

Chai~Lights



November 1 - December 31, 2022

7 Cheshvan - 7 Tevet, 5783

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A Look Back at High Holidays — Pages 17-19

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Services every Friday at 7:30pm Names denote service leaders. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors.		1 NOV	2	3	4 Erica Lieberman Garrett <i>Kathy Shabathai</i>	5
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2022 - 2023 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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Gloria Avner

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Ken Atlas



This will be my last entry for the secular year. Needless to say, it will be ritual heavy. I do want to first say how proud I am of KJCC, it's board and members. We've had some real setbacks over the past month, but banded together, came up with stellar ideas, and in the process, really flourished!

By now everyone knows about our Covid issues at High Holidays. We saw first hand, that travel is still a dangerous venture, and an easy way to pick up Covid. Several of our traveling members unfortunately were in that boat. And after RH, our Rabbi was among them.

But our House and Ritual Committees quickly added a large TV screen to our sanctuary and set it up so the rabbi could participate through zoom, right into the

sanctuary. This tech will come in handy in the future as well. Ritual coordinated with the cantor and the rabbi, to make sure all parts of the services were covered. A few of us stood in, while the rabbi continued his teachings, as well as an impromptu discussion, as I finished Neilah a tad before sundown (I've always been quick)!

The feedback I've gotten has been very good, and I feel, despite Covid, and the storms, we still had one of our best HH seasons ever.

Looking ahead, we will have completed Sukkot, and will be looking forward to Chanukah as the secular year comes to end.

L'shana tovah ◇

Shabbat Service Leaders

Nov. 4. Lech-Lecha	Erica Lieberman Garrett
Nov. 11 Vayera	Gloria Avner, Barney Coltman, Donna Bolton Shabbat Project
Nov. 18 Chaye Sara	Steve Hartz
Nov. 25 Toldot	Joe Shabathai
Dec. 2 Vayetze	Erica Lieberman Garrett
Dec. 9 Vayishlach	Joyce Peckman
Dec. 16 Vayeshev	Susan Gordon and Linda Pollack
Dec. 23 Miketz	Randi Klein-Gross • Chanukah
Dec. 30 Vayigash	Gloria Avner and Medina Roy

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

November – December 2022

Many of our activities will be moving on-site to the KJCC.
All High holiday services will be at KJCC Congregation Ohr HaYam and on Zoom
Please check the weekly announcements for details.

Every Monday	2 p.m. Drop-in Zoom Chat
Friday, Nov. 4	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Erica Lieberman Garrett at KJCC
Sunday, Nov. 6	10 a.m. Sisterhood at KJCC. Move clocks back to standard time
Tuesday, Nov. 8	Election Day
Friday, Nov.11	Veterans Day 6 p.m. Shabbat Project Dinner – Dairy Pot Luck. RSVP to Erica Lieberman Garrett 7:30 p.m. Shabbat service led by Barney Coltman, Gloria Avner & Donna Bolton
Sunday, Nov.13	10 a.m. KJCC Board Meeting
Friday, Nov. 18	7:30 pm. Shabbat Service led by Steve Hartz on Zoom
Thursday, Nov 24	Thanksgiving & Rosh Chodesh Kislev
Friday, Nov. 25	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Joe Shabathai
Tuesday, Nov.29	12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club, at the home of Shirley Stein
Friday, Dec. 2	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Erica Lieberman Garrett
Sunday, Dec. 4	10 a.m. Sisterhood Meeting
Weds, Dec. 7	Pearl Harbor Day
Friday, Dec. 9	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service at KJCC led by Joyce Peckman
Sunday, Dec. 11	10 a.m. KJCC Board Meeting
Friday, Dec. 16	7:30 p.m. Shabbat service at KJCC led by Susan Gordon & Linda Pollack
Sunday Dec. 18	First Night of Chanukah
Friday, Dec.23	6 p.m. Chanukah Party Dairy Pot Luck. RSVP Loni Padden 7:30 p.m. Shabbat services led by Randy Klein-Gross
Sunday, Dec. 25	Rosh Chodesh Tevet – Last Night of Chanukah
Monday, Dec. 26	8th Day of Chanukah
Tuesday, Dec. 27	12:30 Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, Dec. 30	7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services led by Medina Roy & Gloria Avner

NOSH

Book Club and Talks

Our next KJCC Book Club meeting will be Tuesday, November 29th at 12:30 p.m. See poster for coming winter selections on pp. 12. Shirley Stein has graciously agreed to not only review the book but will also welcome us to her home. We will, of course, do Zoom as well. The book is *The Spirit Catches You And You Fall Down*, written by Anne Fadiman. In September we enjoyed Rabbi Agler's review of the book he has recently co-edited, *A G-d We Can Believe In*. We were on Zoom, able to follow Rabbi's talk and ask questions as well. If you missed the talk and would like to tune in, here is the information which will enable you to watch it Write down the passcode, because you will have to enter it separately.

