

Chai~Lights



July 1 - August 31, 2026 | 16 Tammuz - 18 Elul 5786

Remembering Our Friend Steve Steinbock — Pages 14-16

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2 Sisterhood Meeting 10 am	3	4	5	6	7 <i>Michael & Lorena Kaufman</i>	8
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2025 - 2026 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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CHAI-LIGHTS is the
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Ken Atlas



This column starts out on a somber note. In the past two months, we have lost two great longtime members who were also former presidents.

I don't usually write about stuff like this, but losing the combination of both Bernie and Steve, is too important not to cover.

The truth is, I wouldn't be writing this column right now, or any column at all, if it weren't for Steve. He was the one who contacted me a decade ago to ask if I would join the Board of Directors.

At the time, two things went through my head: 1. It might entail a lot of time with boring meetings. 2. It was an honor I could not pass up. Plus, I never could tell any of the Steinbock's no. It was several years before that, when Carol called me and asked if I would take care of the Yarzeit boards. I said yes to both and have never looked back.

Like many of you, I considered Steve a friend and at times we would go to lunch or breakfast. The last time we did that was at Made 2 Order. And it was even more special because Bernie was with us that day. What a memory that is: three current or former KJCC presidents eating lunch at a place that was one of our sponsors for this very publication.

It's fitting to note, that before either of these great men passed, that business we all liked, unfortunately closed its doors for good. That is a testament to how much things change as years pass.

It's funny how one thing seems to lead to another. Carol asked me to take over the boards from Jerry (who worked in the pharmacy with Steve), after Jerry passed and at the same time that Steve was himself in the

hospital. Carol, of course, preceded Steve, but was the first KJCC member that I ever met. She was a prosecutor at the courthouse back in 2002, and I met her on my second day in the Keys. In retrospect, if the chain of events had not occurred that led me to take care of those boards, I may not have been later sought out for a position on the other kind of board (our directors)!

Finally, I first met Bernie at the doctors office where he was working, before I ever saw him at a service. Since moving down here, it would seem that many different paths were continuously converging upon me with various members of our congregation, both inside and outside of our grounds. Some things do feel like destiny.

Bernie impressed me very much as a doctor, and I was very glad to have him as mine, until the time he retired. But his religious and Hebrew capabilities, as well as his sense of humor, are what impressed me the most.

Just like the many good people we lost before them, Bernie and Steve will be missed greatly. This is a reminder that life is both short and precious. And at times like this more than ever, we need our faith and our Jewish Community.

I've learned that even the most mundane times should not be taken for granted.

But the continued increase in our membership is another thing that sustains me. Though we always lose people we care about, we will continue to meet new people that we will also care about. ♦

Happy Birthday!

July

1st.....Chely Markowitz
 1st.....Jennifer Gilson
 2nd..... Dan Levi
 2nd.....Rabbi Ed Rosenthal
 3rd Michael Kaufman
 4th Mindy Rosenthal
 9thJoyce Peckman
 9thTristan Moret
 11th Steven Hartz
 12th Miriam Frankel
 12th Richard Steinberg
 13th Dot Brooking
 14th Paul Eric Bernstein
 17th John Hawver
 17th Shira Goldman
 18th Luzviminda Levine
 18th Sage Indy Lebofsky
 19thMatt Hallenburg
 20th Bonni Cohen
 20th Roosmary Benowitz
 21st..... Arlington Garrett
 21st.....Joshua Samuel Bernstein
 21st..... Linda Perloff
 21st.....Tim Cunha
 22nd..... Millie Tainow
 23rd Carrie Temkin
 25th Alan Markowitz
 26th Beckham Jordan Kline
 28th Lila E. Juenger
 28th Lily Gitel Padden

28th Rick Cohen
 29th Barry Neumann
 29th Candy Stanlake
 29th Mary Lee Singer
 31st..... Jonathan Kline
 31st..... Ken Salomon
 31st..... Linda Levi

August

4th Jessica Forman
 8th Hank Ryan Casey
 8th Sean Kaufman
 9th Arnold Klein
 9thEric Freundlich
 10thEmma Feig
 13th Gina Moritz
 13thStephan Friedman
 14thJoey Lindenbaum
 15th Patricia Isenberg
 16th Alan Lindenbaum
 16th Alison Thompson
 17thBiniyam M. Duman
 17th Tina Klein
 19th Craig Cope
 19th Pamela Friedman
 20th Loni Ochs
 20th Rivka Rizzo-Trent
 22nd..... Murray Blitzer
 23rd Andrew Kichler
 26thJonah Jacob Kline
 26th Mikhaela Bitton
 30thRobert Temkin

Leaf on the tree of life:

To Honor
 Our Beloved
DR BERNARD GINSBERG
 Forever in Our Hearts
 by Linda Pollack

Leaf on the tree of life:

To Honor
 Our Cherished Friend
STEPHEN STEINBOCK
 Always Remembered
 by Linda Pollack

NOSH

Book Group Takes a Break

We are not meeting this summer but will reconvene in September. Our book will be The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd. An extraordinary story set in the first century about a woman who finds her voice and her destiny, from the celebrated number one New York Times bestselling author of The Secret Life of Bees and The Invention of Wings. Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, Ana is rebellious and ambitious, with a brilliant mind and a daring spirit. She engages in furtive scholarly pursuits and writes narratives about neglected and silenced women. She is expected to marry an older widower, a prospect that horrifies her.

