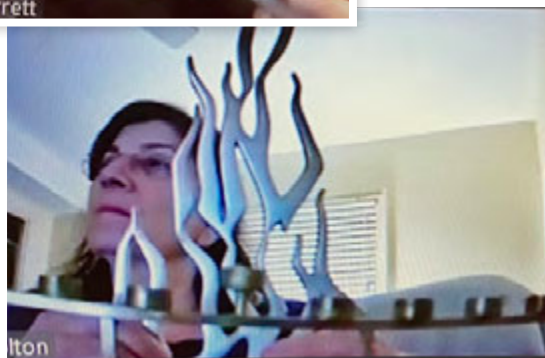
Judith Beiner, and her husband of blessed memory, were the inspiration and instigators of the collection.

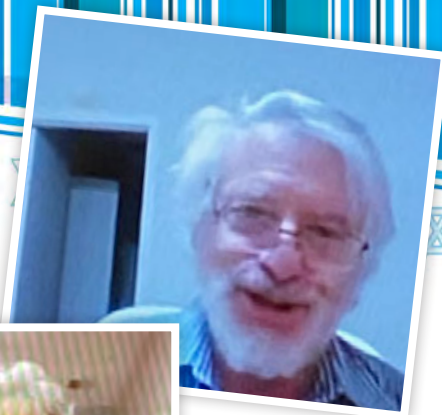


Display designed and fabricated by Marcia Kreitman, assisted by Gloria Avner

# A Look back at Chanukah

We may not have been shmoozing and feasting in the KJCC Social Hall on Latkes and all accoutrements, but we were as together for the Chanukah Chag as could be in this Covid era, two evenings in a row, showing off our latkes and eating them on the first night after singing the blessings, and then sharing our favorite family Chanukiot after erev Shabbat services the second night. How interesting that many of us had from our childhoods a few that were exactly the same, replete with lions of Judah.





Homemade potato latkes, souvganiot (jelly donuts) and a Chanukiah by Jane Friedman. Has anyone ever seen a challah Chanukiah before? Jane, you are a marvel! Your creativity knows no bounds.

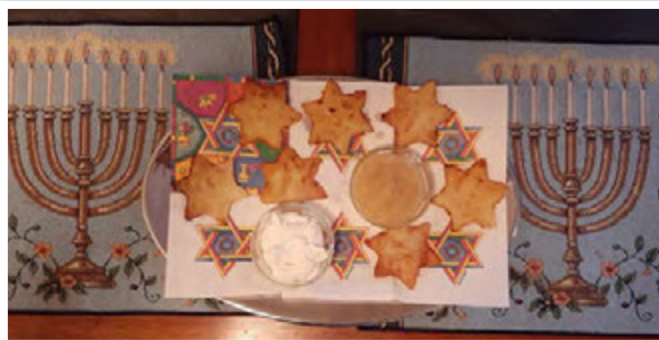
A Chanukiah in common.





Considering we could not all be in the same room, ever, we had a great time together three out of the eight nights of Chanukah. Here we are on the last night, with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal coming to us from St. Pete, getting a “d’rash” (explanation) of Chanukah and a fascinating talk, sponsored by Adult Ed, on the Age of the Universe as explicated both by science and by Judaic interpretation of Torah, including oral tradition. Lots of gematria involved. Meganumbers make events make sense. When does one day equal more than one day? When God dictates to Moses. Thank you Rabbi Ed. We eagerly await your next talk, in the spring: The Jewish Take on Reincarnation.

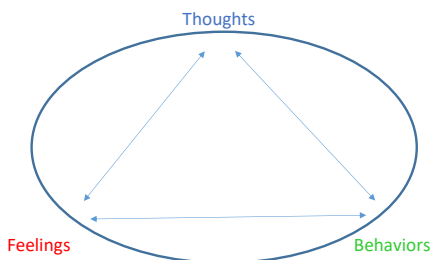
The last night.



Susan Gordon’s decorations and latkes.

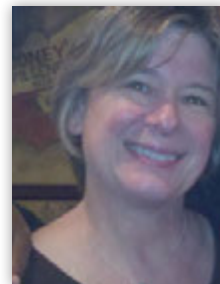
We even magaed to play dreidel on Zoom!!





## TAKE CARE: A SERIES

Mindy Agler



**F**or this issue of Chai Lights, we'll be talking about how our thoughts, feelings and behaviors interact with each other. We humans are always doing all three of these: thinking, feeling, and acting. Even when we sleep, we dream with thoughts and feelings, and we move our bodies. Each of these affects the other two, which is why the arrows are arranged the way they are in the diagram. Therefore, if we change one of them, the other two will change in response. So, how do we make those changes?

If feelings were easy to change, we wouldn't need counselors, and if behaviors were easy to change, we wouldn't need diets or support groups! So out of the three, thoughts are the easiest to change. Let's look at an example that may sound familiar to us 11 months into this pandemic.

- Thought 1: "This is too much to take, and I can't stand it anymore."
- Feelings 1: Overwhelmed, Anxious, Depressed, Hopeless, Helpless, Alone, Self-pity
- Behaviors 1: Socially isolating, even online, poor diet and sleep, poor self-care, watching too much news

What happens if we change or challenge that thought? For example:

- Thought 2: "This is a lot to take, but I can stand it a little longer. We're making progress."
- Feelings 2: Sad, Apprehensive, Less alone, Maybe a little hopeful
- Behaviors 2: Improved self-care and motivation, less isolating, watching less news

What if we stop the thought altogether? You can imagine a hand going up in front of your face, a stop sign, or a red light. Then say the word "Stop" out loud. (If you don't want anyone to hear you talking to yourself, go into the bathroom and turn on the water!) By saying the word out loud, you interrupt the thought and it has less of an impact on you. Repeat as needed!

When it's too hard to stop or reframe the

thoughts that feed the heavy emotions and self-defeating behaviors, another tool is to set aside 5 minutes every day to do nothing but worry! This allows your brain to corral those rowdy thoughts, to stop them from trampling all over your entire day. Set a timer, preferably at the same time every day, and if a non-worry thought comes up during those 5 minutes, tell it to wait its turn! For the other 23 hours and 55 minutes of every day, you have the right to tell a worry thought it needs to wait its turn, too!

Journaling is an effective way to identify self-defeating thoughts and change them. But the healthiest journaling is about gratitude. We can't deny that things are hard right now, but we owe it to ourselves to give at least as much time and space to thinking about what is right and present in our lives as we give to what is difficult and missing. You can use your phone, a pretty journal, or just a note pad, but make time at the end of every day to list 3 things you're grateful for that are specific to that day. We all know what I call the "givens:" family, friends, home, job, etc. You know what you're grateful for every day, and you can list those things at the top of the page. But, be mindful enough during your day that you can find 3 "non-givens" to add to your list. Examples might include "I talked to someone that I hadn't spoken to in a while," "I saw a bird I don't usually see," "I found a parking spot close to Publix and didn't have to walk far in the rain." You get the idea. "Gratituding" in this way has 2 benefits. One is that it makes us more mindful during the day because we have to find those 3 things! Two is that it brings balance to the time and space we are giving to our circumstances in our brain. I like to think of gratitude as an active verb, because it is something we need to practice on a daily basis.

Wishing us all healthy thoughts and attitudes of gratitude! ◇

***You are invited to the  
KJCC ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 at 11:00***

**Dear KJCC Member:**

**The KJCC Annual Meeting will take place over Zoom at 11 a.m. on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

**The primary order of business at the annual meeting is the election and installation of KJCC's officers and directors. Per the KJCC bylaws, nominations from the floor for board members can and will be accepted at the annual meeting. The president will also present the "State of KJCC" and the treasurer will present a financial report. The Board exists to serve the general membership; therefore, your attendance and participation in the Annual Meeting is important. Please join us and make your voice heard.**

**The following slate of officers was selected and approved  
at the board meeting held on January 10, 2021:**

**President:** Joyce Peckman

**Executive Vice President:** Ken Atlas

**Vice Presidents:** Gloria Avner, Susan Gordon, Michael Kaufman

**Treasurer:** Linda Kaplan

**Recording Secretary:** Laurie Blum

**Corresponding Secretary:** Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Financial Secretary:** Donna Bolton

**Directors:** Jane Friedman, Steve Hartz, Art Itkin, Randy Klein-Gross, Gary Margolis, Stan Margulies, Linda Pollack, Frank Rose, Medina Roy, Stuart Smith

Please accept this notice as your invitation to join us at the KJCC Annual Meeting. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the board, they may be nominated during the meeting. Nominees must be members in good standing and be present to accept the nomination.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Yours truly,  
*Joyce Peckman*

# Feathers and Fur:

## KJCC Companions of the Heart.

Our KJCC Community expanded in these last 9 months of life with Covid 19. We've always gotten to know our members' children, grandchildren and even some great grands, but this is the first year we've gotten familiar with and fond of their four legged and feathered friends. We look forward to seeing them at Monday afternoon check-ins, at onegs and even at services. We actually miss them when they're not around. We even like their voices and admire their personalities. Bernie Ginsberg, in particular, has become extremely fond of and bonded with Erica Lieberman-Garrett's African Grey Parrot Buddy, who has lately achieved rock star mascot status. He hasn't volunteered to lead a service yet, but it could happen.



Buddy waiting for tea time zoom and relaxing.



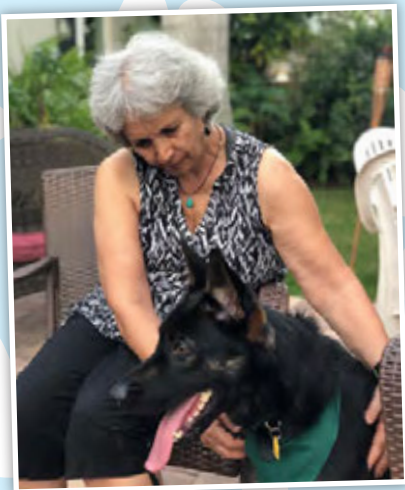
Panda Gross



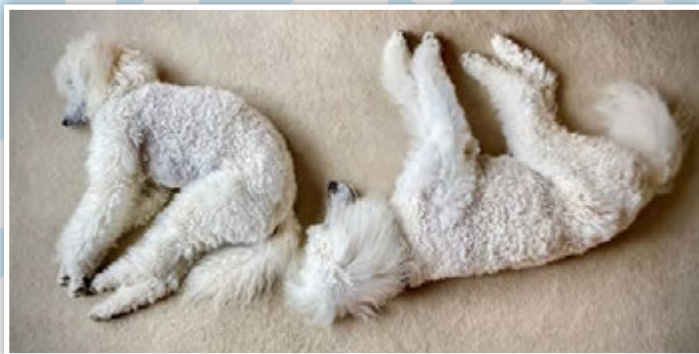
Buddy contemplates "challacide." Yes, that is a mini-challah made by Erica in the form of a parrot. Either that, or a latke. A penny for your thoughts, Buddy.



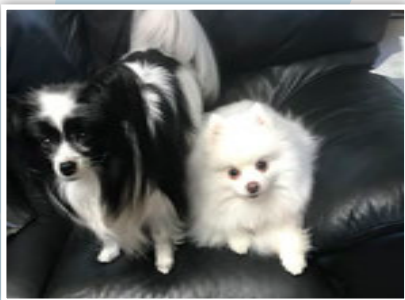
Linda Kaplan's daughter Sara's bunny rabbit.



So, the moment I finished with my Cancer treatments and surgery, and the doctors gave permission to be with animals again, I decided to adopt a dog. We went with my grandchildren to the Humane Society and they found Kimber, a German Shepherd. A wonderful company, protector, loyal creature. After some time, when Kimber adapted to her new home, and had her training, I found out that she was too big and strong for me, and that I couldn't handle her when going for a walk. So we decided to look for another, smaller dog for me, and my brother would take care of Kimber.  
- Yardena Kamely

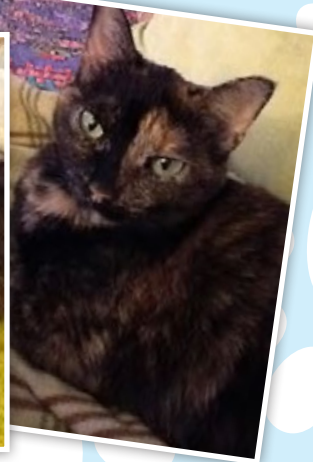


Jasmine on the left, Jake on the right. They often end up in this position behind our chairs during services. - Jan hartz

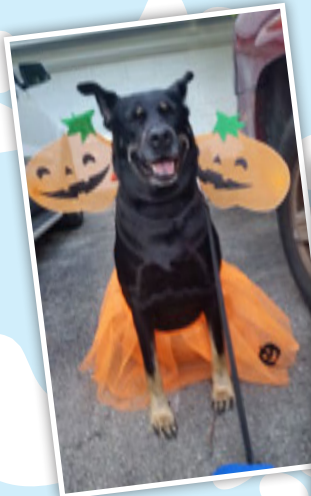


Linda Kaplan's grand puppies

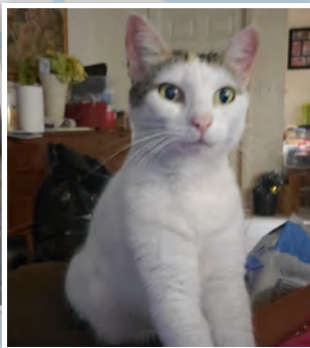
Attached is one of our favorites which we call "Sister Act" Photo of Shayna Sax and Rebecca Steinbock.



Ernie, beloved dog of Geri and Stuart Smith. Ernie is 6 yrs. old and is a Yorkie mix. Everyone is Silver Shores knows, and loves, Ernie. Ivy is a 12 year old Tortie, adopted when she was about 2yrs. old, and is Ernie's playmate. She is a sweetheart, and gives kisses.



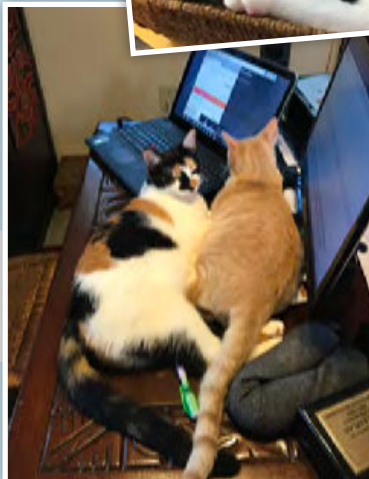
Jonna Friedman, in Halloween attire, gorgeous in tutu and pumpkin wings. Bella sitting pretty.



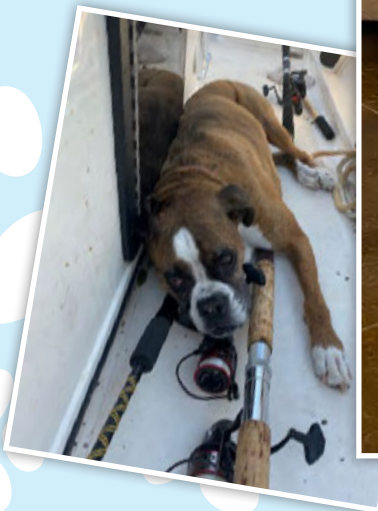
Gerri Emkey's dog Babe wins first prize in agility at Tropical Park in Miami.

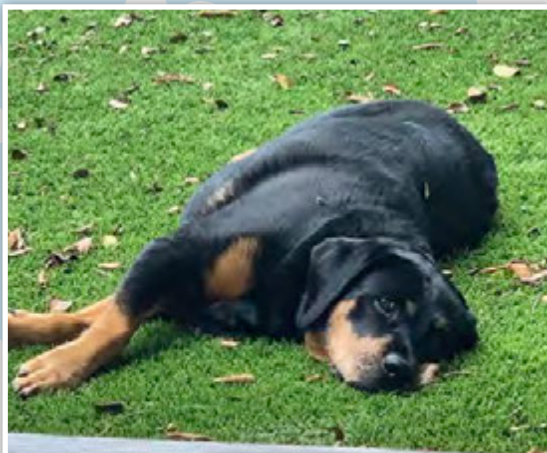


These pictures sent by Roy Pollack are of his 9 year old Boxer, Roxi, another of Linda Pollack's grandkids :-). Roxi loves to go fishing.

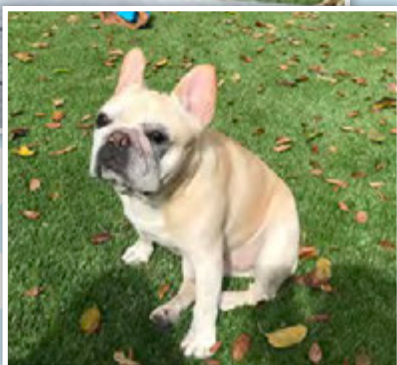


Linda Kaplan's two work helpers Cali and Cassie.



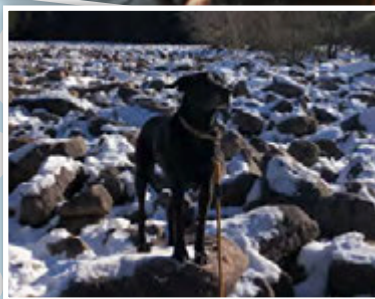


The Moss family's rottweiler Sara lounges in the grass.

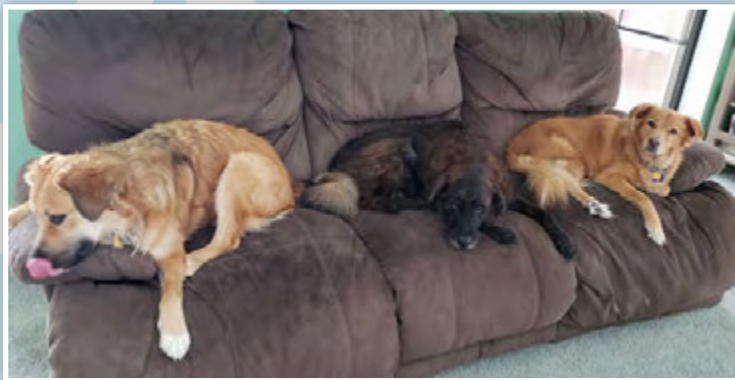


In Loving memory of Henri who passed away at the beginning of January. He was 13.

Luigi Rice says hi from boulder field - a national historic site in the Poconos, then comes in from the snow to cuddle with Jan and tell us he loves us. Awwww.



Here is Joyce's dog, Ruby, so happy to be an only child rather than one of three.



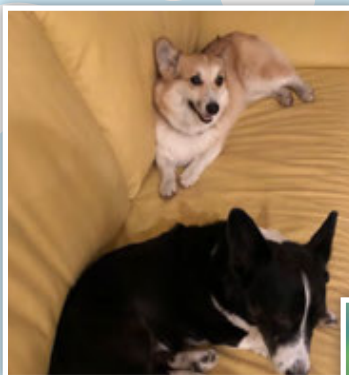
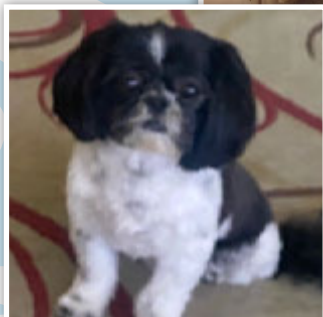
Here is a photo of The Blum Brothers a/k/a the Margolis Men. Looking at the picture, from left to right is Beaux (1 year), Bayou (3 1/2 years) and Bama (7 1/2 years). Now everyone can put faces to their barks.



Mary Lee Singer's Lexie is a Shih Tzu/ Yorkie mix but looks more like a pure Shih Tzu. She's 7 yrs old and a wonderful companion.



We can't leave out Count's dog Roo either, faithful watchdog and patroller of the property that he has been for years.



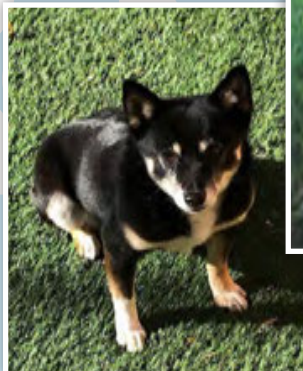
Jenny Margulies pet companion Snapper had crossed the rainbow bridge by the time Gloria was called on to paint this portrait. Her three current pet pals share heart space with this lovely being.



Algae (lying down) with Chutney



And we can't forget Medina's Brindie either. We miss you, Brindie.



Casini

# Keys Jewish Community Center

## KJCC Holocaust Torah

### Update from the Memorial Scrolls Trust

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

7:30 p.m. Coffee and Chat ~ 8:00 p.m. Presentation

Lois Roman is a Trustee of the Memorial Scrolls Trust (MST), and serves as the US Representative based on the East Coast. The Memorial Scrolls Trust is a London based non-profit which oversees the legacy of 1,564 Czech Torah scrolls that survived the Shoah. After a miraculous story of survival, these scrolls arrived in London and were dispersed on permanent loan to caring communities around the world. Lois began her involvement with MST several years ago following a long career on Wall Street as a money manager. She has a degree from Brandeis University and an MBA from Columbia Business School.

#### The Czech Scroll Story: from WWII to the Diaspora

A series of miracles allowed a huge hoard of Czech Torah scrolls to survive the devastation of the Shoah and stand as a testament to the communities that perished. The Memorial Scrolls Trust is committed to maintaining the legacy of these scrolls by dispersing 1400 of them around the world on permanent loan from our collection. To those who were entrusted with the scrolls, they are a symbol of hope as well as sorrow. The hope pushed forward an ongoing mission. We believe these Czech scrolls should be reinstituted in Jewish life as a memorial to the vanished communities which once treasured them. The Memorial Scrolls Trust bears witness to the fulfillment of this hope. Let us teach our children about the world of miracles and let us use the scrolls to remind people about what binds them together everyday.

For further information contact  
Laurie Blum ~ [blum1212@gmail.com](mailto:blum1212@gmail.com)

Zoom invitations will be sent out  
prior to the presentation..



# OUR HOLOCAUST TORAH SPEAKS

Our Holocaust Torah holds hundreds of stories beyond those of the Chumash, our Five Books of Moses.

When Lois Roman from the Scrolls Memorial Trust comes to speak to us, we will hear stories we've never heard before, but in the meantime, here are some visual reminders of KJCC's own adventures with our Suscice scroll, starting in the fall of 2015, when we brought it to Sofers-on-site to be inspected, evaluated, and readied for whatever repairs would be needed to make it Kosher. For the full story of how this scroll came to us, see Dr. Steve Smith's beautifully produced and researched book. It is in our library. The day we rededicated our newly koshered scroll in 2016 provided a peak experience for many of us. It allowed us to perform the 613th Mitzvah, to write for ourselves "a new song."



**We bring the scroll to Miami, home of the scribes, who would work on our Torah for months, repairing broken, missing and incorrect letters**



**Rabbi Menachem Bialo talks of the age and beauty of our scroll pointing out the kinds of repairs to be made**

**When the Torah is finished, a KJCC contingent brings it to a celebration and dedication with other Torahs from the trust**



**We hold our own celebration and help write a Torah. Dr. Steve Smith and Barbara take their turn.**



**A gathering of Holocaust Torahs**



**Donna Bolton, pleased to take part and support this sacred ritual.**



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חג פסח שמח  
Happy Passover

# Chai~Lights



April 1 - May 31, 2021

19 Nissan — 20 Sivan , 5781

**Meet Some New Leaders – page 21**

**Looking Ahead to Shavuot – page 26**

**“A Musing on Gratitude” by Mindy Agler – page 30**

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**Keys Jewish Community Center**

P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • [keysjewishcenter.com](http://keysjewishcenter.com)

# April 1 - May 31, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm				1 <b>APR</b>	2 Laurie Blum <i>Gary Margolis &amp; Laurie Blum, Jules &amp; Nettie Seder</i>	3
4 Last day of Pesach Sisterhood meeting 10am	5 Drop-in chat 2pm	6	7	8 Yom HaShoah	9 Janis Remer & Joyce Peckman & Medina Roy <i>Max Finklestein &amp; Janis Remer</i>	10
11 KJCC board meeting 10am	12 Drop-in chat 2pm	13	14	15 Israel Independence Day	16 Beth Hayden <i>Al &amp; Sylvia Rimm Stuart &amp; Lauren Sax</i>	17 Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler -The David Saga 12:30pm
18	19 Drop-in chat 2pm	20	21	22	23 Steve Hartz <i>Susan Gordon</i>	24
25	26 Book Club 12:30pm Drop-in chat 2pm	27	28	29	30 Lag B'Omer Yardena Kamely <i>Barney Coltman Jerrold &amp; Roos-Mary Benowitz</i>	1 <b>MAY</b>
2	3 Drop-in chat 2pm	4	5 Rabbi Rosenthal: "Reincarnation? - A Jewish Perspective" 7:30pm	6	7 Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Donna Bolton <i>Gary Margolis &amp; Laurie Blum</i>	8 Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler -The David Saga 12:30pm
9 Mothers' Day KJCC board meeting 10am	10 Drop-in chat 2pm	11	12	13	14 Laurie Blum <i>Susan Gordon</i>	15
16	17 Shavuot Drop-in chat 2pm	18 Shavuot	19 Janis Remer: Medicare and Medigap 7:30pm	20	21 Susan Gordon <i>Marshall &amp; Myra Kaplan</i>	22
23	24 Book Club 12:30pm Drop-in chat 2pm	25	26	27	28 Susan Ellner & Gloria Avner <i>Beth Hayden</i>	29
30	31 Memorial Day Drop-in chat 2pm					

## 2020 - 2021 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

### President

Joyce Peckman

### Executive Vice President

Ken Atlas

### Vice Presidents

Gloria Avner • Susan Gordon  
Michael Kaufman

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Stuart Sax • Bernard Ginsberg  
Sam Vinicur • Beth Hayden

### Editor

Gloria Avner

### Design & Production

Lacy Alexander

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



**A**s I endeavor to write this President's message, I am engaged with preparing for Passover – cleaning, sorting, discarding, purchasing – and doing it in a community where we are the only Jewish presence for many miles. There is no supermarket aisle dedicated to Kosher for Passover items. We can't even take for granted matzo and Manischewitz wine. We are grateful for a miniscule corner display. That small Passover display at the supermarket is there only because we at KJCC are still a presence in the Keys.

Please take notice of the previous paragraph. It begins with "I" and ends with "we." Last year shortly before Passover, KJCC was abruptly shut down. The weekly gatherings were halted, and solitude became the watchword. But as Jews, we can't do religion alone. "I" has to become "we." We reached out to each other. We learned how to Zoom, shared information during weekly emails, and maintained our group identity. We held a virtual seder so that nobody had to celebrate alone.

Although the Pesach seders will be over when you receive this, we will still be in the middle of Passover, which lasts through Sunday, April 4th. Yizkor will be included in our April 2nd Friday night service, which will also commemorate Yom HaShoah. Passover is unique among Jewish holidays. It is about family gatherings rather than shul attendance. We eat and talk

about our foundational history and values. Passover rituals are created specifically to bring adults and children together and to elicit questions from everyone so that we can search for answers together. In many ways, the traditions we witness around the Passover table define our identity as Jews. Our challenge is to keep that energy alive through the coming months until the High Holy Days bring a new burst of activity.

"We" are all the members of KJCC who step up to do the job. Our amazing board members are joined by others. Barney Colman helps keep our financial books straight. Many of you are putting forth effort towards our upcoming cookbook. Yardena Kamely, Janis Remer and Susan Ellner help lead services. Rabbi Rich Agler provides Shabbat "Lunch and Learn." Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, Mindy Agler and Janis Remer will be sharing their expertise for Wednesday evening Adult Ed offerings. Laura Goodman is joining our Sunshine/Caring Kehillah committee, along with Laurie Blum, Susan Gordon and Hannah David, reaching out to check that our members are ok. "We" includes you, dear reader. You don't have to know Hebrew or even carry a tune to help lead a service or make phone calls. You may have a skill that you can share through Adult Ed. So call, join us on zoom, ask questions and keep making "us" a strong KJCC family. ◇

# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

All activities are on Zoom until further notice. Look for more details in the latest edition of Chai-lights or the Tuesday message to members.

Every Monday	2pm Drop-in chat
Friday, April 2	7:30pm Shabbat and Yizkor Services led by Laurie Blum
Sunday, April 4	10am Sisterhood meeting
Friday, April 9	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Janis Remer and Joyce Peckman Yom HaShoah Commemoration led by Medina Roy
Sunday, April 11	10am KJCC board meeting
Friday, April 16	7:30pm Shabbat Services & Yom Hazikaron Commemoration led by Beth Hayden
Saturday, April 17	12:30pm Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler – The David Saga
Friday, April 23	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Steve Hartz
Monday, April 26	12:30pm Book Club
Friday, April 30	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Yardena Kamely
Wednesday, May 5	7:30pm Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will discuss “Reincarnation? – A Jewish Perspective”
Friday, May 7	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Donna Bolton
Saturday, May 8	12:30pm Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler – The David Saga
Sunday, May 9	10am KJCC Board meeting
Friday, May 14	7:30pm Shabbat and Yizkor Services led by Laurie Blum
Wednesday, May 19	7:30pm Janis Remer will discuss Medicare and Medigap
Friday, May 21	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Susan Gordon
Monday, May 24	12:30pm Book Club
Friday, May 30	7:30pm Shabbat Services

# NOSH

## The David Saga with Rabbi Agler

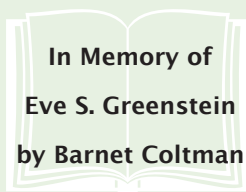
Saturdays, April 17 and May 8, at 12:30 p.m. It's complicated. Those two words conjure up a stew of images, both historical and melodramatic. The David Saga, as far in the past as it is, could easily fit in today's news magazines, tabloids, political podcasts or evening talking heads analysts. You won't want to miss the next two sessions of "Lunch and Learn" with Rabbi Richard Agler, our Scholar Emeritus, as he helps us walk through the minefields of adultery, murder, war and political manipulation by the writer of our greatest psalms and love songs: "Doveed, Melech Yisrael." No need to read ahead. Just come and enjoy the excellent conversation.

## Rabbi Ed Talks Reincarnation

There are some wonderful Adult Education special events coming up in May. On Wednesday evening,, May 5, (all Wednesday events are at 7:30 PM), Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will return to provide enlightenment on the topic of "Reincarnation". Who knew? This is not a well-known subject among Jews, so tune in and find out what Judaism teaches about this. We will all learn something we did not previously know. You asked for it – and here it is. See poster for details on p. 12.

## Yizkor and Tikkun Leil Shavuot.

Sunday, May 16th, 7:30 p.m. Laurie Blum, co-chair of Ritual Committee, will lead the last Yizkor Remembrance Service of this Jewish year, followed by a talk from Dr. Bernard Ginsberg on his and one of our favorite Jewish woman-centered stories you, the tale of Ruth, the faithful convert who gives us through her lineage of grandchildren, King David. Don't be caught sleeping when the Torah is being handed to us amid thunder and lightning and we are being "chosen." See poster on p. 26 for details.



## Medicare Questions and Answers

On Wednesday, May 19, 7:30 p.m. Janis Remer will present a special program on Medicare Supplement Plans and Medicare policies. Janis has worked with Medicare for years and is expert in knowing the programs and possibilities. If you have a particular question you would like her to address, please send to Beth Hayden at [hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net](mailto:hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net). This will be a virtual presentation of great interest to our members. Many thanks to Janis.

## The Possibility of Concerts

As we enter the fall, Adult Education Chair Beth Hayden hopes to open our educational series with a lecture/recital featuring works by Brahms, Chopin and Rachmaninoff. We will be eager listeners, Beth. Thank you.◇

## Oneg Sponsors

- Apr. 2 Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum**  
Memory of Janet Blum  
**Jules & Nettie Seder**  
55th Anniversary
- Apr. 9 Max Finklestein & Janis Remer**  
Engagement
- Apr. 16 Al & Sylvia Rimm**  
Anniversary  
**Stuart & Lauren Sax**  
Lauren's Birthday
- Apr. 23 Susan Gordon**  
Birthday
- Apr. 30 Barney Coltman**  
Birthday  
**Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz**  
Anniversary
- May 7 Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum**  
Gary's birthday
- May 14 Susan Gordon**  
Rose Marie Casey's 30th Birthday
- May 21 Marshall & Myra Kaplan**  
Anniversary
- May 28 Beth Hayden**  
Ollie's 14th birthday

# ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

**BOOKPLATES** for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto: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, 305-587-7429, 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 Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at [hippiejap@hotmail.com](mailto:hippiejap@hotmail.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.

**CARING KEHILAH/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. The Caring Kehilah Committee is calling and checking in on our socially distant members. Call Laurie Blum, 414-698-5647, if you wish to request that someone be contacted.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES & ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

### JANUARY – MARCH, 2021

#### Yahrzeit

Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Karyn Zoren

David & Pamela Marmar

Melvin & Joyce Ruthen

Nadine Thompson

Medina Roy

Michael Krissel

Marilyn Rapp

Frank & Gerri Emkey

Miltra Sheinker

Lillian Tallent

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Patricia Isenberg

Frank Rose

Adam & Judy Starr

Joan Boruszak

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Linda Pollack

Stephen Steinbock

Frank & Gerri Emkey

#### Bookplate

Barney Coltman

#### Tzddakah

Gloria Avner

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

#### In Honor / Memory of

Morris Feinberg

Samuel Wolfe

Maxine Feinberg

Al Roller

Samuel Marmar

Al Roller

Herbert Frankel

Bianka Kischenbaum

Joseph Krissel

Shirley Krissel

Russ Rolnick

Leroy Weisberg

Warren Sheinker

Ida Tallent

Janet Blum

Anne Bernstein

Harry Phillips

Cissie Lang

Alexandra Starr

Baruch Epstein

Arlene Sugarman

Margolis

Joel Pollack

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Alex Perl

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Sisterhood

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Purim-Keys to be the Change

Purim-Keys to be the Change

Purim-Keys to be the Change

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#### Oneg Sponsorship

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Stuart & Lauren Sax

Al & Sylvia Rimm

Susan Gordon

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Susan Gordon

Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Beth Hayden

Barney Coltman

Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz

Joyce Peckman

#### In Honor / Memory of

Birthday of Hannah Feig

Memory of Carl Roy

Aaron Stross Bar Mitzvah

Birthdays of Grandchildren

Birthday

Memory of Janet Blum

55th Anniversary

Engagement

Lauren's birthday

Anniversary

Birthday

Gary's birthday

Rose Marie Casey's 30th birthday

Anniversary

Ollie's 14th birthday

Birthday

Anniversary

Birthday

#### Dinners

Kaufman, Michael & Lorena

Kasino, Steve & Amelia

Future dinner

Future dinner

#### Unrestricted

Orlando Quesada

Medina Roy

In Memory of Maria Quesada

## April Birthdays

3rd .....	Justin L. Lebofsky	18th .....	Jennifer Garrett
4th .....	Larry Weber	18th .....	Lauren Sax
4th .....	Lauren Lane	19th .....	Augie Moss
4th .....	Thomas Brodie	20th .....	Jonathan Nobil
5th .....	Jon Tainow	22nd .....	Susan Temkin
9th .....	David Feder	24th .....	Lynn Nobil
12th .....	Richard Knowles	24th .....	Susan Gordon
13th .....	Eve Knowles	25th .....	Shirley Stein
13th .....	Samantha Lebofsky	26th .....	Maryann Boruszak
13th .....	Sylvia Rimm	28th .....	Joni Sages Dandrea
15th .....	Rachel Roth	29th .....	David Goldfinger
15th .....	Toby Bofshever	29th .....	Linda Pollack
16th .....	Alfred Rimm	30th .....	Jason Sherman
16th .....	Dave Jacob VanArtsdalen	30th .....	Joel Roth
17th .....	Katie Greenman	30th .....	Rachel Barrett
17th .....	Susan Ellner		

## April Anniversaries

3rd	Jules & Nettie Seder .....	55	25th	William Fusco & Melissa Katz-Fusco	22
10th	Stuart & Geri Smith .....	56	25th	Murray Rapoport & Barbara Osder	25
18th	Susan White .....	17	29th	David Paul & Wendy Morris .....	4
19th	Barat & Rosemary Barefoot .....	35	30th	Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz .....	14

## 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.

## May Birthdays

1st..... Cheryl Margulies  
 2nd.....Barney Coltman  
 4th .....Laura Leigh Tallent  
 5th .....Marissa Stein  
 5th .....Richard Palacino  
 7th ..... Murray Rapoport  
 7th ..... Skyler Bella Strasser  
 8th ..... Kelley Greenman  
 8th .....Sidney Boruszak  
 9th ..... Camden James Hudson  
 9th .....Gary Margolis  
 9th .....Reid Schur  
 11th ..... Richard Agler  
 11th ..... Sheila R. Steinberg  
 12th .....Madelyn Ruby Pollack  
 12th .....Nyan Feder  
 13th ..... Rose Marie Casey  
 14th ..... Bernie Ginsberg  
 14th ..... John Temkin  
 14th ..... Medina Roy

15th ..... Paul R. Schur  
 18th .....Jaime Brennan  
 19th ..... Jonathon Hodgson  
 21st.....Jerry Herson  
 22nd.....Sharon Repka  
 23rd .....Jenny Margulies  
 23rd ..... Jules Seder  
 23rd ..... Nettie Seder  
 23rd ..... Rita Williams  
 25th ..... Matthew Birnbaum  
 27th ..... Alan Beth  
 27th ..... Jeffrey Pollack  
 27th .....Joan Boruszak  
 28th ..... Mary Roth  
 29th ..... Liati Mayk  
 29th .....Nancy Zinner  
 29th ..... Robin Forman  
 31st..... Robert Sherman  
 31st..... Wes Conklin

## May Anniversaries

14th Alan & Chely Markowitz..... 20



## Shabbat Service Leaders

April 2 ..... Laurie Blum (Yizkor)  
 April 9 ..... Joyce Peckman  
    & Janis Remer, Medina Roy  
 April 16 .....Beth Hayden  
 April 23 ..... Steve Hartz  
 April 30 ..... Yardena Kamely  
 May 7 ..... Erica Lieberman-Garrett  
    & Donna Bolton  
 May 14: ..... Laurie Blum (Yizkor)  
 May 21 ..... Susan Gordon  
    & Bernard Ginsberg  
 May 28 ..... Susan Ellner & Gloria Avner

# *In Memoriam – April 2021*

**Sylvia Agler**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

**Clara Bloom**

By Marc Bloom

**George Nobil**

By Lynn Nobil

**Nat Feldblum**

By Marc Bloom

**Ellen Coltman**

By Barnett O. Coltman

**Dr. Joel Pollack**

By Linda Pollack

**Becky Kanowsky**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Alex Perl**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Louise Folks Baker**

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

**Barbara Linda Hayes**

By Jane Friedman

**Frances Wolfe**

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

**Sally Shabathai**

By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai

**Bill Gordon**

By Susan Gordon

**Belle Kirschenbaum**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

**Cantor Alex Chapin**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

**Amalia Kahn**

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

**Esther Jacobs**

By Lawrence Jacobs

**Dr. Milton A. Wohl**

By Joan P. Wohl

**Nathan Klein**

By Harvey & Judith Klein

**Marilyn Janet Barr**

By Michael Klimpl

**Norma Cutler**

By Donald Zinner

**Helen Berman**

By Sylvia Berman

**Arlene Sugarman Margolis**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Joseph Lempel**

By Linda Pincus

**Baruch Epstein**

By Joan Boruszak

**Erwin Moss**

By Linda Pollack

**Rabbi Milton Greenwald**

By Paul & Susan Roberts

**Gertrude Weisberg**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Mrs. Trudy Roth**

By Joel & Mary Roth

**Sam Sax**

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

**Carmel Catanese**

By Jane Friedman

**Richard Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Morris Smith**

By Stuart & Geri Smith

**Sumner Berenson**

By Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

**Claire Smith**

By Stuart & Geri Smith

**Rose Wainer**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Stella Hartz**

By Steven & Jan Hartz

**Ida S. Reider**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Charles Kram**

By Sanford Yankow

**Fred Klimpl**

By Michael Klimpl

**Hilda Mazur**

By Sanford Yankow

# *In Memoriam – May 2021*

**Carol Steinberg**

By Richard & Mindy Agle

**Irwin Grossinger**

By Gary & Laurie Grossinger

**Carl Roy**

By Medina Roy

**Neil H. Tomor**

By Barbara A. Calev

**Max Tuchman**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Lilyan Sax**

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

**Sam Hitzig**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Max Margulies**

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

**Norman James Schuman**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Barbara S. Gould**

By Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

**Rene Rose**

By Skip Rose

**Phillip Temkin**

By Robert Temkin

**Rose Herson**

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

**Leo Blitzer**

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Robert Schur**

By Lee Schur

**Leo Wolynetz**

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Esther R. Cohn**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Sam Wainer**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Maryann Sandusky**

By Skip Rose

**Bea Ginsberg**

By Bernard Ginsberg

**Benjamin Weber**

By Judith Weber

**Rose Roazen**

By Sylvia Berman

**Morris Moshe Grossman**

By Stuart Grossman

**Robert W. Singer**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Charles S. Cohn**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Morris Kornbloom**

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Susan Cimkowski**

By Stephen Steinbock

**Leo Finklestein**

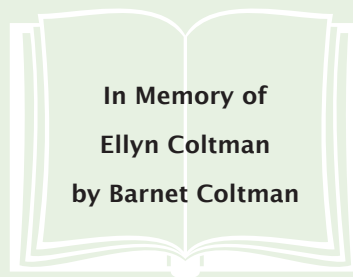
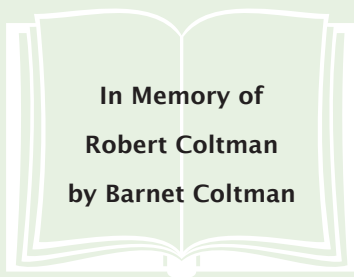
By Max Finklestein

**Leslie Peckman**

By Joyce Peckman

**Martha Greenberg**

By Larry & Dorothy





## Sisterhood Book Club

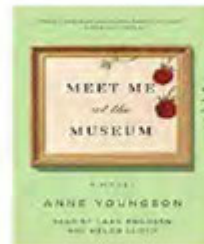
~ Books and dates for the coming two months ~  
Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom  
until further notice ~

**April 26, 2021 ~ *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by  
Fannie Flagg**

**May 24, 2021 ~ *Meet Me at the Museum* by Anne Youngson**



*A combination of comedy,  
mystery, wisdom, and charm.  
Fabulous, fun-loving, spanning  
decades and generations*



*An epistolary novel consisting of  
letters between a farm wife  
living in England and a Danish  
museum curator*

Email Joyce ([joycepeckman@gmail.com](mailto:joycepeckman@gmail.com)) before the meeting date to let her know you will be attending and she will send you an invitation to Zoom.