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/TtyUcBp1MVeWl4-gxntb3tY9HN8F_3p1y-dwB531nKuRtv4-xLXNKgH4wqmoT2D5K.arUor-rAP5tDrpiN?startTime=1664406172000

Passcode: BtGJ505?

Recommendations for further reading:

- Jew(ish) by Matt Greene
- Anxious People by Fredrik Backman (Author of A Man Called Ove – another good book)
- The Great Kosher Meat War of 1902 by Scott D. Seligman – recalls a highly organized consumer uprising led by Lower East Side immigrants fed up with slaughterhouse price fixing
- The Nazi–Fighting Women of the Jewish Resistance by Judy Batalion
- The Light of Days – The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters by Judy Batalion
- The Secret Chord by Geraldine Brooks
- Jewish Cooking in America by Joan Nathan
- An Unorthodox Match by Naomi Ragen
- The Half–Jewish Book by Daniel Klein
- The Pity of It All by Amos Elon
- The Choice by Edith Eva Eger
- Defending Britta Stein by Ronald Balson
- Shadows Walking by Douglas Skopp
- The Berlin Zookeeper by Anna Stuart
- The Snow Child by Eowyn Ivey
- Horse by Geraldine Brooks
- Midnight Library by Matt Haig
- Angels of the Pacific by Elise Hooper

Coming Attraction: KENYA Safari With the Aglers

Yes, when you read about Linda Kaplan's Trip to visit the girls from TAGS (Talia Agler Girls Shelter) outside Nairobi and her jeep journey to wild animals in natural habitat, ask yourself "Would I like an experience like that?", because there is an opportunity coming up. Mindy and Rabbi Richard Agler are planning to lead just such an adventure in August of 2023. Details will be forthcoming shortly but if you have even an inkling of interest, write them a note. They will need a certain minimum, but are pretty sure they will have it. Definitely check out Linda Kaplan's story: pp. 22.

The Shabbos Project

All over the world, people will be gathering in celebratory groups to make challah and celebrate Shabbat on November 11th. We have had wonderful times doing it ourselves for years, with the exception of Covid time. Join with our KJCC Mishpocha on Nov. 11 at 6:00 pm for a homemade Shabbat dinner before services. We will once again be celebrating our most important holiday in our home, the KJCC Congregation Ohr HaYam Social Social Hall. A sincere Todah Rabah (thank you) to the women of Sisterhood for putting together another delicious dinner for us. See pp 10 for details.

Chanukah Oh Chanukah

We love our Chanukah traditions, songs and food. Into the darkest time of the year, we will bring light and joy. So check out the poster for details on pp. 16, make the required call, heat up your oil and bring some latkes, souvganiyot (jelly donuts), other treats or just your Shabbat self and appetite to our Chanukah Dinner/Party. Thank you, Linda Pollock, for once again sponsoring the dinner, so there will be no charge (though donations are always welcome). Don't forget to bring your chanukiyot (candleholders) and candles so we can all light the lights and sing the blessings together before services, always such a beautiful and moving ceremony.

New Year's Eve Eve

Let's drink a toast to a happy, healthy, vibrant New Year on December 30th, the last Shabbat Service of the secular year to be led with a lot of singing by Medina Roy and Gloria Avner. ◇

ONGOING PROJECTS & 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? Thank you Jane Friedman. Call Donna Bolton, 305-393-1351, 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, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at 305-587-7429 or lindap4000@ymail.com.