Watching (and drinking from) the World Cup

When people can be people, enjoying the magnificence of fellow humans excelling at a sporting competition, national pride and fierce competition go hand in hand; and yet the teams from different countries, now based in different American cities, have been treated with kindness and respect, almost adoptive, enjoying each other and the great displays of skill and sportsmanship. Look at what happened in Boston with the huge influx of hard partying Scots. Boston Bars ran out of Beer!!! No Beer in Boston!!! And nobody got mad. Everybody laughed about it. Roared! Hope for the future. L'Chaim.

101 Marks the Fun

Don't forget to come celebrate the hundred and first birthday, marked by an oneg sponsored by Nadine Thompson', for her mother Mickey Frankel, a respected AGPI artist, still painting, still inspiring children (with a talk in the Key Largo Library), still coming to KJCC events, all with a smile on her face, knowing she is loved and valued by us and by all who know her.

A Remembrance Ceremony

Crystal Health & Rehabilitation, the facility where Steve Steinbock spent his last weeks, is planning to have a memorial service on Monday July 27th at 2pm. They will be remembering the residents who have recently passed, including Steve Steinbock. I'm sure we will be welcome. ✧



ONEG SPONSORS

July 3Michael & Lorena Kaufman • Celebrating Michael's Birthday
 July 3Anonymous • Sponsor Shabbabaque
 July 10 Nadine Thompson • Celebrating Mickey Frankel 's 101 Birthday
 July 10Steve & Jan Hartz • Celebrating Steve's Birthday
 July 17Judy & Adam Starr • Celebrating the Birthday of Grandson Miles
 July 24 Steve & Jan Hartz • Celebrating their 50th anniversary
 July 31 Sisterhood
 August 7 Michael & Lorena Kaufman • Celebrating Sean's Birthday
 August 14..... Richard & Barbara Knowles • Celebrating their Anniversary

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. When you make a donation, please specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

JULY & AUGUST 2026

Yahrzeits

Donna Forst	Ema Forst
Medina Roy	Leon Kirschenbaum, Carl Roy, Dr. Bernie Ginsberg
Linda Rutkin	Dr. Bernie Ginsberg
Steve & Jan Hartz	Dr. Bernie Ginsberg, Steve Steinbock
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies	Max Margulies, Fred Doellefeld
Mindy & Richard Agler	Dr. Bernie Ginsberg, Steve Steinbock
Joan Wohl	Dr. Milton Wohl
David Marmar & Family	Mercedes Marmar, Dorothy Marmar
Stuart & Lauren Sax	Dr. Bernie Ginsberg
Beth Horowitz	Sheldon Horowitz
Ronald Kaplan	Sidney & Catherine Horowitz
Claire Tallent	Ralph Tallent
Dorothy Wolfe	Bernie & Frieda Feinberg
Hermine Taramona	Robert Robinson
Myra & Marshall Kaplan	Les Reitman, Leonard Roberts
Elaine Schulberg	Alan Schulberg, Beth Schulberg, Harvey Kelman, Martha Schulberg, Steve Lundy
Johanna Willner	Plaque for Arthur Lee Willner
Linda Pollack	Tree of Life leaf for Steve Steinbock, and Dr. Bernie Ginsberg
Joyce Peckman	Dr. Bernie Ginsberg, Steve Steinbock
Susan Horn & Dot Brooking	Steve Steinbock

In Memory/Honor of

GENERAL DONATIONS

Judith Weber	General Fund
Steve & Joan Jacobs	Susan Gordon's Birthday
Mimi & Richard Bentolila	50th Anniversary of Jan & Steve Hartz
Tyler Cope	In gratitude for his Bar Mitzvah
Steve & Jan Hartz	General Fund

TIKKUN OLAM

Linda Kaplan

SECURITY

Steve & Jan Hartz
Marshall & Myra Kaplan
Arnold & Tina Klein

YIZKOR BOOK

Marshall & Myra Kaplan

RABBI/CANTOR HIGH HOLIDAYS

Steve & Jan Hartz
Arnold & Tina Klein

WOMEN'S SEDER TIKKUN OLAM

Lawson Jaffe
Richard Kaufman
Donation to: Talia Agler Girls Shelter
Donation to: Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition
Donation to: Belev Echad

SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

To: KJCC annual donation	
Arnold & Tina Klein	
Rochelle Hollander	Breakfast at Lido's
Anonymous donor	Breakfast at Lido's

...CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED

DINNER SPONSORSHIPS

Anonymous Donor

ONEG SPONSORSHIPS

Donna Bolton	Donna & Bill's Anniversary
Rivka Rizzo- Trent	Honoring Grandmother Hilda DaCosta's Birthday
Medina Roy	Celebrating Her Birthday

Judy & Adam Starr	Celebrating Grandson Mile's Birthday
Sandra Lee St. Germaine	Celebrating Sisterhood
Steve & Jan Hartz	Celebrating Steve's Birthday & their 50th Anniversary
Nadine Thompson	Mother Mickey Frankel's 101th Birthday
Michael & Lorena Kaufman	Celebrating Michael's Birthday

Shabbat Service Leaders

July 3	Rivka & Max Trent
July 10	Steve & Jan Hartz
July 17	Ken Salomon & Susan Gordon
July 24	Steve & Jan Hartz
July 31	Erica Lieberman Garrett & Shari Carlquist
August 14	Judy Starr & Ken Atlas
August 21	Randy Klein Gross
August 28	Erica Lieberman Garrett

Happy Anniversary

July

9th	Terry Willner-Tainow & Jon Tainow	54
18th	M'Liss Regent and Tim Cunha	27

Years

August

4th	Arnold and Tina Klein	60
7th	Larry & Dorothy Wolfe	69
8th	Mark Avner	5
12th	Gregory & Maya Zakharin	31
14th	Murray Blitzer & Bev Blitzer	54
14th	Michael J. Sundheim & Shirley Z Sundheim	4
15th	Paul & Susan Roberts	58
15th	Richard & Barbara Knowles	27
16th	Dennis Miller and Rosemary Ciotti	39
16th	Ira & Shirley Stein	68
21st	Jeff & Lisa Miller	49
25th	Sandra and Leonard St Germain	53
28th	Chuck and Sandy Traugott	49
31st	Steven & Joan Jacobs	35
31st	Carol Rose	8

Years

ONGOING PROJECTS AND MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

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, or email lindap4000@ymail.com for 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? Contact Shari Carlquist, 305-962-0000 or shari@directflowers.biz to reserve an orchid, bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: An oneg costs only \$72; a dinner is \$360. To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225.

CARING KEHILAH/SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Loni Ochs, 305-772-2584, or email Dr.LMOCHS@gmail.com or Barbara Knowles, 305-772-0503.

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

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

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

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

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 and Benches: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. Purchase a beautifully engraved Garden Bench for \$1,000, as your ultimate tribute.

WORLD JEWISH REPORT Medina Roy



A Lost Tomb Discovered

After 400 years, a recent archaeological study has identified the long lost tomb of the prophet Amos. Although the tomb was a significant pilgrimage site for both Jews and Christians beginning in the fourth century, security instability in the 17th century led to its abandonment, and its exact location was forgotten.

Now, a new study by archaeologist Michael Chernin and Israel Antiquities Authority photographer, Shai Halevi claims to have solved the mystery. It was believed that the tomb was in ancient Tekoa in the Gush Ezion region, but the researchers have proven that the site is 1.24 miles away, at a location referred to as “Qasr Antar.” The identification is based on strict cross-referencing of descriptions by Jewish pilgrims in the 15th century who described a church built over an ancient burial cave, as well as aerial imaging and findings on the ground that match the historical descriptions of the building and cave. The sources indicate that the site was continuously active for 1,300 years, until it was abandoned at the beginning of the 17th century.

Amos was a Hebrew prophet and poet in the 8th century BCE. Before becoming a prophet, he was a shepherd and a sycamore fig farmer. He was called by God to prophesy in the wealthy but idolatrous northern Kingdom of Israel during a time of great economic prosperity and moral corruption. His central message was that outward religious rituals and sacrifices are meaningless without justice, righteousness and care for the vulnerable. This message has deeply influenced both Jewish and Christian theological traditions. (www.israelnationalnews.com, 5-3-26)

A Whites-Only Community? A Test Case

A woman with Jewish ancestry has sued “Return to the Land” (RTTL), a whites-only housing community in Arkansas, alleging the group discriminated against her by refusing to sell land to her on the basis of race and religion. Michelle Walker, the plaintiff, believes she was denied entry to the community because of her Jewish ancestry and the fact that she is married to a black man and has biracial children. Walker, a real estate broker, said she was interested in the land because of the extremely affordable price – which is advertised as three acres of land for just \$6,000 – viewing the property as an investment. She does not plan to live there.

