

Chai~Lights



September 1 - October 31, 2026 | 19 Elul, 5786 - 20 Cheshvan, 5787

High Holydays Schedule – Page 12

Letters from Rabbi Efrat and Cantor Dzubin – Pages 14-17

Article on Israel – Pages 26-28



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Services are every Friday at 7:30pm Names denote service leaders Italicized names are Oneg sponsors		1 SEP	2	3	4 Sean Kaufman Bar Mitzvah Dinner 6pm Rabbi Frank, Sean & Michael Kaufman <i>Michael & Lorena Kaufman</i>	5
6 Slichot, Pizza & Movie 6pm	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 Erev Rosh Hashanah Rosh Hashanah Dinner 6pm Rosh Hashanah Service 7:30pm	12 Rosh Hashanah Service 9:30am
13 Rosh Hashanah Service 9:30am Tashlich at Kaufman Home 6pm	14 Chief Jeff Morse of Key Largo Fire Rescue & EMS 6pm	15	16	17	18 Rivka Rizzo Trent & Joyce Peckman <i>Shari Carlquist</i>	19
20 KJCC Board Meeting 10am Succah Decoration 12:30pm Kol Nidre Service 7:30pm	21 Yom Kippur Service 9:30am Neilah Service 5:30pm Break-the-Fast Dinner 7pm	22	23	24 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30pm	25 Ken Salomon, Art Itkin & Joyce Peckman Oneg & Blessings in the Sukkah <i>Shari Carlquist</i>	26
27	28	29	30	1 OCT	2 Yizkor & Simchat Torah Celebration Erica Lieberman Garrett & Joyce Peckman <i>Joyce Peckman</i>	3 Shemini Atzeret
4 Simchat Torah Sisterhood Meeting 10am	5	6	7	8	9 M'Liss Regent Cunha & Gloria Avner <i>Sisterhood</i>	10
11 KJCC Board Meeting 10am	12 Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	13	14	15	16 Erica Lieberman Garrett & Andrea Grace <i>Nadine & Alan Thompson</i>	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Rivka & Max Trent <i>Rivka Rizzo Trent</i>	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Judy Starr & Ken Atlas <i>Barbara & Richard Knowles</i>	31

2025 - 2026 KJCC
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Ken Atlas

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Michael Kaufman

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Bernard Ginsberg • Sam Vinicur
Beth Hayden • Joyce Peckman

Editor
Gloria Avner

CHAI-LIGHTS is the
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Keys Jewish Community Center
chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Ken Atlas



Another summer has come to an end. Although things have been slow at KJCC, that has not at all been the case for a lot of our members.

So many of our members have been traveling. Those trips have taken us to places as varied as Tennessee, New Jersey and Canada, but also across the oceans. As for me, I so far have not had any trips even cross state. However, I did help my daughter move one county north. That might seem like a tedious thing, but it was actually the best weekend of my year.

This September, will be one of the most exciting we've had in a very long time. In addition to our usual high holidays, we will have another bar mitzvah. What makes this so exciting, is that like Harry Friedman, Sean Kaufman has been with us since he was a young kid. It has been wonderful getting to see him grow up, and coming to ser-

vices nearly every week. He is also a product of the Hebrew classes that Joyce Peckman instituted a few years back.

On a personal note, one of my oldest friends in the world, someone I knew back in middle school, is getting ready to make aliyah. He had his bar mitzvah a few weeks after mine. So I'm very excited about this for him. I still have yet to make it out there, but I know someday it will happen.

Getting back to the high holidays, it will in fact be the same crew we had last year. Last year was pretty special, and we expect this year to be just as good.

Finally, I'd like to welcome back our snowbirds as they return in September and October.

As always, stay vigilant, and stay safe. ◇

Happy Anniversary

September

30th	Marsha & Tom Garrettson.....	36
6th	Julie Hantman & Jeffrey Rose	6
7th	Jay & Nancy Hershoff	27
9th	Neal & Cathy Rakov	42
15th	Rita & Harry Rzepka.....	69

October

2nd	Paul & Barbara Bernstein.....	32
28th	Michael & Suzanne Gilson	25
31st	Harvey & Judith Klein	72
22nd	Steve & Luzviminda Levine.....	14
20th	Samantha and Ryan Simpson	19

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur Services will be led by
Rabbi Efrat Zarren-Zohar & Cantor Michael Dzubin

Friday, Sept. 4	6 p.m. Sean Kaufman Bar Mitzvah Dinner 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Frank, Sean & Michael Kaufman
Sunday, Sept. 6	6 p.m. Slichot, Pizza & Movie
Friday, Sept. 11	6 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Dinner – RSVP to Susan Gordon 7:30 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Service
Saturday, Sept. 12	9:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Service – Followed by Luncheon
Sunday, Sept. 13	9:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Service – Followed by Luncheon 6 p.m. Tashlich at Kaufman Home
Monday, Sept. 14	6 p.m. Chief Jeff Morse of Key Largo Fire Rescue & EMS
Friday, Sept. 18	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Rivka Rizzo Trent & Joyce Peckman
Sunday, Sept. 20	10 a.m. KJCC Board Meeting 12:30 p.m. Succah decoration 7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre Service
Monday, Sept. 21	9:30 a.m. Yom Kippur Service 5:30 p.m. Neilah Service 7:00 p.m. Break-the-Fast Dinner
Thursday, Sept. 24	12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, Sept. 25	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Ken Salomon, Art Itkin, Joyce Peckman Oneg & Blessings in the Sukkah
Friday, Oct. 2	Yizkor & Simchat Torah Celebration led by Erica Lieberman Garrett & Joyce Peckman
Saturday, Oct. 3	Shemini Atzeret
Sunday, Oct. 4	Simchat Torah 10 a.m. Sisterhood Meeting
Friday, Oct. 9	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by M'Liss Regent Cunha & Gloria Avner
Sunday, Oct. 11	10 a.m. KJCC Board Meeting
Monday, Oct. 12	Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan
Friday, Oct. 16	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Erica Lieberman Garrett & Andrea Grace
Friday, Oct. 23	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Rivka & Max Trent
Friday, Oct. 30	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service led by Judy Starr & Ken Atlas

NOSH

Sisterhood Book Club

After a break for the summer, Sisterhood Book Club is back! We meet the final Thursday of each month on zoom and often the home of a member. You don't have to be a member of KJCC or even a voracious reader to join. Just contact Linda Pollack at Lindap4000@ymail.com to be placed on the email list. The September meeting will be on 9/24 at 12:30 at the home of Joyce Peckman (732-447-5225). We will discuss "The book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd as we enjoy lunch. The book offers a reimagined view of the life during the time of Jesus from the perspective of his imaginary wife.