## SISTERHOOD

Beth Hayden



Shalom uvracha, Sisterhood met again in February and Sisterhood conducted the Erev Shabbat service on February 12th. We had a lovely email from one KJCC member encouraging us to do more services. Sisterhood will consider that request. Jane Friedman volunteered to run a Hamantaschen workshop February 24th at 2 PM prior to Purim. The workshop was well attended and enjoyed by all; hopefully the home-made Hamantaschen enriched the holiday. Thanks to Jane for her energy and cooking skills. Jane also kept the Tu b'shvat spirit alive by planting a young coffee bush on KJCC grounds. Sisterhood held discussions about the Women's Seder and Passover First Night Seder (which has replaced the former second-night Community Seder). The consensus of those in attendance was, reluctantly, to forego both events in light of the current situation. By the time you read this, hopefully you will have been in attendance at the Ritual/ Sisterhood virtual Seder conducted the evening of March 27th. Sisterhood has also cooperated with Rabbi Zucker to order kosher l'Pesach meals for anyone who wanted them. Linda Pollack completed entering more than 200 recipes for the KJCC Sisterhood Cookbook. The cookbook is now undergoing a final proof before submission to the publisher. Officers were installed at the February meeting; there were no changes in serving officers: Beth Hayden, President, Susan Gordon, Vice-President, Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Treasurer, Hannah David, Corresponding Secretary. Sisterhood, however, is in dire need of a recording secretary – if you think you might be able to help us out, please let me know at 305 773-0067 or hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net. Prior to Pesach and prior to receiving this issue of Chai-Lights, Erica Lieberman-Garrett will have conducted a workshop on what you need for your Seder Plate. People have different ideas as to what to use and where it goes, depending on community and family practices. This workshop

will have answered all your questions. Or at least, most of them. And don't forget, Erica is your contact for sponsoring an Oneg. Check with her to see what dates are available. Sisterhood will meet again on Sunday, April 4, 2021 at 10 AM by Zoom. It has been very gratifying to see KJCC members being vaccinated against Covid. As we increase the number of vaccinations we will eventually arrive at "herd immunity". Compared to the time that has passed, that day is not so far off. Possibly in the fall some manner of limited in person gatherings can occur. In the meantime, do not let your guard down and continue to protect yourself. We need all our members well and healthy for the day when we can, once again, enjoy each other in person.  
– B'shalom, Beth ◇





# **Presentation by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal Reincarnation?**

**Wednesday May 5, 2021 7:30 p.m.**

**Life is Always Lovelier the Second Time Around.**

**We've always been told that Judaism is a religion of life and, unlike some other religions, we're not concerned with what happens after we die.**

**Reincarnation? That's not a Jewish concept. It's Buddhist or Hindu or Druze, but not ours.**

**Really? Join Rabbi Ed Rosenthal for a fascinating examination of what Judaism really says about the mysteries of what happens after we die.**

**Rabbi Ed Rosenthal  
Executive Director/Campus Rabbi  
Hillels of the Florida Suncoast**

**Zoom invitations will be sent prior to the presentation.**

## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

### Medina Roy



#### Honoring Dr. Fauci

Dr. Anthony Fauci, our nation's top infectious disease specialist and the White House's chief medical advisor, was recently awarded a prize worth \$1 million from an Israeli foundation. He received the award for "courageously defending science in the face of uninformed opposition during the challenging COVID crisis." The prize is awarded by the Dan David Foundation, which was founded by the late Romanian-Israeli philanthropist of the same name. The award honors scientists, researchers and cultural figures for achievement in their fields. The foundation also noted Dr. Fauci's work during the AIDS crisis, commending "his exceptional contribution to HIV research" in the 1980s. ([www.israel21c.org](http://www.israel21c.org), 2-17-21)

#### Delicious? Really?

Aleph Farms, an Israeli company, recently announced that it had produced the world's first "slaughter-free steak" by using a mixture of real cow cells and 3-D printing technology. The company said it tastes like "a delicious, tender, juicy rib-eye steak you'd buy from the butcher." The company received assistance from faculty at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. This bio-printing phenomenon takes live cells and replicates them to mimic a natural organism or product. Aleph Farms is partnering with Mitsubishi, the international industrial giant, to bring its meat alternative to Japan. Last year, the world's first lab-grown meat restaurant opened in Tel Aviv. They served chicken made by a company call SuperMeat, and an Israeli rabbi certified that the product was kosher. (Okay, here's a question: how does one painlessly slit the throat of a chicken that was never, um, a chicken?) ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 2-11-21)

#### And the Award Goes to...

In February, the 2021 Genesis Prize, known as the "Jewish Nobel," was awarded to Steven Spielberg. The award "honors extraordinary individuals for their outstanding professional achievement,

contribution to humanity, and commitment to Jewish values." The honor comes with a \$1 million prize, and past recipients (Michael Bloomberg, Natan Sharansky among others) have donated the proceeds to philanthropic causes. Regarding Spielberg, the foundation stated that "Key Jewish themes are often woven into his narratives: importance of identity and belonging, maintaining humanity in a ruthless world, caring for the other, and honoring the moral obligation to do the right thing." The foundation said that they were honoring the Oscar winner for "his extraordinary work to preserve the memory of the Holocaust and prevent future genocides through film, public advocacy and philanthropy." In 1994, Spielberg founded the USC Shoah Foundation, which has so far collected and preserved some 55,000 Holocaust survivor testimonies conducted in 65 countries and in 43 languages. He created the foundation following the wide acclaim he received for his 1993 film "Schindler's List." The Genesis Prize Foundation was created in 2013 by a group of Russian-Jewish philanthropists and is financed through a permanent endowment of \$100 million by the foundation. ([www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com), 2-11-21)

#### A Collaboration on PTSD Research?

In early February, a small group of Democrats and Republicans, including two Jewish military veterans, introduced a bill that would connect United States and Israeli researchers searching for a way to treat post-traumatic stress disorder, also known as PTSD. The bill would establish a grant program for American universities and nonprofits to team up with Israeli counterparts to research the disorder. In the House of Representatives, the sponsors of the bill are Elaine Luria (D-VA), Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Michael Waltz (R-FL) and Lee Zeldin (R-NY). Luria and Zeldin are Jewish and Houlahan's father is Jewish; all three are military veterans. Robert Menendez

(D– NJ) and Jerry Moran (R–KS) are the sponsors in the Senate. “Too many of our bravest men and women come home with invisible wounds from the trauma they experienced while fighting for our country,” Luria said. “Congress can uphold its end of the promise by facilitating groundbreaking research to find treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder.” Zeldin, who is the House Republicans’ lead spokesman on issues pertaining to Israel, added, “It’s estimated that 20 U.S. veterans per day take their own life, oftentimes due to the invisible wounds of war...Inspiring further research collaboration between our two nations will establish an international brain trust invaluable to the service members of both our great countries.” ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 2–5–21)

### **Sounds Like Science Fiction. It’s Not.**

Israeli scientists have grown 250–cell embryos into mouse fetuses with fully formed organs using artificial wombs. The scientists say this groundbreaking method could lead to human gestation outside the womb. “We have grown hundreds of mice this way, in a method that has taken seven years to develop...,” stem cell biologist Professor Jacob Hanna of the Weizmann Institute of Science said. “This could be relevant to other mammals including humans, though we acknowledge that there are ethical issues related to growing humans outside the body.” Hanna said that his research can advance understanding of organ formation in mammals since it allows unprecedented views of the process unfolding, “unconstrained by the need to image the inside of the uterus.” Scientists have been trying for decades to grow mammals outside the body but with very limited success. Hanna started with embryos consisting just of stem cells and watched with amazement as the organs of the mice – animals that have a speedy gestation of just nineteen days – grew in front of his eyes. “We took mouse embryos from the mother at day five of development, when they are just of 250–cells, and had them in the incubator from day five to day eleven, by which point they had grown all their organs. By day eleven they made their own blood and have a beating heart, a fully developed brain...It’s gone from being a ball of cells to being an advanced fetus.” The fetuses were healthy but

died at eleven days. Currently this is the longest they can develop in the artificial womb and they cannot be transplanted back into a mouse uterus. But Hanna is hoping to develop his technology to take mice to full term. “The key to our success is that we have developed this special incubator system in which each embryo is in a bottle with liquid and the bottle is spinning to ensure it doesn’t attach to the side,” Hanna continued, “The incubator creates all the right conditions for its development. What made this possible in the seven–year journey which has seen us develop the liquid, which really gives the embryo all the nutrients, hormones and sugars they need, and the incubator, a custom–made electronic device which controls gas concentration, pressure and temperature.” ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 3–17–21)

### **In Memoriam**

- David Mintz, inventor of Tofutti, the non–dairy product created primarily to appeal to observant Jews who would not mix meat and dairy products, died at the end of February. He was 89. Born and raised in the haredi (ultra–Orthodox) neighborhood of Williamsburg, NY, Mintz often sought the advice of the leader of the Hasidic movement, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson. Mintz sold mink stoles (say that five times) before deciding to open his prepared food stores. He eventually left the ultra–Orthodox community, but still saw a wide–open market for that circle. Reportedly, in 1972, he bought a gallon of tofu from a vendor in Chinatown and created tofu–filled cookies, cakes, rugalach, and tuna casseroles, among other foods. But it took him many years to perfect his most popular creation, Tofutti ice cream, which became a staple in grocery stores nationwide (and on Shabbat tables after chicken dinners). Mintz tried several flavors and products that had Jewish influences, such as an apple–carrot– raisin tofu ice cream – the flavors of a traditional tsimmes served on Rosh HaShanah – and blintzes (“Mintz’s Blintzes”) stuffed with tofu ricotta, turning a beloved dairy dish into something that could be served with any kosher meat meal. ([www.jewishpress.com](http://www.jewishpress.com), 3–4–21)
- Shlomo Hillel, who helped smuggle Iraqi Jewish immigrants into pre–state Palestine and then continued to bring more during the Jewish state’s first years, died in February. He was 97.

Born in Baghdad, his family fled Iraq and went to pre-state British Mandate Palestine in the 1930s. His father had witnessed troops celebrating the massacre of hundreds of Assyrian Christians; seeing this activated his long, atavistic Jewish memory, which made him wonder whether Jews would be next. Mr. Hillel successfully accomplished at least four undercover operations in the pre-and post-state years to smuggle Iraqi Jews. He was responsible for the aliyah (immigration to Israel) of at least 120,000 Iraqi Jews and, as a result, saved the ancient community from total annihilation that would have followed when Saddam Hussein became dictator in the late 1960s and targeted them with persecution. (Today, there are less than 100 Jews remaining in Iraq.) "He came from a great generation...that fought with its hands for Israel's independence and its existence as a safe haven for the Jewish people," said Reuven Rivlin, Israel's president. In addition to all that Shlomo Hillel did in his critical role bringing Iraqi Jews to Israel, his life's work spanned Israel's birth and growth. He founded a kibbutz, was at various times a spy for the Mossad, a member of the Knesset, the Knesset speaker, chairman of the United Israel Appeal, member of the pre-state Haganah militia, and ambassador to a number of African countries. ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com), 2-21-21)

- George Shultz, praised by Jewish leaders for helping to free Soviet Jews, died recently at the age of 100. Thanks to efforts by Shultz and others, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev allowed all Jews to leave the USSR. Between 1986 and 2006, an estimated 1.6 million Jews and their spouses and relatives emigrated from the former Soviet Union. Some 61 percent settled in Israel. Shultz was a U.S. Marine, MIT Ph.D., and former head of the Business School at the University of Chicago. He went on to serve as Labor Secretary, Treasury Secretary and Director of the Office of Management and Budget under President Richard Nixon. He then served as Secretary of State from 1982 to 1989 during the Reagan administration. He had a monumental impact on Jews worldwide. While serving as Secretary of State, Shultz repeatedly pressed Soviet leaders on the plight of Jews in the USSR, helping to keep it an American priority until Jews were allowed to leave freely.

Natan Sharansky, the most well-known Jewish refusenik, was freed from a Soviet prison in 1986 in part due to pressure by Shultz. (Sharansky and Shultz remained close friends until Shultz's death). Shultz said that his many encounters over the years with Soviet Jews was an inspiration and an illustration of "the importance of the human spirit and of never giving up." ([www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com), 2-11-21)

- Yaphet Kotto, the Black-Jewish actor who rose to fame as the villain in the 1970's James Bond film "Live and Let Die," and as an extraterrestrial stowaway in "Alien," died in March. He was 81. His debut as a professional actor was in the all-Black stage performance of "Othello" in Harlem in 1960. Kotto won an Emmy nomination for portraying Idi Amin in the TV movie "Raid on Entebbe," about the Israeli operation in 1976 to rescue dozens of Israelis held hostage on a plane hijacked by Palestinian terrorists. At the height of his fame, Kotto turned down the role of Captain Picard in "Star Trek: The Next generation," a decision he later came to regret. In his later years, he played in the TV police show "Homicide: Life on the Street." Kotto was born in New York to a Cameroonian immigrant father and a US Army nurse. His father immigrated to the US in the 1920s as an observant Jew who could speak Hebrew. Kotto said that his father's ancestors were African Jews who originated in the area of modern Israel and migrated through Egypt to Cameroon. His mother converted to Judaism before marrying his father. In a 2019 interview, Kotto talked about how Judaism "was a guiding force in his life." Had he not become an actor, Kotto believed that he probably would have become a rabbi. ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 3-16-21)

### Did You Know...

- Shira Haas, the Israeli actress best known for her star performance in Netflix's smash hit series "Unorthodox," will portray Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir in "Lioness," an upcoming TV series. The program is based on the book of the same name by Francine Klagsbrun and will be produced by Barbra Streisand. No release date has been scheduled as of this writing. ([www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com), 3-1-21) ◇

# Keys Jewish Community Center

Adult Ed Program

Presentation by  
Janis Remer

## UNDERSTANDING MEDICARE AND MEDIGAP

Wednesday May 19, 2021 7:30 p.m.  
followed by Q & A

We welcome Janis as a new KJCC member with an extensive background in Medicare. Tune in for what you need to know from an expert.

- What is Medigap and who needs it?
- What are Medigap policies and terms?
- What are the different types of Medigap policies?
- What do Parts A and B cover?
- What steps are needed to buy Medigap policies?
- What is the best time to buy Medigap policies?
- Where can I find Medigap Resource Information?

If you have questions, please submit them two weeks prior to the presentation and Janis can address them during her talk.  
Submit to Beth Hayden - [hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net](mailto:hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net)

Zoom invitations will be sent prior to the presentation.

## PHOTO GALLERY



Jane bringing  
veggies to Burton's  
Food Bank.



Thanks for letting us know  
what we are missing, Jan  
Price. Say hi to Luigi. We  
miss you both.



Erica's Birthday  
Celebration.



Budding young artist Madison Bloom,  
daughter of Rachel, granddaughter of Marc  
Bloom, takes a course in Batik painting  
from Gloria Avner. Nice work, Maddy.



Gloria doesn't have pets anymore but this  
mermaid she painted has regular "story hours  
under the sea." The fish look forward to it.

Rabbi Agler enjoying a moment at last months David Saga “lunch and learn. We are getting a nice view of his back yard.



Erica led a beautiful Seder Plate tutorial. Buddy is mad he wasn't invited.



Carl Roy, Medina Roy's husband, was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on March 2nd. The funeral was live-streamed and Medina and a few friends were able to watch it together since COVID prevented in-person attendance. The profound seriousness and respect in every step of this special group of soldiers, both men and women, and in every action, especially in the unfolding and folding of the flag, was extremely moving. Carl served in the Vietnam War, and was responsible for facilitating the miniature Memorial Wall Monument's brief and meaningful stay here in Key Largo some years ago. If anyone is interested in seeing a military funeral at Arlington, please contact Medina at [hiitsmedee@gmail.com](mailto:hiitsmedee@gmail.com)."

Medina wanted a special gift for the friend who had served with Carl who was able to attend the funeral in person. Medina found the image and Gloria translated it into a painting using soft chalk pastels.



# KJCC Companions of the Heart.

The beloved companions who were left out of last edition are ready for their closeups!

Kohengi, Ollie and Pumba on the couch

Most of our members have dogs for pets, quite a few have cats, several have birds, and Steve Steinbock has a lovely pond with gorgeous koi fish. Thanks for rounding out our KJCC menagerie, Steve. We've got land, air and sea (well, water anyway) covered.



Ollie competing in agility in Miami



Left: Pumba who has passed over the Rainbow Bridge  
Below: Zap in his Keys house - Zap has also passed over the Rainbow Bridge



What a cutie. Steve Steinbock's walking companion and sister to Stuart and Lauren's beautiful pooch. Shayna is both a name and description (pretty in Yiddish).



*Thinking optimistically, the time is getting closer to when we may begin to meet in person at our lovely but lonely shul. Whether it happens in July or September or 2022 is a question we cannot answer now, but we can refresh our memories on safety practices for when live events in the Sanctuary and Social Hall begin again. Thank you for sending this, Donna Bolton.*

## ACTIVE THREAT TRAINING

Miami-Dade Jewish Federation presented an active threat training seminar with Brad Orsini from the FBI as the guest speaker. He stressed that this information is applicable in any situation and showed us films and diagrams from actual cases, including shops, entertainment venues and synagogues.

### The National Protocol Model is now **RUN---HIDE---FIGHT**

#### **1. RUN**

- Run as far as you can until you feel safe.
- Movement is important-DO NOT PLAY DEAD.
- Hide and hope is not a good plan.
- Know where the exits are located. Always keep exits clear.
- Leave ASAP. Do not worry about your possessions.
- If you can't run, hide.

#### **2. HIDE**

- If caught inside, lock the door
- Turn out the lights
- Get out of sight
- Put up a barrier so that the intruder cannot enter
- If you can't run or hide, fight.

#### **3. FIGHT**

- Fight with whatever you have on-hand:  
Fire extinguishers, furniture, throwable items.
- Be prepared to fight for at least 120 seconds or more until help arrives.

**The commitment to action is very important.  
Know where the panic button is located and how to use it.  
Make sure someone calls 911.**

Practice drills are very important so that if anything ever happens, a person has a plan.  
The body goes into fight-flight- freeze response. What was easy becomes difficult.  
Be flexible. Decisive action is important.

**Calm yourself – Breathe – Remember your plan**

## MEET SOME NEW LEADERS

*Meet the new people who are stepping up in new ways. We knew certain things about them, and we are grateful for their volunteered abilities (Gary Margolis, for instance, Board member just entering his second year, makes a wonderfully autocratic King Ahashverosh and Jewish Jeopardy host. Laurie Blum we know as the most wonderful mother a blind puppy could have (puppy now can see! Yay!) She often leads thoughtfully original and moving services, from Shabbat to Yizkor to Healing Services. Recently she's accepted the positions of Recording Secretary for the KJCC board and Co-Chair of Ritual Committee. She has even created a new sub-committee under the rubric of Sunshine, affectionately called the Caring Kahillah. Let's learn some more about how they became these wonderfully caring people by reading their own words (we will be doing more of this; we want to know all of our mishpocha better):*

### Laurie Blum

I was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. While my family belonged to an orthodox shul, our observancy was more conservadox. A Jewish Day School opened the year I was entering the third grade. So my parents enrolled me. I was there through eighth grade and cherish the memories from those years. Our school was very small and our classes even smaller. Often two grades would be combined especially for Judaic studies and Hebrew. Yet, we were a close knit group, albeit like KJCC, from all different Judaic backgrounds. My youth group (NCSY), my school, and our shul were interconnected. My Jewish Day School environment brought with it a sense of community. While I had wanted to go to a yeshiva high school, my parents had other plans. While I never lost faith in G-d, unfortunately, that sense of community, organized religion, was lost for many years until about 2012. Gary and I were already living in Wisconsin and had had a courthouse wedding, when our shul hired a new rabbi. Prior to that, we were the once a year Jews...attending for High Holidays. That new rabbi was able to bring that sense of community back for me. So much so, we had him marry us in a Jewish ceremony. Not like it was planned, but he left for another congregation a month before we moved to the Keys. While we knew what Jewish life was like down here, we didn't realize how far away Miami actually is.



It took a while for me to feel that sense of connection to KJCC. Having our dog Jax get sick and pass away immediately followed by Hurricane Irma distanced me from KJCC because practical day to day matters needed to be addressed. Shortly before the pandemic, I once again started to feel that sense of community. So much so that when asked, I was honored to join the Board, and this year, became its recording secretary. In addition to finding myself on all sorts of committees, some of which I didn't even realize I was on, I also felt that starting the Caring Kehilah would be something that would benefit KJCC. For me, caring for our dogs and the work that I do for KJCC brings with it a sense of purpose that is priceless.

## Gary Margolis

I grew up in Revere, Massachusetts (just northeast of Boston). My family belonged to a conservative shul; but was only casually observant. I'm not even sure we were members, prior to my getting semi-close to Bar-Mitzvah age. I attended Hebrew School for a couple of hours a week starting when I was 10 years old. That was at my local Jewish Community Center. Pretty much, we just attended synagogue on the High Holidays, ate matzah at Passover, and celebrated Hanukah instead of Christmas. We didn't keep kosher; and like most Bostonians I considered the local sports teams my religion more than Judaism.

I became a bit more involved while studying with the Rabbi for my Bar-Mitzvah lessons. My inner 13 year old is still absolutely certain that the prayers before the Haftarah were 10 or 15 minutes long; and the ones after the Haftarah were close to 30 minutes. It's a little difficult for the adult me to reconcile that with the few minutes they actually take when I hear them today. I joined AZA as a teenager; but that was for the social life. I attended shul 5 or 6 times a year; and that seemed to be about right for me.

I had often spent a few weeks each summer in northern Vermont with friends and relatives. And in my mid-30s, I finally decided to get out of the big city and move to northern Vermont. When I thought of it, I would try to find a local shul to go to for



Yom Kippur. In northern Vermont, local was pretty much anything within 100 miles. Then I met Laurie at a friend's wedding in Boston. And within a few months, I moved south to Wisconsin. We pretty much only went to shul for the High Holidays. And then as Laurie said, we found a sense of community when a new Rabbi arrived; and we enthusiastically went to synagogue weekly.

After about 15 years in Wisconsin, we figured out that I should have moved a bit further south than Wisconsin. Grassy Key in Marathon of course was the obvious choice for "a bit further south". We still wanted to continue a regular connection with a local shul. And thanks to my Vermont definition of "local", KJCC was the perfect choice. And now, Laurie and I are so happy and proud to be giving a little bit back to our KJCC family by serving on the Board.

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## Randy Klein-Gross

At my cousin's pre-wedding festivities, he introduced me as the second most interesting person in the world, after the Dos Equis guy. I never really thought about my life like that until he described me that way.

My Jewish life started at home Los Angeles in a conservative, kosher home where all holidays were celebrated with huge family

gatherings and lots of characters. Passover always involved props, intricate afikomen hiding places, and costumes. One year we were asked to come dressed as if you had been wandering in the desert for 40 years. Another year we opened the front door for Elijah and our dog walked in; we didn't even know she got out.

I attended Hebrew school three days a week at Adat Shalom synagogue in West LA as a

kid and then LA Hebrew High School at the University of Judaism throughout high school years. I was also active in USY and Jewish Teen Encounter, making some great friends along the way. My Jewish life was always important to me. When I went to grad school in San Francisco, I visited some amazing synagogues but they didn't feel like home.

For college, I went to Cal State University Northridge and earned a degree in Psychology with a minor in Human Sexuality. I was very involved in teaching about AIDS and safe sexual practices through program at school.

Grad school in San Francisco for Human Sexuality was an amazing experience. One of my best friends at grad school was a 60 year-old Roman Catholic priest from Ireland; you can imagine our interactions were interesting.

Towards my last year in SF, while starting my research for my dissertation, I went to a weightlifting meet to watch a cousin from Chicago. She won her weight class, I met her teammates and coach. I started dating one of her teammates who taught me a bit. Soon I was addicted. When I moved back to LA to write my dissertation, I found an Olympic coach and started training 6 days a week. Four years later, I found myself at 4th in the nation winning many competitions including the Collegiates in Shreveport, Louisiana. During the four years, I snuck away to learn to SCUBA dive, play on a co-ed Jewish softball league, lecture around the world on my dissertation, join a 20-something Shabbat dinner group and visit family without missing a workout.

When I moved back to West Los Angeles, I wanted to find other Jewish Singles who also liked SCUBA diving so I decided to start a Jewish Singles SCUBA diving group. I thought I would have about ten people to dive and travel with. I put a free ad in the Jewish Journal and within three months, there were 150, all asking where we are traveling to next. I quickly became a SCUBA travel expert.

While in Turks and Caicos, I met a blond, green-eyed, tan SCUBA instructor who complimented the modern Chai that I wore (Non-Jews usually thought it was lion). We



fell in love and after a hurricane hit Turks and Caicos, Tomar moved to Southern California. I became a scuba instructor. Tomar attended the College of Oceaneering to study the medical side of hard hat diving including earning his EMT and DMT certifications. We got engaged underwater, were married in San Diego and had the reception on a 3 level paddle boat. It was a huge affair and a great start to our lives together with family flying in from all corners of the earth.

We soon had Jonah and then Oceana to complete our SCUBA family. Jewish holidays with Tomar's family complimented my family's so we had a lot of fun.

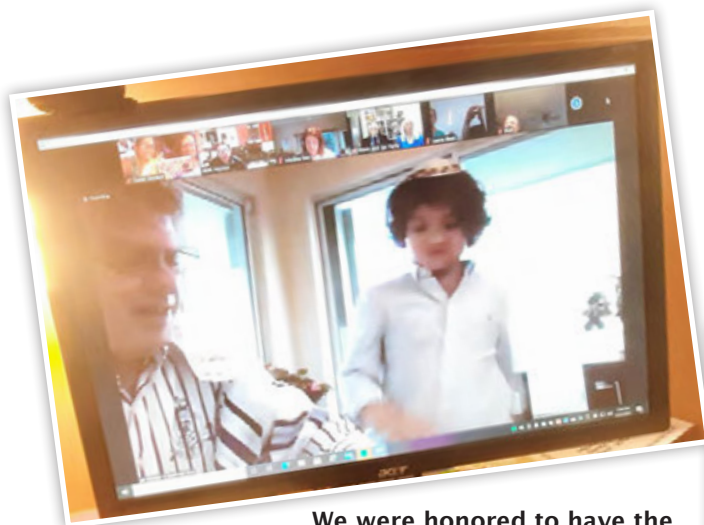
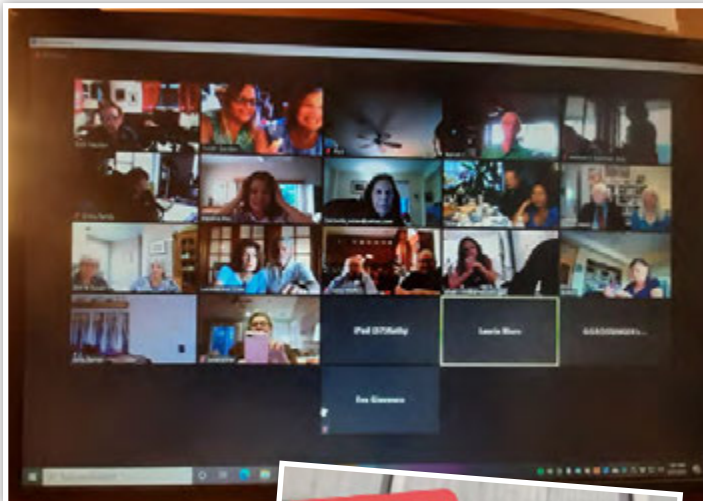
After 14 years in California, building our family and business, we needed a change. We sold just about everything. We knew we wanted a active synagogue, great schools, perfect diving and a super band program. Tomar had lived in Key Largo when he was fresh out of the Navy and had fond memories. The Upper Keys fit that bill so we made the move the summer before Jonah's Bar Mitzvah. We rented homes all around Key Largo before settling on a home in Tavernier.

I now am a manager at Divers Direct and make lionfish jewelry for a company I started three years ago. I am proud to be the newest board member of the KJCC and hope we can move forward together. ◇

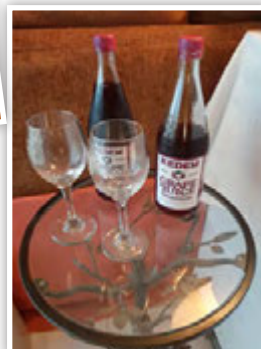


# PASSOVER

Here we are, a community that was able to gather and tell our story, with 30 attendees, almost all of whom stayed 'til the end, a group serious, joyful, cheery and a bit tipsy in equal measure. Just perfect. Even the dogs liked it and successfully found and fought over the afikomen. Singing traditional songs, led by Steve Hartz, Laurie Blum, Susan Gordon, Gloria Avner and Medina Roy was enjoyed and participated in by all. NEXT YEAR IN KEY LARGO (and live streaming).



We were honored to have the Kaufman family with us at our Seder and immensely proud of Sean for the way he stepped up and read the four questions. Well done, Sean. You are an important part of our congregation!



New use for  
Matzoh





Gloria invented a new culinary treat on the second night of Passover. Cover a piece of Kosher Israeli matzah with thin slices of your favorite cheese (pepper jack works great) and put it under a broiler for a few minutes until the cheese is melted (and before your smoke alarm goes off). Voila! Thin crust pizza for Passover. Mizzah!!

Jane Friedman's Seder table!



Seder plate with a beet (vegetarian alternative to shank bone). Thanks, Laurie)



Susan Gordon and Gloria Avner have everything ready on their Seder table, looking forward to joining everyone at the largest Seder table our community has ever known. Virtual reality does have some advantages. We were extremely grateful for example, to have founding member Susan Horn and her partner Dot with us, happily participating from afar.



# LOOKING AHEAD TO SHAVUOT



## **KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SISTERHOOD TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT**



*Omer counting is over.*

*It is time to receive the Torah.*

**JOIN US** on Sunday, May 16, 2021, at 7:30 P.M.

**for a SHAVUOT CELEBRATION  
and YIZKOR REMEMBRANCE SERVICE.**

Dr. Bernard Ginsberg, centered on his favorite Jewish narrative, The Story of Ruth, the future great grandmother of our complex King David.

*Yizkor Remembrance Service*  
will be led by Laurie Blum.



**Zoom invitations will be sent out.**



## DAIRY RECIPES FOR SHAVUOT.

### COLD HUNGARIAN SOUR CHERRY SOUP

- 3 c. cold water
- 1 scant c. sugar
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 4 cups pitted sour cherries, fresh or canned
- 1 T. arrowroot
- 2 T. cold water
- ½ c. heavy cream, chilled
- ½ c. dry red wine, chilled

In a 2-quart non-reactive saucepan combine the water, sugar and cinnamon stick. Bring to a boil and the cherries (if using canned cherries, cherries should be well drained). Partially cover and simmer over low heat for 35 to 40 minutes for fresh cherries and about 10 minutes for canned cherries. Remove the cinnamon stick. Mix the arrowroot and 2 tablespoons of cold water into a paste. Beat the paste into the cherry soup. Stir constantly with a wooden spoon, bringing the soup almost to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer about 10 minutes or until the soup turns clear and thickens. Pour into a shallow glass or stainless steel bowl and refrigerate until well chilled. Before serving, preferably in pre-chilled soup bowls, stir in the cream and wine. Serves 6.

Note: This wonderful soup is traditionally eaten by Hungarian Jews for Shavuot when sour cherries are ready for harvest. It can be served as an appetizer or even a dessert. It is quite rich, so serve in small portions. Sour cherries are occasionally found at Publix or can be ordered from Amazon.

### CHEESECAKE (FROM LINDA PERLOFF)

#### Use NO LOWFAT ingredients

- 2 – 8 oz. packages of soft cream cheese
- 1 pound (2 cups) creamed cottage cheese
- 1 ½ cups of sugar (I use about ¼ cup less)
- 4 eggs slightly beaten
- 3 TBSP flour
- 3 TBSP cornstarch
- 1 ½ TBSP lemon juice
- 1 Tsp. vanilla
- ½ cup (¼ pound) melted unsalted butter
- 1 PT (2 cups, 16oz) sour cream

#### Topping ingredients:

- 1 Pint sour cream
- ¼ tsp. of lemon extract
- ¼ tsp. lemon juice
- ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- ¼ cup of sugar

#### Other ingredients

- Keebler vanilla wafers (they work best)

#### Directions: Preheat oven to 325 degrees

- Grease 9 Inch spring form pan
- Cover bottom of pan with whole vanilla wafers – Crush up more wafers to fill in the holes.
- In a large bowl at high speed beat cream cheese and cottage cheese till creamy and well combined. Gradually beat in sugar, then beat in the eggs till well blended
- At low speed beat in cornstarch, flour, lemon juice and vanilla
- Add melted butter and sour cream and beat just until smooth
- Pour ingredients into pan and bake 1 hour and 10 minutes or until firm around edges. I try not to open oven
- TURN OFF OVEN but do not open oven – Let stand for TWO hours in the oven
- After two hours take out cheesecake–
- Re-heat the oven to 450 degrees
- Spread topping mix evenly over middle of cake – leave a good edge – Bake for 5 minutes
- Remove from oven and refrigerate.



## WHY A "TIKKUN LEIL" FOR SHAVUOT

According to Midrash, on the night before the Torah was given, the Jews went to sleep to be well rested for the big day ahead. Unfortunately, they failed to rise early, and Moses had to come to wake them up to meet God. The thunder and lightning were earth and eardrum shattering (Remember Rabbi Ed and that powerful moment of Shofar blowing some years ago!!)

To repair (tikkun) this flaw in our national character, religious Jews stay up all night to learn Torah (a practice begun by the mystics of Safed/Ts'fat in the 16th c.). Any subject may be learned, although Talmud, Mishnah and Torah typically top the list. In many communities, classes and lectures in the wee hours of the morning are offered for men and women. In Jerusalem, thousands of people

finish off the nighttime study session by walking on foot to the Kotel before dawn and joining the sunrise minyan there. This walk reminds us of Shavuot's status as one of the three Biblical pilgrimage festivals, when the entire Jewish nation living in the land of Israel journeyed to Jerusalem to celebrate.

We may not take a long walk or stay until the truly wee hours, but we will do our best to make it past 10:00 p.m. with Dr. Bernie Ginsberg leading us in study of the book of Ruth (see poster on p. 25). Do try to have a goodly number of dairy desserts on hand so you can stay strong and well nourished. We are including a few recipes you might like to use in honor of God's promise to lead us to "the land flowing with milk and honey."

## IF YOU EVER WONDERED . . . THE ORIGIN OF YIZKOR PRAYERS

The custom of reciting Yizkor on the solemn holiday of Yom Kippur began in Germany in the eleventh century following the devastation of Rhineland Jewry during the Crusades, a trauma that was exacerbated in the fourteenth century when Jews were butchered because non-Jews were convinced that they caused the Black Plague. It was originally a personal family prayer recited to remember their dead, but it soon became a prayer recited within a community in synagogues on Yom Kippur.

The custom spread eastward very quickly, and Polish Jews supplemented it with a prayer remembering the Jewish victims of the 1648 Cossack massacre under the leadership of Bogdan Chmielnicki. The Polish Jews also extended the recital of Yizkor beyond the sole recitation on Yom Kippur to the last days of the three festivals Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot. (quoted from a book review by Israel Drazin of "May God Remember," edited by Rabbi Dr. Lawrence J. Hoffman)

### The Yizkor Prayer

May God remember the soul of my beloved \_\_\_\_\_ who has passed to his/her eternal rest. I pledge charity in his/her name and pray that his/her soul be kept among the immortal souls of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Leah and all the righteous men and women in heaven. Amen.



## *Counting the Omer: A Jewish Renewal Perspective*

*Lucinda Kurtz & Jane Blumenthal*

What is “Counting the Omer?” In biblical times, when the Israelites were an agricultural society, the people were commanded to bring an offering of their first harvest (Leviticus 23) and then to count 50 days and bring an offering from the second harvest. The 50<sup>th</sup> day coincided with the festival of Shavuot. The amount of the offering was a measure of grain known as the omer, and the period of 50 days of counting became over time to be known as Counting the Omer.

Why does this matter to our nonagricultural modern society, when most of us do not grow our own grain of any kind and have no idea how much grain is in an omer? Over time, the first offering came to be identified with Passover, the commemoration of our leaving slavery, and Shavuot, the time of the second offering, came to be identified with the giving of the Torah. The period of counting became a reenactment, on a spiritual plane, of the journey from Egypt to Sinai.

Still later, the Kabbalists associated various attributes of divine energy (sephiroth) with each week and each day of the week during this period, and this informs our practice today. The Tree of Life, the underlying foundational structure of Kabbalah,

has become central to the practice of counting the Omer. It gives us a way of understanding and exploring the flow of Divine Energy through us as human beings as we make this spiritual journey. The attributes are a suite of qualities and are difficult to name in one word, but can be understood as: lovingkindness, strength, balance, endurance, humility, creativity, and indwelling presence.

This time of special counting ushers in a period of introspection and spiritual preparation for receiving the Torah; it’s a time of leaving “mitzrayim,” a place of limitation, boundaries, and restraint and moving into a place of greater freedom and expansiveness. Each day offers a specific combination of attributes and challenges for us as we explore the simultaneous tension and cohesion between two aspects of the Divine, the energy of the week and the energy of the day, that move within us.

As Susan Windle eloquently states in *Through the Gates*, “Counting the Omer the mystic’s way is more than a mental exercise. We set our intention, our kavannah, to the possibilities of waking up to the presence of the Divine in our ordinary lives.” ◇

## Helpful Hints: A Recap of "Setting Boundaries and Codependence"

Adult Ed brought Mindy Agler and a wonderfully meaningful evening to us right before Passover. The timing was appropriate. After all, telling our story about escape from Egypt (Mitzraim in Hebrew, which also means "tight places") is metaphorically about freeing ourselves from what habits and behaviors restrict us and our own development as fully functional human beings. Thank you Mindy for sending us these reminders.

If you sometimes think you can change other people's behaviors, or you spend more time thinking about other people than about yourself, or you spend more time trying to take care of others than you do for yourself, you're not setting healthy boundaries with those other people.

It's healthy to care for yourself before you care for anyone else, to communicate with the other person in a way they can hear, to not stuff your feelings until you explode.

### **It's healthy to:**

- Be assertive—say what you mean, but don't say it mean

- Use I statements to state your feelings and your wants/needs:
- "I feel \_\_\_\_\_ when you \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_. I need you to \_\_\_\_\_."
- State consequences if you're sure you'll stick by them, and set boundaries and stick to them.

### **It's not healthy to:**

Enable, accept, tolerate, nag, yell, scream, make threats you have no intention of keeping, bribe, do something for the person that they are capable of doing themselves.

Healthy boundaries are not about changing the other person—you don't have the power to do that—they're about taking care of yourself, about setting a good example of self-care, about not accepting the unacceptable, or tolerating the intolerable, and about not being the victim or the martyr.

### *Always remember:*

God, Grant Me the Serenity  
to Accept the People I Cannot Change,  
the Courage to Change the Person I Can, and  
the Wisdom to Know That Person is Me.



Gratitude

# Strings: A Musing on Gratitude

By Mindy Agler

I wrote the following 2 years ago, 7 years after losing our daughter, Talia, of blessed memory. It is a musing on how my gratitude practice had changed since our loss. I hope you find it thought-provoking.

For years, I had a practice of praying every night, always starting by giving thanks for my husband, each of my children by name, family, health, home, peace, (when the country was not at war—I told you I’ve been doing this a long time), goodness, beauty, a long list of blessings that lulled me into a peaceful sleep.

And then after a cancer diagnosis, I began writing the list of “gratefuls” every night, putting it on paper, cementing it not only in my mind but also in the reality of ink in a journal. Years of lists, filling journal after journal after journal: “Thank You for Rich, Jesse, Tali, Sarah, family, friends, our health, home, goodness, beauty, laughter, love, dogs, my senses, my body, Creation.” Most nights all the same, with an occasional addition. Consciously practicing gratitude, making it an active verb in my life, determining to take nothing for granted.

And then we lost Tali. But I kept writing, in the beginning keeping the focus on gratitude, even the night after the accident, but as the days and weeks passed, slowly, then furiously, adding wider arcs of feelings, spilling them across the pages, with no form, smearing the ink with my tears, tearing the pages with pressure on the pen fueled by rage and pain, fantasizing about different outcomes, writing to her, about her, even from her,

And then, sprinkling bits of gratitude back in, filling journal after journal after journal with all the messiness of loss and healing.

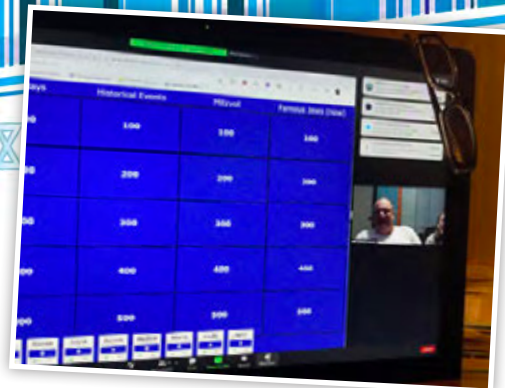
And suddenly a blazing realization that all those entries in my thought or written gratitude lists had been made with strings attached. Thank you for Rich (and keep him safe and healthy), that parenthetical phrase sent to the heavens like a weather balloon, tethered from the end of

the “h” in his name to the God I was thanking, my thanks contingent on the continuation of my having him in my life, healthy, happy, by my side, my partner, my love. And so it was with each blessing on my list. Thank you for them, and please keep them happy and healthy and close.

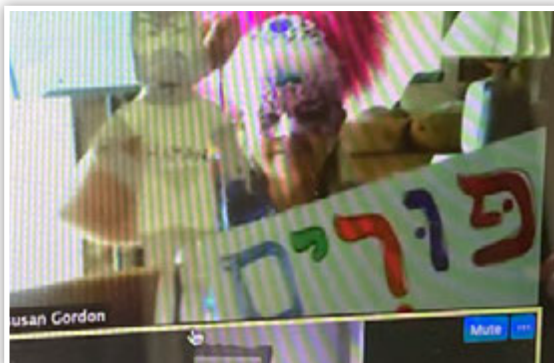
At that moment of realization and acknowledgement of the strings, my relationship with gratitude was fundamentally, completely, drastically, dramatically, and forever transformed. The strings were snipped, cut, severed with a blade so finely honed that there is no chance they will ever re-attach. The list now stands in a purer atmosphere. My sense of gratitude now is three-dimensional, a living, breathing entity, always before me, hovering, bouncing, skipping, floating on the wind, translucent, sparkling, filled with light and prisms, free of restraints, and eternal, in no danger of being snuffed out by change. The blessings I list are now headlined by the “givens” that used to be the focus: “Family, friends, health, home, goodness, beauty, laughter...” I keep the awareness of these blessings close to me throughout each day. But the written list has become specific to each day, and contains a minimum of three blessings. This serves to keep me mindful during the day, and to turn my focus from the hurts and challenges that could all too easily consume me. This practice keeps my eyes open so that I may see “Wherever I gaze, the bush burns unconsumed.” I am surrounded by blessings, and moved to note them. Tonight, I will include the black and white moth I spied on the porch, the doe and her 2 fawns I saw on my afternoon walk, and the cool air of the mountain.