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

CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through generous contributions. When you make a donation, please specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 2022

Rabbi & Cantor

David & Patti Gross
Medina Roy
Beth Kaminstein
Alan & Chely Markowitz
Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Security

Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow
Linda Pincus
Medina Roy
Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Yizkor

Jane Friedman
Richard & Barbara Knowles
Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages Dandrea
James Brush
David & Patti Gross
Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow
Linda Pincus
Medina Roy
Beth Kaminstein
Maria Cartagena

Tzeddakah Fund

Linda Pincus
Medina Roy

Scholarship Fund

Linda Pincus
Medina Roy

Chai-Lights Support

Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow
Linda Pincus
Maria Cartagena

Unrestricted

Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages Dandrea
James Brush
Michael & Lorena Kaufman
Melvin & Joyce Ruthen

Tikkun Olam

Linda Pincus
Alan & Chely Markowitz

Leaf

Jon Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

Yahrzeit

Linda Pollack..... Hunter Padgett
Laurie Blum..... Rosie Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov
& Gary Margolis
Stephen Steinbock Carol Steinbock
Patricia IsenbergHenry Walter Isenberg
Randy Kominsky Natalie Kominsky
Lillian Tallent Samuel Tallent
Joan Boruszak Harold Goldstein
Marshall & Myra Kaplan..... Leonard Roberts
Larry & Dorothy Wolfe Diana Wolfe
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies..... Ilse Doellefeld
Benjamin Margulies
Patricia Isenberg Helene Tulsky

In Memory of

Scholarship

Barney Coltman In memory of Family

Other

Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis TAGS
Erica Lieberman Garrett TAGS
Donna & Bill Bolton TAGS
Gloria Avner..... TAGS
Richard & Mindy Agler Food Drive
Stephen Steinbock Food Drive
Elizabeth Hayden Piano Tuning
Paul & Marlene Berger Yom Kippur service
Donald Steamer & Elynn Eiss Yom Kippur service
June Berkon Perle Goodman

Sisterhood Donations

Jane Friedman..... Steve's Birthday
Tina & Arnold Klein..... 56th Wedding Anniversary
Hanna DavidIn Memory of Son, Judd
Barbara Knowles Her and Sammy's birthdays
Ken Atlas Thanksgiving
Barney Coltman The leadership of Steve Hartz
Beth HorowitzHer Birthday
Jeff Cheryl Margulies Anniversary & Birthdays
Gloria Avner..... Special Birthday &
Memory of David Gitin
Erica Lieberman GarrettHer Medicare Birthday
Linda Pollack..... Chanukah Dinner Sponsorship

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

ONEG SPONSORS

November 4	Kathy Shabathai Celebrating Her Birthday	November 25	Ken Atlas Celebrating Thanksgiving
November 11	Medina Roy In Honor & Memory of Husband Carl on Veterans Day	December 2	Barney Coltman Celebrating KJCC Fellowship
November 11	Shabbat Across America Canada Dinner Sisterhood	December 9	Sisterhood
November 18	Gloria Avner Celebrating Her Birthday & the Memory of David Gitin	December 16	Sisterhood
		December 23	Linda Pollack Chanukah Party Dinner
		December 30	Sisterhood Celebrating the New Year

Birthdays

November

2nd..... Brian Boruszak
 2nd..... Jeremy M. Schur
 2nd..... Matt Temkin
 3rd..... Katherine Shabathai
 4th..... Zoey Barrett
 7th..... Joel Stein
 7th..... Michele Lindenbaum
 8th..... Melissa Katz-Fusco
 8th..... Nico Wilbur
 11th..... Cathy Dutton
 13th..... Kevin Cheatham
 13th..... Linda Kaplan
 13th..... Marilyn Greenbaum
 13th..... Tami Antelman
 14th..... Larry Wolfe
 14th..... Rae Wruble
 15th..... Nora Brennan
 16th..... Lorelei Alexander
 18th..... Diana Loi-Kamely
 18th..... Ross Alexander
 19th..... Michael E. Schur
 20th..... Betty Small
 21st..... David Greenstein
 22nd..... Gloria Avner
 22nd..... John Luis Greenbaum
 24th..... Arthur Lee Willner
 24th..... Will Travis Pollack
 26th..... John Douglas Greenbaum
 28th..... Nicole Hudson
 29th..... Benjamin Rakov

December

1st..... Rachel Levine
 3rd..... Ashley Berk
 3rd..... Cammie Berk
 4th..... Jan Hartz
 4th..... Judith Klein
 5th..... Geri Smith