Hebrew Reading Class

We are learning to read the Hebrew alphabet using NJOP material, focusing on the words we encounter in the prayerbook. This informal class is open to adults and kids and meets at the home of Joyce Peckman. Contact her at 732-447-5225 for more information.

Decorating our Succah

This year Sukkot comes very quickly after Yom Kippur, with no weekend in between. As a result, Sunday Sept. 20th will be very busy! Board meets on Zoom at 10 a.m., then we run to KJCC, where our gazebo-succah that was constructed and donated by Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake, is waiting to be decorated at 12:30. We have to work quickly, because Yom Kippur begins at 7 p.m. that night. Kol Nidre service begins at 7:30.

A Visit with the Fire Chief

On Monday, September 14th at 6 p.m., Chief Jeff Morse of Key Largo Fire Rescue & EMS will be at KJCC to speak about his job and the combining of the fire and emergency medical departments. This discussion is a presentation of The Upper Keys League of Women Voters, with gratitude to KJCC for allowing use of our venue. All members of the Keys community are invited to what should be an interesting presentation. ♦



ONEG SPONSORS

- September 4 Michael & Lorena Kaufman – Celebrating Sean’s Bar Mitzva
- September 11 *Erev Rosh Hashanah*
- September 18 Shari Carlquist – In Memory of Her Father
- September 25 Shari Carlquist – In Celebration of Her Birthday – Erev Sukkot
- October 2 Joyce Peckman – Shemini Atzeret/Simhat T/Yizkor
- October 9 Sisterhood
- October 16 Nadine & Alan Thompson – Celebrating their 40th Anniversary
- October 23 Kathy & Joe Shabathai – Celebrating Kathy’s Birthday
- October 23 Rivka Rizzo Trent – Celebrating Ramon Rizzo’s Birthday
- October 30 Barbara & Richard Knowles – Celebrating Birthdays of Barbara & Sam Knowles

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 \$1,200, as your ultimate tribute.

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.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2026

YAHREZEITS

In Memory/Honor of

Richard and Mimi Bentolila Leon Bentolila
Susan Horn & Dot Brooking Steve Steinbock
Joyce Peckman Steve Steinbock
 & Dr. Bernie Ginsberg
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies Josephine Margulies
Pam Marmar Philip Figarsky
Mindy Agler Jack Steinberg
Linda Pollack Helaine Grossman & Skip Rose
Judy and Adam Starr Yearly Donation
Claire Tallent Yearly Donation
Dr. Stan and Jenny Margulies Yearly Donation

GENERAL DONATIONS

Judy & Adam Starr
Michelle & Bob Diener
Sam & Leslie Janowitz
Joanna Willner
James Brush
Steve & Joan Jacobs
Richard & Mimi Bentolila
Chuck & Sandy Traugott
Medina Roy
Beth Horowitz
Barnet Coltman
Mindy & Richard Agler Sean's Bar Mitzvah
Ken & Tonya Salomon
Elaine Schulberg
Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver
Barbara Levy..... Joyce Peckman's Birthday
Joe & Kathy Shabathai
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies
Linda Pollack Slichot Service & Movie Night
Michael & Lorena Kaufman Taschlich Ceremony

TIKKUN OLAM

Linda Kaplan
Linda Pincus

SECURITY

Donna & Bill Bolton
Harry & Rita Rzepka
Judy & Adam Starr
Elaine Schulberg
Linda Perloff
Ellen Ecker
Claire Tallent
Sandra St. Germaine
Arnold & Tina Klein
Marshall & Myra Kaplan
Susan Gordon
Sherrie Willner
Joyce Peckman
Mark Avner
Gloria Avner
Linda Pollack
Ken & Tonya Salomon
James Brush
Steve & Joan Jacobs
Mimi & Richard Bentolila
Jon & Terry Willner Tainow
Medina Roy
Joel & Mary Roth
Harvey & Judy Klein
Linda Pincus
Barney Coltman
Dr. Paul & Barbara Bernstein
Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver
Dr. Stan & Jenny Margulies
David & Pat Vanartsdalen

CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED...

YIZKOR BOOK

Dr. Gerri Emkey
Richard & Barbara Knowles
Judy & Adam Starr
Elaine Schulberg
Joan Wohl
Judith Weber
Claire Tallent
Beth Kaminstein
Harvey & Judy Klein
Marshall & Myra Kaplan
Dr. Erica Lieberman Garrett
Susan Gordon
Sherrie Willner
Joyce Peckman
Roos Mary Benowitz
Gloria Avner
Linda Pollack
Arthur Plutzer
Johanna Willner
Joel Bernard & Joan Stark
James Brush
Richard & Mimi Bentolila
Jon & Terry Willner Tainow
Linda Pincus
Medina Roy
Arthur Itkin
Susy Horowitz
Mindy & Rich Agler
Barney Coltman
Dale Chasteen
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Joe & Kathy Shabathai
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Dr. Jamie & Laura Goodman
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RABBI/ CANTOR HIGH HOLIDAYS

Judy & Adam Starr
Elaine Schulberg
Stuart & Geri Smith
Sandra St. Germaine
Arnold & Tina Klein
Dr. Erica Lieberman Garrett
Joyce Peckman
Mark Avner
Gloria Avner
Linda Pollack
Andy Tobin
Joel Bernard & Joan Stark
Mindy & Rich Agler
Joel & Mary Roth
Dr. Paul & Barb Bernstein
Shari Carlquist
Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver
Dr. Stan & Jenny Margulies
David & Pat Vanartsdalen
Dr. Jamie & Laura Goodman
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

NEW YEARS GREETINGS

Judy & Adam Starr
Joan Wohl
Susan Gordon
Joyce Peckman
Chuck & Sandy Traugott
Mindy & Rich Agler
Harry & Rita Rzepka
Dr. Erica Lieberman Garrett
Gloria Avner
Linda Pollack
Joe & Kathy Shabathai
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies
Lucinda Kurtz
Oran Hesterman

CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED...