The RTTL application asked Walker a series of questions about her ancestry and religion. She wrote that she is Christian and believes “Jesus died for my sins.” She was honest and stated that her mother’s side of the family is of Russian Jewish immigrants and her husband is of African and Irish descent. According to the complaint, she was asked to submit a video to confirm that she appeared white. After that, she received a message that her application had been rejected because “she was not an ideal fit for RTTL.” She is being represented by Legal Aid of Arkansas, the NAACP Legal defense and Educational Fund, and Relman Colfax PLLC.

The lawsuit is seen as a test of how anti-discrimination law will fare as President Trump’s appointees have moved away from prioritizing race-based discrimination claims, including in housing.

“Return to the Land” has been preparing for a lawsuit for a very long time. They have been fundraising for “legal research” since the organization’s beginnings and publishing blog posts about why the group qualifies as a private club and therefore should be exempt from civil rights law. (www.forward.com, 5-20-25)

A First, “For the Entire Jewish Community”

Inspired by his Jerusalem-born grandmother’s cooking, Israeli Chef Raz Shabtai broke down in tears and was embraced by his cheering staff when a livestreamed Michelin ceremony announced that his Miami restaurant, Mutra, had become the first kosher restaurant ever awarded a Michelin star. Michelin stars are the highest honor in the restaurant industry.

“It’s a moment of joy, it’s a moment of pride, it’s a moment of relief, it’s a moment of confirmation,” Shabtai said. “It’s not just about Mutra getting the star, but it’s about the entire Jewish community getting that, and I felt a lot of responsibility.” Shabtai, who has worked in kitchens across New York and Israel, opened Mutra in February 2025, naming the kosher eatery after his grandmother whose cooking heavily inspires its menu. “...the flavors that I’m trying to bring to the table, it’s flavors that came from memories and visiting in the market with my grandma,” he said.

“Israeli chef Raz Shabtai has brought his take on Middle Eastern cuisine to Miami,” the Michelin inspectors wrote. “...this is a place where snagging a seat at the chef’s counter is a must.”

The award places Mutra among the world’s most celebrated restaurants and marks a breakthrough for kosher cuisine. Looking ahead, Shabtai said he hoped the achievement would inspire other kosher chefs.

“Be proud of where you’re coming from, get connected to those roots that you have,” Shabtai said. “Sometimes it’s not going to be a smooth sail. It’s OK, learn how to fix it, but believe in yourself. Don’t ever compromise, and don’t let other people compromise you.” (www.jta.org, 5-29-26)

A Record Donation

Jan Koum, co-founder of WhatsApp, and creator of The Koum Family Foundation, has donated \$200 million to Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem, the largest single donation ever made

to an Israeli hospital. The gift will fund the development and construction of a twenty-four story new medical tower which will include expanded surgical and emergency care facilities, significant underground protected spaces, and a roof-top helipad. It will also double the hospital’s current capacity of some 1,000 beds. The tower will also include a place for medical staff, a pragmatic but often ignored requirement in a city where housing costs are a serious issue in attracting top talent.

Jan Koum grew up in Mountain View, California, on welfare and he just wrote the biggest check in Israeli healthcare history. His story reads like it could be a Hollywood movie. Koum was born in Kyiv, Ukraine in 1976. He moved to Mountain View, California, with his mother when he was sixteen. When she was diagnosed with cancer, the family lived on welfare. He studied programming on his own, worked at Yahoo, and then co-founded WhatsApp in 2009. Five years later, the app was bought by Facebook for \$19 billion. In what has since become Silicon Valley legend, Koum signed the acquisition papers on the doorstep of the very welfare office where he once stood in line with his mother. It was more than just a business deal. It was like a full circle.

In recent years, Koum’s Palo Alto-based foundation has quietly become a huge player in American Jewish philanthropy. This donation to Shaare Zedek comes on the heels of a \$50 million gift last year to Soroka Medical Center located in Be’er Sheva in southern Israel (serving the entire Negev region) after the hospital was damaged by an Iranian ballistic missile attack in June 2025.

There will be an official renaming of the institution as Koum Shaare Zedek Medical Center. “This gift reflects our confidence in a future of medical innovation and research that will benefit patients in Israel and around the world,” he said. (www.jpost.com, 5-10-26)

In Memoriam

–Michael Tilson Thomas, famous conductor and scion of Yiddish theater, died in April. He was 81. The grandson of Yiddish theater stars Boris and Bessie Thomashevsky, he was born and raised in Los Angeles and made numerous contributions to the music world and through performances, recordings and documentation of his grandparents’ musical legacy.