And what of those strings that were cut? They litter the paths I have walked, with their different colors and textures, lengths and thicknesses, but I have no need of them and leave them where they fell. Perhaps a bird will find them, and weave them between twigs to make a nest. And perhaps I will see that nest and add it to my gratitude list for that day.

# A look back at Purim



Everyone got into the act in our post Megillah reading game of Jewish Jeopardy. Gary Margolis (aka King Ahashverosh) did a terrific job as benevolent despotic host. Linda Pollack tied with Jeff Margulies for resident smarties.



No, not Zorro!  
Maybe a  
well-masked  
Morfechai?





Yes, Yardená came to Purim as a bunny rabbit. Definitely a recyclable costume. The Zoom modality of interaction did nothing to damp down the high spirits of our spirited reading of the “ganza megillah” and the fiercely competitive game afterwards (great job hosting, King A, aka Gary Margolis, and reader of questions, Laurie Blum.



Medina's glasses once had a flamingo on them. She too did great at Jewish Jeopardy. What fun!



Welcome to Purim, teddy bear.



Always glad when people from away come to join us. Welcome, Linda Perloff.

Joyce Peckman almost ready to put “Haman's ears” in the oven.





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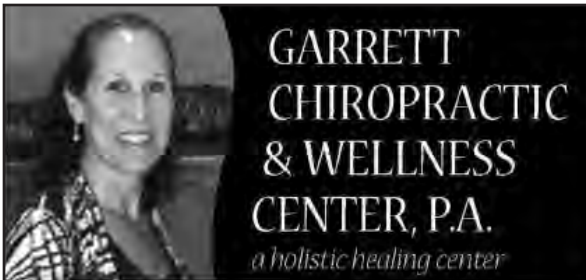
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# Chai~Lights



June 1 - July 31, 2021

21 Sivan -- 22 Av 5781

**World Jewish Report – pages 17-19**

**On Recent Hostilities – pages 22-23**

**Almost-Post-Pandemic Musings – pages 24-25**

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# June 1 - July 31, 2021

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 JUN	7 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	8	9	10	11 Steve Hartz <i>Jane &amp; Steve Friedman</i> <i>Jan &amp; Steve Hartz</i> <i>Max Finklestein &amp; Janis Remer</i>	12
13 KJCC Board Meeting 10 a.m.	14 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	15	16	17	18 Ken Atlas <i>Gloria Avner</i>	19
20	21 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	22	23	24	25 Donna Bolton & Erica Lieberman-Garrett <i>Sisterhood</i>	26
27	28 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	29	30	1 JUL	2 Sisterhood <i>Sisterhood</i>	3
4	5 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	6	7	8	9 Joe Shabathai <i>Joyce Peckman</i>	10
11	12 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	13	14	15	16 Yardena Kamely <i>Beth Hayden</i>	17
18	19 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	20	21	22	23 Art Itkin <i>Gary Margolis &amp; Laurie Blum</i>	24
25	26 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	27	28	29	30 Laurie Blum <i>Sisterhood</i>	31

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[chailights@keysjewishcenter.com](mailto:chailights@keysjewishcenter.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Joyce Peckman



The next several months will see us emerging from the fog and shadows of living with Covid. It is exciting to look forward to a new normal, hopefully, retaining the best of our previous normal with improvements that we have learned during this past year. The transition will probably be bumpy, with a little motion sickness from the uneven CDC guidance.

We are planning our first in-person Shabbat service on June 4th as a one-time “soft-opening” to test the procedures that we will probably have to use when we open for real on Rosh Hashanah. This service and the High Holy Days this year will be for members only – no guests, by reservation. For the High Holy Days, seats will be assigned. When registering for this service or the High Holidays, please indicate which quadrant of the shul you prefer – right front or left rear, etc. (Email [President@Keysjewishcenter.com](mailto:President@Keysjewishcenter.com) at least a few days ahead.) The aim is to space people out. We are also asking for proof of vaccination which you can email to me at [Joycepeckman@gmail.com](mailto:Joycepeckman@gmail.com). (Let me know if you have a problem with that request.) Because we want to sing softly, everyone is asked to wear masks. The

service will be led by me and either zoomed or (hopefully) live-streamed. (There will be a learning curve here. We are looking for people willing to help out with manning the technology.) The Oneg Shabbat will remain virtual for now. Any socializing before or after services should take place outside of the building.

As much as it pains me to set so many constraints, there are so many new findings each week that we would rather be overly cautious, than have a single person become ill. I am looking forward to seeing some of you in all three dimensions, not just on a screen. We have a new working projector and hope to have lectures and a film series in the fall.

Rosh Hashanah this year falls on Tuesday, September 7th. Cantor Dzubin has agreed to join us in the Keys. We are delighted to announce that Rabbi Agler and Mindy will be flying in from California to join us for High Holidays. Once again, Rabbi Agler, with Cantor Dzubin, will be leading our services.

I wish you a safe and enjoyable summer. ♦

# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

All activities remain on Zoom unless noted otherwise.  
Look for more details in the Tuesday message to members.

Every Monday	2 p.m. Drop-in Chat. Please contact us to be placed on mailing list.
Friday, June 11	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Steve Hartz
Sunday, June 13	10 a.m. KJCC board meeting
Friday, June 18	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Ken Atlas
Friday, June 25	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Donna Bolton & Erica Lieberman-Garrett
Monday, June 28	12:30 Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, July 2	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Sisterhood
Friday, July 9	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Joe Shabathai
Friday, July 16	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Yardena Kamely
Friday, July 23	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Art Itkin
Monday, July 26	12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, July 30	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Laurie Blum

## ONEG SPONSORS

June 4	Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum Beaux's 1 st anniversary of adoption Suzanne & Michael Gilson Suzanne's birthday	June 18	Gloria Avner Memory of Barry Avner Amelia & Steve Kasinof Amelia's birthday
June 11	Jane & Steve Friedman 25th anniversary Jan & Steve Hartz 45th anniversary Max Finklestein & Janis Remer Memory of Fred Remer	July 9	Joyce Peckman Joyce's birthday
		July 16	Beth Hayden Kohengi's birthday
		July 23	Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum Bama's birthday

## NOSH

### About Our KJCC Cookbook

The cookbook is slightly delayed but should be submitted to the publisher for publication no later than mid-June. It contains more than 200 recipes including some of the most popular recipes from our delicious KJCC dinners which, b'ezrat ha Shem, should be resuming sometime after the High Holy Days. Sisterhood will be advertising the book for sale beginning in July. Cost will be \$20. Covers and dividers have been custom designed by Randy Klein-Gross and Tomar Gross. Thanks to all who supported us by submitting recipes. Many thanks to our small committee who worked on and directed the cookbook: Donna Bolton, Susan Roberts and Linda Pollack. Kudos to Laurie Blum for her editing skills. This will make a great gift for the High Holydays.

### Drop-in Chat Change

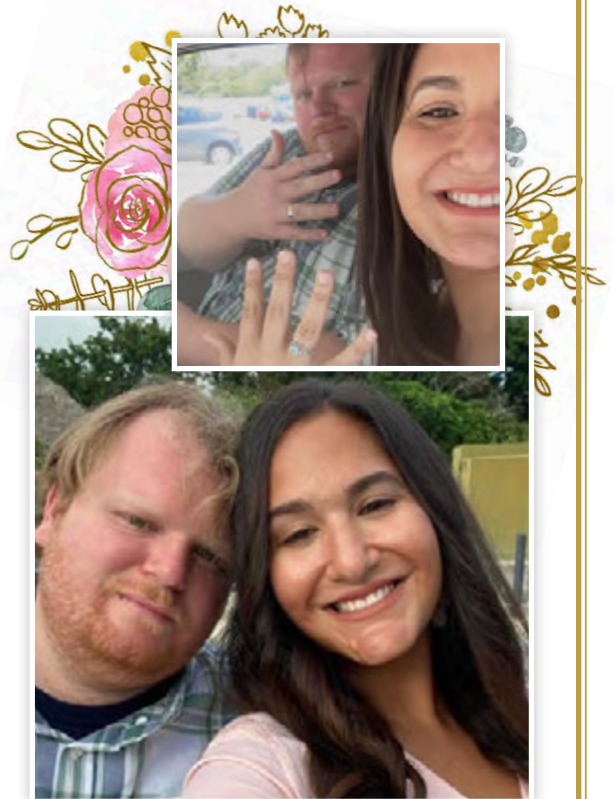
Monday 2 p.m. Drop-In Chat has been a welcoming Zoom space to share a virtual cup of coffee and the latest news, jokes, stories and concerns. Invitations had gone out from the KJCC Constant Contact to all members, but from now on it will be by personal email invitation to those who have dropped in this year. The Zoom will be handled by Laurie Blum through the summer. If you are not on the email list and want to be added, contact Laurie at [blum1212@gmail.com](mailto:blum1212@gmail.com).

### Sisterhood Book Club

Rain or shine, summer or fall, the members of KJCC Sisterhood Book Club meet and enjoy discussions of our monthly selections on the last Monday of every month at 12:30 p.m. See P. 10 for poster and selections. Join in.

*Mazel Tov*  
*Rachael & Brandon Traina*

*Your KJCC mishpocha wishes you a  
beautiful and fulfilling married life.  
We are so happy for you.*



## 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.

### MARCH - MAY, 2021

#### Yahrzeit

Joan Wohl .....	Milton Wohl
Richard & Mindy Agler .....	Sylvia Agler
Stephen Harris .....	Lee Hartz
Adam & Judy Starr .....	Norman James Schuman
David & Pamela Marmar ....	Mercedes Pietromartire
Frank Rose .....	Rene Rose
Richard & Mindy Agler .....	Carol Steinberg
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies .....	Max Margulies
Marshall & Myra Kaplan .....	Gertrude Kaplan
	Les Reitman
Dorothy & Larry Wolfe .....	Rose Fine
Donna Forst .....	Erna Forst
Skip Rose .....	Milton Lang
	Morris Rose

#### In Memory/Honor of

#### Tzeddakah

Steve & Jan Hartz .... Purim-Keys to be the Change

#### In Memory/Honor of

#### Meditation Garden

Start & Lauren Sax ..... Sam & Lilyan Sax  
Jan Shutan

#### Unrestricted

Stephen Harris  
Sanford Yankow  
Lenore Sherman  
Terry Willner-Tainow ..... Ron Cole

#### Library

Barney Coltman ..... Louis R Coltman

## SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

#### Oneg Sponsorship

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum .....	Beaux's 1st anniversary of adoption
Suzanne & Michael Gilson .....	Suzanne's birthday
Steve & Jane Friedman .....	25th Anniversary
Jan & Steve Hartz .....	45th Anniversary
Max Finklestein & Janis Remer .....	Memory of Fred Remer
Gloria Avner .....	Memory of Barry Avner
Amelia & Steve Kasinof .....	Amelia's birthday
Joyce Peckman .....	Joyce's birthday
Beth Hayden .....	Kohengi's birthday
Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum .....	Bama's birthday

#### In Memory/Honor of

## Shabbat Service Leaders

June 04 .....	Joyce Peckman
June 11 .....	Steve Hartz
June 18 .....	Ken Atlas
June 25 .....	Donna Bolton & Erica Lieberman-Garrett

July 02 .....	Sisterhood
July 09 .....	Joe Shabathai
July 16 .....	Yardena Kamely
July 23 .....	Art Itkin
July 30 .....	Laurie Blum

# ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

**BOOKPLATES** for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto: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 ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, 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 Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at [hippiejap@hotmail.com](mailto:hippiejap@hotmail.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.

**CARING KEHILAH/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. The Caring Kehilah Committee is calling and checking in on our socially distant members. Call Laurie Blum, 414-698-5647, if you wish to request that someone be contacted.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES & ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

## June Birthdays

2nd.....	Barbara Osder	15th .....	William Bolton
2nd.....	Myra Kaplan	16th .....	Marvin Blumenfeld
3rd .....	Abraham Rakov	18th .....	Amelia Kasinof
3rd .....	Elanor Forbes	20th .....	Harvey Klein
5th .....	Dorothy Wolfe	21st.....	Aaron Quesada
5th .....	Joseph Sachs	21st.....	Nancy Hershoff
6th .....	Donna Bolton	21st.....	Roberta Chester
6th .....	Nancy Kluger	21st.....	Taryn Nobil
6th .....	Suzanne Gilson	22nd.....	James Patrick Brennan
7th .....	Carrie Smith	23rd .....	Dale Chasteen
7th .....	Joan P. Wohl	24th .....	Delaney Rohde
8th .....	Elaine Solas	24th .....	Rita Bromwich
9th .....	Renee Brodie	25th .....	Jake Benjamin Markowitz
9th .....	Zoe Berk-Moshe	27th .....	Frank Emkey
13th .....	Israel Mayk	27th .....	Kristy Moss
13th .....	Jeff Miller	28th .....	Alan Cooper
13th .....	Justin Greenbaum	30th .....	Bob Friedman
14th .....	Jennifer Nobil	30th .....	Milo Tainow

## 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.

## June Anniversaries

Years			Years		
1st	Joel Bernard & Joan Stark .....	35	19th	Richard & Mindy Agler.....	45
5th	Erica Lieberman–Garrett & Ron Garrett ...	27	21st	Nelson & Roberta Chester.....	51
7th	Richard & Sheila Steinberg.....	62	23rd	Stuart & Lauren Sax.....	47
8th	Steve & Jane Friedman.....	25	28th	Wes & Rita Conklin.....	51
10th	Scott & Sharon Greenstein.....	37	28th	Lloyd & Rae Wruble .....	52
12th	Steven & Jan Hartz.....	45	29th	Oran Kurtz & Lucinda Hesterman.....	
12th	William & Donna Bolton.....	28	29th	Jerry & Betty Small.....	52

## July Anniversaries

	Years		Years		
2nd	Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross..	21	18th	Gary & Laurie Grossinger.....	
9th	Terry Willner-Tainow & Jon Tainow.	49			

## July Birthdays

1st.....	Alex Hudson	17th.....	Shira Goldman
1st.....	Chely Markowitz	19th.....	Matt Hesterman-Kutz
1st.....	Eitan Loi-Kamely	20th.....	Lyn Sherman
1st.....	Jennifer Gilson	20th.....	Roos-mary Benowitz
1st.....	Nelson Chester	21st.....	Arlington Garrett
1st.....	Patti Gross	21st.....	Brian Smith
2nd.....	Dan Levi	21st.....	Joshua Samuel Bernstein
2nd.....	Rabbi Ed Rosenthal	21st.....	Linda Perloff
3rd.....	Joseph Moss	22nd.....	Millie Tainow
3rd.....	Max Finklestein	23rd.....	Barat Barefoot
3rd.....	Michael Kaufman	23rd.....	Carrie Temkin
4th.....	Mindy Rosenthal	25th.....	Alan Markowitz
7th.....	Lucy Moss	27th.....	Marc Bloom
8th.....	Gary Sherman	27th.....	Rachael Traina
9th.....	Joyce Peckman	28th.....	Lila E. Juenger
11th.....	Steven Hartz	29th.....	Andy Loi-Kamely
12th.....	Dana Grace	29th.....	Barry Neumann
12th.....	Miriam Frankel	29th.....	Bruce Boruszak
12th.....	Rebecca M. Schur	29th.....	Candy Stanlake
12th.....	Richard Steinberg	29th.....	Mary Lee Singer
13th.....	Dot Brooking	30th.....	Molly Bloom
13th.....	Leslie Reamer	31st.....	Drew Nobil
14th.....	David Gross	31st.....	Linda Levi
14th.....	Paul Eric Bernstein	31st.....	Mark Steinberg
17th.....	John David Hawver		

# *In Memoriam – June 2021*

**David Gitin**

By Gloria Avner

**Lucy Kaufman**

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

**Candi Steinbock**

By Stephen Steinbock

**Laura Bofshever**

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

**Emilia Mendez**

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

**Rose Fine**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

**Louis R. Coltman**

By Barnet O. Coltman

**Abraham L. Blumenfeld**

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

**Fred Doellefeld**

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

**Sharon Grossinger**

By Gary & Laurie Grossinger

**Lois Owen**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Morris Rose**

By Skip Rose

**Samuel Horn**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

**John Carson**

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

**Harold Rosenthal**

By Ed & Mindy Rosenthal

**Les Reitman**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Andrew Hutchison**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

**Jan Finer**

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

**Ruth Rosen**

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

**Sydney Emsig**

By Lawrence Jacobs

**Leonard Tobin**

By Andrew M. Tobin

**Samuel Segal**

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

**Celestina Bravo-Mendez**

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

**Miriam Margulies**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

**William Owen**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Arthur Klimpl**

By Michael Klimpl

**Jean Shaw**

By Skip Rose

**Jack L. Gould**

By Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

**Jacob Maxwell Klimpl**

By Michael Klimpl

**Carl Roy**

By Medina Roy

**Sylvia Hershoff**

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

**Fred Ross**

By Joyce Peckman

**Wally Steinberg**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Pearl Jacobs**

By Lawrence Jacobs

**Milton Lang**

By Skip Rose

**Mark White**

By Susan White

**Leon Kirschenbaum**

By Medina Roy

# *In Memoriam – July 2021*

**Jack Steinberg**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

**Sidney Stark**

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

**Beth Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Phyliss Bloom**

By Marc Bloom

**Zelda Edelman**

By Dale Chasteen

**Stanley H. Klipper**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Gary W. Cohn**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Ethel Feinberg**

By Hanna David

**Olga Schuman**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Manuel Hershoff**

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

**Ronald Horn**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

**Samuel Wainer**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Jacob Ratchik**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

**Margaret Isenberg**

By Patricia Isenberg

**Mack Swartz**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Chanoch Levy**

By Yardena Kamely

**Shirley Lieberman**

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Ralph Tallent**

By Lillian Tallent

**Mollie Lawent**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Frank Stanley Sachs**

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

**Frieda Feinberg**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

**Nettie Goodman**

By Gloria Avner

**Morgan Rowen**

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

**Alan Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Ralph Bofshever**

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

**Harvey Kelman**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Bernard Solas**

By Elaine Solas

**Sandra Kanarek**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Manya Starr**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Mollie Z. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Nathan Herson**

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

**Meyer G. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Erwin Wainer**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Sheldon David Horowitz**

By Beth Horowitz

**Ben Steinbock**

By Stephen Steinbock

**Milton Swartz**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Otto Kluger**

By Nancy Kluger

**Ida R. Estrin**

By Lillian Tallent

**Alfred Eichler**

By Judith Weber

**Isaac Cohen Pardo**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

**Albert White**

By Susan White

**Henrietta Zinner**

By Donald Zinner



# Sisterhood Book Club

~ Books and dates for the coming three months ~

Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

until further notice ~

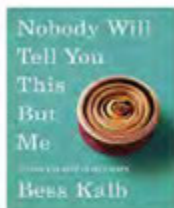
May 24, 2021 ~ *Meet Me at the Museum* by Anne Youngson

June 28, 2021 - *Nobody Tells You This But Me* by Bess Kalb

July 26, 2021 - *The Butterfly's Daughter* by Mary Alice Monroe



An epistolary novel consisting of letters between a farm wife living in England and a Danish museum curator



A funny, warm, and brilliantly original memoir in which a grandmother speaks to her granddaughter from beyond the grave, telling, with candor and irresistible humor, stories from both their lives



An informative and entertaining read about both the monarch butterfly and a group of women journeying across the U.S. to Mexico.

Email Joyce (joycepeckman@gmail.com) before the meeting date to let her know you will be attending and she will send you an invitation to Zoom.

## SISTERHOOD

### Beth Hayden



This has certainly been a year that none of us could have imagined. It was January of 2020 when the new Sisterhood Board was sworn in. Sisterhood, following the February Annual Meeting prepared a delicious luncheon, as always and went on towards the end of February to combine Shabbat Across America with the new members/advertisers dinner. Sisterhood met with great plans and projects and no inkling of a disease called Covid-19. That all changed in March of 2020. The KJCC Board, after a compelling address from Bernie Ginsberg, decided to cancel all forthcoming events. There would be no 40th gala, no dinners, no Onegs, no Women's Seder, no First-night Seder, no Beiner Antiquities Dedication, no Shabbabaque, no Sisterhood June luncheon, and no group gatherings. So we learned to Zoom. We could be together but remain apart. Our computers and phones became our links to the outside world. And Sisterhood remained a bedrock of stability for the KJCC. Sisterhood undertook compiling a cookbook, which is, as I write this, very close to submission for publication – if you are looking for a nice gift for someone in the late summer or early fall – consider purchasing a copy of "Recipes from the Rock". Someone will be very grateful.

The Keys had roadblocks in place until June 1st. Covid cases were in single and double digits, but that would soon change with the lifting of the roadblocks. But Sisterhood rallied and came through – we offered a virtual Rosh HaShanah dinner on September 18 th with a challah bake led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett the day before. In September of 2020, Sisterhood made its annual donation to the KJCC. Sisterhood resumed every other month meetings in November of 2020 via

Zoom. We offered a second challah bake led by Jane Friedman prior to the November 6 th Shabbat Project virtual dinner. That was followed by sharing some of the latke recipes from Sisterhood's cookbook with our KJCC family. Sisterhood also offered a virtual Chanukah Celebration on December 11 th . We continued to send out letters for Oneg Sponsorships despite our altered circumstances and the KJCC response was nothing short of extraordinary. We needed a new Recording Secretary and Janis Remer, a relatively new KJCC member, rose to the occasion as Erica Lieberman-Garrett also responded to the need for someone to coordinate the Onegs. Sisterhood once again in 2021 donated to the KJCC, and, despite holding no Women's Seder which has been our traditional funding source for Tikun HaOlam, managed also to donate very generously to Keys to be the Change, which operates a program assisting families of school children in need of food here in Key Largo. Sisterhood also donated to the Talia Agler Girls Shelter in Nairobi, Kenya. Covid, indeed, slowed Sisterhood down, but in no way knocked it out.

Now it begins to look as though we may be close to the end of the Covid-mandated isolation. Hopefully, we can look forward to limited attendance in person for High Holydays with additional attendance via Zoom. Hopefully, everyone is vaccinated and ready to move on. With many thanks to our Sisterhood members who have kept us going with creativity and innovation. Todah milibi.◇

### Happy to be Home

Friday night, June 4, KJCC congregants were back in our sanctuary for the first time in 15 months. There were smiles behind the masks as we greeted each other for this “soft opening.” The feeling of gratitude to be there, in each other’s and our Torah’s presence, was palpable, a very good thing.



Thank you, Joyce, for leading an excellent and meaningful service.





So good to see the Kaufman family again. We've all missed Sean's youthful energy.



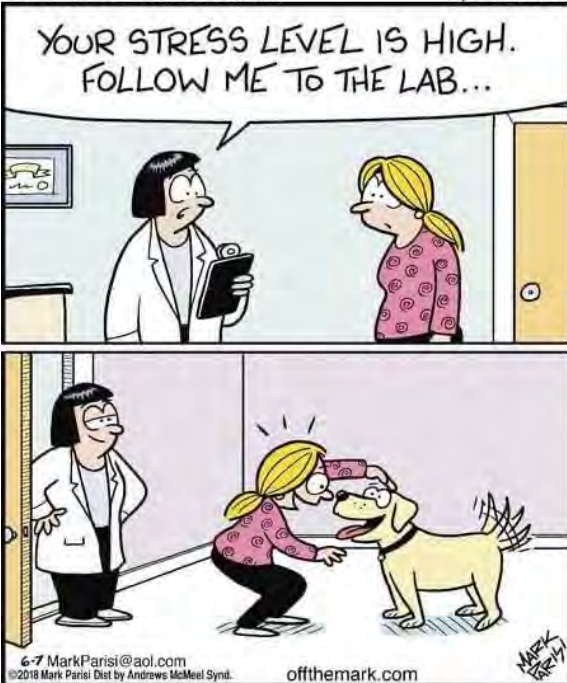


**“Look Mom, I can see!”**  
Laurie Blum with Beaux, her previously blind puppy. He had an operation and now he can see out of one eye!!



We love seeing KJCC MASCOT Buddy at Monday afternoon check-ins.

**off the mark.com** by Mark Parisi



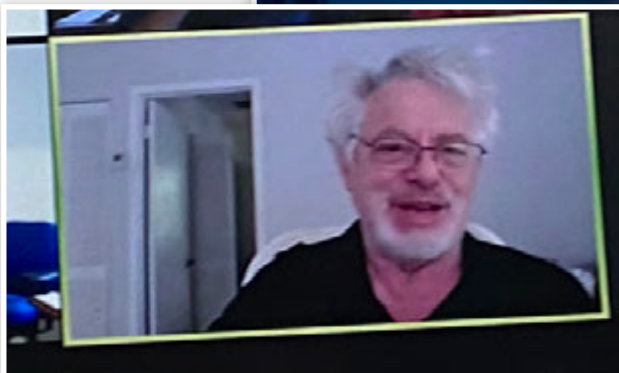
Happy Birthday, Kohengi!



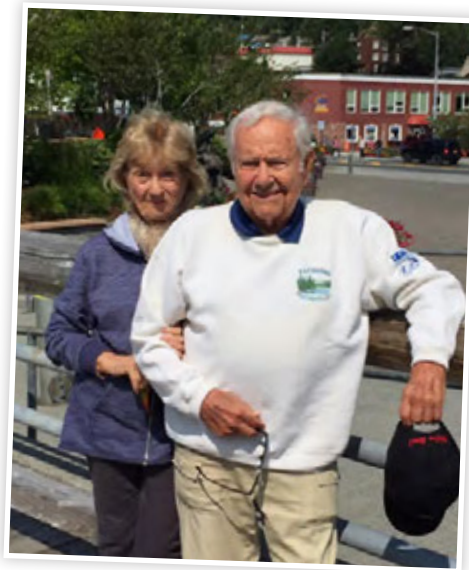
Lucky much loved Linda Pollack sits beaming while surrounded by multiple generations of family wishing her a happy Birthday. Mazel Tov!

Linda Pollack and Skip Rose

We've been really enjoying our Lunch and Learn sessions studying the fascinating David Saga with Rabbi Agler.



Bernie Ginsberg loves the story of Ruth. He calls it the most unique of all biblical stories because it has all happy endings. And we love celebrating our Leil Shavuot learning with his cheerful "drasha."

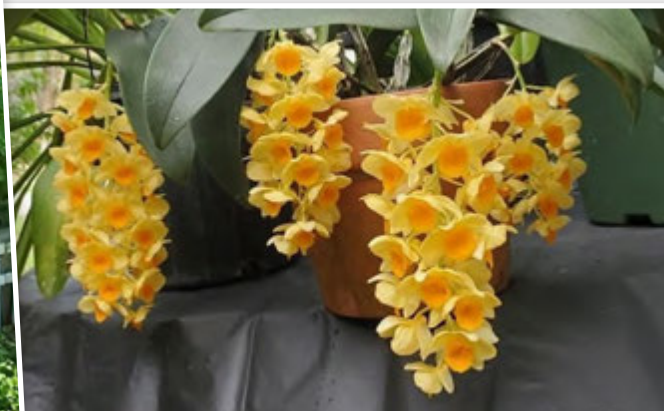




**Rachel Traina and Maddie Bloom know how to enjoy the Keys summer weather.**



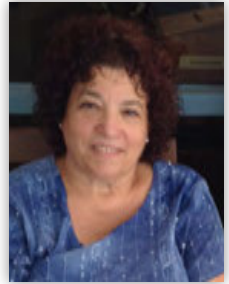
**Gloria has made greeting cards from some of her favorite paintings. These dancing rabbis are celebrating Shabbat, or some other simcha. A Mazel Tov, a siman Tov.**



**Jane Friedman, harvesting veggies for the Food Bank. Jane's orchids are prolific as well as beautiful this season. Magic hands and generous heart.**

## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

### Medina Roy



#### Elie Wiesel Honored

Washington's National Cathedral is known for its role during presidential inaugurations and other days of national importance. The Human Rights Porch, visible as one enters the cathedral and a popular tourist attraction, hosts a variety of sculptures including Mother Teresa, Rosa Parks and Oscar Romero, the El Salvador archbishop who was assassinated in 1980 while saying mass. The cathedral is not just a Christian shrine (though it is indeed that). It also pays tribute to those throughout the 20th century who stand as moral examples. And now the cathedral is honoring Nobel Peace Laureate Elie Wiesel. His bust on the Human Rights Porch will make him the first Jew to be so honored. Rev. Randy Hollerith, the cathedral's dean, said of the decision to honor Wiesel, "...to have him in this cathedral is also a reminder for everyone who walks through those doors of the reality of the Holocaust and what happened and that must never be forgotten." The cathedral belongs to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, but its mission is to be "a sacred space where the country gathers during moments of national significance" and to be open to all faiths. Wiesel's widow Marion said, "Not only does his presence in the National Cathedral memorialize his life and honor his commitment to human rights; it also ensures that new generations will learn from his teachings and carry the lessons of his life forward into the future." ([www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com), 4-28-21)

#### Tree of Life Hope, Resilience and Renewal

Daniel Libeskind, the internationally celebrated architect who designed the new World Trade Master Plan in New York following the September 11th attack in 2001, has been chosen as lead architect to reimagine the site of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue. The renovation is part of the REMEMBER.REBUILD.RENEW. campaign to memorialize the events of October 27, 2018, when a

white supremacist gunman murdered eleven worshippers during Shabbat services held at the three congregations that were housed in the building, the most violent anti-Semitic attack in United States history. Following a search by the Tree of Life board of trustees and steering committee, eleven architects submitted applications for the project. Libeskind, the son of two Holocaust survivors, was selected unanimously. "When my parents...and I came as immigrants to America, we felt an air of freedom as Jews in this country," Libeskind said. "...this project is not simply about 'Never Again.' It is a project that must address the persistence of antisemitism and the intolerance of our time and affirm the democratic values of our country." In addition to commemorating the 2018 massacre, the reimagined space will include classrooms, areas for worship and reflection along with exhibitions and public programs of the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. Libeskind's previous projects include the Jewish Museum in Berlin and the National Holocaust Monument in Ottawa, Canada. ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 5-4-21)

#### No Justice For Sarah Halimi

On April 7, 2017, Kobili Traore, a 27-year-old devout Muslim man with a history of anti-Semitic behavior, killed his upstairs neighbor Sarah Halimi, a 65-year-old Jewish kindergarten teacher and retired physician in a town in eastern France. He was "troubled by Halimi's mezuzah." Traore broke into Halimi's apartment and began beating her savagely for about 30 minutes, shouting "I've killed the devil of the neighborhood." He then threw her body out the window of her third-floor apartment. This past April, four years later, France's highest court determined Traore, now

31, was not criminally liable for his actions because he “was having a psychotic episode induced by his use of a large amount of marijuana shortly before the killing.”

The court affirmed rulings by lower tribunals. (Interestingly, in France, a man who threw his dog from his fourth-floor apartment was sentenced to a year in prison.) Outraged by the high court’s ruling, Jack Brouda, a French-Jewish judge, resigned his post. This was followed by a march of some 26,000 protesters – many of them non-Jews – demonstrating in Paris against the ruling and demanded a trial for Traore. Simultaneous demonstrations were held all over France as well as Tel Aviv, London, Los Angeles, Miami and New York. Halimi’s murder is one of a string of anti-Semitic murders that have shaken French Jews in recent years. Following the rally in Paris, Anne Hidalgo, mayor of the 4th District (also known as the Marais, which was the heart of Jewish life in Paris before the Holocaust) announced that a street will be named for Sarah Halimi. French President Emmanuel Macron is calling for a change in his country’s legal system. ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com), 4-17-21, and [www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 4-30-21)

### Chatting with Sperm Whales?

Marine scientists from the University of Haifa, along with other researchers from top universities around the world, are hoping to learn how to communicate with sperm whales. We know that whales communicate with one another, but it would be an amazing breakthrough if we could understand what they say and communicate back to them. The ambitious five-year project is taking place in Domenica in the Caribbean. The scientists will be joined by colleagues in marine biology, marine acoustics, artificial intelligence and linguistics from Harvard University, The City University of New York, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and others. The whales make a clicking sound at varying frequencies when they are with other whales. The scientists are wondering if this is just a simple code or a true language. The researchers hope that if they gather enough data about the whale’s voices – plus the context in which the sounds are used and understood and the behavior and motivation behind these sounds – they can develop an algorithm which will determine whether the whales have an authentic language and if we can communicate with them on their terms. Sperm whales are considered a

vulnerable species. They have the largest brains, more than five times heavier than those of humans. And like humans, they live in tight-knit family groups and have a complex communication system. Sperm whales can grow to 68 feet and live for 70 years or more. They are crucial to our environment because they keep carbon out of the atmosphere, support our supply of oxygen and increase marine life. They are also, both scientifically and esthetically, magnificent. ([www.israel21c.org](http://www.israel21c.org), 4-21-21)

### In Memoriam

- Rabbi Robert Marx, a social justice advocate and leading Reform rabbi who marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and drew inspiration from the iconic civil rights leader, died in April. He was 93. Born in Cleveland, Rabbi Marx witnessed white Chicagoans throwing rocks and bottles at civil rights marchers during the summer of 1966. During that march, he sat guard in front of a pile of rocks in order to prevent the racist protesters from using them. “What I saw in Gage Park seared my soul,” Marx wrote in a letter to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (now called the Union for Reform Judaism). “I was afraid and I am afraid now. I saw how the concentration camp could have occurred, and how men’s hatred could lead them to kill.”

Rabbi Marx marched alongside Dr. King in August of 1966, as he had in the famed Selma march of 1965. Marx’s legacy lives on through the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, a group devoted to social justice causes in Chicago that he founded in 1964. Marx also founded the Hakafa congregation on the city’s North Shore in 1983, which grew from just a few families to hundreds of members. His Jewish Council fought racist housing policies and policing tactics and he became one of the country’s leading Reform activists. Rabbi Marx ran Congregation Solel in Highland Park from 1973 to 1983. After losing his 15-year-old son to a longstanding illness, He co-wrote a book, “Facing the Ultimate Loss,” to help other grieving parents. ([www.chicagotribune.com](http://www.chicagotribune.com), 4-6-21)

- Rep. Alcee Hastings, the Florida Democrat representing the 20th Congressional District, the majority black neighborhoods in and around Ft. Lauderdale, died in April at the age of 84. Hastings made Jewish allies in his early days as a civil rights lawyer because he advocated for Jewish

issues and helped guide Black-Jewish relations through periods of tension. He won a number of civil rights victories in the 1960s and '70s when segregation and racism were prevalent in South Florida. As a federal judge, Hastings was impeached by Congress in 1988 in a bribery scandal but was acquitted in criminal court. He was convicted in the Senate but not banned from holding public office. He came back to public life in 1992, defeating the favored (and Jewish) candidate Lois Frankel in the Democratic primary before winning in the general election. (Years later, Hastings and Frankel became close friends.) Once in Congress, Hastings was considered the pro-Israel's community's most reliable ally in the Congressional Black Caucus. He often spoke out against anti-Semitism in Europe and elsewhere and called for the preservation of Jewish heritage sites. He was among the minority of Democrats who voted against the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, which was strongly opposed by Israel and many in the pro-Israel community. Hastings nurtured the Black-Jewish alliance and spearheaded the raising of a forest in Israel in 2007 to replace one that was destroyed during the previous year's war with Hezbollah. He named it for the civil rights icon, Coretta Scott King. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 4-6-21)

### Did You Know...

- Academy Award winner Helen Mirren will portray Golda Meir in an upcoming biopic focusing on her time as prime minister in 1973, during the period of the Yom Kippur War. In March, another production about Meir, "Lioness," was announced, a series with Shira Haas (of "Unorthodox" and "Shtisel" fame) portraying Meir from her birth in Kiev to her American upbringing in Milwaukee, her role in the formation of the State of Israel, and her rise to become the new nation's first and (so far) only female prime minister. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 4-7-21)
- In April, an Israeli artist set the Guinness World Record for the longest megillah scroll, the Book of Esther. Avner Moriah's creation is over 30 yards long, just about the length of a basketball court. It took him 15 years and more than a million brush strokes. He calls it the "Ganze Megillah." ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 4-24-21)
- Steven Spielberg is not only donating his Genesis prize winnings but will also match the sum with \$1 million of his own money to help both Jewish and non-Jewish groups that are working to

promote racial and economic justice. He plans to split the money among ten organizations. "Judaism and Jewish history begin with two narratives: Genesis and Exodus, stories about creation and liberation from oppression, about the discovery of the moral voice and of human dignity," Spielberg said. "From these accounts come the ethical precepts commanding us to work for a more just and equitable world." All past recipients of The Genesis Prize, nicknamed the "The Jewish Nobel," have also donated their winnings to philanthropic causes. ([www.abcnews.go.com](http://www.abcnews.go.com), 3-25-21)

- Rabbi Moshe Dov Ber Beck was a major leader of the Neturei Karta, an extremist anti-Zionist ultra-Orthodox sect. Beck died in April from complications of COVID. His anti-Zionist group began in 1938. It opposes the modern state of Israel based on the belief that only God can return the Jewish people to the land of Israel and reinstate Jewish sovereignty at the time of the coming of the Messiah. The group has met with Holocaust deniers and leaders of the Iranian government who have threatened Israel with extermination. (Even the leader of the Satmar Hasidic sect – also an anti-Zionist Orthodox group – had condemned the Neturei Karta.) In 2006, Neturei Karta participated in a Holocaust denial convention in Tehran, Iran. And in 2008, Beck was among its leaders who met with Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in New York one day after the Iranian president made an anti-Semitic speech at the United Nations. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 4-17-21). ◇





## Jewish Holidays Between Shavuot and Rosh Hashanah


Summer at KJCC is our slow time, our off season, so to speak. Yet, Judaism doesn't take time off. There are several Jewish holidays throughout our summer months that help remind us of our history. As this is being written, Israel is defending herself against attacks. Funny, that no matter how much things change, things remain the same. These holidays coming before Rosh Hashanah allow us to greet the New Year with much thanks and gratitude that our Nation, that we as Jews, are still not only a presence in this world, but a strong presence.


**THE 17TH OF TAMUZ – JUNE 27, 2021** – This holiday is known as Shiva Asar B'Tamuz (17th of Tamuz). It is the start of a 3 week mourning period for the destruction of Jerusalem and both Temples. It is a fast day. Yet, other events in Jewish history also occurred on this day. Moses broke the tablets on this day when he saw the Children of Israel worshipping the golden calf. The Babylonians sieged Jerusalem on this day, and the Jews were forced to stop their daily sacrificing/offerings due to a lack of sheep. The Babylonians were on their way to destroy the first Temple, which occurred 3 weeks later. The walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans on this date and 3 weeks

later, they destroyed the second Temple. Special prayers are said on this day, including the Slichot prayers which we say prior to Rosh Hashanah. Avinu Malkeinu is also recited. The Torah reading is about Moses asking Hashem to forgive the Israelites for their sin of worshipping the golden calf.

**THE THREE WEEKS** – This is a period of mourning the destruction of both Temples and the ongoing exile of the Jewish people. It concludes on the 9th of Av. During this 3 week period, no weddings are held. In more traditional Jewish communities, haircuts, new clothes purchases, and music are prohibited.

**THE NINE DAYS** – This is the period of the last 9 days of the 3 week mourning period. In addition to the prohibitions of the 3 weeks, during this period, the more orthodox and traditional communities prohibit eating meat and drinking wine (except for Shabbat and several other exceptions), laundering clothes (Again, there are a few exceptions and some work arounds.), swimming or bathing for pleasure, home remodeling, planting trees used for shade and fragrance, buying or making new clothes (Again, there are some exceptions.), and cutting nails during the actual week of the fast of Tisha B'Av. There is a bit of variation






in the Sephardic tradition for the 9 days. While not prohibited, traveling during the 9 days is not encouraged, unless it is necessary. Engagements are allowed but any engagement celebrations are prohibited until after Tisha B'Av. Even Rosh Chodesh, the sanctification of the new moon, is postponed until after Tisha B'Av, the 9th of Av. The mourning period of the 9 days actually lasts through the morning of the 10th of Av. The reason for this is that the Temple was set on fire on the 9th but burned through the 10th.

**TISHA B'AV– JULY 18, 2021** – This day is referred to as the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. It too is a fast day. On this day, the spies returned from the Promised Land with their reports. This resulted in the Children of Israel questioning going into the Promised Land and subsequently wandered in the desert for 40 years. Both Temples were destroyed on this day. The first by the Babylonians. The second by the Romans. The Bar Kochba revolt ended with the Jews being defeated. The Jews of Betar were murdered on Tisha B'Av and one year later the Romans plowed over the Temple Mount. While we know that the Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, that also occurred on Tisha B'Av, along with the 1290 expulsion of the Jews from England. Germany's declaration of war against Russia in 1914 was essentially the beginning of World War I and that secular calendar date corresponds to Tisha B'Av. Additionally, some historians have concluded

ed that World War II and the Shoah were actually a continuation of World War I, which previously noted began on the 9th of Av.

Most pleasurable activities are prohibited. Only subject matter relating to the destruction of the Temple and the laws of mourning are allowed to be studied. It is customary for the curtains of the ark to be removed and lights dimmed for evening prayers, which are followed by chanting/reading/studying Lamentations. There are no tallit and tefillin at morning services, as they are considered adornments. Work is allowed but discouraged, and if one has to work preferably it is done after mid-day. It is customary to give extra charity on this day and on all fast days. For afternoon prayers, the ark's curtain can be returned. The restrictions of the 9 days extends thru the morning of the 10th of Av. Tachanun (Penitential prayers) is omitted on Tisha B'Av. If Tisha B'Av falls on a Thursday, and of course, if it falls on Shabbat, the rules are amended so that one can prepare for Shabbat and so that Shabbat can be celebrated and enjoyed.

While Tisha B'Av is considered the saddest day of the Jewish calendar, scripture refers to Tisha B'Av as a holiday. While this may seem contradictory, it really isn't. After we mourn and deal with our grief as a nation, we look forward to the time when Israel can exist in peace and there will be an end to anti-Semitism. – *Laurie Blum*



# On Recent Hostilities

By Elizabeth Hayden

I thought it was important to write something about the current conflict between Hamas and Israel because the 30-second soundbytes that pass for news often misrepresent or do not tell an entire story. It is important to me, being a citizen of Israel, that people have correct and full information in order to understand and make decisions about events so important to the future of Israel and the Palestinians.