MEDITATION GARDEN

Joel & Mary Roth
Alan Beth & Candy StanlakeBrick in memory
of Steve Steinbock
Medina Roy
Susy HorowitzBrick in memory
of Ian Bernard Horowitz
Mindy & Rich Agler

CHAILIGHTS SUPPORT

Judy & Adam Starr
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Joyce Peckman
Muriel Swartz
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David & Pat Vanartsdalen

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Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

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Judy & Adam Starr
Steven & Joan Jacobs
Linda Pincus
Dr. Paul & Barb Bernstein
Shari Carlquist
David & Pat Vanartsdalen
Jon & Terry Willner Tainow
Michael & Lorena Kaufman Dinner & Oneg
Sponsorship Celebrating Sean's Bar Mitzvah
Barb & Richard Knowles Oneg Celebrating
27th Anniversary
Michael & Lorena Kaufman Oneg Celebrating
Michael's Birthday
Roos Mary Benowitz Onegs for Birthday
& Memory of Jerry Benowitz
Jane Friedman Oneg Celebrating
Steve's Birthday
Rosemary Ciotti & Dennis Miller..... Oneg
Celebrating Anniversary

Yahrtzeit Plaque

IN BLESSED MEMORY OF
PHILIP FIGARSKY
FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS
July 9, 1930 – March 24, 2026



In Memoriam – September 2026

Leon Bentolila

by Richard Bentolila & Mimi Bentolila

Goldie Berman

by Sylvia Berman

Rhea Roazen

by Sylvia Berman

Sam Roazen

by Sylvia Berman

Mae U. Stark

by Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Mr Sydney Edelman

by Dale Chasteen

Evelyn O. Coltman

by Barnet O. Coltman

Ida Hitzig

by Wes Conklin & Rita Conklin

H. Melvin Berkon

by Jamie Goodman & Laura Goodman

Leonard Roberts

by Marshall Kaplan & Myra Kaplan

Mr. Martin M. Katz

by Melissa Katz-Fusco

Sadie Klimpl

by Michael Klimpl

David J. Levine

by Steve Levine & Luzviminda Levine

Anne Hendin Margulies

by Stanley Margulies & Jenny Margulies

Beverly Harvey

by Linda Perloff

Franklin 'Skip' Rose

by Linda Pollack

Toby Mitchell

by Linda Pollack

Hy Beitscher

by Carol Rose

Leo Rosenberg

by Joni Sages & Robert Dandrea

David Gulkis

by Elaine Schulberg

Irving Kopecky

by Adam Starr & Judy Starr

Roger Starr

by Adam Starr & Judy Starr

Milton Willner

by Jon S. Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

Charlie Temkin

by Robert Temkin

Lawrence Weber

by Judith Weber





In Memoriam – October 2026

Perren Gerber

by Gloria Avner

Stephen Berman

by Sylvia Berman

Fanny Grossman Bernard

by Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Gertrude Widlan

by Norbert Birnbaum

Douglas Edward Carlquist

by Shari Carlquist

Abraham Kanowsky

by Wes Conklin & Rita Conklin

Harriet Feder

by David Feder & Suzi-Sara Feder

Muriel Catanase

by Jane Friedman

Sandra Ellen Schultz

by Jane Friedman

Pearl Goodman

by Jamie Goodman & Laura Goodman

Stanley J. Goodman

by Jamie Goodman & Laura Goodman

Simon Skolnick

by Susan Gordon

Henry Walter Isenberg

by Patricia Isenberg

Ron Levy

by Beth Kaminstein

Esther M. Klein

by Harvey Klein & Judith Klein

Tomar Gross

by Randy Klein-Gross

Jose (Pepe) Cohen Charaf

by Stanley Margulies & Jenny Margulies

David Frank

by Linda Pollack

Jon R. Singer

by Mary Lee Singer

Morton I. Singer

by Mary Lee Singer

Solomon Felder

by Stuart Smith & Geri Smith

Mr. Harry Stein

by Shirley Stein

Mrs. Freda Shipman

by Shirley Stein

Joel S. Cohen

by Lei Steinberg

George Swartz

by Muriel Swartz

Phillip Fine

by Larry Wolfe & Dorothy Wolfe





PLEASE JOIN
CONGREGATION
OHR HAYAM
AS WE CELEBRATE

Sean
KAUFMAN
— —
SHABBAT DINNER



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026



KJCC

93095 Overseas Highway
Tavernier, FL 33070



6:00 PM SHABBAT DINNER
7:30 PM SERVICES

PLEASE RSVP TO SHARI
BY 8/26

305-962-0000



WITH LOVE AND PRIDE,

KJCC



Happy Birthday!

September

4th Chase Barrett
 6th Bryce Hesterman
 6th Flip (Philip) Schwartz
 7th Mindy Agler
 7th Stellar Levy
 8th Susan Horn
 9th Jacob Klimpl
 10th Gerri Emkey
 12th Joan Jacobs
 13th Andy Tobin
 17th Ellen Ecker
 19th Barbara Bernstein
 24th Cait Miller
 24th Noah Bitton
 24th Orlando Quesada
 25th Michel Bitton
 25th Shari Carlquist
 28th Susy Horowitz

October

1st Binyamin Cartagena
 1st Harry Rzepka
 2nd Michael Gilson
 4th Michael Kanarek

4th Michael Krissel
 5th Mathew Tainow
 6th Joel Bernard
 7th Jordan Feig
 11th Jack Michael Wolfe
 11th Olivia Landes
 12th Benay Krissel
 13th Richard Kaufman
 14th Paul Friedman
 15th Marcia Kreitman
 15th Michael Tallent
 17th Beth Lindenbaum
 17th Jay Hershoff
 17th Maria Navarro
 20th Barbara Knowles
 21st Michael J. Sundheim
 21st Sammy Knowles
 22nd Daniel Tainow
 22nd Joseph Shabathai
 22nd Susan Roberts
 23rd Joe Levi
 24th Stacy Temkin
 25th Richard Wolfe
 30th Mark Hitzig

Shabbat Service Leaders

Sept. 4 Rabbi Frank, Sean & Michael Kaufman
 Sept 11 Rabbi Zarren Zohar & Cantor Dzubin – Rosh Hashanah
 Sept 18 Rivka Rizzo & Joyce Peckman
 Sept. 25 Ken Salomon, Art Itkin, Joyce Peckman – Erev Sukkot
 Oct. 2 Erica Lieberman Garrett & Joyce Peckman – Yizkor, Simchat Torah Celebration
 Oct. 9 M'Liss Regent Cunha & Gloria Avner – Bereshit
 Oct. 16 Erica Lieberman Garrett & Andrea Grace
 Oct. 23 Rivka & Max Trent
 Oct. 30 Judy Starr, Ken Atlas, Art Itkin



High Holiday Service Schedule 5787

Rabbi Efrat Zarren-Zohar & Cantor Michael Dzubin
Services will be held live and on Zoom.