5th..... Joseph Beth
 5th..... Stuart Sax
 6th..... Haley Borisoff
 6th..... Leslie Boruszak
 7th..... Franklin Rose
 7th..... Gary Grossinger
 7th..... Rhett William Casey
 7th..... Vada Charity (Bella) Greenbaum
 8th..... Naomi Moss
 9th..... George Swartz
 9th..... Jacob Grossinger
 10th..... Susan Greenbaum
 11th..... Oran Hesterman
 11th..... Sara Rose Friedman
 12th..... Laurie Blum
 13th..... Robin Margulies Juenger
 13th..... Sarah Boruszak
 16th..... Diana Lal
 16th..... Samuel Klimpl
 17th..... Bruce Forman
 17th..... Lilian Forbes
 18th..... Emelyn Anne Juenger
 18th..... Jerry Small
 19th..... Jonah Gross
 19th..... Lorena Kaufman
 19th..... Terry Willner-Tainow
 20th..... Jennifer Erin VanArtsdalen
 22nd..... Laura Molly Friedman
 22nd..... Lisa Miller
 22nd..... Stuart Smith
 26th..... Steven Smith
 27th..... Claire Tallent
 27th..... Steve Kasinof
 28th..... Elaine Schulberg
 28th..... Emily Sherman
 28th..... Len Levi
 28th..... Michael Klimpl
 29th..... Joan Stark

Anniversaries

November

2nd Michele & Alan Lindenbaum
 6th Thomas & Renee Brodie.....29
 6th Susan Horn & Dot Brooking
 14th Donald & Nancy Zinner.....35
 23rd Marcia Kreitman & John Hawver.....8

27th Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages Dandrea..... 19
 27th Stanley & Jenny Margulies

December

7th Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum..... 12
 10th Linda & Bruce Pincus..... 33
 11th Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

In Memoriam – November 2022

Eugene Agler

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Molly Sandroff

By Hanna David

Lillian Skolnick

By Susan Gordon

David Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Fanny Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

Benjamin Margulies

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Raymond K. Hess

By Jan Price

Elaine Ruda

By Sylvia Berman

Jacqueline Berger

By Lynn Dils

Helene Tulsky

By Patricia Isenberg

Esther M. Klein

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Ethel Hankin

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

Murray Pincus

By Linda Pincus

Selma Moore Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Harold Goldstein

By Joan Boruszak

Harriet Feder

By David & Suzi-Sara Feder

Michal Kamely Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Jacob S. Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein

Ilse Doellefeld

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Tillie Pollack

By Linda Pollack

Shirley Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Albert Kaminsky

By Elaine Schulberg

Rose T. Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Kenny Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Esther Gold Willner

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

Shirley Singer

By Lee Schur

Marianne Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock &
Rosemary Barefoot

Dick Jacob

By David & Pat VanArtsdalen

Diana Wolfe

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Florence Cohen

By Jules & Nettie Seder

Samuel Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

Zara White

By Susan White

Veterans Day Remembrance

by Stuart Sax

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, military veterans pause, whether they are attending a ceremony or not, to remember those before us that have served, fought, and died to preserve the freedoms that we often take for granted. Some of my fondest memories include driving to Mt Nebo Memorial Gardens each November with Steve Steinbock, Jeff Schocket and others to place flags and recite Kaddish at the gravesites of our Jewish military veterans interred there.

It was always a solemn and meaningful

experience and a reminder that this holiday is not for going to malls and movies and barbecues, but for remembering and reflecting and honoring. Many often forget, especially when our nation is not actively at war, but Veterans Day should mean more to everyone than it does in modern times. Make it mean something to you. Fly a flag proudly in honor of our veterans both here and departed. Pause for a moment of silence at 11am on November 11th wherever you are and remember that I will be remembering with you. ◇

In Memoriam – December 2022

Alex Avner

By Gloria Avner

Betty Abramson

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

George Paul Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

Eva Levine

By Barnet O. Coltman

Harry Wolfe

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Michael (Mischa) Stieglitz

By Elizabeth Hayden

Kurt Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

Daniel Birnbaum

By Norbert Birnbaum

Burton V. Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

Leatrice Tomor

By Barbara A. Calev

Morris Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

David Carson

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

Jerry Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Gary Kreitman

By Marcia Kreitman & John David Hawver

Ivy W. Blumenfeld

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

Julius Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Robert Scott Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