**THE CURRENT CONFLICT** in the Middle East is very upsetting, particularly because the news media are selling a story which is only partially true. Their story is that these attacks began because Israel “invaded El Aksa Mosque” and planned to remove Palestinians from the Sheikh Jarrah area of Jerusalem. **Here are the facts:**

**1. The Sheikh Jarrah area** was Jewish, known as *Shimon haTsadik* (Simon the Righteous) before the 1948 war, when the State of Israel was declared and immediately attacked by its Arab neighbors. The FACTS are that during the 1948 fighting when Jordan took over areas of east Jerusalem, this Jewish area was abandoned by Jews. Litigation in the Israeli courts has been ongoing for more than 30 years. FACT is – the Israeli courts ruled the current Arab residents can stay in Sheikh Jarrah houses so long as they pay rent. The current residents refuse to pay rent because they were warned by Palestinians against making any agreement with Israel – which is why this is back on the Israeli court docket. Yes, extreme right-wing Jews want the current Arab residents to be evicted. This has not happened yet and would not be up for discussion had the current residents not been threatened by their own governing body and had they agreed to pay rent.

**2. Al Aksa Mosque**, unfortunately, has become a flash point for quite some time. It is a center of unrest, calls for unrest and a cache for weapons. It is not unusual for Israeli police to have to break up violence originating from Al Aksa Mosque, partic-

ularly on Fridays and towards the end of Ramadan. While it is a law that Israelis/Jews cannot enter the **Al Aksa Mosque**, it is not a secular law that Israelis/Jews cannot enter the **Al Aksa compound**. However, the Chief Rabbinate in 1967 declared that Jews/Israelis **should not** enter the compound, believed to be the location of the inner sanctuary of the Temple – the Holy of Holies. Jews are forbidden by the rabbinate to enter because of the fear of unintentionally walking where the Holy of Holies was located. I remember sticking my head in the compound gates, but I also did not enter. I did not enter out of respect for the Muslims and also, while I am hardly the most observant Jew in the world, out of respect for the Holy of Holies.

**3. Gaza – Charges Against Israel** – Perhaps someone remembers that Israel did not unilaterally attack the Gaza Strip; Hamas attacked Israel. It launched thousands and thousands of rockets into Israeli civilian population centers. Despite the blockade from Egypt and Israel, Hamas, as a proxy for Iran, has been supplied with thousands of rockets, money from Qatar and Iran. Bordering on the Sinai Desert, which has a high trade in weapons, Hamas in Gaza has no problem securing armaments. Monies that are sent earmarked for schools, hospitals, health care and to improve the lives of Gaza residents are subverted to build tunnels beneath Gaza (the “Metro”) as well as tunnels



Picture of damage in Ahkelon from Gazan rockets.



into Israel. The purpose of the tunnels into Israel is to kill, capture or maim as many Israelis as possible. These tunnels are supported by concrete with electricity and are wide enough to drive a truck through. Both Hamas and Hezbollah want to capture Israelis because Israelis are of high negotiating value in making demands of the Israeli government. Hamas still holds 2 live Israeli hostages, one of whom is mentally disabled, and the remains of Israeli soldiers from previous engagements which Hamas has refused to release.

**4. – Israel indiscriminately attacks Gaza residents and kills Palestinians** – nothing could be further from the truth. More than any other army in the world Israel attempts to minimize civilian casualties. Do you remember watching the US go into Iraq in 2003 and televise “Shock and Awe”? I remember watching it and being horrified at the callous indifference to loss of life. How many civilian casualties do you think that resulted in? Oh, gosh, the US media was so thrilled being “embedded” I guess they forgot to report on that. Same for US performance in Syria. How many thousands of miles away from the US are these countries? Iraq is some 6,900 miles distant from the US and Afghanistan is some 7,500 miles distant. Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are approximately 40 to 60 miles away from the Gaza Strip. Israel, if it has nothing else,

has some of the best intelligence in the world. Before a building is bombed – first of all there are meetings by military and intelligence to determine the value of the target, the cost of the target in both moral and ethical terms as well as in strategic terms. No target is selected until all branches of intelligence, security and the military are in agreement. Once a target is selected it is notified by phone; it then receives a “knock” on the roof – to alert anyone remaining in the building that it is about to be bombed. What other army in the world does this? If you know of one, please tell me. Please remember that with all the improvements in Hamas’ rocket capabilities, at least 30% of them are falling within Gaza and killing, who knows, how many Gaza residents? The reports of people killed in Gaza come from Hamas-approved sources with no differentiation between people killed by Israel or by Hamas, and how many were militants versus civilians. There is no way to know how objective these figures are; they are verified and checked by no one. Lastly, as Ron Dermer, former Ambassador from Israel to US (who is currently sleeping with his kids in a bomb shelter as so many in Israel are) remarked: Were Israel trying to kill Palestinians with the capabilities Israel has there, would be tens of thousands of dead Palestinians. Israel is trying to do the best it can to minimize civilian casualties.

# Emerging back into life... an almost-post-pandemic musing

.....

*By Mindy Agler*

I was asked to write an article about taking care of ourselves as the pandemic, and the restrictions related to it, ease around us. I'm not sure I have any great words of wisdom, as it's something none of us has ever had to do before! But here are a few random thoughts. I'd love to hear all your thoughts as well, and maybe we can do a follow-up including your thoughts in the next edition of Chai Lights.

We have been shut in, shut out, isolated, maybe very alone, for over a year. We've missed our previous every-day interactions with others: seeing smiles, or even frowns, shaking hands, hugging, being closer than 6 feet to other people. We've developed a wariness around people, hoping not to catch the virus through carelessness or chance, cleaning shopping cart handles, glancing anxiously if someone coughed near us, wearing masks, and washing our hands and using sanitizer until the skin on our hands became raw and red.

And now we're told we can re-enter the world. Is it hard to trust that it's really safe? Are we feeling

anxious being around people again? Had we found some peace in running fewer errands and having more quiet time during the pandemic? Can we somehow keep that peace as we return to "normal?" Or, has our anxiety been at such high alert during the pandemic that it's hard to bring it down to pre-pandemic levels? Or—and this is probably the closest to the truth—do we have all of the above plus every other combination of conflicting emotions and thoughts right now? Is the over-riding feeling simple uncertainty about everything?

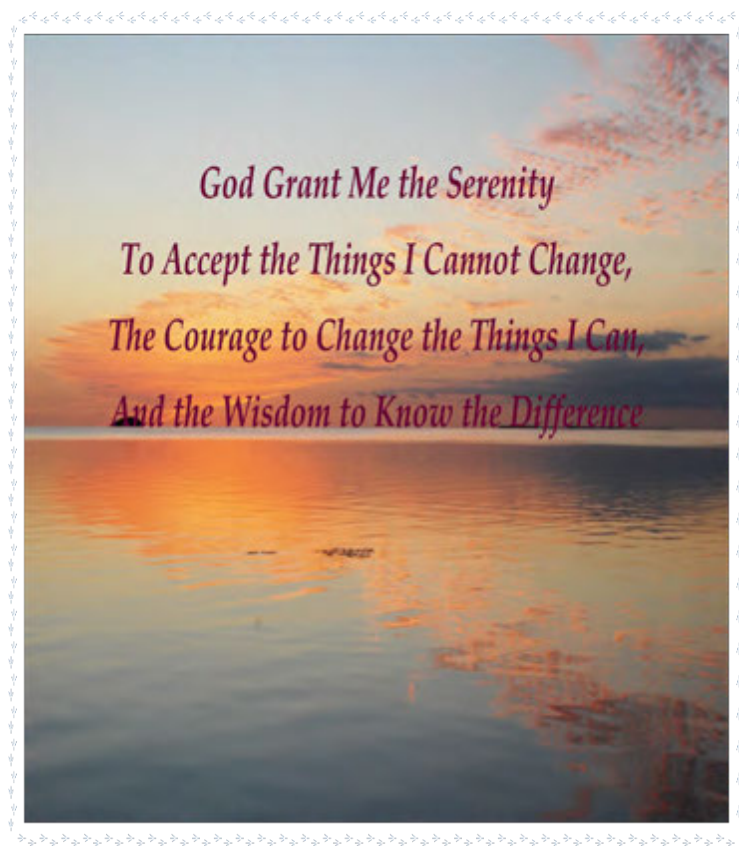
So how do we deal with these thoughts and feelings? Perhaps one way is by examining what we've learned about ourselves during the pandemic and making changes to reflect that new knowledge. Did we develop a new appreciation for alone time? Did we become more comfortable in our own company? If so, let's continue to cultivate that, and work toward a balance of being happy with ourselves and appreciating time with others.

If we found that we were uncomfortable spending so much time alone with our own thoughts and feelings, this might be a message that we have work to do on improv-

ing our relationship with ourSelves, capital "S." Perhaps make a list of 10 affirmations that begin with "I am," and end with a positive characteristic that we already appreciate in ourselves or that we want to develop. Post them on the bathroom mirror, and say them out loud while looking ourselves in the eyes, to help

our brains "learn" that they are true. Perhaps practice a meditation technique. Perhaps find a new hobby or exercise to enjoy.

Perhaps as we ride this current roller coaster, one of the simplest things we can do to hold on tight and keep ourselves balanced is reciting the Serenity Prayer.



May we all come to find the blessings of acceptance, courage and wisdom.

# CARING KEHILAH

**T**he Caring Kehilah is pleased to say that the calls they have been making are well received by our members. Fortunately, for the most part the calls now are now to wish our members a happy birthday, happy anniversary, and to thank them for their oneg sponsorship. Fortunately, few of our members are on the mishabarach list.

Our check-in calls to members we haven't seen in a while, which began a few months ago, were very well received. Thank you so much to Gloria Avner and Laura Goodman for their assistance with this very important project. G-d willing, the Caring Kehilah hopes to start in late summer contacting all of our members to wish them a healthy and happy New Year and let them know how we are looking forward to seeing our KJCC mishpacha (family) again this fall. If anyone would like to

volunteer to help with these calls, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Even taking on 5 to 10 calls would be a help and you could do it at your convenience. Even if you get an answering machine and leave a message or send an email, the recipient knows that KJCC is thinking about them. I have done that on many occasions and many members have called, texted, or emailed me back to say...thank you.

Perhaps, even more importantly, if you know of a member who has a loved one who is ill and might appreciate a caring support call from another member, or if you know of a member who would appreciate a regular check-in call, and of course, if you'd like to volunteer to make some calls, please contact Laurie Blum @ 414-698-5647 or [blum1212@gmail.com](mailto:blum1212@gmail.com).

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Stay healthy and stay in touch.  
Send photos of your adventures.  
And please join us for Shabbat services via Zoom

# Chai~Lights



August 1 - September 30, 2021

23 Av 5781 — 24 Tishrei 5782

**Sisterhood Cookbook – page 10**

**Words from Rabbi Agler & Cantor Dzubin – pages 24 & 26**

**High Holy Days Schedule – page 25**

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**Keys Jewish Community Center**

P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • [keysjewishcenter.com](http://keysjewishcenter.com)

# August 1 - September 30, 2021

Names denote leaders of Friday Services.  
 Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm  
 All services and meetings are on Zoom unless indicated

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>AUG</b> Board meeting 10 a.m.	2 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	3	4	5	6 Joe Shabathai <i>Laurie Blum &amp; Gary Margolis</i>	7
8 Sisterhood meeting 10 a.m.	9 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	10	11	12	13 Yardena Kamely <i>Jane Friedman</i>	14
15	16 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	17	18	19	20 Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Art Itkin <i>Barb &amp; Richard Knowles</i>	21
22	23 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	24	25	26	27 Susan Horn <i>Joyce Peckman</i>	28 Slichot services 7:30 p.m.
29	30 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	31	1 <b>SEP</b>	2	3 Steve Hartz <i>Sisterhood</i>	4
5 Reverse Tashlich 3 p.m.	6 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah services 7:30 p.m.	7 Rosh Hashanah services & shofar 10:30 a.m.	8 Rosh Hashanah services & shofar 10:30 a.m.	9	10 Laurie Blum <i>Laurie Blum &amp; Gary Margolis</i>	11 Shabbat Shuvah Service 10 a.m. led by Laurie Blum Havdalah 7:30 p.m. Indian Mound Trail park
12 Board meeting 10 a.m.	13 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	14	15 Kol Nidre service 7:30 p.m.	16 10:30 a.m. Yom Kippur service - Yizkor 11:30, Neilah 5:30	17 Randy Klein-Gross <i>Sisterhood</i>	18
19 Sukkah Decoration 10 a.m.	20 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	21	22	23	24 Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack <i>Sisterhood</i>	25
26	27 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	28	29	30	1 <b>OCT</b> Joyce Peckman & Laurie Blum	

## 2021 - 2022 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

### President

Joyce Peckman

### Executive Vice President

Ken Atlas

### Vice Presidents

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Michael Kaufman

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Linda Kaplan

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Laurie Blum

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Donna Bolton

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### Librarian

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Stuart Sax • Bernard Ginsberg  
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### Editor

Gloria Avner

### Design & Production

Lacy Alexander

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[chailights@keysjewishcenter.com](mailto:chailights@keysjewishcenter.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Joyce Peckman



Chai-Lights is late because we are in “stop the press” mode as Covid re-emerges and changes our plans. We had worked out protocols for social distancing, and were planning to welcome Rabbi Agler, Candor Dzubin and many of you to our safely re-opened KJCC. That unfortunately will not happen. Rabbi Agler is remaining in California as the number of vaccinated people becoming ill in Florida skyrocket. and we cannot safely open our doors. We have become adept at Zoom, and are arranging to run High Holiday services “live” on Zoom, with Cantor Dzubin at KJCC with someone to man the electronics and help as needed, and Rabbi Agler in California, getting up early in the morning to lead us. The experience would be similar to a Friday service. Everyone except for Rabbi and Cantor would be muted and must unmute themselves for readings and aliyas. This Zoom option would take place in real time and provide our congregation the visual presence of our bimah and Torah. It will enable us to give and receive honors and be the closest thing to a live, participatory Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

We plan to additionally live stream on Facebook or YouTube. We invested in the equipment to live-stream, which

Dave Feder and Susan Gordon spent many hours setting up so that those of us who could not be present in the sanctuary would be able to watch. We just did not anticipate that would be all of us! It will not be what we wanted, and it won't be perfect, but it will be real, and it will be KJCC Family.

I also wish to extend the thanks of the KJCC board to Sisterhood for its recent contribution of \$2700, some of which is designated for our scholarship fund. I must also recognize all the efforts its members put forth to make the Keys Jewish Community Center a true community. Sisterhood is so often the unrecognized power behind our accomplishments. Going into the New Year, I pray that Sisterhood be granted the opportunity to once again organize the wonderful activities we so fondly remember.

I must end this note by wishing safe travels, health and joy to Bernie Ginsberg as he leaves us to join his children in California. A service leader and past president, he was an invaluable strength at KJCC, and we will miss his wisdom and humor. We hope to see him at our Zoom meetings and services.

Wishing you all a healthy 5782, a year when we can be together in fellowship. – Joyce ◇

# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

All activities remain on Zoom unless noted otherwise.  
Look for more details in the Tuesday message to members.

Every Monday	2 p.m. Drop-in Chat. Please contact us to be placed on mailing list.
Sunday, August 1	10 a.m. Board Meeting
Friday, August 6	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Joe Shabathai
Sunday, August 8	10 a.m. Sisterhood meeting
Friday, August 13	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Yardena Kamely
Friday, August 20	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Art Itkin
Friday, August 27	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Susan Horn
Saturday, August 28	7:30 p.m. Slichot services led by Laurie Blum.
Monday, August 30	12:30 Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, September 3	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Steve Hartz
Sunday, September. 5	3 p.m. Reverse Tashlich at Donna Bolton's
Monday, September 6	7:30 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah services & live-stream
Tuesday , September 7	10:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah services and shofar
Weds., September 8	10:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah services and shofar
Friday, September 10	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Laurie Blum
Saturday, September 11	10 a.m. Shabbat Shuvah Zoom Service led by Laurie Blum • 7:30 p.m. Havdalah – Indian Mound Trail park
Sunday, September 12	10 a.m. KJCC Board meeting
Weds, September 15	7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre service
Thursday, September 16	10:30 a.m. Yom Kippur service • Yizkor 11:30 a.m. • Neilah 5:30 p.m.
Friday, September 17	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Randy Klein-Gross
Sunday, September 19	10 a.m. Sukkah Decoration
Friday, September 24	7:30 p.m. Shabbat/Sukkot Services led by Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack
Monday, September 27	12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, October 1	7:30 p.m. Simchat Torah celebration with Yizkor service, led by Joyce Peckman & Laurie Blum

# NOSH

## Book Group Reads On

Sisterhood Book Group continues to be a mainstay of KJCC monthly activities. The books are entertaining, well-written and worthwhile, fostering spirited discussion on the last Monday of each month at 12:30. Equally important, we enjoy each other's company. See p. 12 for the poster listing books for August and September. If you're a Fannie Flagg fan, you'll be delighted.

## Shabbat Shuvah Havdalah:

We will celebrate Shabbat Shuvah by Zoom this year. On Saturday, September 11 at 10:00 am, the service will be led by Laurie Blum. There will be a lovely outdoor Havdalah service held outdoors that evening at 7:30 pm in the Community Park, near 153 Indian Mound Trail, Islamorada. Contact Randy Klein-Gross [RazzKlein@gmail.com](mailto:RazzKlein@gmail.com) for RSVP and information.

## High Holy Days 5782

The schedule for Yomim Noraim, the Ten Days of Awe, can be found on page 25, but because of shifting CDC guidelines, please make sure to open and read President's announcement each week. That way you will have the most updated decisions and guidance for the week. We are most grateful that Rabbi Richard Agler assisted by Cantor Michael Dzubin will be leading us for the seventh year in a row through this deep and meaningful experience. As of right now, Cantor Dzubin will be on the Bimah in the KJCC Sanctuary and Rabbi Agler will lead services via Zoom from his home in California. David Feder will facilitate technology so that services will be available both via Zoom and on Facebook. Thank you, Dave, and all the people who have worked so hard bringing our systems up to date for maintaining our Jewish community in this new world.

## A Meaningful Fast

Though Covid made us cancel our food drive last year, we are returning to our custom once again. Canned goods may be brought at any time to KJCC, left in a the plastic Container near our rear door and Susan Gordon will bring all donations to the Blessing Box. See P. 35

## Rosh Chodesh Time

Please read Lucinda Kurtz's new article on Page 23.

Women gathering to celebrate the New Moon is a tradition dating back to Biblical times. Lucinda has been holding these gatherings in Michigan for many years. She has continued these monthly gatherings on line during Covid via Zoom. Now she is offering to come to KJCC, starting in January, to facilitate such a group for us. She will also be writing a recurring column on the significance of each new moon for Chai-Lights. We are grateful. Stay tuned. Ask questions.

## New Marriage Mazel Tov!!

Congratulations to Barbara and Richard Knowles on the marriage of their daughter Eve to fiancé Peter Gomez. Eve was a long-time star student in KJCC's Hebrew School and is a gifted photographer. We wish them a long and happy married life. A Siman Tov and Mazel Tov! And much love from your KJCC Mishpacha.

## Bye bye Bernie

Dr. Bernard Ginsberg is about to move to Southern California to be close to his family, especially his grandchildren. They will be so happy to have easy regular contact with this warm, intelligent, hilariously funny grandpa. Who wouldn't want Dr. Bernie for a Zadie? We wish you well on your new adventure, Bernie. May you have all good things and years of vibrant good health with your family. Love and happy trails from your KJCC Mishpacha.

## Sukkot — Ready for Lunch

Whether the food is no bigger than an olive or a full picnic fit for a feast, you are welcome to enjoy it under the sky-lit roof of our fruit decorated Sukkah. Thanks again to its builders, Candy Stanlake and Alan Beth. Starting Monday, Sept. 20, to Monday, Sept. 27, we will celebrate Sukkot, honoring 40 years of living in the desert in portable open walled shelters. On this special harvest holiday our ancestors traveled to the Temple and brought their best produce as sacrifice. We acknowledge our fragility as we put faith in G-d and our Jewish roots vs. weatherproof homes. A lulav and etrog will be available for prayers and shaking after the Sukkot service on Friday night, Sept. 24.

## Reverse Tashlich —Tukkun HaYam

On September 5, Reverse Tashlich will happen at 3:00 pm at Donna Bolton's house. RSVP to [razzklein@gmail.com](mailto:razzklein@gmail.com). Randy Klein-Gross will head the Rabbi Ed Rosenthal inspired KJCC Team devoted to taking "sins" out of the Ocean rather than throwing them in.◇

## 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.

### JUNE & JULY, 2021

#### Yahrzeit

Stephen Steinbock .....	Candi Steinbock
	Susan Cimkowski
Medina Roy .....	Carl Roy
	Leon Kirschenbaum
Robert Temkin .....	Phillip Temkin
Hermine Taramona .....	Robert Robinson
Elaine Schulberg .....	Alan Schulberg
	Beth Schulberg
	Harvey Kelman
Lillian Tallent .....	Ralph Tallent
	Ida Estrin
Mindy & Richard Agler .....	Jack Steinberg
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis .....	Mollie Lawent
Patricia Isenberg .....	Margaret Isenberg
Ronald & Deborah Kaplan .....	Sidney Kaplan
	Catherine Kaplan
Adam & Judy Starr .....	Manya Starr
	Olga Schuman
	Roger Starr
	Irving Kopecky
Stephen Steinbock .....	Ben Steinbock
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis .....	Burton Margolis
	Robert Margolis
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies .....	Josephine Margulies
Joan Boruszak .....	Priscilla Leshin
Gary & Lauren Grossinger .....	Irwin Grossinger

#### In Memory/Honor of

#### Unrestricted

Linda Pollack .....	In memory of Robert Siegel
	In memory of Gene Ziegler
Kim Youngblood .....	Thank you for zoom talk
Mel & Joyce Ruthen .....	Aunt Pauline's birthday
Sisterhood .....	Annual donation

#### Library

Lauren & Stuart Sax .....	Marriage of Eve Knowles & Peter Gomez
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#### Scholarship

Sisterhood .....	Annual donation
------------------	-----------------

### SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

#### Oneg Sponsorship

Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis .....	Bayou's birthday
Joyce Peckman .....	Bat Mitzvah of Libby Peckman
Barbara & Richard Knowles .....	Anniversary

#### Scholarship

Sisterhood
------------

#### Unrestricted

Sisterhood .....	Annual donation
------------------	-----------------

### Shabbat Service Leaders

Aug. 6 .....	Joe Shabathai
Aug. 13 .....	Yardena Kamely
Aug. 20 .....	Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Art Itkin
Aug. 27 .....	Susan Horn

Sept. 3 .....	Steve Hartz
Sept. 10 .....	Laurie Blum
Sept. 17 .....	Randy Klein-Gross
Sept. 24 .....	Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack
Oct. 1: .....	Laurie Blum & Joyce Peckman

# ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

**BOOKPLATES** for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto: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 ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, 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 Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at [hippiejap@hotmail.com](mailto:hippiejap@hotmail.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.

**CARING KEHILAH/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. The Caring Kehilah Committee is calling and checking in on our socially distant members. Call Laurie Blum, 414-698-5647 if you wish to request that someone be contacted.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES & ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

## August Birthdays

4th .....	Eric Greenstein	15th .....	Patricia Isenberg
4th .....	Jessica Forman	16th .....	Alan Lindenbaum
5th .....	Nissan Mayk	16th .....	Alison Thompson
8th .....	Hank Ryan Casey	19th .....	Pamela Friedman
8th .....	Joseph Reamer	20th .....	Amanda Nobil
8th .....	Sean Kaufman	21st.....	Jay Stein
9th .....	Delia Grace Smith	21st.....	Rachel Zinner
9th .....	Eric Freundlich	22nd.....	Murray Blitzer
10th .....	Barbara Smith	26th .....	Mikhaela Bitton
10th .....	Emma Feig	27th .....	Judy Greenman
13th .....	Gina Moritz	30th .....	Robert Temkin
13th .....	Stephan Friedman	31st.....	Brynn Borisoff
15th .....	Danielle Zinner		

## August Anniversaries

		Years			Years
3rd	Augie & Kristy Moss .....	8	15th	Richard & Barbara Knowles .....	22
7th	Larry & Dorothy Wolfe .....	64	16th	Ira & Shirley Stein .....	63
14th	Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer....	49	21st	Jeff & Lisa Miller .....	44
15th	Paul & Susan Roberts.....	53	22nd	Franklin & Judy Greenman .....	39
			27th	Israel & Nissan Mayk .....	49

## 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.

## September Birthdays

2nd.....	Lloyd Wruble	16th .....	Larry S. Schur
4th .....	Chase Barrett	16th .....	Samuel Grossinger
4th .....	Debby C. Block	17th .....	Ellen Ecker
6th .....	Bryce Hesterman-Kutz	17th .....	Judd Daddona
6th .....	Shelby R. Morris	19th .....	Barbara Bernstein
6th .....	Steven Greenbaum	19th .....	Brenna Nobil
7th .....	Mindy Agler	19th .....	Joel Bofshever
7th .....	Stellar Levy	19th .....	Steven Schur
8th .....	Laurie Grossinger	22nd.....	Fred Hudson
8th .....	Susan Horn	23rd .....	Lauren Schur
9th .....	Jacob Klimpl	24th .....	Noah Bitton
10th .....	Gerri Emkey	24th .....	Orlando Quesada
11th .....	Sandy Serota	25th .....	Marla Berenson
13th .....	Andy Tobin	25th .....	Michel Bitton
13th .....	Lisha Lane	25th .....	Scott Greenstein
13th .....	Shawn Borisoff	27th .....	Blake Rose

## September Anniversaries

	Years		Years
7th	Jay & Nancy Hershoff..... 22	15th	Rita & Harry Rzepka ..... 64
9th	Neal & Cathy Rakov ..... 37	27th	Gary & Lyn Sherman ..... 31
9th	Steven & Barbara Smith ..... 43	30th	Marsha & Tom Garrettson..... 31



## Mazel Tov Eve & Peter

*A marriage to celebrate. A hearty, love-filled Mazel Tov and best wishes for all good things to Eve Knowles, daughter of Barbara and Richard Knowles and her husband Peter Gomez.*

# *In Memoriam – August 2021*

**Isaac Berman**

By Sylvia Berman

**Billie Kornbloom**

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Martha Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Priscilla Leshin**

By Joan Boruszak

**Robert Margolis**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Irving Kopecky**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Jesse Ginsberg**

By Bernard Ginsberg

**Jim Nobil**

By Lynn Nobil

**Erik S. Persoff**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Arthur Kaplan**

By Sandy Kaplan

**Morris Abramson**

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

**Joel Reed Baker**

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

**Eva Raub**

By Harvey & Judith Klein

**Evelyn O. Coltman**

By Barnett O. Coltman

**Tom Klipper**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Burton Margolis**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Margaux Rene Grossman**

By Stuart Grossman

**Roger Starr**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Anne Hendin Margulies**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

**Martin M. Katz**

By Melissa Katz-Fusco

**Milton Willner**

By Jon S. Tainow &  
Terry Willner-Tainow

**Sam Roazen**

By Sylvia Berman

**Max Lieberman**

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

**Howard Shutan**

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

**Dick Bromwich**

By Rita Bromwich

**Josephine Margulies**

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

**Selma Smith**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

**Henry Kirschenbaum**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

**Erik S. Persoff**

By Lynn Nobil

**James Nobil**  
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Leonard Roberts**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Chanoch Shiloh**

By Jan Price

**Seymour H. Levin**

By Sanford Yankow

# *In Memoriam – September 2021*

**Goldie Berman**

By Sylvia Berman

**Abraham Kaplan**

By Sandy Kaplan

**Jim Williams**

By Rita Williams

**Molly Feldblum**

By Marc Bloom

**Sidney Blum**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Doran David Zinner**

By Donald Zinner

**Sydney Edelman**

By Dale Chasteen

**Mae U. Stark**

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

**Beverly Harvey**

By Linda Perloff

**Ida Hitzig**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Lillian Goldstein**

By Joan Boruszak

**Patty Silver Schocket**

By Jeffrey Schocket

**Sandra Ellen Schultz**

By Jane Friedman

**Ronald Repka**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Solomon Felder**

By Stuart & Geri Smith

**Leah Kamely**

By Yardena Kamely

**Leo Rosenberg**

By Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages

**Saunders G. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Sadie Klimpl**

By Michael Klimpl

**Stanley J. Goodman**

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

**Phillip Fine**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

**Stephen Berman**

By Sylvia Berman

**Minnie Kaplan**

By Sandy Kaplan

**Toby Mitchell**

By Linda Pollack

**Jim Boruszak**

By Joan Boruszak

**Rosie Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**David Gulkis**

By Elaine Schulberg

**William Chait**

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

**Joel S. Cohen**

By Lynn Nobil

**Mrs. Freda Shipman**

By Shirley Stein

**Abraham Kanowsky**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Lorraine Martell**

By Skip Rose

**Charlie Temkin**

By Robert Temkin

**H. Melvin Berkon**

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

**David Schur**

By Lee Schur

**Sarah Wernicoff**

By Donald Zinner

**Joel S. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

# KJCC Sisterhood Cookbook

## *RECIPES FROM THE ROCK*

### Time for Pre-Orders - Submit Yours Now!

SISTERHOOD'S COOKBOOK IS NOW IN PRODUCTION. IT CONTAINS SOME OF THE BEST LOVED RECIPES FROM OUR KJCC DINNERS AND A SPECIAL SECTION ON PESACH/PASSOVER RECIPES, CUSTOM DESIGNED COVERS AND CUSTOM DESIGNED DIVIDERS. MANY THANKS TO THE VALIANT KJCC SISTERHOOD MEMBERS WHO MADE THIS POSSIBLE. THIS IS A FUND RAISER FOR KJCC AND WILL MAKE A GREAT HIGH HOLYDAYS OR SUKKOT GIFT, A GENUINE GIFT FROM YOUR KJCC MISHPACHA.

PRICE PER BOOK: \$20 SHIPPING: \$6\*

\*If you are here in the Keys, we will deliver to you at no charge. Outside of the Keys will require postage.

Name of Person Ordering: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Books Ordered at \$20 Apiece: Books \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Postage at \$6 per book if outside the Keys: Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Address: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

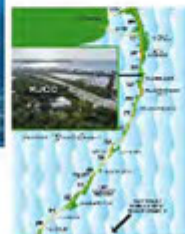
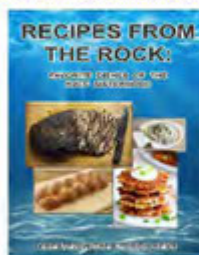
If you wish us to forward any of your gift purchases directly to friends or family members, please provide the delivery information to us and we will send the books with a note indicating that they are a gift from you.

*Please send order form and enclosed check to:*

*KJCC Sisterhood*

*P.O. Box 116*

*Tavernier, FL 33070*



## SISTERHOOD

Beth Hayden



**G**reat news from Sisterhood. By the time you read this, Sisterhood's Cookbook will be in production. Please look elsewhere in Chai-Lights for pre-order forms. Many thanks to the valiant Sisterhood women who made this publication possible. Thanks to our editorial committee: Donna Bolton, Linda Pollack, Laurie Blum and Susan Roberts. Special thanks to Linda Pollack and Laurie Blum for their above and beyond contributions of time and effort to make this book a reality. So what are you getting by purchasing this cookbook? You will receive 33 Passover/Pesach recipes, 36 Appetizer, Soups and Salad recipes, 45 Main Dishes – Meat, Fish and Poultry, 25 Main Dishes – Eggs, Cheese, Pasta and Kugel, 27 Vegetable and Side Dishes, 39 Dessert Recipes and 21 This N That recipes. Many of these recipes are favorites from our Oneg and dinner events; all recipes were submitted by our master cooks. How have you lived without this cookbook? It has custom designed covers, front and back, and custom dividers – thanks to Randy Klein-Gross and Tomar Gross –beautifully reflecting the extraordinary

environment in which we live. Thank you Randy and Tomar.

This is a fund raiser for the KJCC and we hope you will support us. Sisterhood hopes to look forward to a more welcoming year in the coming months. Much depends on the spread of the Delta variant of Covid – which is now the most prominent Covid strain in the US as in many other countries. Even Israel, which was very successful in vaccinating its residents, has had to back off the removal of masks and social distancing in acknowledgement that the Delta variant is very serious and highly transmissible. Even if you are vaccinated you can still contract Covid. If you are vaccinated, you should have a much milder case of Covid than were you not vaccinated. Nevertheless, please be careful. I am sure most, if not all, of us are vaccinated. Be well and stay safe,

B'shalom, Beth ◇

### ONEG SPONSORS

Aug. 6 Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis  
Bayou's Birthday

Aug. 13 Jane Friedman  
Steve Friedman's Birthday  
Sandra Schultz's Birthday  
Renee Garrett's Birthday

Aug. 20 Barb & Richard Knowles  
22nd Anniversary

Aug. 27 Joyce Peckman  
Bat Mitzvah of Libby Peckman

Sept. 3 Sisterhood

Sept. 10 Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis  
Yahrzeit of Sidney Blum

Sept. 17 Sisterhood

Sept. 24 Sisterhood



## Sisterhood Book Club

~ Books and dates for the coming three months ~  
Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom  
until further notice ~

August 30, 2021 - *Standing in the Rainbow* by Fannie Flagg  
September 27, 2021 - *Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel



Spanning more than half a century, and happily showing how small-town life in America evolves through the decades.

Note: Book 1 of Elmwood Springs series

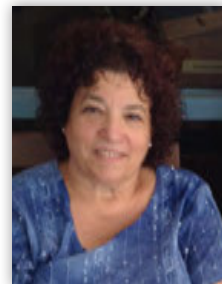


85-year-old Eva Traube Abrams is shelving books at the Florida library where she works. She sees a magazine article with a picture of a German librarian holding a book that had been confiscated by the Nazis.

Email Joyce (joycepeckman@gmail.com) before the meeting date to let her know you will be attending and she will send you an invitation to Zoom.

## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

### Medina Roy



#### “Dayenu”

Gwen Goldman, 70, a retired Jewish social worker from Westport, Connecticut, got the honor of a lifetime, one she'd been waiting for since 1961. At that time Goldman wanted to serve as a batgirl for the New York Yankees. She received a letter (which she still has) from then Yankees General Manager Roy Hamey, who wrote that “a young lady such as yourself would feel out of place in a dugout.” And so now, 60 years after her request had been turned down, General Manager Brian Cashman invited Goldman to fulfill her life-long wish at a Yankee game in late June. At that game she wore the classic Yankee pinstriped uniform. She not only got a turn in the dugout, but also threw out the first pitch. “It just kept coming and coming,” she said of the honors, adding “dayenu,” the Hebrew word we know so well from our Passover seder (meaning just one of the gestures would have been enough). ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com), 6-29-21)

#### The King's Jewish Roots

According to Halacha (Jewish law), a grave marker locked away for forty years confirms that Elvis Presley was Jewish. Stories of Elvis' Jewish heritage have long been talked about. A large crate in a warehouse contained the headstone of Elvis' mother, Gladys, which had been stored in the Graceland archives along with 1.5 million other items since 1977. On the upper left side of the headstone – designed by Elvis himself – is a Mageyn David, the Star of David. The headstone was taken from storage in 2018, and is now on display at the Memphis complex where Elvis lived from 1957 until his death 20 years later at the age of 42. It's located just a few feet

from Elvis' own grave. His maternal great-great-grandmother was a Jewish woman named Nancy Burdine. Not much is known about her but it's believed her family immigrated to America from what is now Lithuania around the time of the American Revolution. According to [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com), Burdine was born in Mississippi in 1826 and died in 1887. Her great-granddaughter was Gladys Love Smith, who married Vernon Presley in 1933. Two years later, Elvis was born in Tupelo, Mississippi. The family moved to Memphis when Elvis was thirteen.

At one time, the Presley family lived in an apartment directly below the family of Rabbi Alfred Fruchter, the first principal of the Memphis Hebrew Academy. According to the rabbi's son Harold, Elvis served as the Fruchter's “Shabbos Goy” (a non-Jew who performs household tasks for observant Jews that are forbidden on Shabbat). Harold said that if his family had known of Elvis' Jewish roots, they would never have asked him to be a Shabbos goy. Elvis was very close to his mother, who died in 1958 when she was 46. Initially he buried her in a public cemetery in Memphis and her headstone was marked with a cross. But six years later, he replaced the headstone with one featuring the Star of David on one side and a cross on the other. There's no definitive explanation of why he added the Star of David on the headstone, but according to Angie Marchese, Graceland's vice president of Archives and Exhibits, it appears that Judaism gave Elvis comfort when he was seeking answers to help him

deal with her death.

There's quite a bit of evidence that Elvis' Jewish lineage meant more to him than just a symbol on a headstone. Over the years, he gave generously to a variety of Jewish organizations. His personal library included several books on Judaism and Jewish history. ("The Jewish World of Elvis Presley" was published last year.) During the last few years of his life, Elvis was often photographed wearing necklaces with the Star of David and the Hebrew word *chai*. Although he was raised in the Assembly of God Church, he explored other religions as he got older and began to struggle with physical and mental issues. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 6-25-21)

### **No Needles!**

Israeli scientists have invented a method to perform blood tests without drawing any blood, not even a drop, and they're launching the handheld device into space for testing in October. The device gathers data by scanning blood vessels in the eye for a few seconds, providing accurate results instantly. The results are then sent directly to the doctor. This technology will enable the world's first sample-free blood count tests; such tests look at the number and type of cells in a patient's blood and normally requires lab analysis of a blood sample extracted from the patient. Located in Ramat Gan, a suburb of Tel Aviv, the Sheba Medical Center team behind the innovation is working on expanding it to perform other blood tests that currently require sample and lab analysis. Harel Baris, one of the Sheba doctors behind the new tech, is sending the device into orbit to the International Space Station in October, hoping that zero gravity testing will help the development process. This will test the device's ability to operate in microgravity, where factors that could be skewing test results on Earth – such as unknowingly having tears during the eye scan – are absent. Unlike on Earth, where one can tear up without realizing, in space the tears form a ball on the eye or face. The space test will also assess the device's suitability for astronauts, who currently need to give samples for analysis, an expensive and time-consuming process. "Our technology is built on the fact that there are blood vessels in the eye that are transparent, meaning that we can analyze them using light waves," Baris said.

He claims his device will reduce the need for

people to go to clinics in the future for some blood tests since they'll be able to check themselves at home and results will be sent directly to the doctor. The device also delivers an accurate reading of oxygen saturation levels, which are today normally taken by oximeters placed on the end of a finger. ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 6-7-21)

### **But They're Not Kosher...**

"They have a buttery texture, a delicious, nutty flavor, probably from the tannins, from the roots of the trees on which they feed. And they're going to be good with a Merlot." So said University of Maryland entomologist Mike Raupp. He was speaking about cicadas, those noisy insect swarms that emerge every seventeen years across much of the Midwest and Eastern United States. Trillions of the insects clog many major metropolitan areas. According to reports, as of late June, the dead insects have begun to outnumber the living. Some have asked what's to be done with all these insect corpses? Foodies have suggested eating them. But hold on...not so fast...According to Rabbi Ari Zivotofsky, a neuroscience professor at Bar-Ilan University in Israel who explores exotic kosher foods, locusts are kosher but cicadas are not. "There are kosher insects, but they're all species of grasshoppers and locusts. There are no kosher cicadas," he said. Zivotofsky said that before World War II, the tradition of eating locusts was confined to Jews in Yemen, where the insect was more prevalent. ([www.washingtonjewishweek.com](http://www.washingtonjewishweek.com), 5-23-21)

### **History Made in Baseball**

The Washington Nationals baseball team recently selected Elie Kligman, 18, a native of Las Vegas, with their final and 20th round pick, making him the second Orthodox Jewish player ever drafted into the league – and the second in just two days. The Arizona Diamondbacks picked seventeen-year-old Long Island, New York native Jacob Steinmetz 77th overall just two days earlier. Kligman has moved towards becoming a catcher but has also played shortstop. As a pitcher, he has thrown the ball 90 miles per hour. (Steinmetz has reportedly thrown as high as 97 miles per hour.) Kligman switch-hits as well, meaning he can bat righty or lefty, a skill that increases his value. (Kligman is somewhat more observant

than Steinmetz, who plays on Shabbat but without using transportation since he's in walking distance from his hotels when he's on the road. Kligman does not play on Shabbat.) Kligman's father is a lawyer and licensed baseball agent and he represents his son. ([www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com), 7-13-21)

### In Memoriam

• Roman Kent, a Lodz Ghetto survivor who negotiated with the postwar German government for billions of dollars in compensation for Jewish Holocaust survivors, died at the end of May. He was 92. Kent and his brother Leon immigrated to the United States in 1946 as part of a government program to admit 5,000 orphans. He lived in Atlanta with foster parents and attended Emory University, going on to start a successful international trade company. He was a long-time member of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (now referred to as the Claims Conference), where he served over the years in various officer positions. In those jobs he negotiated billions of dollars in pensions and compensation and championed survivor interests with insurance companies, German industry and Eastern European governments. A year ago, Kent recorded a video as part of a campaign demanding that Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg remove Holocaust denial content from his media network. "Roman made himself available for every cause that we put in front of him, tirelessly giving of his time and energy," Gideon Taylor, the Claims Conference president said. "He will be remembered as an unwavering force of good will and an undeniable advocate for the global Jewish community." Kent also served as the chairman of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants; as president of the International Auschwitz Committee; and as president of the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, which assists non-Jews who rescued Jews during the Holocaust.

Born Roman Kniker in Lodz, Poland, he survived its ghetto and several camps, including Auschwitz. His father died of malnutrition in the Lodz Ghetto and his mother was murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Roman and his brother Leon were liberated by the U.S. Army in 1945 while on

a death march to Dachau. They were reunited with their two sisters in Sweden after their liberation.