Friday, September 11

Dinner ~ 6:00 p.m. – RSVP
Erev Rosh Hashanah Service ~ 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 12

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Service ~ 9:30 a.m.
Light Lunch after Services

Sunday, September 13

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Service ~ 9:30 a.m.
Light Lunch after services
Tashlich ~ 6 pm Kaufman home – RSVP

Friday, September 18

Shabbat Service ~ 7:30 p.m. (led by Rivka Rizzo & Joyce Peckman)

Sunday, September 20

Decorate Succah 12:30 p.m.
Erev Yom Kippur
Kol Nidre Service ~ 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 21

Yom Kippur Service ~ 9:30 a.m.
Yizkor Service ~ 11:15 a.m.
Neilah service followed by Break-the-Fast ~ 6 p.m.

Friday, September 25

Shabbat Service & Sukkot 7:30 p.m. (led by Ken Atlas & Judy Starr)
followed by Oneg in Succah

Friday, October 2

Shabbat Service and Yizkor Service ~ 7:30 p.m.,
With Simchat Torah Celebration
(led by Erica Lieberman Garrett & Joyce Peckman)

Note: Afternoon times are approximate. There will be light lunch served after Rosh Hashanah services and a break-the-fast at Yom Kippur's end.





New Year's Greetings

*Wishing Our Entire KJCC Family A
Happy and Healthy New Year !!
Nadine & Alan Thompson &
Mickey Frankel*



*Shana Tova and best wishes for
a Healthy Joyous New Year to
my KJCC Mishpocha
Erica Lieberman Garrett*



*L'Shana Tova To My
Dear Keys Friends
Joan P. Wohl*



*Be Well and Happy my Dear KJCC
Mishpocha. A Sweet New Year To You
Love, Gloria Avner*



*Wishing you a Healthy
and Joyful 5787
Joyce Peckman*



*Wishing Everyone a Happy, Healthy
and Prosperous 5787
Sandy & Chuck Traugott*



*Shana Tova U'Metuka,
Wishing All A Good & Sweet Year.
Joseph & Kathy Shabathai*



*Wishing All Our Friends
A Healthy New Year
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies*



*Best Wishes for 5787 to all our
KJCC/Congregation Ohr Ha Yam
Mishpocha and Families
Adam & Judy Starr*



*Blessings for a Happy & Healthy
5787 to my Mishpocha at the KJCC
Congregation Ohr Ha Yam
Susan Gordon*

*Shana Tovah to our KJCC Family
Mindy & Rich Agler*



*To My KJCC Much Loved Mishpocha
Wishing You All Peace & Happiness
Linda Pollack*



*Wishing You All A Happy New Year
Rita & Harry Rzepka*

*Happy and Healthy New
Years Blessings to our friends
at Ohr Ha Yam
Lucinda & Oran*





SEVEN STEPS TO PREPARE FOR TISHREI

(the month in which Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot falls)



By Rabbi Efrat Zarren-Zohar

This article was adapted from one written by my friend, Jane Shapiro.

You've all seen the lists. Every newspaper, magazine, or app offers them.

Five ways to get healthier!

Ten exercises to strengthen your hips!

Twelve vegetables you should be eating!

But what about your spiritual self?

What can you do to address this essential, inner core of humanness?

Well, here's my list:

Spend a few minutes each day in silence. Allow your breath to settle down and your gaze to relax. Allow yourself to listen for the divine voice within.

Spend time reflecting on your year. When did you feel you were on track? When did you feel disengaged from what matters

to you? Can you pinpoint attitudes, deeds or words that got you off track? What actions can you take to return?

Read poetry. Billy Collins, Mary Oliver, Yehuda Amichai, David Whyte, Wendell Berry, Emily Dickinson, or Rumi can help you prepare for the many long piyutim (liturgical poems) that make up the High Holiday liturgy.

Read Psalm 27 every day, the special Psalm designated for the entire season.

Clean up some messes of your own making from the past year. This can include your physical space, your relationships, your relationship to your health, your finances, or the environment.

Plan your Tzedakah for the New Year. Who and what needs your support?

Make a list of the people who need to hear from you before Yom Kippur.

Anticipate the gift of holy time for contemplation, prayer, self-improvement, community, family, sweet food, and rejoicing. ♦





The Book Is Still Being Written

What will we write?

by Cantor Michael Dzubin

With Dolly Parton's recent passing, we have been reminded of some of her hit songs, and one of these, the "Book of Life" from 1971, seems very fitting at this time of year.

The song is not a Jewish prayer, and Parton's theology is distinctly Christian. Yet anyone who has spent time with the prayers and readings of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* would recognize the title and theme of the song as a book in which our lives are recorded, our actions examined, and our fate determined.

Jewish tradition teaches that on *Rosh Hashanah* three books are opened before God: the Book of Life, the Book of Death, and a third book for those whose judgment remains unresolved. Their fate is suspended from *Rosh Hashanah* until *Yom Kippur*, giving them time to change the balance through their deeds.

It is a powerful image. We enter these Days of Awe knowing that our choices matter. We look backward and ask: What have I done? Whom have I hurt? Where have I failed? Where have I remained silent? And we look forward, making promises about who we hope to become.

But this year, I find myself thinking about another book as well. Not only the book in which God records our individual lives, but the book we are collectively writing through the choices we make as a society.