Harry Friedman

By Jane Friedman

Jacqueline Greenstein

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

Janet Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Deborah Krissel Cannon

By Michael Krissel

Harris Warren

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Mitch Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Raymond Martell

By Frank Rose

Murray Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Bernard Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Eve W. Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Charles Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Claire Lempel

By Linda Pincus

Rhonie Lee Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Steve Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock & Rosemary Barefoot

Harold Tainow

By Jon S. Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

Adele Kaufman

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

M. Arlene Hess

By Jan Price

Sylvia L. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

Bertha Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Frances Willner

By Jon S. Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

KJCC Remembers George Swartz

KJCC regrets to announce the passing of George Swartz, on 2 Cheshvan. The beloved husband of Muriel Swartz, he was President of KJCC from 1996 –1998, a frequent lay leader, a brilliant scientist and dear friend to many. For years we celebrated his birthday on the same day we celebrated Chanukah at Pauline's house. Our students would give him birthday cards they had made for him. We would sing to him after we lit our Chanukiah's. His light shines on. May his memory be a blessing.

Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot? – No One Is Ever Lost Who Is Remembered



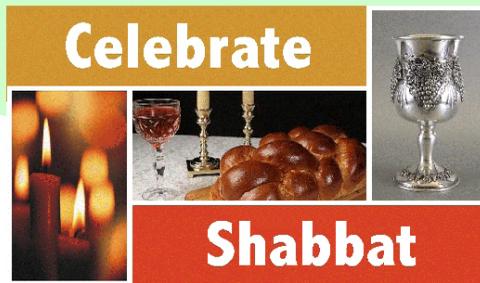


FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2022

**Please join us for the
worldwide celebration of
Shabbat ~
The Shabbos Project
DAIRY Shabbat Dinner!**

6:00 P.M. DINNER

7:30 P.M. SHABBAT SERVICE



Contact Erica Lieberman Garrett to reserve your spot.

Please reserve by November 4th.

hippiejap@hotmail.com, 305-393-1162

**Sponsored by
KJCC Sisterhood**

No Charge

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENTS Susan Gordon & Joyce Peckman



With the High Holy Days behind us and cooler weather bringing the return of our snow-birds ahead of us, we wanted to shout to the world, “We are back!”

We celebrated our return with a beautiful Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner, featuring Kathy Shabathai’s brisket, Barbara Knowles’ chicken matzo ball soup, Joyce Peckman’s salmon, Loni Padden’s schwarma platter and a chicken paella stand provided by Lorena Kaufman, whose family sponsored the dinner. A highlight of every KJCC buffet table are the sides and desserts that provide color and more deliciousness. Kudos to Jane Friedman, Geri Smith, Erica Lieberman Garrett, Luz Levine, Susan Gordon and Donna Bolton for their outstanding contributions. Over fifty people attended. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the event so successful.

Unfortunately the holy days coincided with another local COVID outbreak. We felt a bit traumatized that four people who attended the dinner later came down with COVID (most likely from other exposures), so in an abundance of caution, changed our Yom Kippur break-the-fast to a grab-n-go.

The intermediate Sunday of Sukkot featured a brunch. The weather cooperated and we had a delightful time.

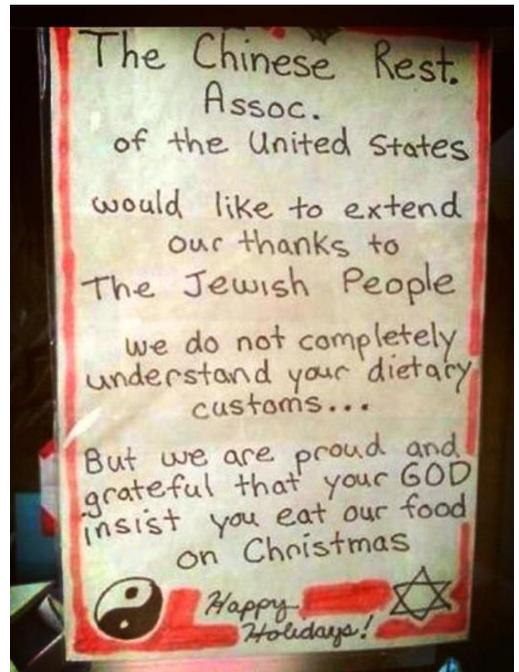
On November 11th we will have a dairy pot-luck dinner in honor of the international Shabbos Project.