Diplomat Stuart Eizenstat worked with Kent as the Claims Conference's special negotiator. He said that Kent "made it his personal mission to advocate for his fellow survivors to the very end, participating on negotiations calls...His strength and fortitude were unmatched, and his drive and determination to see justice served knew no bounds." In 2016, in an interview marking UNESCO's Holocaust Remembrance Day event, Kent warned about the abuse of language to deny the past. "I have noticed over the years that in relation to the Holocaust in the media, there is a tendency to sanitize the past," he said. "People say that 6 million people were 'lost' or 'perished.' They were not lost. They were not misplaced. They were imprisoned, starved, tortured, murdered and burned. It is hard to hear but that is the truth that we must preserve to prevent the Holocaust happening again." ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 5-22-21)

### Did You Know...

• Adam Fox, a native of suburban Long Island, NY, was recently named hockey's top defenseman, making him the first Jewish player to win a major NHL award. This comes some 70 years after the New York Rangers had a star Jewish defenseman. Fox, 23, was named the winner of the James Norris Memorial Trophy in June. A former star at Harvard, Fox joins Hall of Famer Bobby Orr of the Boston Bruins as winners of the award in their second seasons. Along with stopping opposing scorers, Fox led NHL defensemen with 42 assists while finishing second in points with 47. He was also recognized as first team all-league. Fox follows in the footsteps of Hy Buller, who played three seasons for the Rangers in the early 1950s. He was named to the NHL Second All-Star Team in 1951-52. Stan Fischler, Jewish hockey sports writer said, "Buller's connection to the large Jewish population in New York was used by Rangers management to attract a new audience to the home games. Banners emblazoned with the Star of David hung from The Garden and his faith was frequently reinforced by sports writers." ([www.jns.org](http://www.jns.org), 7-1-21) ◇

# **KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

## **THE SHABBOS PROJECT**



### **KJCC Sisterhood Challah Making**

**Sunday September 5, 2021**

**10 a.m. and again to braid at 11:30 a.m.**

Sisterhood invites all KJCC members, men as well as women, to join via Zoom in the making of Shabbat's most important ritual food: challah.

Have your supplies at hand: stand mixer (optional), measuring cups and spoons, large mixing bowl, baking sheet, parchment paper, bench scraper or sharp knife.

Ingredients: 1 c. lukewarm water, 2 tsp. active dry or instant yeast, 4 to 4 1/2 c. all purpose flour, 1/4 cup granulated sugar, 2 tsp. salt, 2 large eggs, 1 large egg yolk (reserve the white for the egg wash), 1/4 c. neutral-flavored vegetable oil such as canola

### **KJCC Virtual Dinner**

**Monday September 6, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

**Enjoy a community dinner on Zoom**



### **Erev Rosh Hashanah Services**

**Monday September 6, 2021 7:30 p.m.**



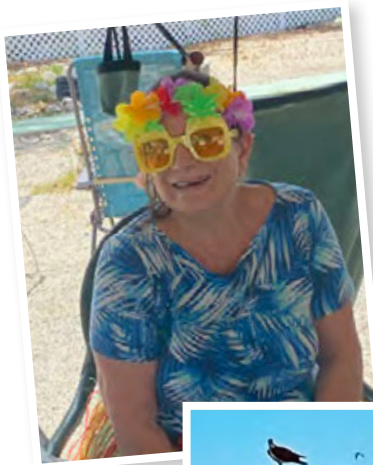
Links for the Challah Bake will be sent out as will

Links for the Virtual Dinner and Services.

Contact Erica if you have questions 305-393-1162

## PHOTO GALLERY

Donna celebrates her birthday Hawaiian style.



*Welcome New Members!*

KJCC is happy to welcome longtime friends Arnie and Tina Klein to family membership in our mishpocha. If you don't know them already, you will meet them during High Holidays, when they will be joining their daughter Randy Klein-Gross in leading Erev Shabbat services on Sept. 17 at 7:30 pm.



Thanks, Elaine Schulberg, for sending this terrific photo of Patriotic Osprey.



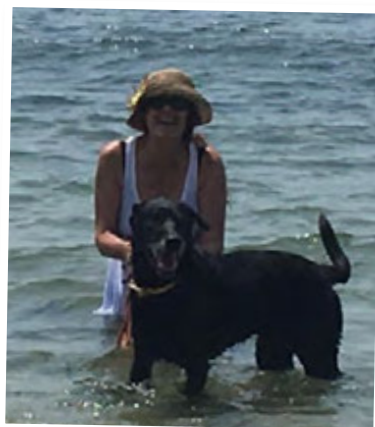
Photo of Marc Bloom and Daughters Rachael Traina and Molly Bloom, all who have celebrated birthdays in July. Happy, happy, happy.



We are always happy to see Linda Perloff when she comes to the Keys for a visit.



**Gloria's painting of the cabin she visits in Damariscotta, Maine.**



**Bubby Gloria with great Grandsons at Seal Harbor Beach on Mt. Desert Island , Maine.**

**We're glad to see that Luigi is not only healing well, but getting in some beach play with Jan.**



**We honor the cooks and bakers of KJCC, whose recipes you will shortly be perusing and choosing from the KJCC sisterhood Cookbook! See order form on P.10**

**Wave "Shalom" to Bernie, folks. Dr. Bernard Ginsberg will soon be on his way to California, moving there to be closer to family. We understand, but oh how we will miss you, your sage medical advice, your haimische Ashkenazi services, your warm friendship, but most of all your humor, the jokes, the delighted laughter. Be well and happy, Bernie, and come to KJCC's zoom events so we can see your handsome "punim."**

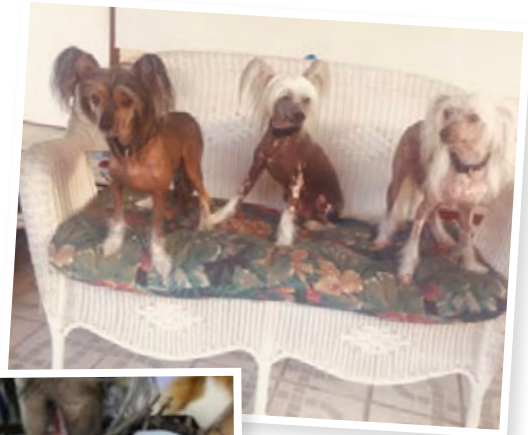


So there they were : Joyce and Libby, celebrating Libby's Bat Mitzvah with a trip to Chicago. What? Is this a revenge moment for "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids"? Nah, this safta would never shrink her grandkids. It must be art magic.



Many Thanks to photographer Linda Perloff, who joined Joyce and Libby for a river cruise in Chicago. The second photo took place at the Museum of Illusions. (Who even knew there was a museum of illusions? Let's take a trip to Chicago).

Joyce Peckman's New Jersey family: Keith, Becca, Libby, Addie and Isaac.

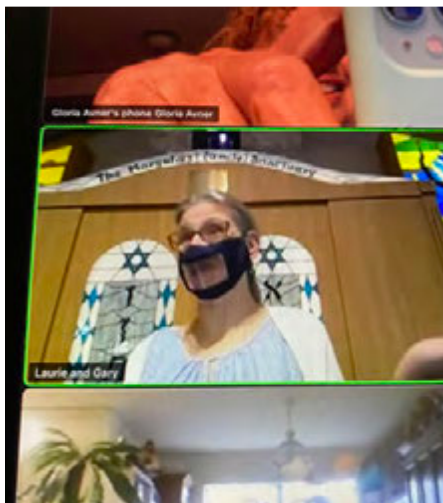


Beth Hayden's Kohengi, Ollie, and Pumba waiting patiently for Birthday Cake

Susan and her  
grandsons  
enjoy the best  
of summer in  
Tennessee —  
boating on  
the River with  
RoseMarie, a  
Sunflower festival,  
and just hanging  
out.



Joyce's  
granddaughter  
Michal is in the  
same class as  
Joel and Toby  
Bofshever's  
granddaughter  
Evie! These are  
from 8th grade  
graduation in June.



Laurie Blum found a perfect mask for  
her Sanctuary led Shabbat Service on  
July 30th. We could see her lovely face  
through the mask. It was an excellent  
service and so good to see the Bimah,  
whether we were there in person or  
watching via Zoom.



Sean looks very happy to be in Legoland.

So good to see  
the lovely Lorena  
and Michael  
Kaufman enjoying  
Bonita Springs  
on their July 4th  
holiday.



Sean is so lucky  
to be celebrating  
summer with  
Great-Grandpa  
Jack.



Linda Kaplan  
in Colorado  
Celebrating her  
daughter-in-law  
Irlanda's Birthday  
with her son.



Linda Kaplan at a wedding  
with her kids in Denver,  
looking lovely and happy to  
be there.



**KJCC**



## ***SUKKOT CELEBRATION***

**Join us for Sukkot/Shabbat on  
Friday, September 24, 2021 ~  
7:30 p.m.**

**Services will be led by  
Susan Gordon and Linda Pollack**  
Also, when you are in the area, visit the KJCC  
succah.

**Bring an olive's worth of food or a whole meal.**

**Chag Sameach**

# ROSH CHODESH & THE HEBREW CALENDAR

Lucinda Kurtz



In the Hebrew calendar, each new month starts with a new moon, unlike the secular calendar that starts in the middle of the moon's cycle. Throughout Jewish history, it has been traditional for women to honor the new moon by gathering together and celebrating their connection to each other and the One on Rosh Chodesh. "Rosh" means head and "chodesh" translates as month, the beginning of the month.

According to the ancient mystical system of Kabbalah, each new month brings in a very different energy that is reflected in the holidays of that month, the themes of the Torah parshahs, the permutation of the Divine Name, and the quality that can bring the most healing for that month. Awareness of the energies of each month can help us flow more easily through each day and be in tune with larger cycles of life, death, and renewal.

For example, we are now in the Hebrew month of Av, a month of heat, scorching sun, and repeated traumatic experiences for the Jewish people throughout history. These tragedies haven't often occurred on the same day in the Hebrew calendar, honored as the solemn holiday of Tisha B'Av. Both this day of greatest sorrow and the day of greatest joy, Tu B'Av, are contained within this one month, requiring us to find balance within our own being to temper the intense shifts of emotions that challenge our equilibrium.

In this month, we feel the reverberations of the ancient destruction of our sacred Temples, brought about by internal dissension as well as external forces. Today, as in ancient times, hostility, anger, and grievances are again tearing apart the woven fabric of society. The trauma and disruptions caused by the pandemic more clearly display the gaping holes and tangled knots in the tapestry that has superficially knit together the diversity of people in our country. We can see the collapse of the condo in Surfside as a

physical metaphor for the deconstruction of our social cohesion. The infrastructure is no longer holding the physical form.

Next month we enter the Hebrew month of Elul, the time of "teshuvah," return to our inner wholeness and alignment with our essential self. In this month before the New Year and the High Holidays, we are invited to look deeply at our actions during the past year and assess if they have been congruent with our highest aspirations for ourselves. Or have we fallen short of our expectations and are holding a feeling of regret that drags our energy down, hampering our capacity to actualize our potential.

Without question, this has been a most difficult and challenging year, taxing all of us in ways none of us could have expected, asking us to draw upon our inner resource with a patience that was not always available. Moses in Deuteronomy exhorts us to see clearly the choices before us and then choose between Blessing and Curse. During this month of Elul, we can assess how we, individually and as a country have confronted the weighty and urgent choices placed before us this past year and take this opportunity to shift hardened patterns and destructive policies that don't serve our health and well-being.

I have been teaching Kabbalah, leading Rosh Chodesh groups, and writing new moon blogs for over a decade. I am also co-teaching with my husband, Oran Hesterman, in the Yerusha Sage-ing Legacy Program. I hope this winter when we are back in our home in Marathon that I can lead a monthly Rosh Chodesh Circle in person and we can teach some of the Sage-ing classes we have developed that help us harvest the wisdom of our lives using the art of reflection and spiritual practice. ◇



## WELCOME TO HIGH HOLY DAYS 5782

*KJCC is back! We look forward to praying together once more as a family, as a community, in our much-missed Sanctuary and in our homes. May we enter this new year in a sacred, thoughtful way, healthy in body, mind and spirit. We are grateful for the leadership of Rabbi Richard Agler, our Scholar Emeritus, returning to us from California for this special time, and for the accompaniment of Cantor Michael Dzubin and his mellifluous voice. Here are their introductory thoughts for us.*

The days encompassing Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are known in our tradition as the Aseret Y'mei Teshuvah—the Ten Days of Repentance. Should we care to translate teshuvah more precisely, we might well call them the Ten Days of Return. As in, return to a higher path, return to our spiritual and moral best, and return to more of the wise guidance that our tradition offers. There is yet another “return” this year and that, of course, is the return to one another, to our in-person social gatherings, and our return to the synagogue. For the past year and a half, we have experienced the effects of perhaps too-much solitude and loneliness. Happily, return to community offers an antidote.

We’ve certainly missed one another’s company—the casual conversations, the serendipitous special moments, and all of the experience-sharing that makes life’s journey bearable, enjoyable, and even possible. Indeed, we’ve learned once again that no one is an island.

There is an another aspect of communal life that Judaism emphasizes. In Hebrew, congregations are formally referred to as Kehilla Kedosha—holy communities. We may understand this appellation as being more aspirational than descriptive but it is vital nonetheless. It reminds us that only in community, and sacred community at that, are we able to fulfill our highest human ambitions and potential.

Judaism is all but devoid of monkish and isolationist practices. Goodness, ethical behavior, and



holiness are all defined in interpersonal terms. Only in community can we create them and in only in community can we live them.

It can be tempting to distance ourselves from the problems communities inevitably engender. But withdrawal is the path to nowhere. Whatever headaches and aggravations we may cause one another, there is no other way to live. Creating successful community remains a key challenge

for all human life.

We know that communal values, and perhaps community itself, are under siege today. There are many who seem more interested in tearing us apart than in helping us live together. For this reason, too, it is important to take the High Holy-day theme of return, specifically the return to one another, to heart.

It will, as always, take effort, redirection, and a measure of adjusted thinking. Which is what we will endeavor to do as we pray, learn, and gather together in the synagogue.

Mindy and I look forward to returning to the Keys for the New Year. I know we will all do our part as we begin it with blessing.

L’shana tovah,  
Rabbi Richard Agler ♦



## Kjcc High Holiday Service Schedule

**5782 (2021-2022)**

**Rabbi Richard Agler & Cantor Michael Dzubin**

*All services will be held on Zoom unless noted.*

**Saturday, August 28**

S'lichot • 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, September 5**

Reverse Tashlich • 3:00 pm.

Contact [RazzKlein@gmail.com](mailto:RazzKlein@gmail.com) for information and location. Randy Klein-Gross will lead the team.

**Monday, September 6**

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service • 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 7**

Rosh Hashanah, Day 1 Service • 10:30 a.m.

Tashlich Service • Watch President's Announcements for time and location.

**Wednesday, September 8**

Rosh Hashanah, Day 2 Service • 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, September 11**

Havdalah at at Community Park, near 153 Indian Mound Trail, Islamorada. • 7:30 p.m.

For RSVP and information, contact Randy Klein-Gross: [RazzKlein@gmail.com](mailto:RazzKlein@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, September 15**

Erev Yom Kippur – Kol Nidre Service • 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, September 16**

Yom Kippur Service • 10:30 a.m.

Yizkor Service • 11:30 a.m.

"Fast Talk" with Rabbi Agler on Zoom • 2:00 p.m.

Neilah Service • 5:30 p.m.

Havdalah Service • 7:15 p.m.

*Note: Afternoon times are approximate*

For further information, please contact us at [President@KeysJewishCenter.com](mailto:President@KeysJewishCenter.com)

They say that “time flies when you are having fun”. They also say to keep busy if you want to make the time go by faster. Sometime after we joined the adult world, time began to speed up, and over the years, I have heard a number of our senior friends comment that they don’t know where all of the years went. I don’t know about you, but it seems to me that every time I turn around, it’s about to be *Shabbat* again!

Not only have the High Holydays somehow crept up on us again, but my brother’s *Yahrzeit* has just recently passed (you may remember that I was writing last year’s article right after he suddenly died of a massive heart attack). Unfortunately, the mother of his three youngest children has recently moved out of state with her kids, but I was able to visit his grave and send them a picture of his headstone with all of their personally painted stones still sitting right on top where they left them before they moved months ago. The night after the secular anniversary of his death, I received a picture of the three kids with a cake in front of them. I was told by their mother that the message on the cake was the idea of their young daughter, and it read “Happy Death Day Daddy!” They are definitely my brother’s kids!

As I am sure you are aware, the time of the High Holydays are known as The 10 Days of Repentance, but are we supposed to wait until then to repent for our mistakes? The *Talmud* (*Shabbat 153a*) says that *Rebbe Eliezer* taught “Repent one day before your death.” It goes on to say that “*Rebbe Eliezer*’s students asked him: Does a person know the day of his death? *Rebbe Eliezer* replied: All the more so one should repent today, lest he die tomorrow. The result is that all of his days are spent in the process of repentance.” The *Talmud* goes on to explain that his real meaning was that a person

should be in a process of *T’shuvah* (repentance) every day, since he never knows which one will be the day he will die.

In the next passage, it says, “*Rabban Yohanan*

*ben Zakkai* told the following story as a parable to this lesson: The situation is comparable to a king who invited his servants to a feast and did not set a time for them to come. The wise among them adorned themselves and sat at the entrance to the king’s house. They said: Is the king’s house missing anything necessary for the feast? Certainly the king could invite them at any moment. The fools among them went to attend to their work and said: Is there such thing as a feast without the toil of preparing for it? While the feast is being prepared, we will attend to other matters. Suddenly, the king requested that his servants come to the feast. The wise among them entered before him adorned in their finest clothes, and the fools entered before him dirty. The king was happy to greet the wise ones and angry to greet the fools. The king said: These

Cantor Dzubin leading Kiddush



wise servants **who adorned themselves for the feast shall sit and eat and drink**, but **these fools who did not adorn themselves for the feast shall stand and watch**. There is a similar outcome for people who think that their day of death and judgment is far away and do not prepare themselves for it."

Shortly after I arrived to serve a congregation in Albuquerque, NM, my new congregation's *rabbi* was forced into retirement due to health issues, and so I found myself serving as both *rabbi* and *cantor* for about eight months. During this time, I received a tearful call from one of my new congregants. She explained that her mother had been living in a nursing home, and was now in a coma. She was told by the doctors and nurses that her mother was on her deathbed, and so she needed to make final arrangements for her. I rushed over to recite the final confession on behalf of her mother, since she was obviously unable to recite them herself, and per the daughter's request, I also sang a few of her mother's favorite songs from services. The next day (I was told later), my congregant went to visit her mother again, only to find that her mother's room was empty, and the bed was made. In a panic, she rushed out to the nurse's desk, frantically asking where her mother was (understandably believing that her mother had passed away over night, and her body had already been taken to the funeral home). The nurse simply pointed and said "she's over there in the TV room". After rushing over to her mother, she tearfully asked her mother what happened, explaining that when she saw her empty room, she was afraid that she had died, to which her mother replied "I wasn't ready yet!" None of us can count on having the willpower, let alone being granted permission from God to get a reprieve like that (however brief it may be), and change our expiration date.

As I am writing this, it has been just over a month since the sudden and tragic collapse of the condominium in Surfside, FL, and they have finally found and identified the 98th and final victim. Who could have imagined the possibility of going to sleep in one's own bed and having the entire 12 story building simply collapse on top of them; especially with no history of earthquakes in South Florida, and no recent storms to speak of, let alone

a hurricane! In addition, by the time you will be reading this, we will be in the second half of our second year of fighting against the Coronavirus pandemic, and as I am writing this, our country is seeing a major resurgence in the number of cases, hospitalizations and deaths. Furthermore, our great State of Florida is currently leading the country in the numbers (about 20% of the country's new cases), with the number of our cases and the positivity percentage jumping seven times what it had been about a month earlier, and an 87% increase in the number of kids under 12 contracting the virus. Our hospital beds are quickly filling up, and a number of our hospitals have returned to restricting visitations from family members to their patients again. If we are responsible adults, we are following the advice of our doctors, so that we and our loved ones can survive this pandemic. *P'kuach Nefesh* (to save a life), all else is suspended and overridden, including *Shabbat*, let alone personal beliefs and politics. We will also have purchased life insurance to take care of our loved ones after we are gone (may it be many years from now). But what about our spiritual insurance? What are we doing to take care of our immortal souls for when our time eventually does come?

Our *rabbis* taught: "A person should always see himself as though his guilt and his innocence

*Dip the Apple, in the honey  
Say the blessing loud and clear:  
Shana Tovah umetukah  
May you have a sweet new year!*



are equally balanced". *Rabbi Elazar ben Shimon* says: "The world is judged by its majority, and each individual is judged by the majority of his deeds. When a person does one good deed, he is blessed, for he tips the balance in his favor, and in the world's favor. When he does one bad deed, he tips the balance against himself and against the world. Therefore, each of us is always on the edge between being a *tsaddik* and a *rasha* (righteous or evil person)." None of us are so good that we cannot stumble and fall, and none of us are so fallen that we cannot get back up again. As the bumper sticker says "God allows U-turns"! We can't afford to believe that our day of death and judgment is far away and we therefore don't have to prepare ourselves for it. We need to take an accounting of our lives, and make amends with the people in our lives now. Only then can we hope

to make things right between ourselves and God. *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)!

I am honored that you have invited me back to share these High Holidays with you for a seventh High Holyday season as your *Shaliakh Tsibbur*, whether physically present in the sanctuary, as a virtual congregation again, or some melded version of the two. I pray that this year, we will all be able to physically be together, and pray together, in good health!

*L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu!*  
(May you all be inscribed for a Good Year!)  
Cantor Michael Dzubin ♦

## Symbolic Foods for Rosh Hashanah

**Green beans**  
(Hope for a  
fruitful year)



**Pomegranates**  
(Celebration of  
new and unusual  
experiences)



**Carrots**  
(Desire for  
increased  
blessings)



**Fish**  
(Awareness  
of God and  
opportunity  
to do good)



**Honey**  
(A good and  
sweet new year)



# Caring Kehilah

by Laurie Blum

Calls, and sometimes emails, continue to go out to our members with birthday and anniversary greetings. Thank you calls are also made to oneg sponsors. How blessed we are that not many of our members have needed mishabarach and condolence calls. I wanted to share with everyone one birthday call I made to a member. I personally do not know this member. To the best of my knowledge, this person is not even a part-time Keys resident. What his or her connection to KJCC is, is unknown to me. For whatever reason, I couldn't make my calls at the usual time I try to make them. So it was around 4:00 p.m., when I made the call. A voice answered. Again, I do not know the age of this congregant. It was this person's actual birthday. I introduced myself and said I was calling on behalf of KJCC to wish him/her a happy birthday. Our member thanked me for calling and said I was the first birthday call s/he got that day.

Those of you who know me, know it is rare that I am at a loss for words. This was one of those rare times. I tried to be upbeat and in retrospect, I personally learned so much from this one call, and how in the future, I could better respond to a comment like that. Let's hope, I'll never have to. How blessed we are as members of KJCC to be part of a community that cares about each other.

I am looking for volunteers to help make calls to all of our members to wish them a Happy Healthy New Year. I'd like to start this in early August. You can call at your convenience. We can just divide up the directory. If no one answers, you can leave a message. It's just the idea of keeping KJCC connected to its members. If you'd like to help make some calls, even as few as 5, please let me know. I can be reached at 414-698-5647 or [blum1212@gmail.com](mailto:blum1212@gmail.com). Thank you. ◇



# TSOM GEDALIAH

## AND OTHER LESS FAMILIAR HOLIDAYS

By Laurie Blum

**T**he fast of Gedaliah, referred to as Tsom Gedaliah, is on the third of Tishrei, the day after the second day of Rosh Hashanah. However, if the third of Tishrei is on Shabbat, the fast is observed on the next day. Tsom Gedaliah is considered a minor fast day. This means that we fast from sunrise to sunset, unlike Yom Kippur when we fast basically from sundown to sundown. So who is Gedaliah and why do we fast?

After having destroyed much of Jerusalem and the first Temple, the King of Babylonia, Nebuchadnezzar, exiled most of the remaining Jews. Many of these exiled Jews though were killed in route to Babylon. However, Nebuchadnezzar allowed some of the poorer residents to stay. He didn't want the land to go to waste. Therefore, he allowed the remaining Jews to work the land. Nebuchadnezzar appointed Gedaliah as governor of that area. Gedaliah set up his headquarters in Mizpah. Gedaliah urged the Jews to remain loyal to the King of Babylonia, and informed them that they would have Nebuchadnezzar's protection from any enemies.

Nebuchadnezzar allowed the prophet Jeremiah to choose to stay or go to Babylon as an honored royal guest. He chose to stay. He went to Mizpah, met with Gedaliah, and offered his assistance in any way. Gedaliah accepted Jeremiah's help. The Jewish community prospered under Gedaliah. When news of this got out, Jews from other lands returned to Judah.

One of the Jews who returned to Judah was Ishmael. He was a descendant of the last King of Judah and was jealous of Gedaliah. Ishmael plotted with the King of Ammon to get rid of Gedaliah. One of Gedaliah's loyal officers found out and told Gedaliah. Gedaliah didn't believe his officer.

Ishmael was invited to Mizpah for Rosh

Hashanah by Gedaliah. He brought back up with him. During the meal, Ishmael's followers assassinated Gedaliah. This was followed by them killing many of Gedaliah's followers. Now, while these events are bad enough, they set off a series of additional events that weren't in the best interests of the Jewish people.

Ishmael left Mizpah with captives and headed for Ammon. The officer who originally warned Gedaliah about an assassination attempt and a few other loyal men weren't in Mizpah when all of this occurred. When they learned, what happened, they recruited others and went to find Ishmael and his collaborators. They caught up with Ishmael, freed the captives, but lost Ishmael and some of his followers.

The Jews were worried. They figured Nebuchadnezzar was going to punish them. They had few options. One of which was to go to Egypt. In route, they stopped in Beit Lechem and asked the prophet Jeremiah for advice. Jeremiah prayed. When he received an answer from G-d, he told the people that G-d said if they stay in Judah, G-d will take care of them. If they go to Egypt, they will die.

In spite of the fact that the Jews told Jeremiah they would listen to his advice, they had already made up their minds. They hoped Jeremiah would reinforce their decision. When he didn't, the Jews accused him of plotting against them (handing them over to another enemy).

The Jews continued onto Egypt. Jeremiah was forced to go with them. When they reached the Egyptian border, Jeremiah warned them again. Jeremiah's warning fell on deaf ears, and the Jews became assimilated with the Egyptians and their beliefs.

A few years later, Nebuchadnezzar was ruling over Egypt. During his fight to gain power, most of the Jews died. It is believed that Jeremiah and his faithful disciple didn't perish with

the rest of the Jews. Instead, they lived the rest of their lives in Babylon.

So, the third of Tishrei is the fast of Gedaliah, in recognition of the assassination of Gedaliah and the tragic events that it triggered for the Jewish people.

## Hoshanah Rabah & Shemini Atzeret

Most of us know about the holiday of Sukkot from Sunday School. We remember the sukkah at our synagogues or perhaps individual homes...the decorations...the lulav, that branch we shake, and the Etrog, that fruit that looks like a big lemon but is much pricier. This year Sukkot begins at sundown on September 20th and runs through nightfall on September 27th. Of all the Jewish holidays, for me Sukkot is the most confusing. Part of my writing this article for Chai-Lights is to clarify it for me. How many days is it? Then there is Hoshanah Rabah, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah. Sukkot is 7 days. The first two are yom tov... the work restricted days when we light candles. The next 5 are the intermediate days also referred to as chol hamoed. The last day of chol hamoed (the 7th day of Sukkot) is also Hoshanah Rabah...the great hoshanah. But what is hoshanah? Hoshanah is a series of 7 liturgical poems asking G-d to help the Jewish people... mainly by sending rain. Shemini Atzeret begins the rainy season in Israel when crops need rain. More on that in a bit.

On Hoshanah Rabah, G-d judges whether or not the Jewish people are worthy of rain in the upcoming season. Each of the 7 poems is recited in a processional (hakafot) around the sanctuary. After the 7th processional, the willow branches are beaten on the ground. This is a symbolic representation of our trying to rid ourselves of any sins, that for whatever reason we couldn't get rid of during the High Holy Days, so that G-d will send us the rain we need. On the night before Hoshanah Rabah, many Jews stay up to study Torah. For most Jews, Hoshanah Rabah is the last day to shake the lulav and Etrog and "dwell" (however, modern times and branches of Judaism want to define dwell) in the sukkah. However, many traditional Jews still dwell in the suk-

kah through Shemini Atzeret, which begins as Hoshanah Rabah ends, with candle lighting. The day after Hoshanah Rabah is Shemini Atzeret and the day after Shemini Atzeret is Simchat Torah. Again, most of us are familiar with Simchat Torah. We remember Simchat Torah from our youth, and perhaps as adults with our children and grandchildren. It's a time when the Torahs are taken out of the ark and marched around the sanctuary. At my childhood shul, children were given flags, a giant red delicious apple, and a Hershey bar. In Israel, these two holidays are combined as one. That is also the case among more liberal Jews. So what exactly is Shemini Atzeret?

Translated Shemini means eight. Atzeret, well that's a bit more complicated. Atzeret has been translated as assembly. It has also been translated as solemn gathering. The exact translation of Atzeret is not known. Some believe it comes from the word atzar meaning stop. So, it's interpreted to mean we stop work, like any other yom tov, and we light candles at the beginning of Shemini Atzeret like we would for any other yom tov. To add to the confusion, there are references in both Leviticus and Numbers that could imply that Shemini Atzeret (the 8th day) is to be an extension of Sukkot. Rabbinical and Talmud sources disagree as to whether or not Shemini Atzeret is the 8th day of Sukkot or a totally separate holiday. Shemini Atzeret has been referred to as the last day of the festival by the earliest rabbinical sources. The Talmud views Shemini Atzeret, the 8th day, as its own holiday.

Now traditions and customs vary between Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews, as well as throughout all branches of Judaism. In general though, we do not bless/shake the lulav and Etrog on Shemini Atzeret. If we "dwell" in the sukkah on Shemini Atzeret, we do not say the blessing for dwelling in the sukkah. Shemini Atzeret is one of the 4 times during the year that yizkor is said. Finally, since Shemini Atzeret is the beginning of the rainy season in Israel, we add a line near the beginning of the Amidah, asking G-d to provide us with rain. This verse is recited until Passover.

Chag Samach Everyone!!! ◇

# IN DEFENSE OF ISRAEL

By Beth Hayden

Two months have passed since I started this article. The Mideast is not a static entity. What was relevant two months ago is no longer necessarily relevant today. I would like to discuss a little in this continuation of the article the possible reasons Hamas chose this particular point in time to attack Israel and also to address the slanderous allegation that Israel is an Apartheid state. A recent survey of American Jews purported to find that almost 25% of American Jews, particularly younger Jews, considered Israel to be an Apartheid state.

**The Recent Conflict:** Mahmoud Abbas, leader of the Palestinian Authority (PA), was elected in 2006 for a four-year term. The PA is nominally in charge of east Jerusalem and the west bank; Hamas is in control of the Gaza Strip. Israel gained control of the Gaza Strip from Egypt in the 1967 war. Israel left Gaza in 2005 pulling out all troops and abandoning significant settlements and investments. Hamas was elected to take control of Gaza in 2006; it wrested full control from the PA in 2007. Abbas cancelled the first elections in sixteen years scheduled for



**Mahmoud Abbas - head of the Palestinian Authority (PA)**

April of 2021 in East Jerusalem and the West Bank, blaming Israel for failing to provide a voting system for East Jerusalem. The PA could easily have done that with no interference from Israel. There has been outrage and fear at the Abraham Accords because the PA thought they were being abandoned by their Arab counterparts. The PA, which has become very unpopular with Palestinians because of its corruption and poor performance, fears Hamas inroads on its representation – which recent polls support.

I think and many think Hamas began these attacks with the encouragement of Iran who funds and supplies in Gaza, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and, in Lebanon, Hizballah. Who stands to lose from changes for the better (better meaning Israel is accepted as a sovereign state, living in peace with its neighbors)? That would be Iran. It is in Iran's interests to undermine the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the recent peace agreements (The Abraham Accords) between Israel and other Arab countries. The possibility two months ago (now a fact) of an Arab Knesset party included in an Israeli ruling government coalition and peace treaties with other Arab states were changes in the status quo. **Hamas is a proxy army for Iran, as is Hizballah in the north of Israel. They will always follow Iran's bidding.** In your library at KJCC you have Ronen Bergman's book "The Secret War Against Iran" – published in October of 2008 and certainly no longer a secret. Iran is a very dangerous presence in the mid-east. Hamas is challenging the PA for leadership and control of east Jerusalem and the west bank – and Iran is challenging the United States through its proxy to see just how far it can go and where the line will be drawn. United States negotiators have sat down across from Iranian negotiators every day while this conflict continued. Hamas was very open after the cessation of hostilities that it had been

in contact with Iran every day. While the new Israeli government is very fragile, I, personally, am so pleased to see Mansour Abbas put aside some of the rhetoric and say “yes” instead of “no”. Hopefully his move will lead to more cooperation between Palestinian and Israeli leaders. Consider that Palestinian representatives refused the Balfour Declaration, the Peel Commission, the UN 1948 Partition, the offer from Ehud Barak including east Jerusalem as their capital and again the offer of Ehud Olmert including east Jerusalem as their capital. Jordan controlled the west bank from 1948 until 1967 – when was a Palestinian state declared? I think that would be – never. The Palestinians are not the victims of Israel, they are the victims of their own corrupt and inefficient governments. I regret to agree with Abba Eban “The Palestinians have never lost an opportunity to lose an opportunity.” We need better and less biased reporting by the American news media and we need to lobby for just, competent government for the Palestinians.

### Israel – An Apartheid State?

Since 1948, Israel has sought peace with its Arab neighbors, including Palestinians, and embraced in its declaration of independence an invitation to Arabs to join as citizens of Israel. Many Palestinians rebuffed this invitation at the insistence of Arab governments that were certain they could destroy the fledgling Israeli state. Sadly, these same Palestinians, their children and grandchildren languish today in refugee camps whose existence continues only as a result of Arab intransigence and the unrealistic expectation that they will one day control the land of Israel “from the river to the sea.” (From the Mediterranean Sea to the Jordan River.) In other words, Israel will cease to exist. Palestinian children are subjected to the worst form of propaganda in their schools. Textbooks continue to portray Jews in inhuman ways and generally promote antisemitism in its most vile form.

Why has the comparison between Israel

and apartheid South Africa gained so much trajectory over the last decade? The 2001 Durban Conference on Racism, held in South Africa in 2001, became the springboard where this comparison



**Mansour Abbas - head of the Arab party “Ra’am”, part of the current Israeli governing coalition.**

really gained ground. Not since Nazi Germany have such nasty invective and accusations been leveled against Israel and the Jewish people.

The rationale behind this is that if Israel is compared to and demonized just as much as apartheid South Africa was, then treating the Jewish state like a pariah and meting out the same treatment in the form of boycotts, divestment and sanction policies is the logical step. In fact, if Israel is as odious as South Africa was, should it exist at all? **And herein lies one of the fundamental differences.** At no point during the apartheid years was South Africa’s legitimacy or existence as a state challenged, just the racist governmental policy.

Israel is continually singled out for opprobrium while other conflict regions and states guilty of severe human rights abuses continue unscathed. If we are going to point a finger at any regime practicing apartheid in the Middle East, Hamas is certainly a top contender. Other candidates include Lebanon and Jordan and others who withhold the rights of citizenship from Palestinians, relegating them to perpetual second-class citizenship status. What about Iran or Saudi Arabia whose records on human rights are deplorable? The PLO ambassador to the U.S. famously declared that no Jews would be allowed to live in a future Palestinian state. Is



**Rev. Kenneth Meshoe,  
leader of the African  
Christian Democratic  
Party (ACDP)**

*under apartheid, ...in my view, Israel cannot be compared to apartheid in South Africa. Those who make the accusation expose their ignorance of what apartheid really is. Black, brown and white Jews and the Arab minority mingle freely in all public places, universities, restaurants, voting stations and public transportation. All people have the right to vote. The Arab minority has political parties, serves in the Israeli parliament (Knesset) and holds positions in government ministries, the police force and the security services. In hospitals, Palestinian patients lie in beds next to Israeli Jews, and doctors and nurses are as likely to be Israeli Arabs as Jews. ... None of the above was legally permissible in apartheid South Africa!*

Despite evidence and statements to the con-

this not apartheid?

The Rev. Kenneth Meshoe, leader of the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) had this to say about the Israel apartheid analogy:

*As a black South African who lived*

trary, Israel continues to face accusations of apartheid practices. The singling out of Israel for opprobrium in the media, United Nations, university campuses and farcical tribunals like the Russell Tribunal reinforces the idea of an antisemitic cabal. Now that is racism.

In the meantime, the Abraham accords remain strong – El Al has landed in Morocco and the first military plane EVER from north Africa has landed in Israel. Who could have imagined this even a year ago? A Palestinian Arab who leads the Arab party Ra'am is now part of a ruling government coalition in Israel. At the end of July 2021, a delegation of eight Iranian opposition members will visit Israel to take part in cultural and political meetings planned by the Institute for Voices of Liberty (IVOL). These meetings could lay the basis for a future relationship between Israel and Iran after the collapse of the ayatollahs' dictatorship. Yesh atid. ◇



**El Al Morocco lands in Morocco in December of 2020.**




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## A NEW TWIST ON AN OLD KJCC TRADITION

While our normal traditions have once again been derailed due to COVID, we are blessed that we have found a way to honor one of our High Holiday traditions. Remember walking into KJCC around the High Holidays and seeing bags of donated food in the hallway? Well, even though many Keys food banks and pantries are still not taking donations, Susan Gordon found a solution. There is a Blessings Box at the Baptist Church near MM 99. We're not asking you to go there with your donations. When you come to pick up your High Holiday machzors, there will be another plastic bin where KJCC is accepting canned food donations to stock the Blessing Box. Simply put, a Blessings Box is a small food pantry where people can come anytime and donate items, as well as take items that they may need and can't afford. It's totally anonymous, so there are no negative stigmas attached for the needy. Please help KJCC give back to our community by helping with this very important mitzvah. Please only canned food donations. Other containers risk breakage and rodents.

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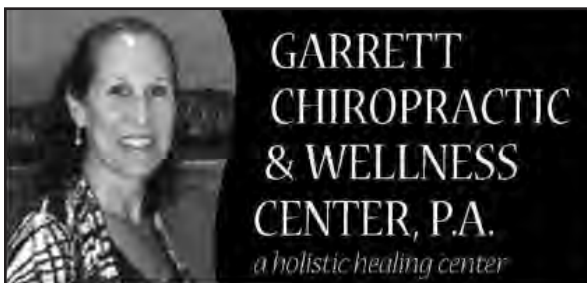
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# Chai~Lights



October 1 - November 30, 2021

25 Tishrei - 26 Kislev 5782

**The Cookbook is Here! — Pages 14 - 15**

**World Jewish Report — Page 17**

**A Look Back at High Holidays — Pages 22 - 27**

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# October 1 - November 30, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm All services and meetings are on Zoom unless indicated					<b>1</b> OCT Laurie Blum <i>Michael Gilson</i>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Sisterhood 10 am	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Judy Greenman Wellness Workshop 7:30 pm	<b>7</b> Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	<b>8</b> Rabbi Ed Rosenthal <i>Patricia Eisenberg</i>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> KJCC Board Meeting 10 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Judy Greenman Wellness Workshop 7:30 pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Erica Lieberman- Garett <i>David &amp; Toby  Goldfinger &amp;  Michael Krissel</i>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Judy Greenman Wellness Workshop 7:30 pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Joyce Peckman <i>Kathy &amp; Joe  Shabathai</i>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Yardena Kamely <i>Kathy &amp; Joe  Shabathai</i>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> NOV	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Rosh Chodesh Kislev	<b>5</b> Rosh Chodesh Kislev Steve Hartz <i>Kathy &amp; Joe  Shabathai</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> End Daylight Savings Time Sisterhood 10 am	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Veterans' Day	<b>12</b> Service Leader TBA <i>Gloria Avner</i>	<b>13</b> Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler 12:30 pm
<b>14</b> KJCC Board Meeting 10 am	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Laurie Blum <i>Orlando Quesada</i>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Thanksgiving	<b>26</b> Gloria Avner <i>Orlando Quesada</i>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> First Night of Chanukah	<b>29</b> Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 pm 2nd Night of Chanukah	<b>30</b> 3rd Night of Chanukah				

## 2021 - 2022 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

### President

Joyce Peckman

### Executive Vice President

Ken Atlas

### Vice Presidents

Gloria Avner • Susan Gordon  
Michael Kaufman

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Linda Kaplan

### Recording Secretary

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### Librarian

Medina Roy

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Rabbi Richard Agler, DD

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Susan Horn • Jim Boruszak • Joel Pollack  
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Gloria Avner

### Design & Production

Lacy Alexander

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[chailights@keysjewishcenter.com](mailto:chailights@keysjewishcenter.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



This is the time in the Jewish calendar when we look back at our accomplishments and failures, considering how we can improve ourselves in the year unfolding before us. We at KJCC have much to be proud of. We have maintained our weekly lay-led Friday night prayers, even if mostly via Zoom. We provided beautiful and meaningful High Holy Day services. We maintained our community through weekly chat, educational offerings, Sisterhood workshops and book club, virtual onegs, Caring Kehila phone calls and more. We have maintained the building and grounds. We have provided support to each other through joy and sorrow. New members have joined us.

We see our activities continuing into the New Year, still relying on Zoom. Rabbi Agler will resume his monthly seminar on the life and times of King David, always finding relevance to our time. Our workshops will begin in October with Judy Greenman's three-part introduction to "The Body Brain Freedom Approach," guiding us through gentle movement. Steve Hartz will continue our Monday drop-in chats.

The financial state of the KJCC remains stable. You are probably aware that we have not raised our dues or fees in a great many years, despite mounting expenses. Most of you have

sent in dues and more. Without these additional contributions, we could not afford our upkeep and holiday expenses. We saved money on security because the building has been closed, but spent much of that savings on equipment that will allow us to live-stream once we re-open.

Our greatest strengths and weaknesses are in our human resources. We have no paid administrators or clergy to keep us functioning year-round. All our accomplishments are due to the efforts of a small group of very dedicated members. We desperately need people willing to lead or co-lead Friday night services. Our current leaders will happily work with you. It is far easier than it seems...no knowledge of Hebrew is needed, just a willingness to "put yourself out there" with a group of friends. We have many talented people among us who could lead a seminar or workshop. We have an excellent projector and screen for films and presentations, but we need a chairperson for our education committee. Sisterhood needs a recording secretary. We need people to reach out to the community, to bring them into this tiny gem of a Jewish presence, here in the Keys. Only with your help can we continue "from strength to strength" in the year ahead. ◇

# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

All activities remain on Zoom unless noted otherwise.  
Look for more details in the Tuesday message to members.