The Stranger

One of the *Torah's* most repeated commandments is the command to care for the stranger. We are told not to oppress the *ger*, the stranger, because we ourselves were strangers in the land of Egypt. The *Torah* does not allow us to forget what it feels like to be vulnerable, displaced, or

dependent upon the goodwill of people who possess more power than we do. That memory is at the heart of Jewish identity.

We know what it means to leave one place hoping to find safety in another. We know what it means to be refugees. We know what it means for governments and societies to decide that certain people are outsiders, less deserving, less welcome, or less human.

Most of us would move heaven and earth to provide for our loved ones, whether we were born here or have made America our home. Freedom, safety, and belonging are essential to all of us, regardless of our religion, where we come from, or what we look like.

And as Jews, we know something else:

Our freedom and safety cannot ultimately be separated from the freedom and safety of others.

If we accept the idea that some people can be deprived of dignity because they are strangers, we weaken the moral foundation that protects everyone. If we accept that some people's constitutional rights can be ignored because we dislike their politics, we make everyone's rights

less secure. If we accept that fear justifies cruelty when it is directed at someone else, we should not be surprised when the circle of "someone else" eventually grows.

Antisemitism and the Machinery of Fear

There is another dimension that is especially important for us as Jews. Antisemitism is real. Antisemitism is dangerous. And we should never minimize it. We have a sacred obligation to protect Jewish life and Jewish communities. We should confront antisemitism wherever we encounter it. The High Holidays ask us to examine





not only whether others have sinned against us, but whether fear has caused us to abandon our own values.

Who Is at the Back of the Camp?

Our *Torah* portion, *Ki Teitzei*, offers another image that speaks powerfully to this moment. Near the end of Deuteronomy, Moses tells the Israelites to remember what Amalek did to them on their journey after leaving Egypt. Amalek did not simply attack Israel; they attacked from the rear, striking those who were already exhausted and vulnerable—the stragglers who could not keep pace with the rest of the community.

The *Torah* tells us to remember. Why? Because there are things human beings must never become comfortable with. There is something especially morally revealing about how a society treats the people who cannot defend themselves. The strong can often protect themselves. The powerful can hire lawyers. The wealthy can make phone calls. The well-connected can command attention.

But what about the person at the back of the camp? The refugee who has fled persecution. The immigrant who does not speak English well enough to understand a legal proceeding. The child whose parents are afraid to take them to school. The person who has been targeted because of their religion.

Who is at the back of our camp?

That is a question the *Torah* asks us to keep asking. And perhaps the command to remember Amalek is ultimately a warning against becoming indifferent to cruelty. We must remember what happens when compassion, justice, and reverence for human dignity disappear—and when those who have the power to protect the vulnerable instead exploit their vulnerability.

“Good People” and the Temptation of Silence

There is a famous saying often attributed to John Stuart Mill: “Bad men need nothing more to compass their ends than that good men should look on and do nothing.” Whether or not we can confidently attribute those exact words to Mill, the

moral challenge they express is worth hearing.

The question of the High Holidays is not simply: **Am I a good person?** It is also: **What do I do when something is wrong?** Judaism does not define righteousness merely as avoiding personal wrongdoing. Our tradition repeatedly commands us to pursue justice, defend the vulnerable, and speak when silence would allow harm to continue.

There are moments when remaining silent is itself a choice. There are moments when looking away is itself a choice. And there are moments when we have to decide whether our loyalty to a political party, a leader, a nation, or even our own sense of security is more important than our loyalty to the values we claim to hold. The High Holidays give us an opportunity to ask ourselves that question honestly.

Coming to America

There is another song that has been in my mind as I think about this moment: Neil Diamond’s “America,” sometimes called “Coming to America.” Diamond has described the song as the story of his grandparents coming to America in search of freedom. His grandmother came from Russia, escaping Jewish oppression, while his father’s family came from Poland. That story is deeply Jewish. It is also deeply American.

The song evokes people arriving in a new land carrying hopes that are larger than themselves: freedom, possibility, belonging, and the chance to build a better life for the generations that will follow. For many of us, that story is not distant history. It is our family story. Our grandparents. Our great-grandparents. Perhaps our parents. Perhaps we ourselves. People who crossed borders because they believed that somewhere else there might be a safer, freer, more hopeful future.

That is one of the great promises of America. And it is one of the reasons the current moment should concern us so deeply. We should want an America in which people can still arrive carrying hope. An America in which the stranger is not automatically treated as a threat. An America in which belonging does not depend upon race, religion, national origin, or the length of time one’s





family has been here. An America in which government power remains subject to law. An America in which Jewish safety is protected without sacrificing the safety and freedom of others. An America in which we understand that democracy is not simply the right to choose our leaders. It is the commitment to a system in which **no leader is above the law and no person is beneath its protection.**

What Will We Write?

This brings me back to the Book of Life. On *Rosh Hashanah*, we imagine God opening the books. During these Ten Days, we are given the extraordinary possibility of change. The story of our lives is not finished. Our actions still matter. We can make amends. We can change direction. We can choose differently. Perhaps that is why the Book of Life is such a powerful image. A book is a record. But it is also a story. And stories are still being written.

So this year, I want to ask a question that goes beyond our individual repentance:

What are we writing together?

Can we write a story in which Jewish memory

makes us more compassionate, not less? Can we write a story in which our experience of persecution teaches us to recognize vulnerability in others? Can we defend Jewish life while also defending the lives and freedoms of people who are different from us?

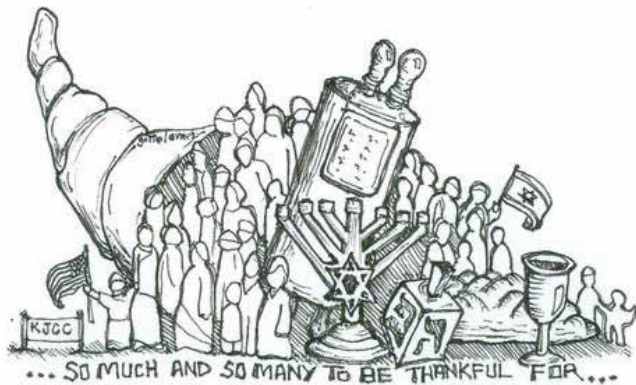
The High Holidays remind us that we are not powerless. We can repent. We can repair. We can speak. We can refuse to look away. We can protect one another. We can choose courage over fear and solidarity over division. And we can insist that those who exercise power remain accountable to something greater than themselves.