Tilson Thomas showed an interest in classical music from a very early age. After graduating from the University of Southern California, he conducted a wide range of symphonies around the world, including in Israel. He was known as an ambassador for classical music to the masses. He was mostly associated with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, where he became assistant conductor in 1968, the San Francisco Symphony and the New World Symphony in Miami, which he launched in 1987.

During his career, Tilson Thomas embraced his Jewish roots and identity. His most well-known project with a Jewish theme, “The Thomashefskys: Music and Memories of a Life in the Yiddish Theater,” is an homage to his immigrant grandparents, Boris and Bessie, who, in the early years of the 20th century became trailblazing performers and producers of Yiddish theater on New York’s Lower East Side. “My grandparents became megastars in their new country. Yiddish theater was central to their lives,” he said.

Tilson Thomas earned eleven Grammys for recordings of orchestras he conducted. (www.forward.com, 4-24-26)

–Alex Miller, American born Israel Defence Forces (IDF) soldier who was wounded in a car-ramming attack in the West Bank, died in Miami at the end of May where he had been living after he was discharged from the military. His death was an apparent suicide. He was 23.

After undergoing a rehabilitation process, Miller returned to the military in the Golan Heights where his father Danny lives. His rehabilitation addressed his physical wounds. He never requested help for mental trauma. He was also affected by the death of his close friend who was killed by anti-tank fire in Gaza.

Miller’s death comes amid growing concern over the mental health toll of Israel’s ongoing conflicts. In 2025, 22 active-duty IDF soldiers died by suicide, marking the highest number since 2010 and between January 2024 and July 2025, 279 active soldiers attempted suicide, according to a report published by the Knesset Research and Information Center last October. “The invisible trauma that he quietly carried with him, without letting others know of its volume, eventually defeated the young warrior who had his whole life ahead of him,” the Katzrin Regional Council said in a statement. (www.jta.org, 5-26-26)

Did You Know...

–The very first class in the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1802 had two graduates, one of whom was a Jew named Simon Levy. This year, at the end of May, 30 Jewish cadets graduated from the academy, according to Col. Benjamin Wallen, lay Jewish leader involved in the West Point Hillel chapter and the academy’s Jewish choir. Col. Wallen said that the Class of 2026 had the most Jews in West Point’s 224-year history. He believes that this upsurge in Jewish cadets at West Point is attributed to the October 7th Hamas attacks and the rise in antisemitism.

According to Col. Wallen, there is no antisemitism at West Point as we’ve all seen on college campuses throughout the country. “This is one place where none of that has reared its ugly head. Not a hint of it. Because that’s just not who we are. There’s no place for hate of any kind at West Point,” he said, calling West Point “a wonderful place to be Jewish and to serve your country.”

According to Col. Wallen, West Point’s Class of 2027 and Class of 2028 both have 27 Jewish cadets. (www.forward.com, 6-8-26)

Yahrtzeit Plaque

ARTHUR LEE WILLNER
Beloved Husband,
Father and Grandfather
11/24/1925 – 1/20/2023
Always in Our Memories

Yahrtzeit Plaque

**Remembering our long time Friend and
KJCC Past President and Supporter
STEPHEN STEINBOCK**
3/3/1940 – 6/15/2026

In Memoriam – July 2026

Jack Steinberg

by Richard Agler & Mindy Agler

Nettie Goodman

by Gloria Avner

Sidney Stark

by Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Claire Schwartz

by Beth Bressler & Philip Schwartz

Mrs Zelda Edelman

by Dale Chasteen

Mrs. Judy Goldberg

by Salmon Goldberg

Sylvia Hershoff

by Jay Hershoff & Nancy Hershoff

Dorothy Horn

by Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Jacob Ratchik

by Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Ronald Horn

by Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Margaret Isenberg

by Patricia Isenberg

Les Reitman

by Marshall Kaplan & Myra Kaplan

Harvey Taub

by Erica Lieberman Garrett

Miriam Margulies

by Stanley Margulies & Jenny Margulies

Fred Ross

by Joyce Peckman

Dora Levy

by Arthur Plutzer

Leon Kirschenbaum

by Medina Roy

Alan Schulberg

by Elaine Schulberg

Beth Schulberg

by Elaine Schulberg

Harvey Kelman

by Elaine Schulberg

Stanley H. Klipper

by Mary Lee Singer

Manya Starr

by Adam Starr & Judy Starr

Norman James Schuman

by Adam Starr & Judy Starr

Mollie Z. Cohen

by Lei Steinberg

Ben Steinbock

by Stephen Steinbock

Milton Swartz

by Muriel Swartz

Mack Swartz

by Muriel Swartz

Ida R. Estrin

by Claire Tallent

Tracey-Yvette Sinclair McMillon

by Max Gordon Trent & Rivka Rizzo-Trent

Alfred Eichler

by Judith Weber

Frieda Feinberg

by Larry Wolfe & Dorothy Wolfe

Bernie Feinberg

by Larry Wolfe & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memoriam – August 2026