Every Monday	2pm Drop-in Chat. Please contact us to be placed on mailing list.
Friday, October 1	7:30pm Shabbat Services and Yizkor led by Laurie Blum
Sunday, October 3	10am Sisterhood Meeting
Wednesday, October 6	7:30pm Judy Greenman Wellness Workshop
Friday, October 8	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal
Sunday, October 10	10am KJCC Board meeting
Wednesday, October 13	7:30pm Judy Greenman Wellness Workshop
Friday, October 15	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett
Wednesday, October 20	7:30pm Judy Greenman Wellness Workshop
Friday, October 22	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Joyce Peckman
Monday, October 25	12:30pm Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, October 29	7:30pm Shabbat Services
Friday, November 5	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Steve Hartz
Sunday, November 7	10am Sisterhood Meeting
Friday, November 12	7:30pm Shabbat Services
Saturday, November 13	12:30pm Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler
Sunday, November 14	10am KJCC Board meeting
Friday, November 19	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Laurie Blum
Friday, November 26	7:30pm Shabbat Services led by Gloria Avner
Monday, November 29	12:30pm Sisterhood Book Club

*Leaf on the tree of life:*  
Tainow Willner Family

*Leaf on the tree of life:*  
**Fond Times with Marc Bloom**  
**Our Kitchen Maven**  
by Steve Steinbock, Skip Rose  
& Linda Pollack

NOSH

Sisterhood Book Club Reads On

We continue to meet on Zoom the last Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. to discuss the book of the month and lots more. Feel free to invite non-KJCC friends to join us. On October 25th we will discuss “Carnegie’s Maid” by Marie Benedict, and on November 22nd, “Outwitting History” by Aaron Lansky. Joyce sends out the links each month. Contact her at [joycepeckman@gmail.com](mailto:joycepeckman@gmail.com) if you want to be added to the list.

Getting mail?

Some of us have overly protective email guardians. If you don’t always get the president’s message or other mail from KJCC, it is probably landing in your junk or promotions box. Adding [president@keys-jewishcenter.com](mailto:president@keys-jewishcenter.com) to your contacts should solve the problem. We want to stay in touch.

Scubi Jews Return Oct. 8

After 18 months of emptiness we can contemplate and look forward to sounds of life, joy, laughter, study and worship echoing through our halls again. Scubi Jews and Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will be back. They will camp out in our schoolroom as in previous years, go diving in select spots, help clean our waters and learn the theory and practice of what Rabbi Ed calls Tikkun HaYam, repair of the seas. As always they will leave the place as clean as they found it. They will be here from October 8 – 11, and the grand bonus is that Rabbi Ed will lead Shabbat services on that Friday night. How appropriate that the Parshah of the week will be Noach. The service will be held in the Sanctuary by live stream and via Zoom. Lucky us. Read Joyce’s President’s announcements for details.

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler

Once again we will delve into the fascinating saga of King David, with the generous guidance and warm informal teaching style of Rabbi Richard Agler, our Scholar Emeritus. Lunch and Learn will take place once a month starting in November and will always begin at 12:30 pm. See P. 30 for dates and details.

Bodywork With Judy Greenman

Some of you may remember the workshop Judy led for us 2 years ago. We enjoyed it, learned a lot and found it helpful for our aching body parts. This year, Judy is offering a 3 part series. We are grateful in mind, body and spirit. See P. 32 for dates and details.

Re-opening the Sanctuary

We are beginning a slow re-opening of KJCC, continuing most activities through Zoom. We will be having some Friday services live on site, dates to be determined. Any live services will also be available to view on Facebook Live. The first will be when Rabbi Ed Rosenthal leads on October 8th; he will be at KJCC with Scubi-Jews, cleaning the reef over the week-end, bunking in our classroom.

Covid protocols are still being finalized, but anyone entering the building must have proof of vaccination on file, maintain social distance and be wearing a mask properly. Children under the age of 12 must be with their parents and wearing a mask. Please keep tuned for further information, as we look forward to seeing you, safe and healthy. If you haven’t been receiving our weekly emails, make sure to add [President@Keysjewishcenter.com](mailto:President@Keysjewishcenter.com) to your list of contacts.

Get your Cookbook Now!

IT IS HERE. And it is lovely. Say thank you to KJCC Sisterhood and order yours now. Arrangements will be made for getting it to you. See P. 14 for details and contact info. Yum!! ♦

Shabbat Service Leaders

October 1 ..... Laurie Blum  
October 8 ..... Rabbi Ed Rosenthal  
October 15 ..... Erica Lieberman Garrett  
October 22 ..... Joyce Peckman  
October 29 ..... Yardena Kamely

November 5 ..... Steve Hartz  
November 12 ..... to be announced  
November 19 ..... Laurie Blum  
November 26 ..... Gloria Avner

*Rest In Peace*  
*Marc Bloom*  
*7/27/1956 - 9/27/2021*



With Ellen, the love of  
his life and mother of  
his children.

Above all else, Marc treasured his family,  
his girls, Rachel, Molly and Maddy.



*To show Marc with all his close friends would take this entire book.*

We Already Miss you, Marc. We Will Never Forget You.





Marc served on the KJCC Board of directors for many years, taking on responsibility for major events like our annual Shabbabeque and preparing coffee for every single event.



With Yardena, his Hebrew teacher and dear friend.



Marc's Purim persona was always a delight, probably taking responsibility here for ordering the pizza.



There has only once ever been a male honorary member of KJCC Sisterhood. Marc held this unique honor with love and distinction. We loved his deli food. For years we appreciated his coffee almost as much as we loved the man, kindhearted Marc, a man with severe MS challenges, whose steady smile, loyalty, and willingness to help where needed knew no bounds.



It was always good to celebrate with Marc, whatever the occasion.



## 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.

### AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 2021

#### Yahrzeit

Marshall & Myra Kaplan.....	Leonard Roberts
David & Pam Marmar .....	Dorothy Marmar
Joan Boruszak.....	Jim Boruszak
	Lillian Goldstein
Randy Kominsky .....	Natalie Kominsky

#### In Memory/Honor of

#### D & D

#### Unrestricted

Michael & Lorena Kaufman .....	Celestina Bravo-Mendez
	Lucy Kaufman
	Emilia Mendez
	Ruth Rosen
Alan Harris.....	High Holy Days Services
Henry Koche .....	High Holy Days Services
David Agler.....	High Holy Days Services

#### Library

Barney Coltman .....	Evelyn Coltman
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### SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

#### Oneg Sponsorship

Jane Friedman.....	Steve's Birthday
Barbara & Richard Knowles .....	22nd Anniversary
Joyce Peckman .....	Libby Peckman's Bat Mitzvah
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis .....	Sidney Blum's Yahrzeit
Suzanne & Michael Gilson .....	Michael's Birthday
Patricia Isenberg .....	Jordan Feig's Birthday
	Olivia Landes' birthday
Barney Coltman .....	In memory of those passed
David & Toby Goldfinger .....	Anniversary
Michael Krissel.....	Benay Krissel's Birthday
Kathy & Joe Shabathai .....	Joe's Birthday
Kathy & Joe Shabathai .....	Kathy's Birthday
Orlando Quesada .....	In gratitude of Sisterhood
Linda Pollack.....	Skip Rose's 92nd Birthday
Steve & Jan Hartz .....	Jan's Birthday

#### Dinner Sponsorship

Linda Pollack.....	Chanukkah Dinner
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#### Oneg Sponsorship

Jane Friedman.....	Steve's Birthday
Barbara & Richard Knowles .....	22nd Anniversary

#### Rock

David & Pat VanArtsdalen
Michael & Suzanne Gilson

#### Seat

Marvin Blumenfeld
-------------------

#### High Holy Days

Lillian Tallent
Steven & Jan Hartz
Beth Kaminstein
Stephen Steinbock
Joe & Susan Sachs
David & Pat VanArtsdalen
Paul & Barbara Bernstein
Michael & Lorena Kaufman
Joyce Peckman
Medina Roy
Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver
Joe & Kathy Shabathai
Adam & Judy Starr
Barney Coltman
Linda Pollack
Skip Rose
Gary & Laurie Grossinger
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies
Gerri & Stuart Smith
Robert Temkin

#### Meditation Garden

Richard & Sheila Steinberg
Medina Roy
Skip Rose
Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz

## CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

### New Year's Greetings

Beth Horowitz  
Marvin Blumenfeld  
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis  
Barney Coltman  
Erica Lieberman Garrett  
Joan Boruszak  
Karyn Zoren  
Mel & Joyce Ruthen  
Adam & Judy Starr  
Mindy & Richard Agler  
Nadine Thompson, Miriam Frankel  
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies  
Harry & Rita Rzepka  
Joan Wohl  
Joel & Toby Bofshever  
Yardena Kamely  
Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner  
Susan Gordon  
Gloria Avner  
Kathy & Joe Shabathai  
Elaine Schulberg

### Holocaust Education

Rita Williams  
Lillian Tallent  
Claire Tallent  
Richard & Sheila Steinberg  
Adam & Judy Starr  
Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages  
Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

### Security

Donna & Bill Bolton  
Lillian Tallent  
Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages  
Stan & Jenny Margulies  
Susan Gordon  
Joel & Toby Bofshever  
Joan Wohl  
Medina Roy  
Erica Lieberman Garrett  
Sherrie Willner  
Adam & Judy Starr  
Linda Pincus

### Tzeddakah

Susan Gordon  
Medina Roy  
Richard & Sheila Steinberg  
Lynn Nobil  
Linda Pincus  
Chai-Lights Support  
Joan Boruszak  
Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner  
Linda Pollack  
Susan Gordon  
Joel & Mary Roth  
Kathy & Joe Shabathai  
Linda Pincus  
Paul & Barbara Bernstein

### Scholarship

George & Muriel Swartz  
Lillian Tallent  
Claire Tallent  
Linda Pincus  
Elaine Schulberg  
Library  
Lillian Tallent  
Tikkun Ollam  
Linda Kaplan  
Joan Wohl  
Susan Gordon  
Mindy & Richard Agler  
Richard & Sheila Steinberg  
Linda Pincus  
Pau & Barbara Bernstein

### Yizkor

Donna Bolton  
Sylvia Berman  
Beth Horowitz  
Lillian Tallent  
Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages  
Karyn Zoren  
Geroage & Muriel Swartz  
David & Toby Goldfinger  
Stuart & Gerri Smith  
Joel Bernard & Joan Stark  
Sherrie Willner

## CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

### Yizkor Cont...

James Brush  
Harvey & Judith Klein  
Erica Lieberman Garrett  
Robert Temkin  
Joe & Susan Sachs  
Michael Krissel  
Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer  
Larry & Dorothy Wolfe  
Joan Boruszak  
Thomas & Renee Brodie  
Melissa Katz-Fusco  
Medina Roy  
Mary Lee Singer  
Joan Wohl  
Gerri & Frank Emkey  
Art Itkin  
Linda Pollack  
Skip Rose  
Joel & Toby Bofshever  
Marilyn Greenbaum  
Jamie & Laura Goodman  
Wes & Rita Conklin  
Nadine Thompson, Miriam Frannkel  
Rita Williams  
Yardena Kamely  
Joel & Mary Roth  
Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner  
Susan Gordon  
Richard & Sheila Steinberg  
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies  
Richard & Mindy Agler  
Adam & Judy Starr  
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis  
Miltra Sheinker  
Barney Coltman  
Steve & Jan Hartz  
Gloria Avner  
Steve & Barbara Smith  
Joe & Kathy Shabathai  
Barbara Calev  
David & Pamela Marmar  
Susan White

### Yizkor Cont...

Linda Pincus  
Elaine Schulberg  
Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver  
Stephen Steinbock  
Jane Friedman  
Neal & Kathy Rakov  
Beth Kaminstein

### Unrestricted

Beth Horowitz  
Marvin Blumenfeld  
Sam & Leslie Janowitz  
Steve & Jan Hartz  
Hermine Taramona  
Steve & Amelia Kasinof  
Stan & Jenny Margulies  
Michael Krisseel  
James Brush  
Joan Wohl  
Wes & Rita Conlkin  
Augustus & Kristy Moss  
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies  
Adam & Judy Starr  
Joe & Kathy Shabathai  
Sandy Kaplan  
David & Patti Gross  
Linda Pincus  
Elaine Schulberg  
Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver  
Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake  
Susan Ellner  
Linda Pollack

### Other

### In Memory/Honor of

Mary Lee Singer ..... Robert W Singer & Jon Singer  
Linda Pollack..... Sunny Andraccio  
Wes & Rita Conklin..... Sisterhood  
Yardena Kamely  
Arthur Plutzer ..... 80th Birthday  
Linda Pollack  
Joel Pollack  
Al & Pauline Roller

# ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

**BOOKPLATES** for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto: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, 305-587-7429, 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? Thank you, Steve Steinbock and Jane Friedman. 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 Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at [hippiejap@hotmail.com](mailto:hippiejap@hotmail.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.

**CARING KEHILAH/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. The Caring Kehilah Committee is calling and checking in on our socially distant members. Call Laurie Blum, 414-698-5647 if you wish to request that someone be contacted.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

## October Birthdays

1st.....	Harry Rzepka	20th .....	Barbara Knowles
2nd.....	Michael Gilson	21st.....	Sammy Knowles
4th .....	Michael Kanarek	21st.....	Susan White
4th .....	Michael Krissel	22nd.....	Daniel Tainow
5th .....	Mathew Tainow	22nd.....	Joseph Shabathai
5th .....	Shayne Robinson	22nd.....	Susan Roberts
7th .....	Jordan Feig	23rd .....	Joe Levi
11th .....	Olivia Landes	24th .....	Stacy Temkin
12th .....	Benay Krissel	25th .....	Landon Strasser
13th .....	Richard Kaufman	25th .....	Richard Wolfe
14th .....	Paul Friedman	26th .....	Addison Daddona
14th .....	Samantha Sherman	29th .....	Adriana Sherman
15th .....	Marcia Kreitman	29th .....	Shyella Mayk
15th .....	Michael Tallent	30th .....	Franklin Greenman
16th .....	Kiersten Persoff	30th .....	Katie J. Schur
17th .....	Jay Hershoff	30th .....	Mark Hitzig
17th .....	Stacey W. Seewald	31st.....	Brittany Schur
18th .....	Payton Borisoff		

## October Anniversaries

	Years		
2nd	Paul & Barbara Bernstein .....	27	16th Jerry & Barbara Herson .....
15th	David & Toby Goldfinger .....	62	28th Michael & Suzanne Gilson.....
			31st Harvey & Judith Klein.....
			20
			67

## 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..... Brian Boruszak  
 2nd..... Jeremy M. Schur  
 2nd..... Matt Temkin  
 3rd ..... Katherine Shabathai  
 4th ..... Zoey Barrett  
 7th ..... Joel Stein  
 7th ..... Michele Lindenbaum  
 8th ..... Melissa Katz-Fusco  
 8th ..... Nico Wilbur  
 11th ..... Cathy Dutton  
 13th ..... Kevin Cheatham  
 13th ..... Linda Kaplan  
 13th ..... Marilyn Greenbaum  
 13th ..... Tami Antelman  
 14th ..... Larry Wolfe  
 14th ..... Rae Wruble

15th ..... Nora Brennan  
 16th ..... Lorelei Alexander  
 18th ..... Diana Loi-Kamely  
 18th ..... Ross Alexander  
 19th ..... Michael E. Schur  
 20th ..... Betty Small  
 21st..... David Greenstein  
 22nd..... Gloria Avner  
 22nd..... John Luis Greenbaum  
 24th ..... Arthur Lee Willner  
 24th ..... Will Travis Pollack  
 25th ..... Nancy L. Cohn  
 26th ..... John Douglas Greenbaum  
 28th ..... Nicole Hudson  
 29th ..... Benjamin Rakov

## ONEG SPONSORS

Oct. 1 Suzanne & Michael Gilson  
 Michael's Birthday  
 Oct. 8 Patricia Isenberg  
 Jordan Feig's Birthday &  
 Olivia Landes' Birthday  
 Barney Coltman  
 In memory of those passed  
 Oct. 15 David & Toby Goldfinger  
 Anniversary  
 Oct. 15 Michael Krissel  
 Benay Krissel's Birthday  
 Oct. 22 Kathy & Joe Shabathai  
 Joe's Birthday  
 Oct. 29 Kathy & Joe Shabathai  
 Sisterhood  
 Nov. 5 Joe & Kathy Shabathai  
 Kathy's Birthday  
 Nov. 12 Gloria Avner  
 Birthday & Memory of David Gitin  
 Nov. 19 Orlando Quesada  
 In gratitude of Sisterhood  
 Nov. 26 Orlando Quesada  
 Sisterhood

## November Anniversaries

	Years
6th Thomas & Renee Brodie.....	28
6th Susan Horn and Dot Brooking.....	
14th Donald & Nancy Zinner.....	34
23rd Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver ...	7
27th Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages Dandrea.	18
27th Stanley & Jenny Margulies.....	
28th Joseph & Leslie Reamer .....	28

## Yahrzeit Plaque

**In Loving Memory of**  
**Jacob Menahem Shabathai**  
**February 15, 1917 – January 3, 2016**  
**and his wife Sally Shabathai**  
**May 22, 1922 – April 19, 1996**

Remembered by Joe & Kathy Shabathai

# *In Memoriam – October 2021*

**Perren Gerber**

By Gloria Avner

**Esther M. Klein**

By Harvey & Judith Klein

**Dick Jacob**

By David & Pat VanArtsdalen

**Gertrude Widlan**

By Norbert Birnbaum

**Fanny Grossman Bernard**

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

**Eliza Christensen**

By Nancy Kluger

**Loretta Messer**

By Marc Bloom

**Audrey Bloom**

By Marc Bloom

**Benjamin Margulies**

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

**Harriet Feder**

By David & Suzi-Sara Feder

**Arnold Tomor**

By Barbara A. Calev

**Bradley Schocket**

By Jeffrey Schocket

**Henry Walter Isenberg**

By Patricia Isenberg

**Simon Skolnick**

By Susan Gordon

**Morton I. Singer**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Rebekah Levy**

By Yarden Kamely

**Michal Kamely Levy**

By Yarden Kamely

**Samuel Tallent**

By Lillian Tallent

**Sol Levy**

By Beth Kaminstein

**Ron Levy**

By Beth Kaminstein

**Zara White**

By Susan White

**Elaine Ruda**

By Sylvia Berman

**Jacob S. Raub**

By Harvey & Judith Klein

**Jose (Pepe) Cohen Charaf**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

**Shirley Leventhal Strumor**

By Murray Blitzer &  
Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Neel Christensen**

By Nancy Kluger

**David Frank**

By Linda Pollack

**Steven V. Calev**

By Barbara A. Calev

**Ilse Doellefeld**

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

**Maurice Singer**

By Lee Schur

**Muriel Catanase**

By Jane Friedman

**Rosalyn Rose**

By Skip Rose

**Mr. Harry Stein**

By Shirley Stein

**David Jacobs**

By Lawrence Jacobs

**Jon R. Singer**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Beverly Tobin**

By Andrew M. Tobin

**David Kamely**

By Yarden Kamely

**Carol Steinbock**

By Stephen Steinbock

**Esther Gold Willner**

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

*Sanctuary Seat Plate:*

**In Memory of Ivy Blumenfeld**

*Sanctuary Seat Plate:*

**Joseph & Katherine Shabathai**

# *In Memoriam – November 2021*

**Eugene Agler**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

**Harold Goldstein**

By Joan Boruszak

**Molly Sandroff**

By Hanna David

**David Carson**

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

**Helene Tulskey**

By Patricia Isenberg

**Ethel Hankin**

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

**Mitch Harvey**

By Linda Perloff

**Rose Beth**

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

**Robert Scott Coltman**

By Barnet O. Coltman

**Lillian Skolnick**

By Susan Gordon

**Jacqueline Greenstein**

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

**Janet Kaplan**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Deborah Krissel Cannon**

By Michael Krissel

**Murray Pincus**

By Linda Pincus

**Joseph M. Bloom**

By Marc Bloom

**Morris Hitzig**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Susan Ban**

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

**Fannie Zacks**

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

**Fanny Kluger**

By Nancy Kluger

**Adele Kaufman**

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

**Tillie Pollack**

By Linda Pollack

**Raymond K. Hess**

By Jan Price

**Seymour Schocket**

By Jeffrey Schocket

**Shirley Singer**

By Lee Schur

**Rose T. Steinberg**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Bernard Swartz**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Kenny Temkin**

By Robert Temkin

**Katy Kram**

By Sanford Yankow

**Harvey Sherman**

By Alfred & Sylvia Rimm

**Shirley Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Florence Cohen**

By Jules & Nettie Seder

**Marianne Cimkowski**

By Stephen Steinbock

**Harold Tainow**

By Jon S. Tainow &  
Terry Willner-Tainow

**Diana Wolfe**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

**Nancy Kram Yankow**

By Sanford Yankow

**Selma Moore Sachs**

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

**Albert Kaminsky**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Murray Blinder**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

**Bertha Swartz**

By George & Muriel Swartz

**Frances Willner**

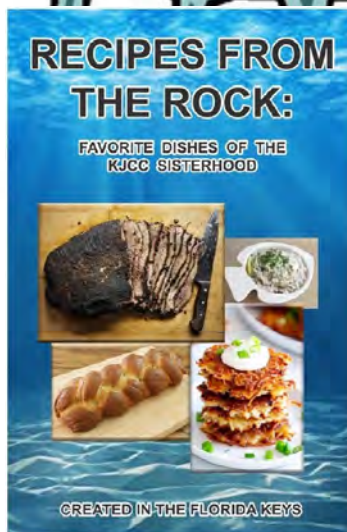
By Jon S. Tainow &  
Terry Willner-Tainow

**Morris Mazur**

By Sanford Yankow

**Eve W. Zinner**

By Donald Zinner



# KJCC Sisterhood Cookbook

If you wish us to forward any of your gift purchases directly to friends or family members, please provide the delivery information to us and we will send the books with a note indicating that they are a gift from you.

PRICE PER BOOK: \$20 SHIPPING: \$6\*

\*If you are here in the Keys, we will deliver to you at no charge. Outside of the Keys will require postage.

Name of Person Ordering: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Books Ordered at \$20 Apiece: Books \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Postage at \$6 per book if outside the Keys: Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Address: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send order form and enclosed check to:

KJCC Sisterhood  
P.O. Box 116  
Tavernier, FL 33070

## SISTERHOOD Beth Hayden



Shalom u'vracha,

**S**o happy to tell you the KJCC Sisterhood's cookbooks have arrived and they look wonderful! Lots of useful tips inside and, as you will discover, many of your favorite recipes and dishes from our great KJCC dinners. The cookbook is very colorful and will make a wonderful gift, so please get your orders in and we will accommodate you as quickly as we can. Thanks to all our wonderful cooks who took the time and trouble to contribute recipes, the editorial committee, designers of covers and thanks to David Gross for his picture of the KJCC. Special thanks, again, to Laurie Blum and Linda Pollack, without whom, this project would never have been completed. It has been a long and often arduous road, but the journey is now complete. The cookbook contains 225 recipes including: 70 recipes for Appetizers, Soups and Salads, 45 recipes for Main Dishes (Meat, Fish and Poultry), 25 Main Dishes (Eggs, Cheese, Pasta and Kugels), 27 recipes for Vegetables and Side Dishes, 38 Desserts and Baked Goods and 20 recipes under This N That. Elsewhere in this issue of Chai-Lights there is an order form for the cookbook; please complete and send with your check to Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Sisterhood Treasurer.

Meantime, Sisterhood provided a Challah Bake, led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett, in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Sisterhood also hosted a virtual Rosh Hashanah dinner. Attendance was small but warmth and friendship were felt by all. Attendees showed their beautiful baked Challot as the bruchot were said.

Sisterhood will meet in October via Zoom to discuss a number of issues, including preparation for electing new officers and a number of projects for the future. If you have items you would like to see on the agenda, please let me know at [beth.hayden@comcast.net](mailto:beth.hayden@comcast.net). Ideas are always

welcome. Speaking of new officers, Sisterhood is still without a recording secretary and will need a volunteer to record the minutes of our October meeting. If you are willing to take on this responsibility, please let me know. Sisterhood will discuss and adopt protocols for food handling at the October meeting and consider some suggestions for safely providing in-person attendees with a quasi-Oneg option as we cautiously return to live services. The KJCC Board will determine when and how KJCC can safely resume live services, but Sisterhood will need to be prepared and have a plan for safely dispensing food. Please attend the October meeting on Sunday, October 3rd, via Zoom at 10 AM. Your attendance and participation are important. A Zoom invitation will be sent on Motzei Shabbat (September 2).

In the event that you are not receiving Sisterhood emails and want to receive them, please send me an email so I can add you to our list-serve.

All best wishes for a year of happiness, health and fulfillment.

B'shalom, Beth ♦

*Rock on the  
Tree of Life:*

Michael & Suzanne  
Gilson and Family.  
Heather, Jennifer,  
Howard and Samantha





## Sisterhood Book Club

~ Books and dates for the coming three months ~

Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

until further notice ~

October 25, 2021 - Carnegie's Maid

November 22, 2021 - Outwitting History

December 27, 2021 - Jewish Nazi



A mesmerizing tale of historical fiction that asks what kind of woman could have inspired an American dynasty. Discover the story of one brilliant woman who may have spurred Andrew Carnegie's transformation from ruthless industrialist to the world's first true philanthropist.



Lansky set out to save the world's abandoned Yiddish books before it was too late. Today, more than a million books later, he has accomplished what has been called "the greatest cultural rescue effort in Jewish history."

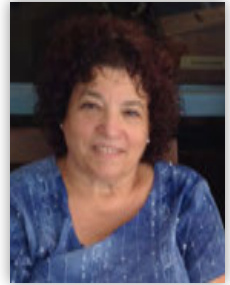


Born 1900—Died 1940?  
Benjamin Bauman, a contemporary Jewish Orthopedic Surgeon, is blinded by a flash of light while driving his car. Ben blacks out. When he awakens he finds himself in a Berlin hospital in Nazi Germany. It is Christmas Day, 1937.

Email Joyce ([joycepeckman@gmail.com](mailto:joycepeckman@gmail.com)) before the meeting date to let her know you will be attending and she will send you an invitation to Zoom.

## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

### Medina Roy



#### Making the Desert Bloom (cont.)...

Many of us know the important role bees play in our ecosystem. But we also know about their dwindling numbers. Farmers in Israel's Arava Desert are doing something about this: they're working to grow bee colonies and they're already achieving some very "sweet" results. One wouldn't expect to find a bee colony in the middle of a desert. And yet the bees at Porat Farm in Ein Yahav, an area supported by the Jewish National Fund-USA (JNF-USA), are not just surviving, they're thriving. In spite of the arid environment, the Arava region in Israel's Negev Desert provides ideal conditions for growing bee colonies. The air is pure, there's very little pollution and both of these factors help prevent many of the diseases that are decimating bee colonies around the world. And here's another benefit: the conditions that help bees thrive in the arid environment are benefitting local farmers. In addition to the many varieties of honey, these farmers rely on bees to pollinate their crops. Some farmers in the area even rent beehives and place them in their fields, resulting in more profit for their businesses and better-quality fruits and vegetables for Israelis and consumers around the world.

There are two types of bees that help boost agriculture in this area: the honeybee and the bumblebee. Dr. Oded Kanan from JNF-USA's R&D Center in the Arava explained that honeybees are used in open greenhouses, whereas the bumblebee is used in greenhouses that are closed. The bumblebees do not produce honey but are essential for pollination. They move their wings hundreds of times per second, and the vibrations from it allows them to pollinate a flower before they move along to the next plant. This is called "buzz pollination." (Previously, farmers would go by themselves, flower to flower, with a special device to pollinate them. Because of this new "buzz pollination" technique, farmers have increased their yield by

60 percent.) Today, farms in the Arava produce more than half of all of Israel's produce. As JNF-USA continues to support research facilities in the Arava, scientists continue to make breakthroughs that support global agriculture. "Without bees there is no world," Dr. Kanan said. ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 9-4-21)

#### An Emotional Flight...for the Pilot

In mid-August, Delta Airlines pilot Alexander Kahn flew hundreds of Afghan refugees from Germany's Ramstein Air Base to Washington, D.C.'s Dulles Airport as part of the United States government's partnership with commercial airlines. This had a very special meaning for Kahn; his father was a Holocaust survivor who immigrated to the U.S. in a similar fashion. "I'm a son of an immigrant in the United States, my father was a Holocaust survivor, he was liberated from Buchenwald concentration camp by Patton's Third Army and came to the United States not much differently than the people that are coming to the United States now," Kahn said. "He was coming with the clothes on his back, no family, no English skills, and had to start life over again. Luckily he was starting life over in the land of opportunity." Kahn mentioned how his flight attendants prepared for the trip the night before, using their own money to buy things for the Afghan refugees; diapers, wipes, books, coloring books and other supplies. "We are a generous country because we're a generous people and the future is theirs," Kahn said. ([www.nypost.com](http://www.nypost.com), 8-28-21)

#### Afghanistan's Last Jew

An Israeli television channel has reported that the last remaining Jew in Afghanistan has finally left the country for the United States. Zebulun Simantov, 62, was the keeper of Kabul's lone remaining synagogue. When the Taliban took over

Afghanistan after the United States pulled out after twenty years, several Jewish groups reached out to Simantov offering to help him leave the country. Initially he declined the offers, insisting he wanted to stay in his homeland and take care of the synagogue where he lived. According to several reports, for many years Simantov has refused to grant his estranged wife, who lives in Israel with their two daughters, a divorce. (In Orthodox Judaism, a man must agree to give his wife a *gett*, a religious Jewish divorce document.) Israeli rabbinical courts cannot declare a marriage void, but they can, at times, legally punish men who refuse with fines or even imprisonment. The Jewish community in Afghanistan dates back over 1,000 years. At the beginning of the 20th century it still numbered some 4,000 people, mainly in the cities of Kabul, Herat and Balkh, according to the Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv. Most Afghan Jews left in the 1950s following the establishment of the State of Israel, although several families remained until the 1990s when severe violence and civil war caused all but Simantov to flee. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 9-8-21)

### Biblical Earthquake

Evidence of a biblical-era earthquake, in the 8th century BCE, has been found in the City of David National Park in Jerusalem. Similar evidence has been discovered in other sites in Israel, but this is the first time that evidence of the earthquake, referred to in both the Books of Amos and Zechariah, has been found in Jerusalem itself. There are several instances in the Torah referring to an earthquake which took place some 2,800 years ago. The prophet Amos began his prophecies in the reign of King Uzziah of Judah “two years before the earthquake.” According to Flavius Josephus, the first-century CE Jewish scholar and historian, the earthquake occurred as Uzziah was about to offer an illegal sacrifice in the Temple as described in Divrei Hayamim (Book of Chronicles) 2:26:16-20. Another reference to the earthquake appears 200 years later by the prophet Zachariah. But while evidence of the event was found in Chatzor and Gat (two of the main coastal Philistine cities – Gat being the home of Goliath), there was no indication that it had affected Jerusalem until broken vessels and other signs of destruction typical of earthquakes were discovered in the City of David, just south of the Temple Mount. The broken vessels date back to a period when there were no known conquests, so it’s consid-

ered likely that an earthquake shattered them. Dr. Joe Uziel and Ortal Chalaf, Israel Antiquities Authority’s (IAA) excavation directors, said, “When we excavated the structure and uncovered an 8th century BCE layer of destruction, we were very surprised, because we know that Jerusalem continued to exist in succession until the Babylonian destruction, which occurred about 200 years later. We asked ourselves what could have caused that dramatic layer of destruction we uncovered. Examining the excavation findings, we tried to check if there is a reference to it in the biblical text. Interestingly, the earthquake that appears in the Bible in the books of Amos and Zechariah occurred at the time when the building we excavated in the City of David collapsed.” Archaeologists found fragments of many types of vessels buried under houses. Apparently, residents of the area later built their homes on top of ruins left by the earthquake, structures that themselves were later destroyed during the Babylonian destruction of the first Temple in 586 BCE. ([www.vinnnews.com](http://www.vinnnews.com), 8-4-21)

### In Memoriam

- Ruth Pearl, mother of murdered journalist Daniel Pearl, who dedicated the latter part of her life to preserving the memory and legacy of her son, has died. She was 85. Daniel was a reporter for the Wall Street Journal when, in January, 2002, he was kidnapped and murdered (beheaded) nine days later on video. He was in Karachi, Pakistan to report on those who had brought about the Sept. 11th attacks several months earlier. His final words were, “My father is Jewish. My mother is Jewish. I am Jewish.” His parents, Ruth and Judea, launched the Daniel Pearl Foundation, which brings journalists from Muslim majority countries to the United States to work at news outlets and also sponsor concerts. (Daniel was a skilled violinist, passionate about music.). The Pearl Project at Georgetown University works to advance investigative journalism, its first project having been to investigate Daniel’s murder. Judea Pearl said that his wife was proud of the 2003 book she edited: “I am Jewish: Personal Reflections Inspired by the Last Words of Daniel Pearl.” She solicited essays from many prominent Jews of the time, including Elie Wiesel, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Edgar Bronfman.

Ruth Pearl was born Eveline Rejwan in Baghdad. When she was five, she hid out with Muslim neighbors during the Farhud, the massacre of 179

Jews in the Iraqi capital. She helped smuggle Jews to Israel and then immigrated herself, serving in her new country's Navy. She changed her name to Ruth, met her husband at Israel's Technion and, after graduation, moved with him to the United States, where she worked as a software developer.

The persecution of Iraqi Jews helped to shape her views. "Dehumanizing people is the first step to inviting violence, like Nazism and fascism," she said when delivering testimony to Steven Spielberg's Shoah Foundation of the University of Southern California. ([www.latimes.com](http://www.latimes.com), 7-30-21)

- Ed Asner, Emmy award-winning Jewish actor who portrayed the gruff but lovable Lou Grant in the 1970s hit television show "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and co-starred in the animated movie "Up," died at the end of August. He was 91. "Lou Grant," a spinoff show in 1977, moved his character to Los Angeles to lead a print newsroom. Asner is the only actor to win Emmy awards for playing the same character in two separate series. The "Lou Grant" series is considered to be one of television's truest depiction of how news is gathered. (The newsroom was modeled on that of the Washington Post as depicted in the 1976 film, "All the President's Men.") Asner's character was modeled after Harry Rosenfeld, the paper's Jewish city editor who was known for both berating and nurturing young reporters. CBS canceled the series in 1982, claiming ratings as a factor. But it's more likely because conservative groups had threatened to boycott the network because of Asner's real-life activism. Asner was president of the Screen Actors Guild and spoke out against the Reagan's Administration's backing of right-wing insurgents in Central America.

In 2016, Asner toured the country playing a Holocaust survivor in "The Soap Myth," a run interrupted by the pandemic. He was extremely proud of being Jewish. In 2019, he narrated "The Tattooed Torah," an animated version of the children's Holocaust story book.

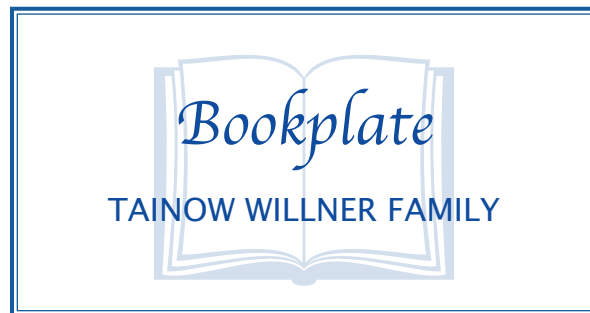
Born and raised in Kansas City to Jewish immigrant parents who observed many of Orthodox Judaism's laws (but drove to synagogue), Asner said his parents instilled in him a belief that Jewish practice was inseparable from activism. Asner acted (in both meanings) up until the end. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 8-29-21)

#### Did You Know...

- Ryan Braun, the all-time Jewish home run hit-

ter, has announced that he is retiring from Major League Baseball, ending a fourteen-year career. Braun, 37, the Milwaukee Brewers outfielder, hit more home runs than any Jewish player in baseball history (yes, even more than Hank Greenberg, who lost several prime years to war service) and won a Most Valuable Player (MVP) award in 2011. The California native was drafted fifth overall by Milwaukee in the 2005 Major League Baseball draft and made his debut two years later. Braun went on to win National League Rookie of the Year in 2007. A six-time All-Star who played his entire career in Milwaukee, Braun finished as a .296 hitter with 352 home runs and 1,154 runs batted in. But following his 2011 MVP award, Braun tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs, then lied about it and served a 65-game suspension in 2013. This tainted his reputation, especially among his Jewish fans. Braun was known as the "Hebrew Hammer." He is the son of an Israeli father and states that he is proud of his Jewish heritage although he is not observant. "I do consider myself definitely Jewish," he said. "And I'm extremely proud to be a role model for young Jewish kids." The Brewers honored Braun with a pregame ceremony on September 26th before a game against the New York Mets. ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 9-15-21)

- If you've got a spare \$4 million, you can be the owner of a 700-year-old illustrated Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur machzor (prayerbook) which is going up for auction at Sotheby's on October 19th. According to Sotheby's, the Luzzatto High Holiday Machzor is the oldest Hebrew prayer book ever to be sold at auction. The machzor was written and illuminated in southern Germany by a Jewish scribe and artist. It then traveled to Jewish communities in France and Italy. During its travels, different owners wrote notes in the margins and changed the text based on their local customs. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 9-4-21) ◇



Keys Jewish Community Center



# Shemini Atzeret - Yizkor Service Simchat Torah Service



Friday, October 1, 2021

7:30 P.M.

Please join us on Zoom for a combination  
Shabbat - Simchat Torah - Yizkor service

*We remember our dear departed and  
celebrate our Torah - back to the  
beginning*

Services will be led by

Laurie Blum and Joyce Peckman

*Join us for a Virtual Party at the Oneg*

Zoom invitations will be sent out by Joyce.



# New Year's Greetings

**To family and friends  
Happy and healthy New Year**  
*Beth Horowitz*



**In memory of my wife Ivy**  
*Marvin Blumenfeld*



**Happy & healthy New Year**  
*Barnet O. Coltman*



**Hope for a healthy and  
blessed 5782**  
*Erica Lieberman Garrett*



**L'Shana Tovah  
Wishing all a happy and  
healthy 5782**  
*Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum*



**Wishing everyone a healthy  
and peaceful new year**  
*Nadine Thompson &  
Mickey Frankel*

**Wish all our friends a  
Healthy New Year**  
*Jeff & Cheryl Margulies*



**Wishing all a very  
Happy New Year**  
*Karyn Zoren*



**To my dear KJCC family  
a good year**  
*Joan Boruszak*



**Wishes KJCC friends  
good health in 5782**  
**L'Shana Tova**  
*Joan Wohlf*

**New Year's greetings**  
*Rita, Harry & Dylan Rzepka*



**We wish all our KJCC friends  
a happy & healthy 5782**  
*The Bofshevers*



**Happy Healthy New Year**  
*Elaine Schulberg*

**Shana Tova**  
**Wishing health and peace to  
my KJCC friends**  
*Yardena*



**Healthy 5782 to all  
my KJCC family**  
**L'Shanah Tova**  
*Susan Gordon*



**Shanah Tovah to our  
KJCC family**  
*Mindy & Rich Agler*



**Shanah Tovah to all  
KJCC and loved ones**  
*The Starrs*



**L'Shana Tova**  
*Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner*



**A happy and healthy New  
Year, dear KJCC mishpocha..**  
*Love, Gloria*

## A LOOK BACK AT HIGH HOLIDAYS 5782

We were inspired and delighted that Rabbi Agler shared so many profound messages, formal and informal, with all of us over the “Ten Days of Awe.” His teachings were timely, deeply meaningful, and coupled with the mellifluous voice of Cantor Dzubin, truly uplifted us. Even in this time of Covid-induced isolation, many miles from each other, we felt the comfort of community. In the next few pages, we offer bits and pieces as reminders of what you heard, or samples in case you weren’t able to hear any at all. Rosh HaShanah talks were themed on “The World Around Us.” Kol Nidre talks focused on “The World Within Us.” You can read Rabbi’s words in entirety at rFull messages can be found at [www.tragedytest.com](http://www.tragedytest.com) under the Thoughts & Messages tab, or listen to them on Facebook at KJCC/Shul. Enjoy.



**Cantor Dzubin prepared to put away our Holocaust Torah after aliot on Yom Kippur.**



**Laurie Blum has a right to smile after leading Beautiful Shabbat Shuvah and Yizkor services.**

**Lovely Havdalah night with Donna Bolton, Skip and Linda, Randi and Oahi and Stan Margulies.**



**Erica Lieberman-Garrett chants her Aliyah**



So good to see so many members and four-legged friends participating in services the Shabbat right after Yom Kippur. Thank you Randy and Panda.

Dave Feder, our resident world class musician and Sound Engineer and Susan Gordon, KJCC House Committee co-chair, worked countless hours preparing for a smooth hybrid High Holiday experience, combining Zoom and Facebook Live.

Susan Gordon takes a break from helping master sound engineer Dave Feder monitor the live feed, and reads a beautiful blessing for the community on Yom Kippur morning.



Thank you Joyce, for keeping us informed, organized and in touch.



Joy on the faces of the Klein Family after Jonah sounds the last Tekiah G'dolah.



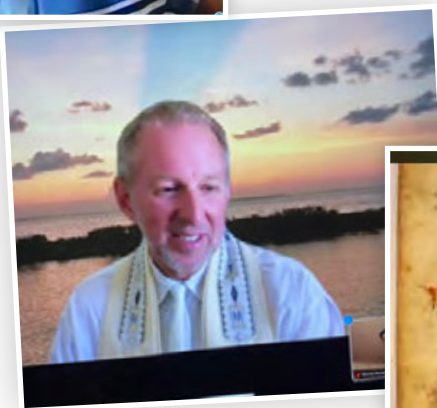


Barney recites his Aliyah.

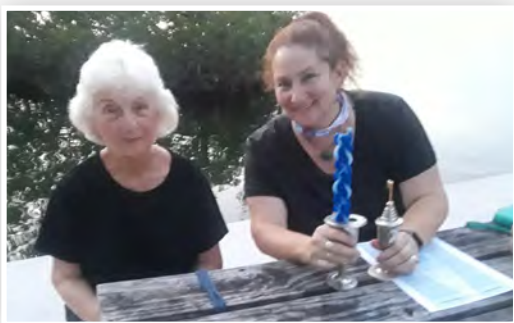


Jonah you are a marvel!

Thank you, Rabbi Agler, for coming to us from California to lead your east coast mishpocha in uplifting and meaningful High Holy Day services. We are grateful beyond words (and if you want to hear some of Rabbi Agler's words and messages, turn to PP 25).



Yardena Kameli recites the Blessing for Israel in mellifluous Hebrew.



Linda's Pollack and Randy Klein Gross get ready for one of our sweet, in person, outdoor events, a Shabbat Shuva Havdalah Service.



Ken Atlas chants the Torah blessings for his Aliyah on Yom Kippur.

