

Chai~Lights



August 1 - September 30, 2021

23 Av 5781 — 24 Tishrei 5782

Sisterhood Cookbook – page 10

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

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Keys Jewish Community Center

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

August 1 - September 30, 2021

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

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

2021 - 2022 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Joyce Peckman



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

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

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

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

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

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

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

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

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

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Book Group Reads On

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

Shabbat Shuvah Havdalah:

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

High Holy Days 5782

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

A Meaningful Fast

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

Rosh Chodesh Time

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

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

New Marriage Mazel Tov!!

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

Bye bye Bernie

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

Sukkot — Ready for Lunch

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

Reverse Tashlich —Tukkun HaYam

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

CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

JUNE & JULY, 2021

Yahrzeit

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

In Memory/Honor of

Unrestricted

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

Library

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

Sisterhood	Annual donation
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SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

Oneg Sponsorship

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

Scholarship

Sisterhood

Unrestricted

Sisterhood	Annual donation
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Shabbat Service Leaders

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

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

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for information, or send your desired inscription to lindap4000@ymail.com.

CEMETERY INFORMATION: If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225.

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

CHAI-LIGHTS ADVERTISEMENT: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for annual rates.

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

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

ONEG SHABBAT/DINNER SPONSOR: : To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Erica Lieberman-Garrett, 305-393-1162, or email her at hippiejap@hotmail.com.

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

CARING KEHILAH/SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225. The Caring Kehilah Committee is calling and checking in on our socially distant members. Call Laurie Blum, 414-698-5647 if you wish to request that someone be contacted.

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

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

August Birthdays

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

August Anniversaries

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

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

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

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

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

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

September Birthdays

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

September Anniversaries

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



Mazel Tov Eve & Peter

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

In Memoriam – August 2021

Isaac Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Billie Kornbloom

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Martha Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Priscilla Leshin

By Joan Boruszak

Robert Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Irving Kopecky

By Adam & Judy Starr

Jesse Ginsberg

By Bernard Ginsberg

Jim Nobil

By Lynn Nobil

Erik S. Persoff

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Arthur Kaplan

By Sandy Kaplan

Morris Abramson

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Joel Reed Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Eva Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Evelyn O. Coltman

By Barnett O. Coltman

Tom Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Burton Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Margaux Rene Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

Roger Starr

By Adam & Judy Starr

Anne Hendin Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Martin M. Katz

By Melissa Katz-Fusco

Milton Willner

By Jon S. Tainow &
Terry Willner-Tainow

Sam Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Max Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Howard Shutan

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Dick Bromwich

By Rita Bromwich

Josephine Margulies

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Selma Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Henry Kirschenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Erik S. Persoff

By Lynn Nobil

James Nobil
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Leonard Roberts

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Chanoch Shiloh

By Jan Price

Seymour H. Levin

By Sanford Yankow

In Memoriam – September 2021

Goldie Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Abraham Kaplan

By Sandy Kaplan

Jim Williams

By Rita Williams

Molly Feldblum

By Marc Bloom

Sidney Blum

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Doran David Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Sydney Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

Mae U. Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Beverly Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Ida Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Lillian Goldstein

By Joan Boruszak

Patty Silver Schocket

By Jeffrey Schocket

Sandra Ellen Schultz

By Jane Friedman

Ronald Repka

By Nancy L. Cohn

Solomon Felder

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Leah Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Leo Rosenberg

By Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages

Saunders G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Sadie Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Stanley J. Goodman

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

Phillip Fine

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Stephen Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Minnie Kaplan

By Sandy Kaplan

Toby Mitchell

By Linda Pollack

Jim Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

Rosie Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

David Gulkis

By Elaine Schulberg

William Chait

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

Joel S. Cohen

By Lynn Nobil

Mrs. Freda Shipman

By Shirley Stein

Abraham Kanowsky

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Lorraine Martell

By Skip Rose

Charlie Temkin

By Robert Temkin

H. Melvin Berkon

By Jamie & Laura Goodman

David Schur

By Lee Schur

Sarah Wernicoff

By Donald Zinner

Joel S. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

KJCC Sisterhood Cookbook

RECIPES FROM THE ROCK

Time for Pre-Orders - Submit Yours Now!

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

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

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

Name of Person Ordering: _____

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

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

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Delivery Address: Name _____

Address _____

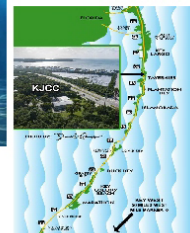
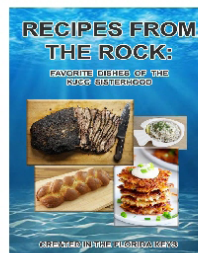
If you wish us to forward any of your gift purchases directly to friends or family members, please provide the delivery information to us and we will send the books with a note indicating that they are a gift from you.