Isaac Berman

by Sylvia Berman

Mr. Jacob Ephraim Brush

by James Brush

Shirley Cohen

by Rick Cohen & Bonni Cohen

Sandra Kanarek

by Wes Conklin & Rita Conklin

Elsie (Chava) Duman

by Michael Duman & Laura Duman

Elliot Mandl

by Jane Friedman

Manuel Hershoff

by Jay Hershoff & Nancy Hershoff

Sheldon David Horowitz

by Beth Horowitz

Albert Jacobs

by Steven Jacobs & Joan Jacobs

Ketty Tuchman

by Marshall Kaplan & Myra Kaplan

Eva Raub

by Harvey Klein & Judith Klein

Richard Gross

by Randy Klein-Gross

Sonia Silverstein

by Randy Klein-Gross

Shirley Lieberman

by Erica Lieberman Garrett

Billie Kornbloom

by Erica Lieberman Garrett

Max Lieberman

by Erica Lieberman Garrett

Josephine Margulies

by Jeff Margulies & Cheryl Margulies

Isaac Cohen Pardo

by Stanley Margulies &

Jenny Margulies

Lyla Berkson

by Barry Neumann & Ellen Ecker

Anna Pincus

by Linda Pincus

Chanoch Shiloh

by Jan Price

Stan Beitscher

by Carol Rose

Howard Shutan

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Steve Lundy

by Elaine Schulberg

Tom Klipper

by Mary Lee Singer

Olga Schuman

by Adam Starr & Judy Starr

Erik S. Persoff

by Lei Steinberg

James Nobil

by Lei Steinberg

Meyer G. Cohen

by Lei Steinberg

Ralph Tallent

by Claire Tallent

NEW MOON POEM
WHICH WAY HOME?

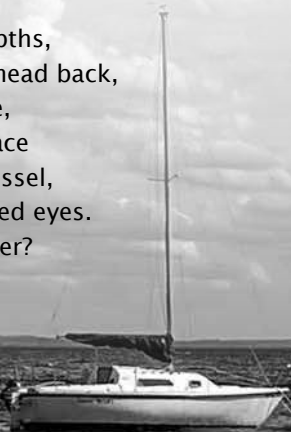
by Lucinda Kurtz

Just when we surmise,
the lies have struck rock bottom
like an anchor on a sailboat
stopping passage to port,
we enter the new moon of Tammuz,
a month of confusion and tumult.
Still more?

We seek our bearings on rough water,
but north becomes south,
east becomes west,
grey sky echoes grey water,
waves and wind whisper,
Which way home?

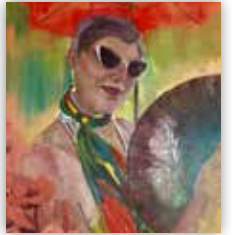
We turn one way, then another,
seeking safe harbor from the storm,
blustery gusts blow across bow,
swells murmur silent message,
heard only with inner ear,
What is the prayer?

We peer into murky depths,
stretch arms upward, throw head back,
invite holy guidance,
grasp truth of our place
in time to steady the vessel,
see route ahead with opened eyes.
Shall we travel together?



*Golden sun beats down,
Pinks and oranges on waves;
Ocean's serenade. -Sunset Haiku*

SISTERHOOD REPORT
Loni Ochs



The air is sweltering and oppressive with the smell of sargassum on our rock lately as we move into the dog days of summer. The shul has been quieter with much of our mishpocha in the northern climes, but some of us are holding down the fort and the sisterhood work continues. The Sisterhood had an end of the season brunch celebration at Lido 63, with most of our wonderful ladies in attendance. We were pleasantly surprised by an anonymous benefactor who picked up our tab...many thanks!!!

Our Shavuot dinner was a celebration of cheesecake, blitzes and Torah. As always, the buffet table was laden with homemade dairy goodness from our congregation. Many thanks to Joyce Peckman for chairing the event, coordinating the food, and making it an enjoyable and delicious event for everyone.

The newly created Outreach Committee had a booth at the Trash Derby at Founder's Park for the purpose of letting our community know there is a vibrant and thriving Jewish presence in the Keys. Mission accomplished! We handed out KJCC pens and macarons with smiles and good will. During the next season we will have booths at some of the most well attended festivals. I encourage everyone to participate in our fun outreach activities in the future.

Our annual Shabbat dinner was all about grilling, chilling, and celebrating together! Not only did we celebrate the 250th birthday of our country, it was Michael Kaufman's big day well! Over 40 of our congregants showed up with a patriotic spirit in plenty of red, white, and blue attire. Our dynamite grill team of Roy Pollack, Jonah Gross and

Max Trent cooked hamburgers and hot dogs to perfection while Jane Friedman fried her famous spring rolls on the spot for maximum deliciousness! As usual, our buffet table was filled with bountiful picnic side dishes lovingly cooked by our talented home chefs. Thank you to Susan Gordon for providing our festive décor and coordinating the dinner.