# HIGH HOLY DAYS 5782

Rabbi Richard Agler, DD

These are the speaking notes from the more formal messages shared with the congregation on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. I hope you find them worthwhile.  
Full messages can be found at [www.tragedytest.com](http://www.tragedytest.com) under the Thoughts & Messages tab.

## THE WORLD AROUND US

### Erev Rosh Hashanah

Society—It's brutal, there's no getting around it. We've always known this. History is many things but full of surprises it is not. Or at least it should not be. Since Biblical times, and no doubt beyond, human beings have demonstrated a well-developed proclivity for acting selfishly, treacherously, and short-sightedly. Over the centuries, while circumstances may have changed, such behaviors have remained remarkably consistent. In spite of it all, we survivors cling to the faith that we can somehow do, and be, better. If this is the triumph of hope over experience, fine. We refuse to give up. We do not give up personally. Whatever has been thrown at us, and in many cases, it has been a lot, we resolve to persevere. We do not give up on our families. They are not always easy. But we fight for them with all we have. We do not give up on our communities, the groups we belong to, like this one. They, too, are rarely easy. But they add meaning, texture, friendship, and blessing to our lives. We let go of them at our peril. We do not give up on our country. For all its problems, its ideals still unite us. We do not give up on our world. The planet may be stressed, and for good measure now, diseased; but every one of us wants to do all that we can to save it.

That's a lot of things to not give up on. And in spite of all the difficulties we believe that our better nature, our *Yetzer Ha-Tov* as the Rabbis called it, can prevail.

As we know, the world has taken its lumps this year. And even in the paradise that is the Keys, there's no escaping it. Pandemic, political turmoil, changing climate, the changing workplace, the brave new world, for many of us, of fluid gender

identity. None of us know exactly what the future is going to be but like it or not, it is coming.

We can pretend to be ostriches with our heads in the sand—which, truth be told, can sound inviting. Or we can pick up our heads, look around, and do what we can to make the world, in whatever small ways we can, a better place.

Someone once asked the anthropologist Margaret Meade what she considered to be the first evidence of civilization. Was it a cooking utensil? A clay pot? Some primitive writing? No, none of these. She said that the first evidence of civilization was a human thigh bone with a healed fracture from an archaeological site 15,000 years old. Why this?

She pointed out that for a person to survive a broken femur, the individual had to have been cared for long enough for that bone to heal. Other people must have provided shelter, protection, food, and drink over an extended period of time.

So the first indication of human civilization, and maybe still the best indication, is caring, over time, for those who are broken, and in need.

Because it is caring and kindness that make civilization, any civilization, possible and sustainable. Clay pots, stone tools, alphabets; turbines, lasers, smartphones—they are all very nice. But if we are going to survive in a civilized manner, and that is by no means certain, kindness and caring are what we are going to need. ◇



# SISTERHOOD BAKES



Another magnificent Jane Friedman creation.



Joyce Peckman and daughter in law Rebecca work together on the mysteries of braiding in the round.



## REVERSE TASCHLICH

On The first afternoon of Rosh HaShanah we are supposed to go to a live body of water, have a short, sincere, tuneful service and toss away our “sins,” all the ways in which we did not come up to the standard we wish for in being our best selves. We resolve to be and do better and we use the metaphor of bread as the bad behaviors we’d like to rid ourselves of. And then comes Reversh Tashlich, when we take out the sins of ocean polluters, destroyers of God’s territory. Thanks to Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, who will be bringing from Tampa his troop of Scubi Jews, it is time to remove those sins and practice Tikkun HaYam, Repair of the Seas. Be at KJCC or live stream on Facebook KJCC/Shul on Friday night, October 8, to hear the words of Rabbi Ed as he ties it all together with a d’rash on the parashah Noach. Meanwhile look at all the trash our wonderful workers from KJCC drew out of the Sea at Donna Bolton’s House for Reverse Taschich.

We were one of hundreds of teams. Rabbi Ed says thank you, the sea says thank you, and we say thank you to Super Jane Friedman, Randy Gross-Klein, her family, Susan Gordon, Donna Bolton, Erica Lieberman-Garrett and our Newest Members, David and Loni Padden.

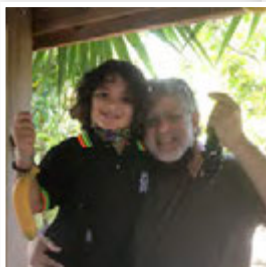


# KJCC CELEBRATES SUKKOT

*What a joy to get together for Sukkah decoration—not unlike a long overdue family reunion. It had been so long since we had seen Geri and Stuart Smith, and a very long time since we had interacted with the enthusiastically helpful and exuberant Sean Kaufman. Yet here we were, together again with common purpose (at the same time as we observed social distancing). Thank you dear Sukkah, created so generously by Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake in honor of their parents. For eight days, the length of our harvest holiday, SUKKOT, we could eat, drink, schmooze, even sleep there if we chose to, in our temporary shelter with a roof of palm fronds through which we could see the stars. Back to our roots as agricultural people, back to the way we lived for forty years wandering through the desert after liberation from Egypt, we happily decorated with hanging fruits and student made signs. Wall-less and roof-less, it was a fragile home, yet it was our home, and we were/are happy to be with each other inside it.*



**Jane Friedman's  
Sukkah In progress**



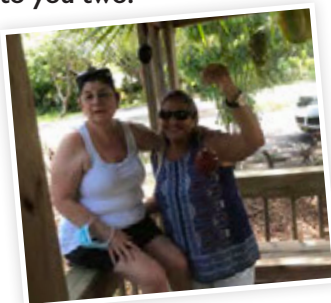
**Sean and Dad, Michael  
Kaufman, hanging the fruit  
for our harvest celebration.**



**The Peckman Sukkah in New  
Jersey, where Joyce did her last  
big family celebration before  
heading South, back to the rest  
of her extended Mishpocha.**



**Susan Gordon and  
Donna Bolton, thanks  
to you two.**



**So good to  
see Geri  
and Stuart  
Smith again,  
and what a  
lovely table.**



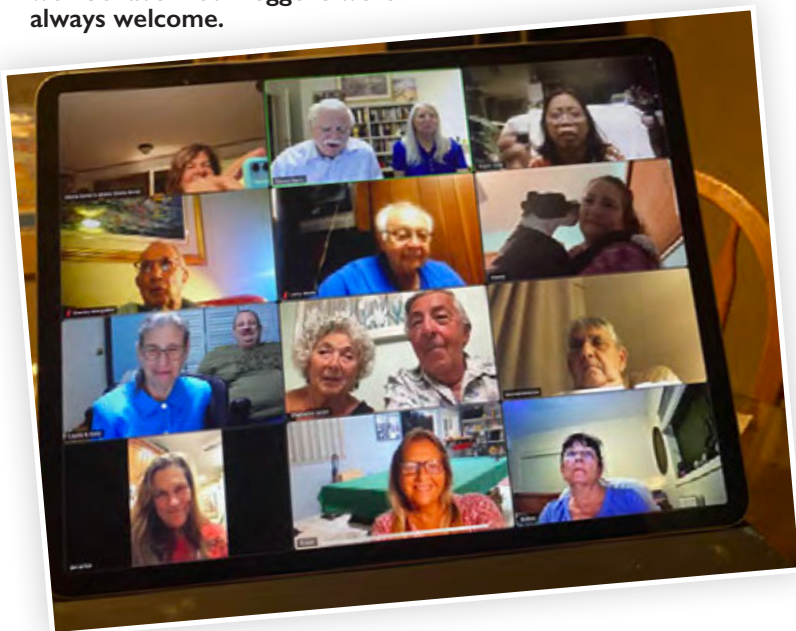
**Big thank you to Rabbi Zucker and his driver David for bringing a beautiful Lulav and Etrog to our KJCC SUKKAH (thanks again, Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake) and for giving one to our newest family and there three girls. Chag Sameach to Shlomit.**

## PHOTO GALLERY

Joyce, our President, manages to stay in touch, running zoom meetings from her granddaughter's bedroom when her own room gets waterlogged from that wicked summer storm passing through New Jersey.



Friday night services held us together this summer. Visiting well behaved four-leggeds were always welcome.



Ariel, Gail and Alma Tromer Present Donna Bolton with gifts of homemade mini-challahs for Sukkot celebration. They were gifted a Lulav and Etrog by David, friend of Rabbi Zucker.



Skip Rose was lucky enough to have family visitors this summer. We are always happy to see them.

# Keys Jewish Community Center

Adult Ed Program

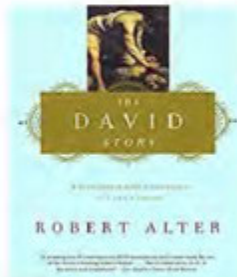


## THE DAVID SAGA

**GOOD NEWS!  
LUNCH AND LEARN WITH  
RABBI AGLER  
RETURNS**

Discussion of the David saga will continue on November 13th and December 11, 2021, and January 29th, 2022. We will resume with Chapter 13 of Second Samuel.

Even if you have not partaken in our previous sessions or done any preparatory reading, come and enjoy the discussion. No preparation is necessary.

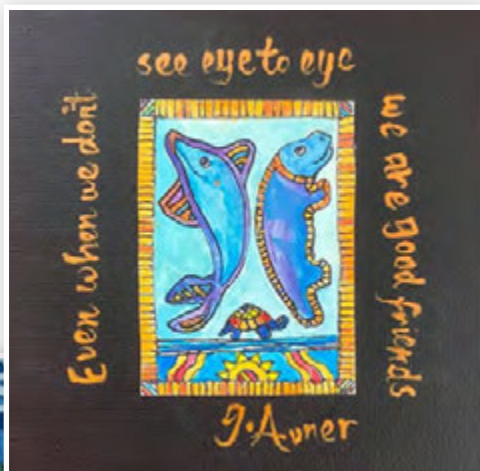


**Zoom invitations will be sent out prior to the session.**



Mary Lee on a visit to daughter and grandchild.

Our Lulav and Etrog with a blessing page



Gloria spent most of her summer painting fanciful meditations on friendship or creating portraits of peoples' beloved pets.



Susan Gordon, standing on her new dock with just delivered Lulav and Etrog.



Rabbi Zucker's friend David delivers Lulav and Etrog

# Keys Jewish Community Center

Workshop with Judy Greenman

**Introductory Series:  
Body Brain Freedom Approach to  
Move Better and Feel Better  
October 6, 13 and 20.**

**7:30 pm**



In this three part introduction to the Body Brain Freedom Approach, we will begin to awaken our innate Somatic (Body) Intelligence to release compensatory patterns that cause pain, anxiety or functional decline as we age.

This re-education process helps us “unlearn” unconscious neuromuscular effort that keeps us from the ease and fluid movement we enjoyed as a child and lost along the way.

**In this introductory series, benefits often include:**

- More flexibility and healthy movement of your neck, spine and joints
- Mobilized ribs to more fully access our breath
- More comfortable daily activities like walking, standing, sitting & bending
- A renewed quality of connection with our body
- A sense of deeper, whole body presence, well-being and vitality

Note: We will be using slow, gentle movements that are appropriate for all ages and conditions. If you have pain or limited movement, we will make modifications such as doing the lesson seated, on a bed or in your imagination.

Contact Judy at 305-393-1315 if you have questions.

Pre-register by emailing Beth Hayden at  
[hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net](mailto:hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net) in order to receive materials  
that will maximize your experience with this series of classes.

## MOVING INTO CHESHVAN AND KISLEV

Lucinda Kurtz, M.A.



**A**fter the vibrational recalibration of the High Holidays, we take a dive down into the depths in this new month of Cheshvan. It is often called “Mar Cheshvan” or Bitter Cheshvan, because there is a stark contrast between the holidays and relationship building in the previous month of Tishrei and this time of reckoning. This year we are particularly challenged to keep our faith in the midst of the pandemic, the fires and floods raging across the country, and our uncertain future.

Now, we come face to face with the personal ingrained patterns we identified during the Days of Awe but also with the institutional structures that no longer fit the evolving needs of our society. At this time, we feel a deep loss, a loss of equilibrium, a loss of clarity and stability, of safety and protection. We are overcome with floods of emotion as we witness the tragedies large and small, personal and global, that trigger feelings of profound sadness within us. We trust that this falling down is part of going forward, that this descent into division is a precursor to a greater unity, that this chaos is a harbinger of a new paradigm that creates justice and shalom.

Yet, Cheshvan is the month of transformation and regeneration, under the water sign of Scorpio. We begin the Torah cycle again by reading the stories of Creation, Noah and the Great Flood, and the call from God to Abraham to leave home and undertake a profound spiritual journey into unexplored inner and outer terrain. Each year and in each generation, we reinterpret these messages according to tradition, our own levels of consciousness, our own personal struggles, and the social and political worlds that we inhabit.

This is the time to root ourselves in our core values as we simultaneously connect and align ourselves to the One, creating a sturdy and secure ark for ourselves to negotiate the turbulent waves around us, grounding and sustaining us in hope and trust. We can transmute our fears and insecurities into fuel for our upward movement and support the

next generation as it gains tools and wisdom, so together we can right the ship of state and steer a steady course into healing waters.

We flow from Cheshvan into the new month of Kislev, the month that helps us to rekindle our hopes and dreams symbolized by the 36 candles lit during the eight days of Chanukah. With deep relief, we step into the new energies of faith and belief in the miraculous that are the hallmarks of this month, symbolized by the one vial of pure oil that lasted for eight days that helped our people rededicate themselves to the One.

The energy of this month can move us forward to reclaim the essence of our democracy, just as the Jewish people reclaimed our Holy Temple in ancient times celebrated in this month of Kislev. Just as the rededication of the Temple held the hope of greater unity among peoples, so we hold hope that a world movement to combat climate change can unify people of all countries behind the sacred task of healing.

In this month of Kislev, we enter the darkest time of the year. The Kabbalists teach us it is healing energy of sleep and the dreams that flow to us from the deep channels of connection to the One that guide us. Breathe deeply and let your breath take you to the place where your dreams flow. Relax into these deep channels of inner knowing. Tap into your intuition and wisdom. Hear, sense, see, feel the guidance, the messages from Above and within. What dreams within dreams wash over you, comfort you, fortify you, shine a light on your deepest knowing, give you the courage to share your truth?

With trust in the positive unfolding of the arc of justice, we can enter this month with a renewed belief in miraculous synchronicities and faith in the Divine Light that illuminates our path forward. Let us all step forward, in whatever way we are uniquely called, to contribute to the co-creation of a revitalized and re-envisioned community and country at this momentous time of transition and possibility. ◇



New  
Advertiser!

Terry Sutton and his wife moved to the Keys last year with a mission—to create a special Healing Center. He'd been told he had stage 4 cancer, had only 6 months to live, and yet he beat it back with a myriad of alternative healing modalities. He decided to give back: "I wanted to create a place where discoveries of alternatives awaited . . . And what better place to create this dream, a Practical Wellness Sanctuary, called Ocean Dreams, than in the beauty of the Florida Keys. See his ad and contact information on p. 36.

# Caring Kehilah

In addition to the routine Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary greetings, the Caring Kehilah reached out in some form to just about all of our members to wish them a L'Shanah Tovah.

Thank you to Gloria Avner who volunteered to help make some of the contacts. Calls and emails were well received. Everyone is anxiously awaiting KJCC's reopening.



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HAPPY  
*Autumn*

# Chai~Lights



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December 1, 2021 - January 31, 2022

27 Kislev - 29 Shevat 5782

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**KJCC Remembers Marc Bloom — Page 22**

**Rosh Chodesh Circle Begins — Page 30**

**Coping with Covid by Mindy Agler — Page 31**

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# December 1, 2021 - January 31, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>DEC</b>	2	3 Hanukkah celebration 7:00 p.m. Gloria Avner <i>Linda Pollack</i> <i>Steve &amp; Jan Hartz</i>	4
5 Sisterhood Meeting 10 a.m.	6 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	7 JOY Center Tech Class at KJCC 1 p.m.	8	9	10 Erica Lieberman Garrett & Jane Friedman <i>Geri &amp; Stuart Smith</i>	11 Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler on Zoom 12:30 p.m.
12 KJCC Board meeting 10 a.m.	13 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	14 JOY Center Tech Class at KJCC 1 p.m.	15	16	17 Yardena Kamely <i>Barney Coltman</i>	18
19	20 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	21 Memorial Service for Homeless at Settlers' Park 12:00 p.m.	22	23	24 Joyce Peckman <i>Sisterhood</i>	25
26	27 Sisterhood Book club Zoom 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	28	29	30	31 Joe Shabathai <i>Steve &amp; Amelia Kasinof</i>	1 <b>JAN</b>
2 Sisterhood Meeting 10 a.m.	3 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	4 New Moon Group led by Lucinda Kurtz 3 p.m.	5	6	7 Laurie Blum <i>Sherrie Willner</i>	8
9 KJCC Board meeting 10 a.m.	10 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	11	12	13	14 Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack <i>Barney Coltman</i>	15
16	17 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	18	19	20	21 Steve Hartz <i>KJCC Sisterhood</i>	22
23	24 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	25	26	27	28 Medina Roy & Gloria Avner <i>Sylvia &amp; Alfred Rimm</i>	29 Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler on Zoom 12:30 p.m.
30	31 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm All services and meetings are on Zoom unless indicated				

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



Last week I co-lead services at KJCC with Jane and gave a “dvar” (talk), some of which I would like to share now: Rabbi Jonathon Sacks, before his death, created a year’s worth of parasha notes to survive him. Without going into the enormous depth and breadth of his legacy, I honor his memory by using those notes. He noted that Jacob encountered angels several times in his life. As a young man he fled alone from his home to his uncle Laban, and on the road dreamed of a ladder reaching to heaven, with angels ascending and descending. Twenty years later, returning home with a large family and herds to the brother from whom he had fled, Jacob twice met angels on route – once in a dream and once in a fight. These decisive spiritual encounters of Jacob’s life all happened in what Rabbi Sacks calls liminal space (the space between, neither a starting point nor a destination), at a time when Jacob was at risk in both directions – where he comes from and where he is going to. It was at these points of maximal vulnerability that he confronted God and found the courage to continue despite all the hazards of the journey. That is the strength Jacob bequeathed to the Jewish people.

We too are in a liminal space – We closed up our spiritual home, survived a time that was

tragic for many and difficult for all, and are now beginning our journey back. We too are in a time of maximum vulnerability. We must overcome both fear and inertia. We must show strength and bravery, and we must seek the inspiration and take the actions needed to re-establish and renew this Jewish home.

We have taken steps needed to open, created protocols and purchased air purifiers. Now we need you. We need people to lead or co-lead services at KJCC. We need people to make phone calls as part of our Caring Kehillah, to learn and help with technology, to come when we do security and first aid training, and to share your ideas and expertise. We are much more than just Friday services. We are a community that helps and celebrates and learns from each other.

Wishing you a Happy Hanukkah and a great 2022.◇

by KJCC Sisterhood:  
*Plaque For Kitchen*

Marc Bloom  
Coffee Center



# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

**December 2021 – January 2022**

Many of our activities remain on Zoom.  
Look for details & more events in the Tuesday President's messages.

Every Monday	2 p.m. Drop-in Zoom Chat. Contact us to be added to the mailing list.
Friday, Dec. 3	7:00 p.m. Hanukkah celebration at KJCC. Service led by Gloria Avner
Sunday, Dec. 5	10 a.m. Sisterhood Meeting
Tuesday, Dec. 7	1 p.m. JOY Center Tech Class at KJCC
Friday, Dec. 10	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Erica Lieberman Garrett & Jane Friedman
Saturday, Dec. 11	12:30 p.m. Lunch & Learn on Zoom with Rabbi Agler
Sunday, Dec. 12	10 a.m. KJCC Board meeting at KJCC & Zoom
Tuesday, Dec. 14	1 p.m. Joy Center Tech Class at KJCC
Friday, Dec. 17	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Yardena Kamely on Zoom
Tuesday, Dec. 21	12:00 p.m. Memorial Service for Homeless at Settlers' Park
Friday, Dec. 24	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Joyce Peckman
Monday, Dec. 27	12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book club on Zoom
Friday, Dec. 31	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Joe Shabathai
Sunday, Jan. 2	10 a.m. Sisterhood meeting at KJCC
Tuesday, Jan. 4	3 p.m. New Moon Group led by Lucinda Kurtz
Friday, Jan. 7	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Laurie Blum on Zoom
Sunday, Jan. 9	10 a.m. KJCC Board meeting at KJCC & Zoom
Friday, Jan. 14	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack
Friday, Jan. 21	7:30 p.m. Shabbat service led by Steve Hartz on Zoom
Friday, Jan. 28	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Medina Roy & Gloria Avner
Saturday, Jan. 29	12:30 p.m. Lunch & Learn on Zoom with Rabbi Agler

NOSH

Sisterhood welcomes the New Moon

For thousands of years, the new moon has had special significance to women. Many women use Rosh Chodesh events to discuss the upcoming Hebrew month and build spiritual and emotional energy through meditation, poetry, movement and more. Our own Lucinda Kurtz is a saging mentor with Jewish Renewal who has led Rosh Chodesh groups for years in Ann Arbor. She will be leading a series of four Rosh Chodesh events for Sisterhood from 3–5 p.m. at KJCC welcoming the months of Shevat through Nissan. These sessions will end before dark so those of us who hate to drive at night can enjoy the experience.

Save these dates: Tues. January 4, Weds. February 2, Weds. March 2 and Weds. March 30. They will be afternoons of bonding and renewal.

Remembering the Homeless

Once again this year we will join religious congregations around the country, remembering our neighbors who died while homeless in 2021. We will meet, together with representatives of local churches, at Settlers’ Park in Tavernier at noon, December 21, on the shortest day before the longest night of the year. We will read aloud the names of those who died while homeless in the Keys, saying a prayer for each and reciting Kaddish.

Saturday Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler

Politics, lust and murder are all part of the fasci-

nating saga of King David. Join Rabbi Agler and a dedicated group of students as we delve into this timeless story. Bring your own lunch to the Zoom sessions on December 11th and January 29th at 12:30 Eastern time. Thank you, Rabbi, for getting up early on the west coast to lead this discussion.

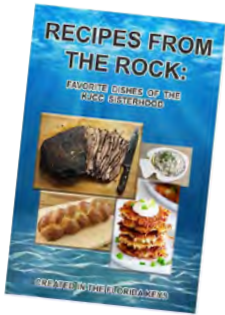
Sisterhood Book Club

We continue to meet on Zoom, but that may change, so keep posted. We just read Aaron Lansky’s “Outwitting History” the excellent and entertaining memoir of how a million Yiddish books were saved. You can find a copy in the KJCC library. This month we read “the Jewish Nazi” by Jon Vocale, a novel of time travel. If you want to be added to the e-mail list, contact Linda Pollack. Look for the poster on page 12.◇

The Perfect Holiday Gift

Sisterhood Cookbooks make a great gift for the holidays!

Available at the Synagogue with a phone call to Susan Gordon 305–766–3585 or at Erica Lieberman–Garrett’s office.



ONEG SPONSORS

Dec. 3	Linda Pollack Chanukah Dinner Skip Rose’s 92nd Birthday Steve & Jan Hartz Jan’s Birthday	Dec. 31	Steve & Amelia Kasinof Steve’s Birthday
Dec. 10	Geri & Stuart Smith Geri & Stuart’s Birthdays	Jan. 7	Sherrie Willner Birthday
Dec. 17	Barney Coltman Memory of those passed	Jan. 14	Barney Coltman Anniversary
Dec. 24	Sisterhood Celebrating Holidays & End of 2021	Jan. 21	KJCC Sisterhood
		Jan. 28	Sylvia & Alfred Rimm Anniversary

# KJCC Chanukah 5782

## Sisterhood Latke Oneg to Celebrate Chanukah

**Friday, December 3, 2021  
7:00 p.m. (note change)**

Bring your own personal Chanukiah to the  
Sanctuary and we will light them together before  
Services which will be led by Gloria Avner

Latke Oneg in the Social Hall following Services ~  
And we will be having a birthday celebration as a  
bonus! Happy 92nd ~ Skip Rose

Contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett  
hippiejap@hotmail.com; 305-393-1162, before  
November 30th to reserve your spot.



**Per KJCC COVID Protocols:**

**Attendees must be masked and have vax on file.  
Masked children are welcome under parental supervision.**

## 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.

### OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 2021

#### Yahrzeit

Lillian Tallent .....	Samuel Tallent
Patricia Isenberg .....	Henry Isenberg
Robert Temkin .....	Charlie Temkin
Skip Rose .....	Rosalyn Rose
Sanford Yankow .....	Nancy Kram Yankow
Rosalyn Kofler .....	Sam Kofler

#### In Memory/Honor of

Joan Boruszak .....	Harold Goldstein
Michael Krissel .....	Deborah K Cannon
Patricia Isenberg .....	Helene Tulskey
Mel & Joyce Ruthen .....	Pauline Roller
Nancy Cohn .....	David Cohn
Gerri & Frank Emkey .....	Jimmy Gottesman
Marshall & Myra Kaplan .....	David Kaplan
	Janet Kaplan

#### Unrestricted

Aaron Fogelson .....	Dave Feder's work at HHD & Deborah Feder
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#### Leaf

Linda Pollack .....	Marc Bloom
Skip Rose .....	Marc Bloom
Stephen Steinbock .....	Marc Bloom

#### Meditation Garden

Stuart & Lauren Sax .....	Marc Bloom
	Jerrold Benowitz
Medina Roy .....	Marc Bloom

#### Tzeddakah

Barney Coltman .....	Marc Bloom
Linda Kaplan .....	Marc Bloom
Gloria Avner .....	Marc Bloom
Susan Horn & Dot Brooking .....	Marc Bloom
George & Muriel Swartz .....	Marc Bloom
Joan Boruszak .....	Marc Bloom
Mary Lee Singer .....	Marc Bloom
Elaine Schulberg .....	Marc Bloom
Geri & Stuart Smith .....	Marc Bloom
Donna & Bill Bolton .....	Marc Bloom
Joan Wohl .....	Marc Bloom
Linda Rutkin .....	Marc Bloom

Ruthie & Moti Barkan .....	Marc Bloom
Ellen Ecker & Barry Neumann .....	Marc Bloom
Mindy & Richard Agler .....	Marc Bloom
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis .....	Marc Bloom
Mike Beni .....	Marc Bloom
Joan Stark & Joel Bernard .....	Marc Bloom
Joyce Peckman .....	Marc Bloom
Adam & Judy Starr .....	Marc Bloom
Steve & Jan Hartz .....	Marc Bloom

#### Scholarship

Barney Coltman .....	Robert Coltman
	Eva Levine

#### Unrestricted

Susan Tatelman .....	Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis & Anne Steinman
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### — SISTERHOOD DONATIONS —

#### Oneg Sponsorship

Jane Friedman .....	Paul Friedman's Birthday
	Alfredo Castillo's Birthday
Linda Kaplan .....	Birthday
Gloria Avner .....	Birthday
	David Gitin's Memory
Richard & Barbara Knowles .....	Barbara's birthday
	Sammy's Birthday
	Ethel Hankin
Joyce Peckman .....	Birthdays of Family Members
Linda Pollack .....	Skip's 92nd Birthday
Steve & Jan Hartz .....	Jan's Birthday
Geri & Stuart Smith .....	Birthdays
Barney Coltman .....	Memory of those passed
Steve & Amelia Kasinof .....	Steve's Birthday
Sherrie Wilner .....	Sherrie's Birthday
Marla Berenson and Joe Gould	
Jeff and Cheryl Margulies	
Joel and Mary Roth	
Beth Horowitz	
Bill and Donna Bolton	
Joel and Toby Bofshever	
Susan Roberts	

### Dinner Sponsorship

Linda Pollack..... Chanukkah  
Lynn Nobil ..... Honoring Joel & Sarah Cohen,  
Founding Members of KJCC

### — D & D—

#### Leaf

Jon Tainow & ..... Tainow Willner Family  
Terry Willner-Tainow

#### Siddur

Jon Tainow & ..... Tainow Willner Family  
Terry Willner-Tainow

#### High Holy Days

Marshall & Myra Kaplan  
Robert Temkin  
Joyce Peckman

#### Security

Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow  
Paul & Susan Roberts

#### Yizkor

Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow  
Richard & Barbara Knowles  
Robert Temkin

### Holocaust Education

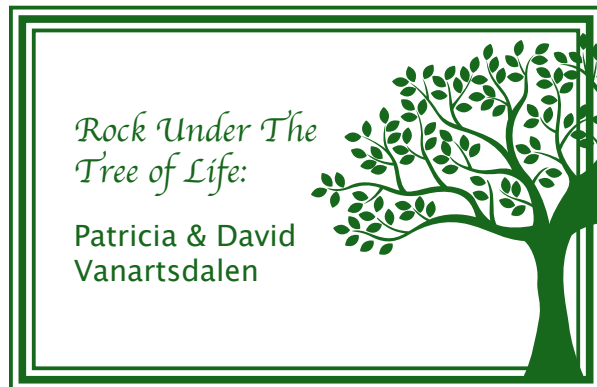
Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

### Chai-Lights Support

Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

### Unrestricted

Susan & Paul Roberts  
Roy Pollack  
Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow  
Oran Hesterman & Lucinda Kurtz  
Patricia Isenberg



### 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, 305-587-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto: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, 305-587-7429, 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? Thank you, Steve Steinbock and Jane Friedman. 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 Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at [hippiejap@hotmail.com](mailto:hippiejap@hotmail.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.

**CARING KEHILAH/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. The Caring Kehilah Committee is calling and checking in on our socially distant members. Call Laurie Blum, 414-698-5647 if you wish to request that someone be contacted.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

## December & January Birthdays

Dec. 1st.....Paul Hudson	Dec. 26th..... Steven Smith
Dec. 3rd..... Ashley Berk	Dec. 27th..... Claire Tallent
Dec. 3rd.....Cammie Berk	Dec. 27th..... Steve Kasinof
Dec. 4th.....Jan Hartz	Dec. 28th.....Elaine Schulberg
Dec. 4th.....Judith Klein	Dec. 28th..... Emily Sherman
Dec. 5th.....Geri Smith	Dec. 28th..... Len Levi
Dec. 5th.....Joseph Beth	Dec. 28th..... Michael Klimpl
Dec. 5th..... Stuart Sax	Dec. 29th..... Joan Stark
Dec. 6th.....Haley Borisoff	Jan. 1st ..... Justin Wade Gilson
Dec. 6th..... Leslie Boruszak	Jan. 1st .....Laura Goodman
Dec. 7th..... Franklin Rose	Jan. 2nd.....Sherrie Willner
Dec. 7th..... Gary Grossinger	Jan. 3rd.....Lucinda Kurtz
Dec. 7th.....Rhett William Casey	Jan. 4th..... Howard Gilson
Dec. 7th. Vada Charity (Bella) Greenbaum	Jan. 4th..... Randi W. Freundlich
Dec. 8th..... Naomi Moss	Jan. 6th..... Stanley Margulies
Dec. 9th.....George Swartz	Jan. 8th..... Jan Price (Karen) Shiloh
Dec. 9th.....Jacob Grossinger	Jan. 8th..... Matthew Barrett
Dec. 10th..... Susan Greenbaum	Jan. 9th..... Cathy Rakov
Dec. 11th.....Oran Hesterman	Jan. 11th..... Michelle Zinner
Dec. 11th.....Sara Rose Friedman	Jan. 12th..... Alex Dutton
Dec. 12th.....Laurie Blum	Jan. 13th..... Amy Nobil
Dec. 13th..... Robin Margulies Juenger	Jan. 15th..... Charlie Horowitz
Dec. 13th..... Sarah Boruszak	Jan. 15th..... Heather Gilson
Dec. 16th.....Diana Lal	Jan. 15th.....Jamie Goodman
Dec. 16th..... Samuel Klimpl	Jan. 16th.....Brieze Levy
Dec. 17th.....Bruce Forman	Jan. 16th..... Donald Zinner
Dec. 17th..... Jeffrey Schocket	Jan. 17th.....Andrea Kluger
Dec. 17th..... Lilian Forbes	Jan. 17th..... Neal Rakov
Dec. 18th..... Emelyn Anne Juenger	Jan. 17th..... Suzi-Sarot Feder
Dec. 18th..... Jerry Small	Jan. 19th..... Benjamin Friedman
Dec. 19th..... Jonah Gross	Jan. 19th..... Mark Kanarek
Dec. 19th..... Lorena Kaufman	Jan. 19th..... Sandy Seder
Dec. 19th..... Terry Willner-Tainow	Jan. 24th.....Bev Strumor-Blitzer
Dec. 20th.....Jennifer Erin VanArtsdalen	Jan. 24th..... Randy Klein-Gross
Dec. 22nd..... Laura Molly Friedman	Jan. 26th..... Marshall Kaplan
Dec. 22nd..... Lisa Miller	Jan. 27th..... Beth Hudson
Dec. 22nd..... Stuart Smith	Jan. 27th..... Pat VanArtsdalen

## Anniversaries

Years		Years	
Dec. 7th	Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum .....11	Dec. 27th	Joe & Linda Levi .....39
Dec. 10th	Linda & Bruce Pincus.....32	Jan. 4th	Steve & Amelia Kasinof .....41
Dec. 11th	Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner ....56	Jan. 12th	George & Muriel Swartz.....41
Dec. 11th	Jamie & Laura Goodman.....16	Jan. 27th	Alfred & Sylvia Rimm.....64
Dec. 14th	David & Pat VanArtsdalen.....40		

## Shabbat Service Leaders

December 3 ..... Gloria Avner  
December 10 ..... Erica Lieberman-Garett  
                                & Jane Friedman  
December 17 ..... Yardena Kamely  
December 24 ..... Joyce Peckman  
December 31 ..... Joe Shabathai

January 7 ..... Laurie Blum  
January 14 ..... Susan Gordon  
                        & Linda Pollack  
January 21 ..... Steve Hartz  
January 28 ..... Medina Roy & Gloria Avner

*Hannukah – More than latkes – Is it oil, or is it politics?*

by Joyce Peckman

**C**hanukah originally celebrated a political revolution. When Antiochus III took over Judea from Egypt, many Jews began quietly assimilating Roman values and mores. There was a lot of tension between them and their countrymen, who remained faithful to traditional Judaism. In 176 BCE, Antiochus IV came into power and was determined to force the Jews to abandon their monotheism and assimilate into the Roman culture. He outlawed Torah study, Sabbath observance and circumcision on pain of death, and brought idols and sacrificial pigs into the Temple.

The Jews united against this extreme persecution and, under the leadership of the family of Mattathias, defeated a powerful army and reclaimed the Temple. It may be the first time in history that people revolted, successfully, for religious freedom. In our earliest historical records about the holiday, and in the additional prayers we say in the ancient Amidah prayer, the language is clearly about political revolt and the few defeating the many. The books of the Maccabees, part of Christian sacred text, document the political nature of the holiday. The Hasmonean Dynasty, rooted in the family of Mattathias, marked an end of 500 years of foreign rule. The land of Israel was again independent, with its own coinage, and boundaries like those of King Solomon's reign. There was reason to rejoice!

This glorious part of our history didn't last long. The Hasmoneans were Cohanim, of the priestly tribe, not of David's tribe of Judah. They claimed not only the throne, but the high priesthood. Not surprisingly, corruption and rivalry caused the rapid downfall of the Hasmonean kingdom.

After the destruction of the Second Temple, we were again under foreign control. The holiday of Hanukkah celebrated the fight for freedom, encouraging revolts, with the result that Jewish “freedom fighters” and their communities kept getting massacred. The existence of the Jewish people was in danger.

The rabbis of the time then acted. They changed the focus of the Hanukkah from political into spiritual. Five hundred years after the revolution we suddenly, for the first time, find a story appearing in the Talmud about the miracle of the oil. The rabbis understood that Judaism needed to be a living religion, relevant to those who observed it. We needed to celebrate, not war, but light in times of darkness.

And so, for two thousand years and counting, we light Ha-nukkah menorahs (chanukiyot), spin dreidels, enjoy latkes and donuts (sufganiyot) and tell a story of persistence, tradition and joy. ◇



# *In Memoriam – December 2021*

**Alex Avner**

By Gloria Avner

**Daniel Birnbaum**

By Norbert Birnbaum

**David Pearlman**

By William & Donna Bolton

**George Paul Tomor**

By Barbara A. Calev

**Eva Levine**

By Barnet O. Colman

**Harry Friedman**

By Jane Friedman

**Alvin S. Gross**

By David & Patti Gross

**Laurie Beth**

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

**Ivy W. Blumenfeld**

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

**Burton V. Boruszak**

By Joan Boruszak

**Leatrice Tomor**

By Barbara A. Calev

**Lola Rosenberg**

By Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages

**Harry Wolfe**

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

**Jerry Levy**

By Yardena Kamely

**J.D. Stanlake**

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

**Betty Abramson**

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

**Julius Kohlenbrener**

By Joan Boruszak

**David Cohn**

By Nancy L. Cohn

**Jimmy Gottesman**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Stephan Ban**

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

**Dinah Levy**

By Yardena Kamely

**Evelyn Stockser**

By Sandy Kaplan

**Kurt Kluger**

By Nancy Kluger

**Charles Margolis**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**M. Arlene Hess**

By Jan Price

**Raymond Martell**

By Skip Rose

**Jacob Menahem Shabathai**

By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai

**Steven Garfinkel**

By Betty Small

**David M. Kaplan**

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

**Gary Kreitman**

By Marcia Kreitman  
& John David Hawver

**Daniel Harvey**

By Linda Perloff

**Clayton Allan Rakov**

By Neal & Cathy Rakov

**Mr. Samuel Roth**

By Joel & Mary Roth

**Rhonie Lee Klipper**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Peter F. Steinberg**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

**Anita F. Katz**

By Melissa Katz-Fusco

**Harris Warren**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

**Claire Lempel**

By Linda Pincus

**Ruth Greenwald**

By Paul & Susan Roberts

**Joseph Cohen**

By Jules & Nettie Seder

**Sylvia L. Singer**

By Mary Lee Singer

**Steve Cimkowski**

By Stephen Steinbock

# *In Memoriam – January 2022*

**Talia Agler**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

**Lou Roazen**

By Sylvia Berman

**Kitty Nyman**

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

**Muriel Blitzer**

By Murray Blitzer &  
Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Irving J. Kulick**

By Thomas & Renée Brodie

**Sylvia Weiner**

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

**Lester Singer**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Sue Steinberg**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

**Bernice Bernstein**

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

**Annette Bitton**

By Michel Bitton

**Judy Strumer Hartman**

By Murray Blitzer &  
Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Betty Weinstein**

By Rita Bromwich

**Yetta Hitzig**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

**Nathan Weisberg**

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

**Bea Avner**

By Gloria Avner

**Sunnie Bernstein**

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

**Joshua Daniel Blitzer**

By Murray Blitzer &  
Bev Strumor-Blitzer

**Emma Kohlenbrener**

By Joan Boruszak

**Sylvia Chait Weiner**

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

**Larry Daddona**

By Hanna David

**Sheldon Paul Frankel**

By Miriam Frankel &  
Nadine Thompson

**Marvin Greenbaum**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

**Nella Gross**

By Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross

**Bernard Kaminstein**

By Beth Kaminstein

**John Evans**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

**Bea Gulkis**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Mr. Bobby Serota**

By Selma (Sandy) Serota

**Miriam Blinder**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

**Judy Lombardi**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

**Louis Hartz**

By Steven & Jan Hartz

**Walter Hankin**

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

**Maria Quesada**

By Orlando Quesada

**Paul Kaminsky**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Joseph Shapiro**

By Libby P. Shapiro

**Hedy Kopecky**

By Adam & Judy Starr

**Eugene Greenstein**

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

**Ernest Isenberg**

By Patricia Isenberg

**Goldie Schweitzer**

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

**Nat Gulkis**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Joan Kaminsky**

By Elaine Schulberg

**Janet Garfinkel**

By Betty Small

**Mr. Harry Miller**

By Shirley Stein



# Sisterhood Book Club

~ Books and dates for the coming three months ~

Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

December 27, 2021 ~ The Jewish Nazi

January 31, 2021 ~ The Only Woman in the Room

February 28, 2022 ~ Black White and Jewish



**Born 1980--Died 1940?**

Benjamin Bauman, a contemporary Jewish Orthopedic Surgeon, is blinded by a flash of light while driving his car. Ben blacks out. When he awakens he finds himself in a Berlin hospital in Nazi Germany. It is Christmas Day, 1937.



Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer.

She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star.



A look at the challenge of personal identity, in a story at once strikingly unique and truly universal.

Email Joyce ([joycepeckman@gmail.com](mailto:joycepeckman@gmail.com)) before the meeting date to let her know you will be attending and she will send you an invitation to Zoom.

## SISTERHOOD Susan Gordon



**S**isterhood is beginning to cautiously move forward towards what we hope to be 'post-pandemic' times, or at least a more manageable lifestyle where we can begin to socialize with one another. We have recently met face-to-face at the KJCC for a couple of onegs following in-house Shabbat services. We are adhering to very specific guidelines and protocols concerning gathering together, safe handling of food preparation and the serving of food and refreshments. We want the KJCC to be a safe place for us to gather for both prayer and socialization.

During our recent zoom Sisterhood meeting in November, several ideas were discussed regarding the gradual re-opening of the KJCC. We have been closed for 20 months and feel enthusiastic about re-uniting with our friends. We are entering into the winter season, which is usually bursting with social activities and educational opportunities. This season, we will plan to slowly resume some of those activities. We will begin with a Chanukah celebration on Friday December 3rd, immediately following in-person Shabbat Services. Sisterhood is planning a wonderful (and delicious) "Latke Oneg". Those wishing to attend services and the Chanukah celebration must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask as safety precautions.

Another 'in-house' activity which is being offered to the entire (vaccinated only) KJCC membership is a three session technology workshop. These informative sessions will be expertly presented by Betsy Baste, and offered free of charge on Tuesday afternoons from 1pm to 2:30pm. The scheduled meeting dates are November 30, December 7, and December 14.

Lucinda Kurtz has graciously offered to lead the (vaccinated only) women of the KJCC in a monthly New Moon Rosh Chodesh Circle. These New Moon

events bring women together, while building spiritual and emotional energy through meditation, poetry, movement and more. The sessions will run for two hours from 3pm to 5pm. The dates are January 4, February 2, March 2, and April 6. The KJCC Book Club continues to meet via ZOOM for the time being. The book club meetings are generally held monthly on Mondays at 12:30pm. The titles of the books and the exact dates of the ZOOM meetings may be found in Chai-Lights. You will soon see a new, beautifully designed Sisterhood logo on all of our correspondence, including letterhead & thank you notes. Erica's sister, Risa Alt, has created this beautiful logo for us. She is a very talented graphic designer. We greatly appreciate her, and give thanks to Risa for a job well done!