The Book of Life is not yet closed. There is still time to change what we are writing. May we have the courage to write a story worthy of our Jewish inheritance. May we have the wisdom to remember that our freedom is bound up with the freedom of others. May we have the strength to protect those at the back of the camp. And may the story we write together be a story of justice, compassion, courage, and life.

What will we write?

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu! (May you all be inscribed for a Good (and HEALTHY) Year!) ◇

*Jewish Woman
Briskets in the slowcooker
for the New Year feast I
like that I am part of a world-wide
confederation
of women humming to ourselves
hands smelling of garlic
- Gloria Avner*





After First Kaddish

by Judy Starr

In the shadows of four short and clustered monuments
at the top of a tall curving wall,
where one narrow road bent to another
leading us back to the gates
after that first Kaddish over you
a single twitch of movement
caught our eyes; we slowed,
turned our heads and saw the fawn.
So small, multi-spotted, she locked onto our gaze,
her ears flaring, then resting, then flaring wide again –
two small equilateral flags
signaling attention, hers and ours –
although our car made little sound
and our voices were locked inside the windows
we'd rolled up against the August heat.
Ten feet high above she could safely
hold her ground for those long moments.
We proceeded on our journey
turning with the downward bends
of the curving narrow roads
(that for long moments seemed to never end)
leading us back to the everyday world.
To see life thrive among the ordered spaces
that keep and mark the places of our dead –
the unmitigated innocence and beauty
at home among the shadows of the stones –
brought the day a message of its own.
As for you, so newly cradled
among these sloping lawns,
who always cared about the baby animals,
I thought how that moment linking us with the fawn
was something you'd have really liked to share.



A person stands on a dark, mossy rock in the ocean, blowing a shofar. They are wearing a white t-shirt, dark pants, and a striped shawl draped over their shoulders. The background shows a sunset over the ocean with a cloudy sky in shades of orange, yellow, and grey.

NEW MOON POEM: WE CAN'T LOOK AWAY

by Lucinda Kurtz

Waves whisper, Awake!
The new moon of Elul is upon us
We dip our feet in these living waters
Wash away what no longer serves
We dwell in the temple of time.

Fires and destruction of Av retreat
Crumbling walls, wild conflagration
Now the moment to dive deep within
Search blood and marrow
We can't look away.

What do we carry in our flesh and bones?
Regrets lodged in our liver
Arrows of anger tied to our tongue
Shame hiding in our hair
Grief gurgling in our gut.

The piercing blast of the shofar
Rouses our trembling hearts
Vibrates, inundates our every cell
Opens the floodgates for release
Urges us to forgive.

We lift our face to the rising sun
Feel the breeze on our quaking limbs
Inhale the scent of lavender and sweet grass
Touch the solid core of our being,
Return home.



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Congregation Ohr HaYam

The High Holy Days begin with

S'LICHOT

**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026**



- **6:00 p.m. S'lichot Service**
 - **6:30 p.m. Pizza and Salad**
- followed by**
- **MOVIE ~ GOLDA**



RSVP to Joyce Peckman
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so we know how much
pizza to get

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No Charge

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EREV ROSH HASHANAH *Dinner*

Welcome the New Year with
FAITH, FAMILY & FRIENDS



FRIDAY
9/11



6:00 PM
MEAT DINNER



PLACE:
KJCC



FOLLOWED BY
7:30 PM SERVICE



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\$20

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305 766 3585

susangordon424@yahoo.com

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 4



Venmo to Sisterhood



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at the Kaufman Home
Sunday, September 13, 2026
6:00 p.m.

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when we join with our
mishpocha and cast away our
sins into the water*

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Nadine
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to let her know
you are coming



Refreshments will be served.



Yom Kippur *Break Fast Dinner*

9/21/26

At Yom Kippur's end!!!

We prayed hard for forgiveness;

Now Let's Eat!

Approximately 7 o'clock



Please RSVP to

Erica Lieberman Garrett

305 570 9310



KJCC Sisterhood Book Club



September 24, 2026 *The Book of Longings*

October 29, 2026 *The Music of Bees*



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.



Three lonely strangers in a rural Oregon town, each working through grief and life's curveballs, are brought together by happenstance on a local honeybee farm where they find surprising friendship, healing--and maybe even a second chance--just when they least expect it.

**Questions/Input: Contact Linda @ 305-587-7429
lindap4000@gmail.com**

Last Thursday of Each Month
Live at 12:15
Zoom at 12:30

Let us know if you would like to host a meeting and/or review a book.

We will always Zoom and usually meet in person as well. An invitation to join the Zoom session will be sent prior to each meeting.

*Sweltering ether,
A wavy ocean chugging
In spite of the boat.*

SISTERHOOD REPORT Loni Ochs



As we look forward to the cooler weather that is hopefully on the way soon, the Sisterhood is busy planning for the High Holy days! We are so pleased to welcome Rabbi Efrat Zarren-Zohar & Cantor Micheal Dzubin back to the bimah to lead us into the new year 5787.

We are so blessed to have another bar mitzvah to kick off our holiday season. On Friday September 4th, the congregation will have the pleasure of officially welcoming Sean Kaufman into the Jewish community as an adult when he stands on the bimah and receives the gift of the Torah. The sisterhood will be coordinating a celebratory feast with a roast beef carving station and so many more delicious options at 6pm before the Shabbat service. Please RSVP to Shari Carlquist at 305-962-0000.

To nourish our bodies and souls, the 5787 new year celebrations get going at the KJCC on September 11 at 6pm with the Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner. Please join us for a festive meat pot luck dinner before Friday night service. The cost is \$20. Per person, RSVP to Susan Gordon at 305-766-3585. Please see the flyer in Chai-Lights.

On September 12th & 13th the Sisterhood will be serving a dairy feast after services

with bagels and lox, egg salad, tuna salad and much more for the Rosh Hashanah celebration! RSVP to Loni Ochs at 305-772-2584. There will be a Tashlish service following the second day on the 13th at 6pm at the Kaufman house. Let's all meet up, throw our sins away into the ocean and eat crepes!