Hannukah begins the night of December 18th . We will have a festive Hannukah party before services on Friday December 23rd. Erica Lieberman Garrett will coordinate.

You should have received the annual oneg sponsorship letters, thanks to the efforts of Donna Bolton, who kept the records current, and Kathy Shabathai who folded, stuffed and mailed

them. Thank you to all of you who sponsored virtual onegs in the past. Now that we are opening up – the wine, challah, salads and desserts will be really enjoyed by our members. Please reply by sponsoring onegs or a dinner in honor of a simcha or in memory of your loved ones. There is special blessing for those “who provide wine and challah to the community.”

We look forward to seeing you in our Cathy Kaplan Social Hall! ◇





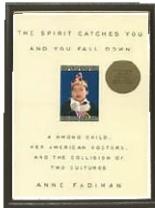
Sisterhood Book Club



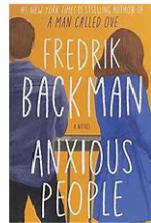
Tuesday, November 29, 2022 ~ *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman

Tuesday, December 27, 2022 ~ *Anxious People* by Fredrick Backman

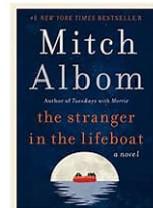
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 ~ *The Stranger in a Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom



The story of the family's favored daughter, who was diagnosed with a severe form of epilepsy and the culture conflict that obstructs her treatment.



Before long, the robber must decide which is the more terrifying prospect: going out to face the police, or staying in the apartment with this group of impossible people.



A group of shipwrecked passengers pull a strange man from the sea. He claims to be "the Lord." And he says he can only save them if they all believe in him.

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

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

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



The Battle Over Secular Education

Betty Rosa, New York State's commissioner of education, has recently ordered New York City to work with Yeshiva Mesivta Arugath Habosem in Brooklyn's Williamsburg section on a plan to improve its secular education. The decision is in response to a lawsuit brought by Beatrice Weber, a former Hasidic and mother of ten. Weber heads the advocacy group Yaffed, which promotes improvements in secular learning in Haredi (ultra-Orthodox) private schools. The ruling represents "the first time that New York State has taken action against a Hasidic boys' school" and "could be a harbinger of significantly tougher oversight of Hasidic schools." According to Commissioner Rosa, the Brooklyn school has repeatedly refused to comply with – and Mayor Eric Adams' education department had failed to – enforce state education law requiring that it offer studies in math, English and other subjects that are "substantially equivalent" to those offered in public schools.

The battle over secular education at religious schools broke out last month when the New York Times reported that Hasidic boys' schools were the beneficiaries of taxpayer dollars but failed to provide their students with an adequate general studies education. Those defending the yeshiva say that "their vigorous religious studies provide adequate preparation for the lives Hasidic Jews intend to lead" and that the state should not be interfering with their religious liberty. These supporters of the yeshivas were outraged when the state issued their new rules and threatened to withdraw state funding from non-public schools that do not comply. Yeshivas and other groups supporting them have sued the state, looking to have the new regulations overturned. Yaffed filed a complaint with state Attorney General Letitia James alleging that several New York City yeshivas have collected \$28 million in state funding while

failing to meet state standards when it comes to secular education. (www.nytimes.com, 10-12-22)

"Anti-Semitism Didn't go Away. It Went Underground"

According to an official investigation by Stanford University, which was released in mid-October 2022, longstanding suspicions that university administrators acted to limit Jewish enrollment in the 1950s – while publicly denying that they were doing so – were confirmed. When the report was released, Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Stanford's president, apologized on behalf of the university to the Jewish community. "This ugly component of Stanford's history...is saddening and deeply troubling," Tessier-Lavigne wrote. "As a university, we must acknowledge it and confront it as a part of our history, as repellent as it is, and seek to do better." He also wrote that Stanford will "work to ensure that it is welcoming to Jewish students today by increasing anti-bias training, creating a dedicated advisory committee, paying more attention to Jewish holiday cycles in university scheduling and other measures." (It should be noted that the university's first day of classes this fall fell on Rosh HaShanah.)