The KJCC Sisterhood cookbooks are wonderful. Thank you to Beth Hayden for all of her hard work in putting this project together and for seeing it through from start to finish. The Cookbooks are available for purchase through the Sisterhood Gift Shop at a very reasonable cost of just \$20.00. All of the most delicious recipes were sent in by our Sisterhood members. These cookbooks will be treasured for years to come, and will also make a great gift!

The next Sisterhood meeting will be held via ZOOM (just for now!) on Sunday morning, December 5th at 10am. If you are not already involved, please try to join us. Sisterhood is welcoming to ALL female members of the KJCC and we would LOVE to see you! ◇

Wishing happiness & good health to all,  
Susan Gordon/ KJCC Sisterhood Vice President

# Keys Jewish Community Center

The JOY Center is offering Tech Savvy classes to be held at the KJCC. This will be a series of 3 tech classes with a most interesting and knowledgeable instructor, Betsy Baste.

Bring your questions to class and Betsy will help you, and all of us, with situations such as texting, email, security, Face Book, smart phones (both Apple and Android), pads and computers.

Classes: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Tuesday, December 07, 2021

Tuesday, December 14, 2021



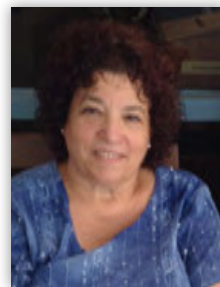
Contact Linda Pollack

[lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com); 305-587-7429

to let her know that you are interested.

## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

### Medina Roy



#### What?? Really??

In early October, teachers in a Texas school district were told that a new state law – requiring them to “present multiple perspectives about widely debated and currently controversial” issues – meant that they needed to make “opposing” views available to their students, including about the Holocaust. NBC News obtained an audio recording of the Carroll Independent School District’s executive director of curriculum and instruction, Gina Peddy, telling the teachers how to navigate through the new law. The law was passed in the middle of a wave of Republican-led statehouses intending “to prevent Critical Race Theory, divisive topics and concepts related to race and bias from being taught to children.” Peddy’s instructions to the teachers: “Make sure that if, if you have a book on the Holocaust that you have one that has an opposing – that has other perspectives.” In her defense, the recording seems to suggest that Peddy does not necessarily support the new law, but that it is now law and she does anticipate conflicts over its enforcement. (By the way, Critical Race Theory is a subject explored at the graduate level, not with K-12 and undergraduate students.)

This new episode comes a year after a Florida school district fired a principal – twice – who told a parent that he could not say the Holocaust was “an actual, factual event because not all parents shared the same belief.” (Florida’s school board has since enacted a ban on Holocaust denial in schools – apparently not seeing the irony of ignorant and unchallenged racial theories contributing hugely to the Holocaust – as part of a ban on teaching CRT.) ([www.nbcnews.com](http://www.nbcnews.com), 10-15-21)

#### A Jewish Language Renaissance

Back in April, Duolingo, the language-learning app, added Yiddish (which once had as many as 12 million speakers), its 40th language, to its

program collection. And then there’s Ladino, a Romance language of Sephardic Jews still spoken by hundreds of thousands worldwide. In recent years, Ladino classes, both on-line and in-person, are widely available to those interested. Still, many other Jewish languages – ones spoken in Crimea, Baghdad, Baku and beyond, have miraculously survived but are mostly inaccessible to interested learners. (Raise your hand if you didn’t know there were other Jewish languages. It’s okay. You’ll have lots of company.) But now, all of that is changing. The Oxford School of Rare Jewish Languages (OSRJL) in the UK has launched an inaugural semester of courses in twelve languages belonging to the Aramaic, Arabic and Turkic language families. They range in number of speakers from millions to zero. These courses, which began in mid-October, run for an hour a week online and are free. Professor Judith Olszowy-Schlanger, president of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, is the creator of the new program. She’s convinced that the format – online and free – will ensure that classes are accessible to an international pool of students. Yiddish is one of the twelve Jewish languages offered by OSRJL. And with some 1.5 million speakers worldwide – and growing – it is the only language offered by the program that is not endangered or extinct. Judeo-Greek, however, a language that originated in the Macedonian Empire, is going to die out with this generation unless there’s some serious intervention. And most of the languages offered by the OSRJL face a similar fate. Some – Judeo-French, Classical Judeo-Arabic and Classical Judeo-Persian – are already considered extinct. Then there’s Judeo-Neo-Aramaic, with only an estimated 60 speakers left. Kalman Weiser, a Silber Family Professor of Modern Jewish Studies at York University in Toronto believes that “studying any Jewish lan-

guage, whether it is of heritage or not, opens up a window into the diverse history of world Jewry.” ([www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com), 10-13-21)

### Update

In the October/November issue of Chai-Lights, we reported on Zubulon Simantov, the last Jew to leave Afghanistan following the Taliban’s takeover of the country. At the time of the report, Simantov had not given his wife a get (Jewish ritual divorce) and had refused to do so for more than twenty years. Well, Simantov has finally granted her the get via videoconference. (She and their children have been living in Israel since 1995.) He now wants to begin a new life in Queens, New York, where he has relatives. ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 9-25-21)

### Hank Greenberg Would Be Proud

Jewish pitcher Max Fried, 27, brought his Atlanta Braves to their first World Championship since 1995 with six shutout innings in Game 6 of the World Series. (Some have said it was the most Jewish World Series in baseball history.) The lefty held the Houston Astros to four hits, escaping a potentially serious injury to strike out six without surrendering a run or a walk. (In the bottom of the first inning, Fried ran to cover first base on a ground ball when the Astros’ Michael Brantley, racing to first base, stepped on Fried’s ankle instead of the base. Replays revealed that Fried’s ankle was almost flattened under Brantley’s cleat. But Fried was okay and continued playing.)

The game had what may have been the most Jewish play in any Major League Baseball matchup ever: In the bottom of the second inning, Astros star third baseman Alex Bregman hit Fried’s second pitch to right field, where Braves outfielder Joc Pederson easily caught it for out number two. To Jewish fans, the play showcased three Jewish players performing on the sport’s biggest stage. For Pederson (nicknamed JOctober), the eventual victory gave him a second consecutive World championship. He played for the 2020 World Champion Los Angeles Dodgers. The fourth Jewish player to appear in the World series, Astros backup catcher Garrett Stubbs, entered the game as a defensive replacement in the ninth inning. He did not have an at-bat.

After the Series was over, Fried then won his second consecutive Gold Glove Award, given to that season’s best defensive player at each position in each league. Fried joins Atlanta Hall

of Famers Greg Maddux and Phil Niekro as the only Braves pitchers to win multiple Gold Glove Awards. Maddux is the all-time MLB Gold Glove leader with 18, including 10 consecutive wins as a member of the Braves. Niekro, known for his legendary knuckleball, won five. ([www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 11-4-21 and [jta.org](http://jta.org), 11-8-21)

### French Museum Redeems Dreyfus

What might be the world’s very first museum on the wrongful and anti-Semitic persecution of Army Captain Alfred Dreyfus has been inaugurated in Paris by France’s President Emmanuel Macron. The museum features more than 500 documents including photographs, court papers and personal objects from the eight-plus-year ordeal that ended in 1906 with Dreyfus’s exoneration from fabricated espionage charges and convictions. (In the interim there had been a court-martial, a sentence to life imprisonment at Devil’s Island, and two trials.) Also on display are copies of anti-Semitic caricatures that were published in mainstream newspapers in France in connection with the Dreyfus trials. The Dreyfus Museum is part of the Zola House, a cultural institution whose goal is to preserve the memory of Emile Zola, the noted French writer. Zola, who was not Jewish, played a key role in leading opposition and protests against the injustice done to Dreyfus. (Zola’s role in the Dreyfus affair was immortalized in 1898, when he authored the influential article, “J’Accuse.” It was an open letter criticizing the prosecution of Dreyfus, supposedly for spying on France for Germany. Zola maintained that Dreyfus was prosecuted and convicted on scant evidence because he was Jewish, and that it was state injustice that set him up, since long before then the Army knew who the real traitor was, an aristocrat named Ferdinand Esterhazy. Following the article’s publication, Zola was put on trial for libel and fled the country. Theodor Herzl, the father of modern secular Zionism, covered the trial as a journalist and later described it “as a watershed moment in his ideological development from an assimilationist Jew into a Zionist.”) In 1899, Dreyfus was pardoned by the French president and released from three years in jail. In 1906 a military commission officially exonerated him. He died in obscurity in 1935. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 10-27-21)

### And the (Jewish) Winners Are...

- Professor Joshua Angrist, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) who

has dual Israeli–American citizenship, was named one of three winners of the 2021 Nobel Prize in Economics for his work on how public policy developments impact society. Born in Columbus, Ohio, Angrist lived in Israel for a few years in the 1980s and taught at the Hebrew University from 1991–1996. He then became a professor in the economics department at MIT. He’s written several papers about labor conditions in Gaza and the West Bank and served as a member of Israel’s Finance Ministry Working Group on Israeli–Palestinian Labor Market Relations in 1994. ([www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com), 10–11–21)

- David Julius, professor of physiology at the University of California, San Francisco, whose grandparents fled antisemitism in Czarist Russia, has been awarded – along with a molecular biologist and neuroscientist – this year’s Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. The Nobel Prize committee cited their research “for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch,” which have improved treatments for pain caused by a wide range of diseases. Professor Julius was born and raised in Brooklyn’s Brighton Beach (where not just Neil Simon but my Bubby and Zeydee lived!) which was then home to a large population of Russian Jewish emigres. A graduate of MIT and the University of California, Berkeley, Julius spent his career researching the way human senses like touch, pain and heat function and has used capsaicin, the chemical in chili peppers that makes them burn, to explore how human nerve endings feel heat. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 10–4–21)

## In Memoriam

- Aaron Feuerstein, known as the “Mensch of Malden Mills” for continuing to pay his workers after the textile factory he owned burned to the ground, died in early November. He was 95. Malden Mills, located in Lawrence, Massachusetts, was best known for its line of synthetic fleece products called Polartec. In December 1995, the factory complex caught fire, causing one of the largest fires in Massachusetts history. Work for the factory’s 1,400 employees ended, but the Orthodox Feuerstein kept paying them. “I’m not throwing all these people out of work two weeks before Christmas,” he said. “When all is moral chaos, this is the time for you to be a mensch,” he said, explaining that he was guided by Jewish tradition. A graduate of Yeshiva University, Jewish teachings informed how he treated his workers. Feuerstein resisted leaving the area and rebuilt

the family-run factory. His grandfather, a Jewish immigrant from Hungary, had founded Malden Mills in 1906. ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com), 11–5–21)

- Rabbi Moshe Tendler, considered to be an expert in Jewish law and medical ethics, died recently at age 95. Dean of the rabbinical school and a professor of Jewish Medical Ethics and Biology at Yeshiva University (YU), Tendler was most known for his fierce advocacy of the Jewish legal position that brain death constituted death, thereby allowing Orthodox Jews the ability to donate and receive organ transplants in the event of brain death. When a group of rabbis issued an opinion stating that the cessation of heartbeat, rather than brain death constitutes death, he denounced them. He did this publicly, quite unusual in the civil discourse of Orthodox Jewish law decision-makers. Tendler was born and raised on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. He rigorously pursued both secular and religious studies from a young age under the guiding influence of his mother, a law school graduate, and his father, head of the Rabbi Jacob Joseph Yeshiva. Tendler grew up in the same neighborhood as Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, one of the most important Orthodox rabbinic authorities of the United States in the 20th century. He eventually married Feinstein’s daughter. He was ordained at YU and earned a doctorate in microbiology from Columbia University. Tendler served as a bridge between the scientific experts and the experts in Jewish law and ethics, helping to influence Feinstein’s stance on questions of Jewish law and ethics. ([www.jewishpress.com](http://www.jewishpress.com), 9–329–21)

## Did You Know...

- Vermont’s Patrick Leahy, the longest serving Democrat in the U.S. Senate, recently announced that he will not run for re-election next year. What does that mean? There is a chance that Dianne Feinstein of California could be the first woman – and the first Jew – to be the Senate’s president pro tempore, the one who presides over the Senate when the vice president is absent. So? What does that mean? Feinstein would be third in line to the U.S. presidency. Should that happen, and should the Democrats keep the U.S. House of Representatives in the midterms, there would be three California women lined up to succeed President Biden were he to leave office before the next election: In order: VP Kamala Harris, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and then Feinstein. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 11–17–21) ◇

# Keys Jewish Community Center

Adult Ed Program

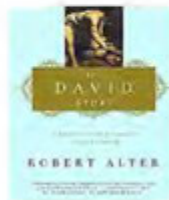


## THE DAVID SAGA LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI AGLER

Discussion of the David saga will continue on December 11, 2021, and January 29th, 2022.

Time: 12:30 P.M.

Even if you have not partaken in our previous sessions or done any preparatory reading, come and enjoy the discussion. No preparation is necessary.



**Zoom invitations will be sent out prior to the session.**

## PHOTO GALLERY

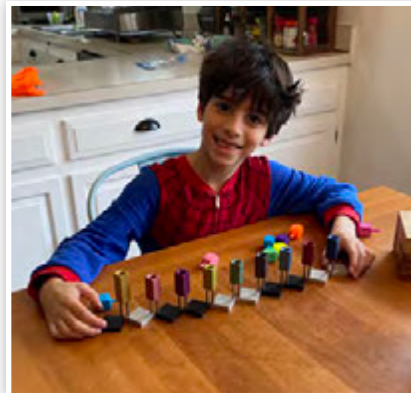


The newly updated logo for KJCC, designed by Erica's sister, Risa Alt.

Susan Gordon switches over from Thanksgiving to Hanukkah.



We are so happy to be back more and more often in our own Sanctuary, Social Hall and Schoolroom, worshipping together, celebrating Shabbat and members' Simchas as well as remembering our dear departed.



Joyce's grandson is ready for Chanukah!



Two grandmas



Three cheers (at least) for Joyce Peckman and Linda Kaplan, who showed up on a Sunday morning to help Superstar Jane Friedman to clean up and prepare the KJCC Organic Vegetable Garden for this winter's planting. Burton Memorial Church's Food Bank will be one happy recipient of the bounty to come and so will KJCC members!!



We all had Happy thanksgivings—so much to be thankful for, including this fruiturkey for vegetarians by Gloria Avner.



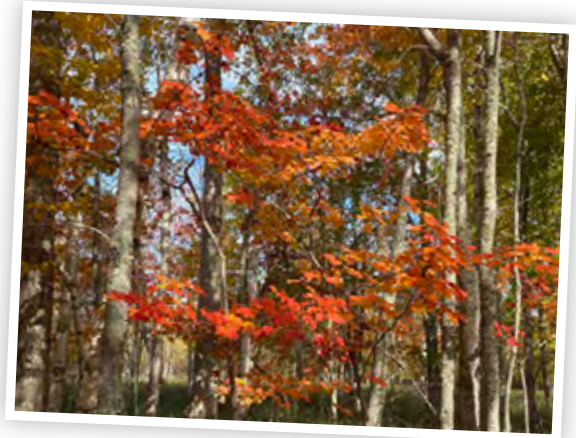
We love when our Sunday School Students come back to visit. Harry will be on his way soon to Israel on a Birthright trip. Jane and Steve Friedman are as proud of him as we are. He has promised to write. Can't wait. Go with our blessings, Harry.

So good to have President Joyce Peckman back, leading a sweet service with Jane Friedman in our own Sanctuary, with onlookers from zoom, and blessings over wine and bread in our Social Hall.





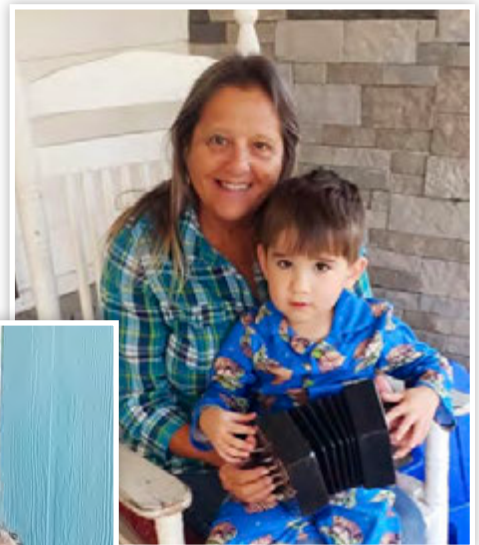
Founder Joel Cohen's legacy lives on. His daughter Beth sent us this photo of her Shabbos table.



Some of us spent autumn in the northeast and North Carolina. Sharing the color



Gloria Avner and Linda Kaplan happily sponsor onegs for their birthdays within days of each other, both happy to be doing it live back home in our Social Hall.



Susan Gordon starts grandson Hank's music education.

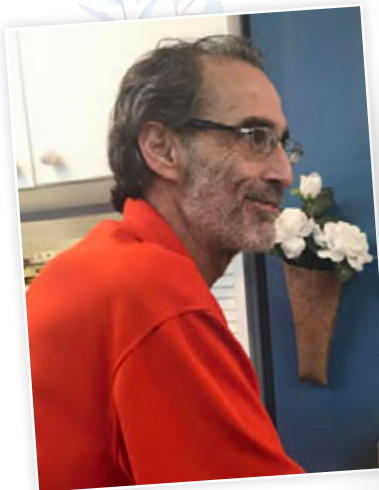


A small birthday celebration for Gloria

# Remembering Marc Bloom

7/27/1956 - 9/27/2021

There are some people whose being is so tightly woven into the fabric of KJCC and our mishpocha that we are left overflowing with emotion and memories when they leave this planet. No one is ever lost who is remembered. Especially one who so embodied kind service to others.





I first met Marc at the Oneg of my first Keys service back in '02. As I recall, he asked if I wanted coffee. He was such a friendly guy, it was impossible not to feel an instant connection to him. For the next 15+ years, he and I would have many great conversations. Marc was usually the person I sat next to at board meetings. He wasn't just the person from KJCC I felt closest to. I think he was, and will live on as the heart of our congregation.

Even after he went to the nursing home, he continued to be a fixture at both services and board meetings. And though Covid made it so I hadn't seen him in awhile, he was never far from my thoughts. When I first visited him, he was staying in the same room as my best friend's stepdad. Not surprisingly, they became friends too.

His passing is a loss we won't soon get over, but we are so much better for the time we knew him. Things will not be the same, but whenever I'm there, I know I'll picture him sitting at a table, or helping in the kitchen.

— *Ken Atlas*

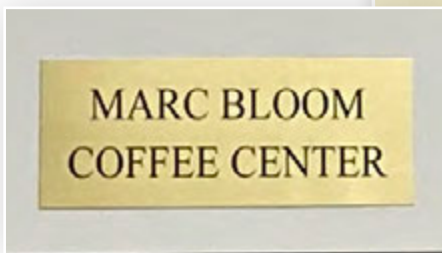


We think of Marc whenever we are in the kitchen, reaching for those very high shelves where he kept "his" coffee supplies. For years he kept us smilingly well caffeinated, and then he taught us how to do it without him.

How appropriate that the KJCC

sisterhood created this plaque in his honor and memory: Marc Bloom, the only person of the male persuasion ever to be accepted as an official Sisterhood member. Long may he reign as well loved coffee king and valued friend.

— *Gloria Aoner*



Marc will always hold a special place in my heart. I don't think I ever saw him without his big, wonderful smile, always ready to show me some sweet video or joke on his phone. I don't eat bagels often but I will always think of him fondly when I do. and how did he make such great coffee?? even decaf?? rest in peace, dear friend.

—Medina Roy



Marc exuded positive energy wherever he went. In the kitchen setting up the coffee maker, helping to organize a deli night, at a board meeting, in a Hebrew class or at an MS rally - he always worked with a willing heart, stretching his abilities to their utmost.

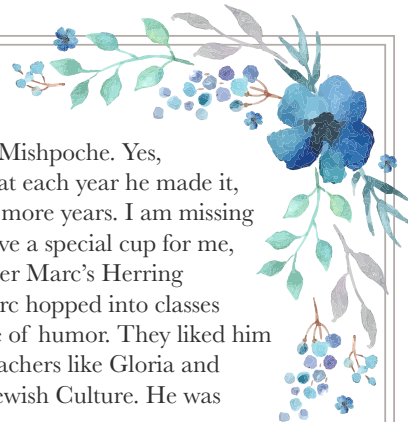
When his body betrayed him, I never heard him complain; although I remember his gentle apologies – when he could no longer cut deli meat or bagels, when he had trouble remembering words in class. He seldom asked for anything, and always gave his best with a smile. I feel his spirit whenever I enter KJCC.

—Joyce Peckman

Remembering my dear friend Marc Bloom. It is hard for me to write about Marc. It makes me so sad to think of him ever since we lost him, only a short time ago. We are still grieving a very dear friend. Marc was loved by many of us, his KJCC Mishpoche. Yes, Marc was a special friend to us. We spent many good times with him. We knew that each year he made it, it was a gift given to him. And we were hoping that he will hang in there for some more years. I am missing Marc's coffee he was preparing on Friday's Shabbat Services. He would always have a special cup for me, the way I like to drink coffee. And his Herring in Sour Cream. I'll always remember Marc's Herring when having this dish. The children in Sunday School always enjoyed it when Marc hopped into classes on Sundays morning. He had a special way to treat children, with his special sense of humor. They liked him and he enjoyed being in class, telling the Kids that they have a privilege to have teachers like Gloria and Yardena. Marc never missed an event at the KJCC that involved learning about Jewish Culture. He was eager to study and hear stories about Jewish people around the world. Each time he would ask a question of the lecturer, he showed how compassionate and empathetic he was for human suffering. He was a "Mensch". Marc's brother told us at Marc's funeral how much he suffered. He was very sick for a long time. Many times the pain was unbearable, but Marc suffered in silence. He didn't want to bother his friends. He was telling us that he is ok. He made efforts to stay in good mood. What a strong man!!! How I wish we could have helped him more with this damn sickness.

With time, I will be able to write more about my memories of my best friend in the Keys. I would like to tell about this beautiful friendship, but not now, I hope soon. It is a Jewish custom to leave the deceased alone for a time so that he can find peace and rest. Rest in peace my friend. I know that you are in good company, lying next to the graves of my parents, David and Michal. Each time I'll visit their grave, I will also visit yours, remembering you my dear friend.

— Yardená Rámely



*Leaf on the tree of life:*  
**In Memory of Marc Bloom**

Fond Times with Marc Bloom

Our Kitchen Maven

By Steve Steinbock, Skip Rose, Linda Pollack

## TORAH COMMENTARY PRESENTED AGAIN Art Itkin



*Months ago Art Itkin prepared and delivered a dvar (Torah talk) that struck many of us as particularly meaningful. People requested copies and Art agreed. Sometimes things are easier said than done. Meaningful things do not lessen with time fortunately, especially when dealing with end of life issues. So in memory of Marc and all others who have left their legacies with us in this difficult year and in honor of all those who asked Art for copies of his talk, we present it again here. Thank you, Art.*

The Torah parsha this week is Vaetchanan, Deuteronomy 3:23 – 7:11. My D’var Torah is based on remarks by Rabbi Marc Saperstein of Leo Beck College in London and by Rabbi Ruth Zlotnick, Senior Rabbi, Temple Beth Am in Seattle, Washington.

D’varim – the book of Deuteronomy – is the last book of the Torah. It is primarily Moses’ farewell speech, his last will and testament, to the Israelites as they are getting ready to enter the Promised Land. He is almost 120 years old and has been their leader for 40 years. He reviews many of the events which have been described previously in other books of the Torah.

In this week’s parsha, Moses recalls an incident recorded in the book of Numbers. When the people had run out of water, G-d tells Moses to speak to the rock and the water will flow. However, Moses hits the rock twice instead. G-d accuses Moses of not trusting in Him and, as punishment, will not allow Moses to enter the Promised Land with the rest of the congregation. Moses was punished because he failed to acknowledge the holiness of G-d in front of the people.

We now learn that Moses did not accept this ruling without protest. We are told that Moses prayed and pleaded with G-d to change his mind. He wanted permission to fulfill his dream by leading the people into their land of destiny. But this prayer received a firm, negative response:

“Lo ta-avor et ha-yarden hazeh.” – You shall not go across the Jordan!! So Moses was powerless to change his fate. Yet he still had decisions to make. What should he do now?

Moses could have said: “Look G-d, I think you have given me a rotten deal. For 40 years, I followed your instructions and put up with these stubborn people. And then because of one small mistake, you deny me the right to finish what I began. And then when I appeal, you tell me, in effect, to shut up. I don’t think that’s fair. Get yourself another leader if you can.”

Or, as a second option, Moses could have said to himself: “If I can’t lead the people to the Promised Land, I’ll make sure they will miss me. I won’t lift a finger to help my successor – why should he get all the credit? He’ll probably fail anyway and the people will wish I was still around.”

Or, as a third option, Moses could have continued to protest against G-d to the very end. He could have refused to obey G-d’s instruction to climb a mountain so that he could only see the Promised Land from far away. And then Moses could attempt to lead the people across the Jordan River himself against G-d’s wishes.

While all of these options were possible, all were rejected. Regardless of what must have seemed like an unfair decision, Moses continues to trust in G-d’s wisdom and love. He does everything possible to prepare his successor, Joshua, for the leadership role by encouraging and counseling him.

Moses urges the people to remain faithful to his own ideals and to G-d’s teachings after he is gone. And then Moses climbs alone to the mountain top for his rendezvous with eternity, accepting his end with the confidence that others will continue his work. Moses faces death with a quiet dignity and inner peace.

Each one of us, like Moses, will someday have to recognize that there are dreams that we will not see fulfilled and hopes that we will not achieve.

We begin life with all potential. As small children, we seem to have no limit as to what we might accomplish, but gradually we become aware of the reality of our limitations. As we get older, we come to the realization that we will never be like the professional athlete we once adored. Later on, we will never be President of the United States. At some point, we may also realize that we will never transform the lives of other people. And if we are true to ourselves, we may even realize that we are not the good, ethical, caring person that we would like to be.

Eventually, we reach the stage where we must recognize that our lives will come to an end and even some of our more modest, realistic goals will remain unfilled.

Sometimes we think that our children will reach the goals that we have failed to achieve. Perhaps they will. But we usually go through the same process with them. They may accomplish things we did not – things in which we take pride – but rarely do they achieve everything a parent may dream about. And eventually we reach the same stage as before: even some of our modest goals will remain unfilled.

So how should we respond to all of this? Do we become angry at G-d because we were not as talented or as fortunate as others? Do we lash out in

resentment at those who are now younger, more promising, more accomplished than we were? Do we abandon worthwhile causes because others have taken our places and we are no longer needed the way we once might have been? Or can we simply accept ourselves as we are and take pride in what we have been able to accomplish?

So what have we learned from this parsha? Moses has spent much of his life shepherding a stubborn people across the wilderness and now can only look at the Promised Land. This is a heart-breaking symbol of humanity: A man, at the end of his life, sitting at the edge of the land of his dreams. There is so much we want, so much we strive for, but we never quite get to the place of our heart's desire.

Maturity forces us to confront our own limitations, to accept what cannot be changed. With all our failings and weaknesses, with all our unfilled dreams and our disappointed hopes, each one of us is a unique individual cherished by G-d, who wants us to be the very best we can but who accepts our humble regrets over what we did not achieve.

From Moses, we learn that no matter how talented or influential that we may be or may have been, the future cannot always be shaped to our desires. Disappointment is built into life. Whatever answer we receive to our prayers, we can – like Moses – accept our limits and mortality with dignity and peace. May we all take heart from his example! ◇



# "ETZ CHAIM HEE" HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TREE OF LIFE

by Gloria Avner

When spring arrives and you first see a fruit tree burst forth with blossoms, there is a blessing we are told to say: Baruch Atah Adonai Elohaiu Melech ha-Olam, Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who did not cause any lack in this world, but created in it good creatures and good trees that all may enjoy them." As Jews, we are nothing if not constantly attentive to "firsts" and grateful to be alive to celebrate them. Witness all our "Shehechianu's". But this prayer, and these trees, are even more special. The Kabbalah teaches that the blessing upon blossoming fruit trees, Bircat Hallanot, can redeem souls. It is Shabbat morning. We're getting ready to take out the Torah. Rabbi chants: "L'dor va dor ." We echo with gusto: "L'dor va dor," from generation to generation. There is pride in our on-goingness, and in almost every mention of continuity there is metaphor. In every metaphor, at bottom, is a tree.

As children we learn to count growth rings to tell the age of a tree. When we want to document our personal ancestry, generation to generation, we make a graph of continuity and call it a family tree. Awe sets in early when we discover that trees use the carbon dioxide waste we exhale to make their food and they then excrete oxygen. We breathe their air, eat their fruit, and plant their seeds to make new trees. The linkage between trees and man, physically and metaphorically extends throughout every field of study from biblical history to anthropology, art, poetry, philosophy, biology, and mysticism. The deep-rooted fascination (pun intended) crosses cultural boundaries, continents, and centuries. On the 15th day (the number Tet Vav, pronounced Tu ) of Sh'vat, the Jewish take on trees comes to life.

Because Tu B'Shvat marks the last of the winter rains in Israel, it also marks the time when life force in the form of sap begins to rise from earth, roots, and tree trunk to the growing tips of branches. Seasons transition from death like winter stasis to a promise of spring and budding fruit growth. The day is not just a birthday, but the beginning of a New Year for the Trees, one of the four distinct New Years that Jews celebrate over the course of one calendar year.

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

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

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

What is the fruit? The fruit of Man and the fruit of the Torah are the same: the good deeds of every living soul. When Rabbi Agler talks on a Shabbat morning of those deeds that we cannot do too much of - visiting the sick, honoring our parents, consoling the bereaved, celebrating with bride and groom

– studying Torah is the last act mentioned, and said to be the greatest, because , as the verse goes on, the study of Torah leads to them all.

One interpretation of Torah's roots, trunk, and branches are its inner secrets, the concealed mother and father principle explored in Kabbalah, and the body of written and oral Torah with all the different methods of commentary. Torah's fruits can be seen as new insights that flow to those who devote themselves to its study and share those insights with the world, resulting in tikkun olam actions

People, Torah and trees. There are very specific laws (Halacha) that interrelate the three. We are told not to harvest the fruit of a tree until it is three years old. Even in war, it is forbidden to cut down a fruit tree. There are laws about gleanings. And numerology (Gematria) adds even more mystical depth.

The period from Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat to Tu B'Shvat falls exactly between the two holidays of Chanukah and Purim. From the last day of Chanukah until Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat there are 29 days. From the 2nd of Shevat until Tu Bishvat there are 14 days. Following Tu Bishvat, from the 16th to the day of Purim again there are 29 days. 2 times 29 (58, the value of the word chen, "grace" and "sym-

metry") plus 14 gives a total of 72 days, the value of chesed, "lovingkindness" . We come back to the fruits of Man and Torah, "gemilut chasadim."

From the fruits of kind deeds we move to fruits we can eat. The holiday of Chanukah is the holiday of pure olive oil. The holiday of Purim is the holiday of wine. All of the seven species and fruits of the land of Israel are contained within and encompassed by these two primary fruits. We used to celebrate together in the schoolroom the mystical seder devised more than 5 centuries ago in S'fat during the time of the Ari . We would sample all 15 varieties of fruit , listen to stories, drink four cups of "wine" progressing from pure white to rose to russet to pure red, symbolizing each season of the year. And with Jane Friedman's leadership we'd plant a tree or two, sing and dance and say the blessings from the Torah. What we will do this year remains to be seen but we will certainly say the blessings.

The words of the first psalm describe a person who follows the Torah: "she shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in season; her leaf shall not wither; and whatsoever she does shall prosper." ◇



*In ancient Israel, whenever a baby girl was born, a cypress tree was planted. When a baby boy was born, the planted tree was a cedar. Each child cared for their own tree as they and the tree grew. When the time came for marriage, a chuppah was fashioned from the bride and groom's own trees, intertwined. The couple stood under the canopy for their wedding service, united with each other in a tradition that honored birth, marriage, and a reverence for trees and nature.*

# Keys Jewish Community Center

Presentation by

Lucinda Kurtz



## ROSH CHODESH CIRCLE FOR WOMEN

Rosh Chodesh gatherings bring together a group of women interested in deepening their spiritual connection to our tradition and to each other at the time of the new moon of each month. Rosh Chodesh Women's Circles are gaining national and international popularity as a way for contemporary women to tap into our ancient Jewish rituals. Today's Jewish women are rediscovering a path back to the sharing of wisdom and tradition inherited from our female ancestors.

In these Circles, we explore the different energies that are manifested in each Hebrew month according to the Kabbalistic teachings of our sages. We do this through a variety of mediums such as music, movement, meditation, connection to the natural world, story telling and Torah study. We may look at any number of aspects each month such as: the important biblical events in Jewish history that occurred that month, the Torah portion, the astrological sign of the month, particular biblical figures active in the month, and the holidays.

I have been teaching Rosh Chodesh Circles in person and on line for several years. They were an outgrowth of the Kabbalah classes that I taught. They initiate and deepen the spiritual exploration and personal connection many women find very nourishing and stimulating. I look forward to facilitating this type of Circle with interested women in the Keys Jewish Community Center.

The Rosh Chodesh Circle will meet at the KJCC from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. on:

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 - Shevat

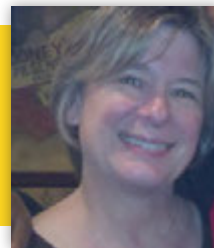
Wednesday, February 2, 2022 - Adar I

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - Adar II

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 - Nisan

For more information, please call Lucinda at 734-635-9441 or  
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# KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE: HELPFUL HINTS FOR GETTING THROUGH COVID TIMES



by Mindy Agler

**M**y mission for this article, as defined by Gloria: “Maybe you have some tips for staying positive in a world you see as increasingly dour, incomprehensible, and on a serious downhill slide. How about something like ten small steps to reclaim joy, or how to make a difference in someone’s life (paying for the harassed looking lady in the car behind you in the Starbucks line), volunteering to make happy birthday calls, etc. I’m open to anything you’d like to write/right/rite about, but I’m thinking you might be the hope and joy Queen at this moment and could sprinkle some of that shiny stuff on us, (with a bit of Jewish perspective, if possible).”

That’s a tall order! (Rich said I’m essentially being asked to write a High Holiday sermon!) But I’ll give it a go.

First, if you’re feeling any of those negative, hopeless feelings that Gloria described, please know you’re not alone. The world has indeed become a darker place since the pandemic began. I recently saw a study that found that 1 in 6 Americans sought counseling for the first time in 2020! This number astounded me, but I guess the good thing is that we Americans think counseling is helpful!

Whether it’s due to climate change, the political climate in America and the world, the pandemic, other news issues, or more personal concerns like finances, family, health or loss, it would be hard to argue that we aren’t feeling more bombarded and overwhelmed by stressors since 2020.

So, what are we to do with this increased anxiety? Let’s start the answer with more questions!

Are our personal buttons being pushed by the current state of affairs? Is our Jewish sense of justice and righteousness being offended by the political reality? Does our mandate of tikkun olam, making the world a better place, seem impossible? Are we left to feel that our commandments to care for the widow, the orphan, and the stranger are being trampled, or worse, are no longer relevant? Do we feel we have no control in the circumstances that surround us at every turn?

Let’s garner some wisdom from Instagram, of all places! These words were posted by Adam Grant: ([https://www.instagram.com/p/CWgGYuZrycp/?utm\\_medium=share\\_sheet](https://www.instagram.com/p/CWgGYuZrycp/?utm_medium=share_sheet))

*“The events that make your blood boil reveal what matters most to you.*

*Anger rises when your core values are in jeopardy.*

*With reflection, it becomes a mirror for seeing your principles more clearly.*

*With action, it becomes a map for making change to protect what you hold dear.”*

If our Jewish core values weren’t so important to us, so ingrained in us, indeed, so much a part of what makes us, us, we could skip merrily through news items that push those buttons, and go on about our business. However, we can notice, “With reflection,” as Mr. Grant writes, that the values are important to us, and we can do our part to make positive change in the

world. If this seems impossible because the problems are so vast, we would do well to remember the words from our sages: “You are not commanded to complete the task, but neither are you free to abstain from it.” We as individuals are probably not equipped to solve every problem facing the world, but we are all capable of making small changes that will have positive effects.

For example, if climate change is one of the issues that bothers you, you can make a difference by taking your own bags to the supermarket, participating in a beach clean-up, using non-plastic laundry detergent, planting a native plant in your garden or on your balcony, writing letters to leaders, attending protests, or even installing solar or making your next vehicle hybrid or electric if you have the funds. We are not free to abstain from doing our part, whatever that may be, but “every little bit helps.”

Another most important way to combat eco-anxiety (yes, that’s a thing), is to make time to be outside every day. Being in nature helps calm and soothe us, increases our mindfulness, and slows our “monkey brain” from its incessant worrying. It gives us great opportunities to find items for our daily gratitude list, (I saw my first tree frog last night since moving to San Diego),



provides our bodies with essential Vitamin D, and has been linked to “improved attention spans (short and long term), boosts in serotonin (the feel good neurotransmitter) and shows increased activity in the parts of the brain responsible for empathy, emotional stability, and love....” (7 Scientifically-Backed Health Benefits of Being in Nature ([thetrek.co](http://thetrek.co))). Get out there and enjoy Mother Nature!

How can we decrease our anxiety about the pandemic, where admittedly we have even less control? One way is to control the way we THINK about the pandemic; then our thoughts will greatly affect the way we FEEL about it. This is best illustrated by the words of Viktor Frankl, a survivor of Auschwitz, and author of “Man’s Search for Meaning:”

*“Everything can be taken from a man or a woman but one thing: the last of human freedoms to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s own way.”*

If our thoughts lean into worst-case scenarios, such as “We’re never going to get over this, I can’t stand living under these conditions, It’s too much to take,” then our feelings are going to reflect those attitudes of hopelessness and fear. So choose your attitude, for this and all other stressors that come along, and you’ll find your stronger and lighter feelings will help you through.

Another bit of control we have over the pandemic is how much time we spend absorbing news about it. One simple behavioral change we can make is to limit our “screen time” that can blast us 24/7 with words, graphs, images to show us how awful everything is. This is what sells, unfortunately, but we can TURN IT OFF! After 9/11 (remember the stress then?), a friend said to me “I have the news on every minute I’m home and I’m so scared.” I suggested she limit her exposure, and she agreed that if something else “really big” happened, she would hear about it soon enough without

having to torture herself with every new detail and every old image from the event all day. How grateful we can be that we can control our exposure, unlike Dr. Frankl when he was in the camps!

Gloria asked for a list of 10 small steps to reclaim joy. How about a Daily Plan of 6 steps to help us live in a pandemic, as proposed by Aaron Norton, Ph.D., LMHC, LMFT, in a virtual CEU class for therapists on "Working with Clients During a Pandemic"? Dr. Norton suggests each of our days should include a balance of each of the following:

Something productive (i.e., gives you a sense of accomplishment, contribution, or success)

- Something physical (i.e., a minimum of 20–30 minutes of mild, moderate, or intense exercise)

- Something social (i.e., involves interaction with others while still social distancing as long as we need to)
- Something meaningful (i.e., gives you a sense of value or purpose)
- Something entertaining (i.e., is fun, interesting, or engaging)
- Something relaxing (i.e., helps you to se-stress, relax or unwind).

If we can look back on our day and realize we have taken care of ourselves using each of these tasks, and that we have taken some of the other suggestions here to heart; Then my hope is we will realize it has been a good day, and that we'll be able to string several "good days" together, one day at a time.

Blessings, and I hope I fulfilled the assignment! ◇



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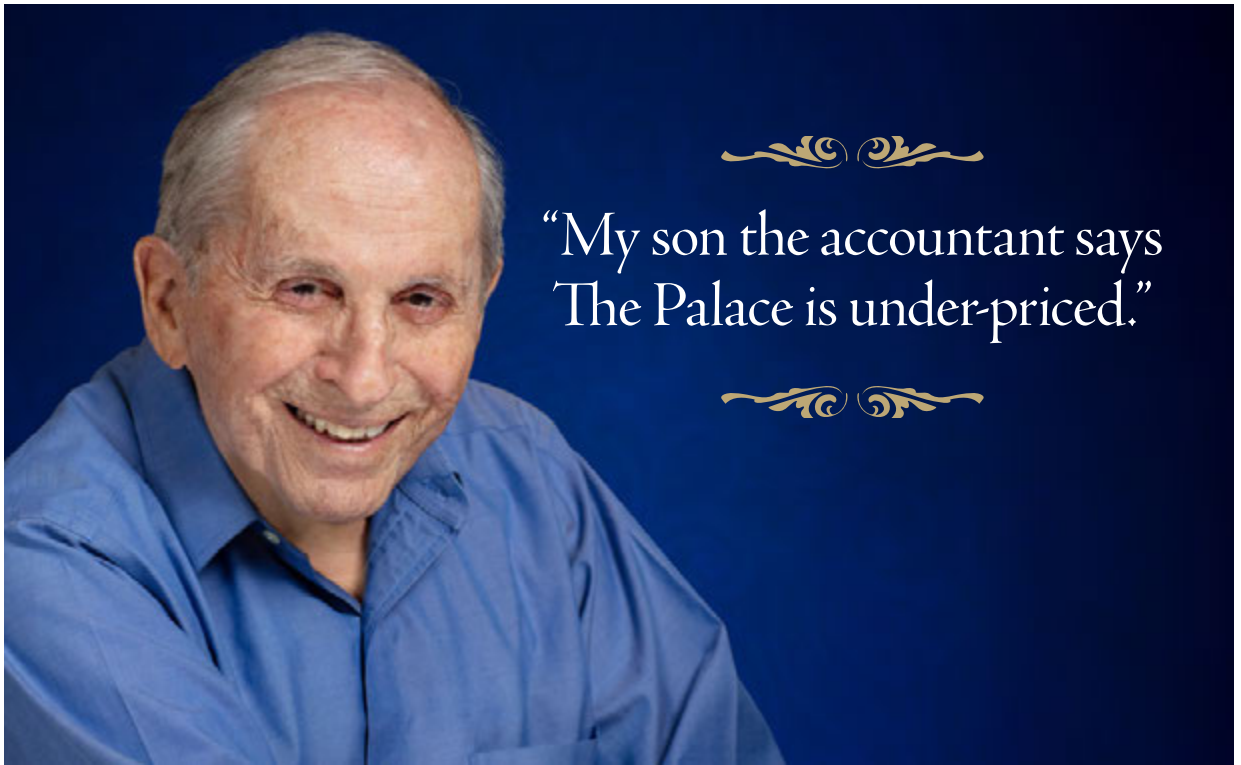
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