The Sisterhood Book Club is taking a break for the summer, resuming in September. The book club usually meets the last Thursday of the month live and on zoom. Please contact Linda Pollack for more information. 305-587-7429 Lindap4000@ymail.com

Each week, the women of the Sisterhood generously prepare a welcoming and abundant Oneg celebration following Shabbat services, creating a special opportunity for our community to gather and connect. When you walk into our shul and catch the whiff of Jane's freshly baked challah before services, you just know you are in the right place!

If you would like to sponsor an Oneg in honor of a birthday, anniversary, or another meaningful milestone, please contact Joyce Peckman at 732-447-5225 or Joycepeckman@gmail.com.

I encourage all the women of the Sisterhood to stay connected, get involved, and continue growing together as we navigate the not so busy summer months. Please join us for our next Sisterhood meeting on Sunday, August 2 at 10:00 AM at the KJCC. It's never too early to start planning for the High Holidays!

Wishing everyone a relaxing, joyful, and enjoyable summer! ◇



— We Remember Steve Steinbock —

Steve Steinbock was a different kind of healer. He didn't prescribe medicine to fix what ailed you. He prepared the medication for you and gave it to you with concern in his eyes and a gentle smile on his face. He was my pharmacist in each of his career locations. I felt I could ask him anything. His replies were thoughtful, intelligent and sincere. He was a helpful man. And that was just in his professional life.

As a friend and as a longtime member of our congregation his genuine caring was even more visible. He never said no to a request for help, whether for a ride, a donation, an invitation to a meal, a request to lead a service or to run for office and accept the duties of being our president.

Some of my fondest memories are the monthly meetings we had at his and Carol's house preparing 200 printed Chai-Lights copies to be sent out by mail in the days before email flip books were even an imaginary thought. We would have wild discussions, arguments and laughter as we attached labels, counted copies and ate Carol's delicious food.

It is hard to talk or even think about Steve without talking about Carol Cimkowski Steinbock, lawyer, nurse and love of Steve's life. Look at the photos. See and feel the love. In truth, they were a magical couple, co-Presidents of KJCC. Carol was also the person who first told us about the winter solstice memorial ceremony for the homeless who died here in the Keys each year. Steve made sure we continued participating once Carol had passed. With open hearts and an open home they received us every year on Christmas Day, a gentle reminder that we are all connected, through love, respect and generosity (and of course through food. Steve was a charter member of the "let's go to lunch bunch," also known as "Jews Without Jobs"). His soul and that of our equally treasured recently departed Bernie Ginsberg could be smiling at us and each other at this very moment, remembering all those lunches. We love them and we miss them. Their memories and the work they did to maintain and grow KJCC/Congregation Ohr HaYam are already a blessing.

- Gloria Avner

I was so sorry to hear about Steve Steinbock's passing. He was a lovely man and will be sorely missed. - Mindy Agler

— We Remember Steve Steinbock —

When I first joined the KJCC, many ions ago, one of the first people that I met was Steve Steinbock. From our first encounter in the sanctuary we were friends. I had thought that I might escape any attention in the congregation hiding out in the back of the room, but every Friday night Steve would come up to me and strike up a conversation.

Soon, Steve asked me to help him lead services, which he did with great frequency, particularly when he was president. In time, he became a co-founder of a luncheon group that we jokingly dubbed "Jews Without Jobs." Of course, it was a misnomer. Steve and his wife Carol worked tirelessly for the KJCC and Steve still practiced as a pharma-

cist into his 70's. He loved the KJCC and also the sea. He was an avid sailor and gardener.

Beyond being a good friend, his greatest personal attributes in my experience were his cool under fire, and his sense of duty. I remember one Friday night he was leading services. His allergies were in high gear and he was clearly suffering despite the usual remedies. He did not complain for an instant and carried on as if nothing were wrong. You could count on Steve in any situation.

May his memory and that of his wife Carol be for a blessing and a guiding inspiration to us all.

- Steve Hartz



PHOTO GALLERY



Oran took 1st place winner in his age group at the Las Olas Triathlon!



Lucinda & Oran with their Grandchildren, Clementine & Sebastian, at Grandparent's Day in Traverse City, Michigan.



Jan & Steve Hartz enjoying a meal together in Cambridge, Massachusetts

Visiting the Japanese Gardens at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston



Jan & Steve Hartz celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, revisiting Appleton Chapel at Harvard University in Cambridge, where they were married.