Please send order form and enclosed check to:

KJCC Sisterhood

P.O. Box 116

Tavernier, FL 33070



SISTERHOOD Beth Hayden



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

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

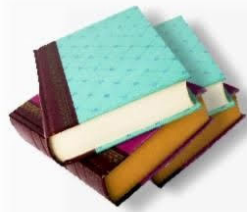
This is a fund raiser for the KJCC and we hope you will support us. Sisterhood hopes to look forward to a more welcoming year in the coming months. Much depends on the spread of the Delta variant of Covid – which is now the most prominent Covid strain in the US as in many other countries. Even Israel,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

B'shalom, Beth ◇

ONEG SPONSORS

Aug. 6 Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis
Bayou's Birthday
Aug. 13 Jane Friedman
Steve Friedman's Birthday
Sandra Schultz's Birthday
Renee Garrett's Birthday
Aug. 20 Barb & Richard Knowles
22nd Anniversary

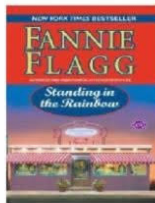
Aug. 27 Joyce Peckman
Bat Mitzvah of Libby Peckman
Sept. 3 Sisterhood
Sept. 10 Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis
Yahrzeit of Sidney Blum
Sept. 17 Sisterhood
Sept. 24 Sisterhood



Sisterhood Book Club

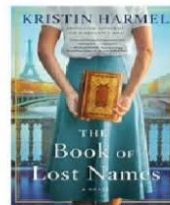
~ Books and dates for the coming three months ~
Meetings will be at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom
until further notice ~

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



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

Note: Book 1 of Elmwood Springs series



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

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

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



“Dayenu”

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

The King's Jewish Roots

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

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

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

deal with her death.

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

No Needles!

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

He claims his device will reduce the need for

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

But They're Not Kosher...

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

History Made in Baseball

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

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

In Memoriam

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

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

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

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

Did You Know...

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

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

THE SHABBOS PROJECT



KJCC Sisterhood Challah Making

Sunday September 5, 2021

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

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

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

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

KJCC Virtual Dinner

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

Enjoy a community dinner on Zoom



Erev Rosh Hashanah Services

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



Links for the Challah Bake will be sent out as will

Links for the Virtual Dinner and Services.

Contact Erica if you have questions 305-393-1162

PHOTO GALLERY

Donna celebrates her birthday Hawaiian style.



Welcome New Members!

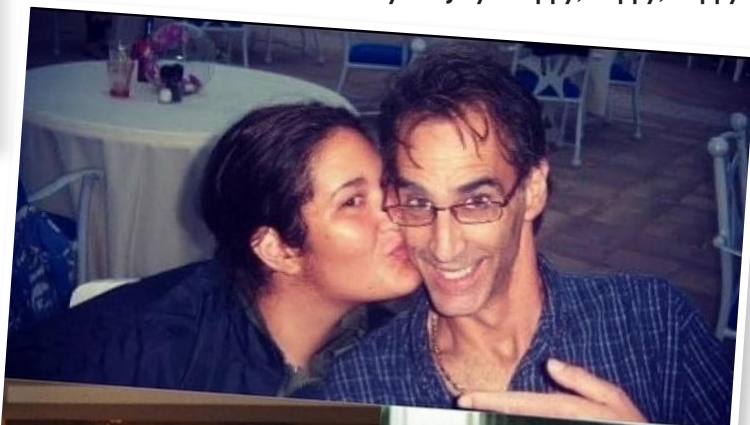
KJCC is happy to welcome longtime friends Arnie and Tina Klein to family membership in our mishpocha. If you don't know them already, you will meet them during High Holidays, when they will be joining their daughter Randy Klein-Gross in leading Erev Shabbat services on Sept. 17 at 7:30 pm.



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



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



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



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



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

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

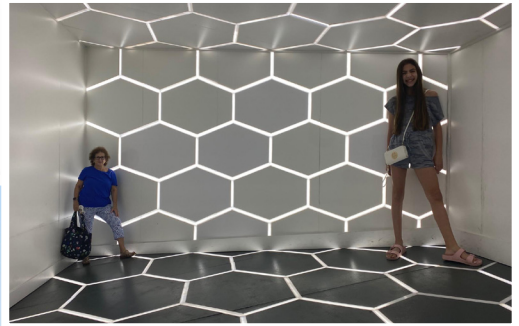


We honor the cooks and bakers of KJCC, whose recipes you will shortly be perusing and choosing from the KJCC sisterhood Cookbook! See order form on P.10

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



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



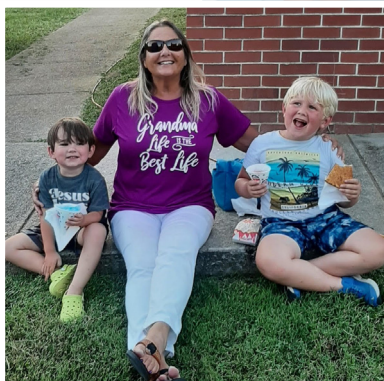
Many Thanks to photographer Linda Perloff, who joined Joyce and Libby for a river cruise in Chicago. The second photo took place at the Museum of Illusions. (Who even knew there was a museum of illusions? Let's take a trip to Chicago).