Yom Kippur is on September 21st this year, we will be doing our usual Dairy break fast. Please coordinate with Erica Lieberman Garrett 305-570-9310 to discuss pot luck offerings.

The Sisterhood Book Club led by Linda Pollack is going strong after a mini summer break. The next selection is "Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd. The meeting will be live at Joyce Peckman's house on September 24th at 12:15 and on Zoom at 12:30. Please contact Linda if interested 305-587-7429. Our annual oneg sponsorship letters will be going out at the end of August, so please respond generously in honor of a simcha or a dinner sponsorship. There is a special blessing for those who provide wine & challah to the community!

Hanukkah comes early this year, on December 4th, so the Sisterhood is already planning our festivities. ♦





From the Committee for Israel
Exonerated on All Counts
Review of 'Israel on Trial' by Roy K. Altman

Reprinted with special permission, thanks to Judy Starr.

by Michael M. Rosen

What if Israel were to face judgment in court? Not in a biased, politicized, risible forum like the International Court of Justice but an actual, impartial tribunal where disinterested jurors would weigh the evidence and render a fair verdict on disputed claims of colonialism, apartheid, and genocide—would Israel prevail?

This is the thought experiment in which Roy Altman, a federal district court judge in Miami, engages at book length in *Israel on Trial*, a succinct, convincing, and important contribution to the body of legal literature concerning the Jewish state.

In considering six principal charges against Israel, Altman proposes subjecting the country to the withering scrutiny of a jury trial—"a methodology that's been tested over hundreds of years to assist everyday people in applying their common sense to seemingly intractable problems and spitting out the right answer." He meticulously compiles the evidence on

both sides of the various arguments and carefully and fairly interprets it using the tools employed hundreds of times in his own courtroom.

Altman, who in the wake of October 7 has led several delegations of American judges on fact-finding missions to the Jewish state, devotes the lion's share of his attention to the first, foundational claim of Israel's critics: that the Jews are "colonizers in the Land of Israel." Through painstaking attention to archaeological records, careful examination of the undisputed historical record, and due consideration of counterarguments, he concludes irrefutably that "the Jews were living in (and often governing) the Land of Israel thousands of years before Islam existed, hundreds of years before the Roman emperor Hadrian invented the word Palaestina as a way of punishing his rebellious Jewish subjects and severing them from their homeland, and long before Arab Muslims first invaded the land in a.d. 636."

Whereas "colonists don't speak the land's



language, practice its religion, or share any of its cultural heritage,” contemporary Jewish Israelis unambiguously perform all three and even share common DNA with their ancestors in the Levant. His exploration of the Merneptah and Mesha Steles, the Kurkh Monoliths, the Lachish bas-reliefs, and the Tel Arad ostraca offer physical proof that both ancient Israel and its enemies recognized the existence and flourishing of the ancestors of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel.

Altman goes on to chide the waqf, or the Muslim authorities overseeing the Temple Mount, for shielding evidence of the historic Jewish presence in that holiest of sites. “In the law,” he writes, “we sanction parties who fail to disclose evidence that might support the other party’s claims. These sanctions sometimes include a finding that the infringing party didn’t disclose (or allow inspection of) the evidence precisely because it knew that the evidence was favorable to the other party’s claims.” Even so, findings on and near the Temple Mount—including contemporaneous Arabic writings—further reinforce the existence of the Jewish temples. As Altman concludes, “There’s no other example anywhere in the world of a ‘colonialist’ government whose roots in the ‘colonized’ land precede the supposedly ‘indigenous’ population’s presence by thousands of years” (his emphasis).

He also refutes the “adverse possession” offshoot of the colonization charge, i.e., the assertion that the Jews left Israel centuries ago and thus cannot object to others occupying it in the meantime. In fact, the Jewish people resided there continuously, and, in any event, this doctrine “doesn’t grant the adverse possessors true title to the property

in situations where, as here, they took the property illegally by force,” as Arab Muslims did in the seventh century.

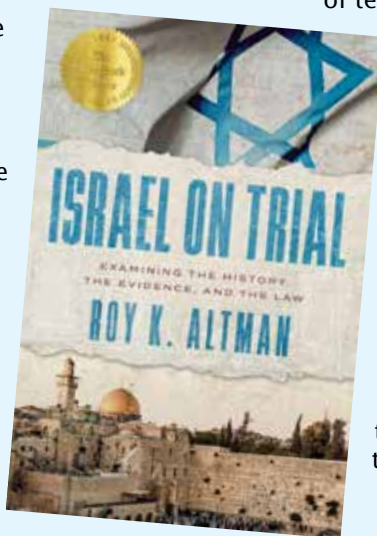
Altman then turns to the second major charge against Israel: that its founding was illegitimate. Here he turns to principles of international law, beginning with the Montevideo Convention, which recognizes statehood only with the establishment of a permanent population, a defined territory, an effective government, and the capacity to conduct foreign relations—all of which the Jewish state had in spades in 1948. Other traditional factors include the acquisition of territory by defensive military

action, a long-standing presence on the land, and international acknowledgment—again, conditions Israel easily satisfied at the time of its founding.

Next, he rebuts the allegation that Israel has prevented the establishment of a Palestinian state. To do this, Altman chronicles the six instances in which Palestinian leadership expressly rejected internationally brokered partitions and permanent resolutions to the conflict.

Altman then refutes the contention that Israel occupied Gaza and converted it into an open-air prison. When Ariel Sharon’s government withdrew from the Gaza Strip in 2005, occupation in any sense of the word ceased and Gazans entirely controlled their own destinies—including the ability to leave whenever they wanted, belying the prison analogy. Neither did Israel’s blockade on weapons entering the Strip constitute occupation or oppression.

The fifth challenge Altman takes on is the accusation of apartheid both within Israel proper and in the territories. All Israeli citizens—Jewish and Arab alike—are entitled to



equal civil rights, and Israeli Arabs represent notable contributors to the country's unique economic, political, military, religious, and cultural mosaic. Moreover, within the West Bank, Palestinians neither have nor desire Israeli citizenship—in their own telling, they are citizens of the

State of Palestine—and by definition have not suffered the deprivation of any rights or privileges that citizens enjoy.