Celebrating Nadine Thompson's Daughter's birthday with a lovely oneg. Thank you Donna for your baking and thank you Erica for your service leading.



Tonights oneg is sponsored by Gloria Avner in celebration of Mark Avner's birthday! Yom huledet sameach!

Wonderful Onegs, wonderful sponsors and celebrants.

Gloria's latest spoonbill painting finds a home with Renee Salant, past KJCC Sisterhood President.



Joyce Peckman is welcomed to New Jersey "home" by son Keith.



Birthday girls Donna Bolton and Judy Starr celebrate together!

Katie Simpson (center, in Red) on stage as one of the final contestants in this year's Miss Coral Shores Pageant.



The Simpson family enjoyed a fabulous trip to Alaska!



Ally Simpson in the leading role as "Mr. Wormwood" in the production of Matilda, the Musical at the Coral Shores Performing Arts Center



Jane Friedman enjoyed a wonderful cruise with several of her fun girlfriends!

Susan spent a week visiting with her Brother, Barry. They had great 'sibling time' together!



Joyce Peckman and granddaughter Addie visited 100 year old Edna, Joyce's step-mom. Edna wanted to walk the 4 blocks to the East River . . . which is the view from her 13th floor window. Bless her.



Thank you Loni, Randy, Shari and Kito for letting people at the trash derby in Founder's park know that there is a n alive and thriving Jewish center in the Upper Keys. Good Job.

Michal Peckman officially made Aliya. She is with parents Dan and Guisela after her citizenship ceremony in Jerusalem.



It's always fun for Susan to spend time with her Grandsons, Rhett & Hank enjoying a summer of baseball & fishing fun!



What a delightful crew of young men graced our Shabbat service and oneg this special night. Jonah Gross-Klein and his boyhood friends added voice, charm and lots of enthusiasm to our evening.



Joyce enjoyed an early 80th birthday celebration in the Keys, before heading north for the summer!



Joyce out for a walk with Grandson, Isaac and sweet Ruby. We will all miss Dear Ruby.



It's always so nice when Roy & Elizabeth come to the Keys to visit Linda. We love seeing them!

Happy Birthday to Elizabeth Pollack, much loved daughter-in-law of Linda Pollack, and congratulations to M'liss Cuna, on a leading a beautiful service with Joyce Peckman, her first.



Tyler Cope's 8th grade graduation from Treasure Village Montessori School



It seems like just yesterday that little (at the time) Harry Friedman was a bar mitzvah here at the KJCC. We all remember, what an event that was.

Fast forward through five-years and an Electrical Engineering degree from the University

(Go Gators!), and graduating the US Navy's Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI, he is currently assigned to Washington, DC, and has just been promoted to Lieutenant JG, as a US Navy Seabee (Combat Engineer) Officer.

He will soon proceed to Gulfport, MS, for advanced weapons training and then to his next duty station at Okinawa, Japan.

Although he comes down to Key Largo to visit any chance he gets, Harry's proud mom and dad, Jane and Steve Friedman, can't wait to go visit him overseas.



Jane traveled to Virginia to spend some time with Harry & her extended family.

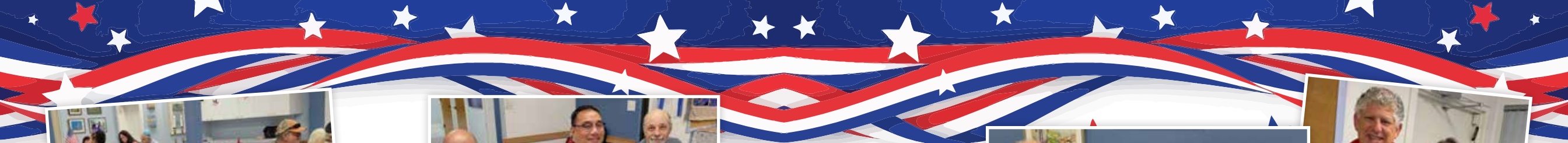


Shabbabaque

The KJCC, Congregation Ohr HaYam celebrated another delightful & delicious Shabbabaque on the evening of July 3rd. The Social Hall was filled with 40 happy attendees, enjoying a patriotic Shabbat dinner together, before moving into the sanctuary for services. We also celebrated the birthday of our Executive VP, Michael Kaufman. Thank you to Michael for sharing your birthday with us! We had an expert grilling crew preparing our hamburgers & hot dogs outside on the BBQ grill...Many thanks to Roy Pollack, Max Trent, & Jonah Gross. Everyone who attended brought in their specialty dishes for all to enjoy...a wide variety of salads, sides, & desserts. No one left the room hungry! There was even enough food for people to pack up "to-go" containers to get them through the remainder of the holiday weekend! As you can see by the smiles on the faces of all who attended the Shabbabaque, this event was a hit!







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