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

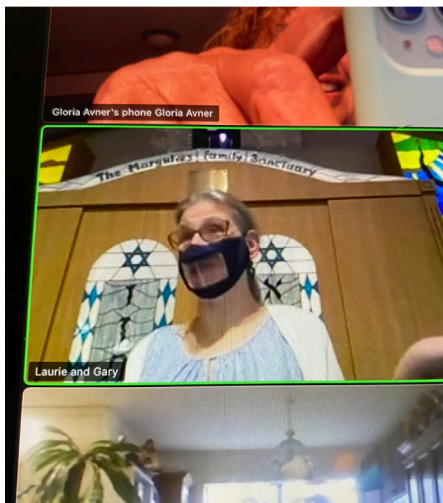


Beth Hayden's Kohengi, Ollie, and Pumba waiting patiently for Birthday Cake

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



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



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



Sean looks very happy to be in Legoland.

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



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



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

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





KJCC



SUKKOT CELEBRATION

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

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

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

Chag Sameach

ROSH CHODESH & THE HEBREW CALENDAR

Lucinda Kurtz



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



WELCOME TO HIGH HOLY DAYS 5782

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

for all human life.

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

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

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

L’shana tovah,
Rabbi Richard Agler ♦



Kjcc High Holiday Service Schedule

5782 (2021-2022)

Rabbi Richard Agler & Cantor Michael Dzubin

All services will be held on Zoom unless noted.

Saturday, August 28

S'lichot • 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 5

Reverse Tashlich • 3:00 pm.

Contact RazzKlein@gmail.com for information and location. Randy Klein-Gross will lead the team.

Monday, September 6

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

Tuesday, September 7

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

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

Wednesday, September 8

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

Saturday, September 11

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

For RSVP and information, contact Randy Klein-Gross: RazzKlein@gmail.com

Wednesday, September 15

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

Thursday, September 16

Yom Kippur Service • 10:30 a.m.

Yizkor Service • 11:30 a.m.

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

Neilah Service • 5:30 p.m.

Havdalah Service • 7:15 p.m.

Note: Afternoon times are approximate

For further information, please contact us at President@KeysJewishCenter.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cantor Dzubin leading Kiddush



Almost everything...

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

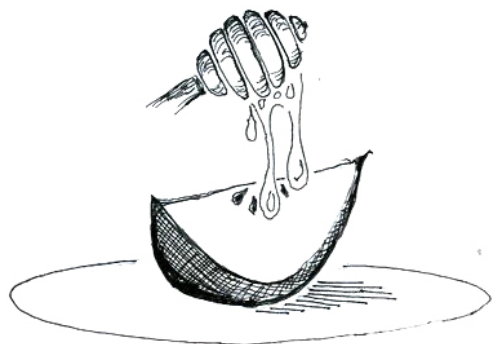
Shortly after I arrived to serve a congregation in Albuquerque, NM, my new congregation's *rabbi* was forced into retirement due to health issues, and so I found myself serving as both *rabbi* and *cantor* for about eight months. During this time, I received a tearful call from one of my new congregants.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

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

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

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

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



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

to make things right between ourselves and God. *U-T'shoovah, u-T'fillah, u-Ts'dakah, ma-aveereen et ro-a ha-g'zearah* (But repentance, and prayer, and charity can remove the evil (severity) of the decree)!

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

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

Symbolic Foods for Rosh Hashanah

Green beans
(Hope for a
fruitful year)



Pomegranates
(Celebration of
new and unusual
experiences)



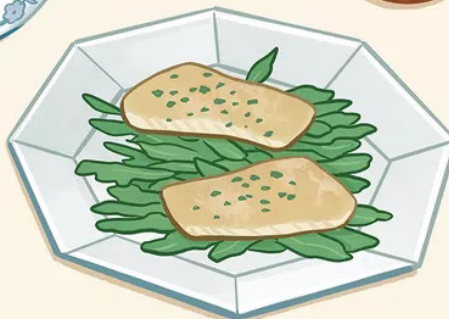
Carrots
(Desire for
increased
blessings)



Honey
(A good and
sweet new year)



Fish
(Awareness
of God and
opportunity
to do good)



Caring Kehilah

by Laurie Blum

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

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

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



TSOM GEDALIAH

AND OTHER LESS FAMILIAR HOLIDAYS

By Laurie Blum

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

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

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

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

Ishmael was invited to Mizpah for Rosh

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hoshanah Rabah & Shemini Atzeret

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

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

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

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

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

Chag Samach Everyone!!! ◇

IN DEFENSE OF ISRAEL

By Beth Hayden

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

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



Mahmoud Abbas - head of the Palestinian Authority (PA)

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

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

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

Israel – An Apartheid State?

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

Why has the comparison between Israel

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

this not apartheid?

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

As a black South African who lived

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

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



El Al Morocco lands in Morocco in December of 2020.





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A NEW TWIST ON AN OLD KJCC TRADITION

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

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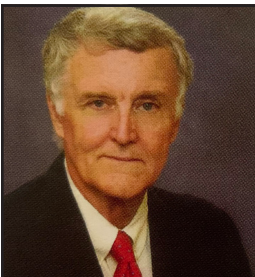
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