Finally, Altman turns to the most explosive charge: genocide. That crime entails an “intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such,” and Israel's conduct in its fight against Hamas's own unapologetically genocidal assault meets none of these requirements. Reasonable minds can differ over whether individual IDF strikes on Hamas terrorists embedded within civilian homes satisfy the proportionality standard of international law—keeping in mind that, collectively, they've resulted in “the lowest militant-to-civilian casualty ratio in the history of modern warfare: one militant for every one or two civilians”—but they unquestionably do not constitute specific intent to destroy all or part of the Palestinian people.

Furthermore, stray quotes from Israeli politicians outside the circle of war-making policy come nowhere close to establishing the necessary *mens rea* on display in, say, Nazi Germany, Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge, or Rwanda under the Hutu. And no genocidal regime in history has ever investigated its own soldiers, expressly warned civilians of impending attacks, or spent hun-

dreds of millions of dollars on humanitarian aid—all steps that Israel alone has taken.

Readers may fairly wonder who exactly Altman considers his target audience for this book. Zionists need no convincing, and anti-Zionists are all but unpersuadable. Mainly, the book appears to be targeted at the mushy middle: everyday Westerners without preconceived notions who are bombarded daily by false narratives but still open to impartially considering the facts.

But *Israel on Trial* also provides both argumentative ammunition and powerful inspiration to those of us who love the Jewish state and the Jewish people and want to enable others to share that appreciation. Altman's book enables us to do so with confidence. After all, if he can bring his non-Jewish judicial colleagues to the Holy Land to witness the facts firsthand, so too can Israel's supporters more generally deploy the tools he furnishes to persuade friends, neighbors, and work associates of the justness of Israel's path.

The Jewish state may be fighting a losing battle in the court of international public opinion, but as Altman demonstrates with brio and clarity, it would prevail unambiguously in a court of law—and in any forum where impartial observers objectively weigh admissible evidence. And while it's a shame and a pity that neither the halls of academia nor the marbled chancelleries of Europe resemble such a forum, a wider world populated by open-minded people of good faith still remains. ♦



Volunteering in Israel

by Michal Peckman

Metulla is a small city near the northeast corner of Israel, right next to the border of Lebanon, not far from Syria. After October 7, 2023, the town was evacuated, for fear of Hezbollah attacking with missiles. Before they left, the towns people hurriedly boxed up everything from schools, synagogues and government buildings, and put it in the school gym. While they were gone, the school and other buildings were hit by bombs and had to be repaired. Fortunately, the gym was not seriously damaged. Three years later, they are now returning from around the country to their evacuated homes and preparing to reopen the school for the first time since 2023. I went with a group of about 40 girls from Israel, France and England to help them get ready. The Israeli girls spoke some English but no French, and the French girls spoke some Hebrew but no English, so only language in common was Hebrew, which I spoke better than the English girls, so I ended up helping a lot with communication.

When we arrived, the teachers were overwhelmed and discouraged. Their rooms were empty, and school was set to open in just a few days. Nothing was labeled. So we started opening dusty boxes, with a goal of sorting out at least five boxes per day per girl. We put everything into piles: items sorted by subject area, art supplies on one table, books sorted by grade level and publisher on other tables, and so forth. By the end of the first day, teachers were able to go to the tables, choose what they needed, and begin to set up their classrooms. After all the trauma the children had been through, they would now have clean, structured classrooms to learn in with their friends.

We had another volunteer assignment. The Golan Heights are a plateau overlooking Metulla and the Galilee, that Israel took from Syria in the

1967 Six Day War. Since then, it has been settled by Israelis who have opened farms and wineries. The city of Katzrin is the only large Jewish city in the Golan. We went to a small winery north of Katzrin, which was in desperate need of workers. The winery had opened just a before October 7, and the owner had to leave his wife and go to Gaza along with most of the workers. She told us that it was really scary for her, and she had to figure out how set up the winery mostly by herself, and now with everyone in the reserves, she is running it almost by herself. She taught us how to gently take off the green grapes, leaving only the red ones, which would then grow larger and sweeter. She was pleased with our work, and how she could explain and then leave us to our job without constant oversight, so that she could do other things in the vineyard. She was so cool, so positive and so thankful to have us there. It was very rewarding and so fun.

I would love to go back to visit Katzrin and the winery.

Next week I will leave to begin my year service in Kibbutz Lavi, where I will work in the vegetable gardens. Here is a photo from my work there, planting lettuce this past spring. ♡



ERICA & SHARI GO TO CANADA!



TWO
SISTERS,
Andrea &
Erica

Erica with Sister,
Andrea & Mom,
Maxine



At
Niagra
Falls:
Risa,
Shari &
Erica



The four
Lieberman
Sister's!

Joyce took her
Grandson,
Isaac, on a
fun Royal
Caribbean
cruise to
Bermuda
this summer!
Exploring
Crystal Cave.





Randy & Jonah enjoy a Mother & Son diving vacation together in Hawaii!



Celebrating Mickey & Steve's Birthdays



WE HAVE A SENIOR THIS YEAR! Lily Padden is in her final year at Coral Shores High School. Have a fabulous school year, Lily...we Love you!



Erica and Her Mom



Gloria with
her paintings
displayed
at a show in
Northeast
Harbor,
Maine.



Steve & Jan Hartz
recently celebrated
their 50th wedding
anniversary. The
co-led a beautiful
Shabbat Service.



Loni & Rivka celebrate
their birthdays!



Kito Turns
17 In
Human
Years!



Joyce spent a wonderful summer visiting with her sons, Dan & Keith! Dan flew in from Israel to celebrate his Mom's Birthday. They spent some time in the Georgia mountains at Dan's vacation home! Joyce's New Jersey summer home is with her Son, Keith & his family!



Barbara & Richard Knowles celebrate their wedding anniversary with Barb's best friend!



Randy Klein Gross, selling her wonderful Lionfish jewelry at our local KL Fisheries Lobster fest.



Erica & Loni enjoy a fun-filled weekend in Miami. They attended a dinner party event at the Rusty Pelican, and spent a wonderful day visiting the Miami Beach Botanical Gardens!



Susan enjoyed her summer vacation with daughter, Rose Marie & Grandsons, Rhett and Hank! Lots of boating and swimming on the Tennessee River, fishing, baseball, school shopping & great restaurants! Susan also had a visit with everyone's friend, Buc-cee, on her way up to Chattanooga!



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