The task force that produced the report began last year after a historian published his discovery of documents that were left behind by Rixford Snyder, Stanford's admissions director from 1950 to 1970. These documents suggest that Snyder was biased against Jews and wanted to reduce their enrollment. "For decades, it's been understood by many Jews in California that Stanford either had or has a bias against Jewish applicants," said Ari Y. Kelman, Stanford history professor and chair of the task force. "What we found was that the director of admissions, with knowledge of other members of high administration...took

steps to limit the number of Jewish students that were enrolled at Stanford.” A document uncovered shows that Snyder felt that too many of Stanford’s male applicants were Jewish and that the university must find ways to stop that from happening, in spite of the stated policy at that time of paying no attention to the race or religion of applicants. Snyder accomplished his goal of reducing Jewish admissions by targeting both Beverly Hills High School and Fairfax High School, two Los Angeles schools with predominantly Jewish student bodies. Snyder then dropped the two schools from his recruitment efforts at Southern California schools. (It should be noted that many Ivy League schools in the mid-20th century enacted far more blatant policies of discrimination. For years Penn was known colloquially as “the Jewish Ivy.”) “In the 1950s it was no longer as acceptable to be so overtly anti-Semitic,” Stanford historian Emily J. Levine said. “Anti-Semitism didn’t so much go away as it went underground.”

Today, about seven percent of Stanford’s undergraduates are Jewish. (www.nytimes.com, 10-13-22)

A Grisly Discovery Reveals Jewish Genetic Secrets

For close to a thousand years, a group of seventeen Jews, both children and adults, have been lost to history. In 1190 in Norwich, a city near England’s eastern coast, Crusaders on their way to the Holy Land massacred the entire group and threw them down a well. The town had long been a center of anti-Semitism; in 1144, its people originated the first known blood libel, blaming Jews for the ritual murder of a child. (That Jews murder Christian children to use their blood in the making of matzoh is still believed today by tens of thousands of people around the world. And medieval Norwich was hardly unique in this particular Crusader depravity. Knights from all over Europe sacked, looted and honed their killing techniques on Jewish towns and villages while making their way to Palestine. This practice continued during all five Crusades, over two centuries.) Norwich is one of the most perfectly preserved medieval cities in the world – famous for its gardens and cobblestone streets. When construction workers were clearing ground for a shopping center in 2004, they discovered the remains of the seventeen individuals. Then in 2011, initial DNA testing showed the skeletons were those of Jews. (In 2013, they all received a proper

Jewish burial.)

Now, a British study of the DNA extracted from the bones of six individuals – prior to their identification as Jews – reveals that Ashkenazi Jews developed a unique genetic variation centuries earlier than realized. The study has been published in *Current Biology*, a scientific periodical posted by the Natural History Museum of London. When the DNA from the remains were studied, it revealed that they are more closely related to modern day Ashkenazi Jews than to any other modern population.

The massacre of the Jews in Norwich is known to us because of the writings of Ralph de Diceto, who was the dean of London’s St. Paul’s Cathedral at the time. De Diceto wrote of the horror and savagery of his countrymen. “On February 6th of 1190, all the Jews who were found in their own houses in Norwich were butchered,” he wrote. “It cannot be that so sad and fatal a death of the Jews can have pleased prudent men.”

“Ralph de Diceto’s account of the 1190 attacks is evocative, but a deep well containing the bodies of Jewish men, women and especially children forces us to confront the real horror of what happened,” said Tom Booth, a post-doctoral researcher at Harvard University who contributed to the study. (The study is scholarly, very comprehensive and too detailed to summarize here. To read it, go to [https://www.cell.com/current-biology/fulltext/S0960-9822\(22\)01355-0](https://www.cell.com/current-biology/fulltext/S0960-9822(22)01355-0) www.ajsh.com, 9-11-22)

A TV Show in the Works

Manhattan’s Lower-East Side’s famous set of Jewish sisters – Ella, Henny, Sarah, Charlotte and Gertrude – the children portrayed in Sydney Taylor’s award-winning 1951 children’s book, “All-of-a-Kind Family,” – may soon become a one-hour live action TV series. The series, much like the book and its four sequels, will follow the story of the sisters’ (eventually including a brother’s) experiences growing up as Jewish immigrants in New York City around 1912. The series is under development by The Jim Henson Company. (www.jta.org, 9-22-22)

A Park Gets a New Name

The Dutch municipality of Hogeveen, a city some 80 miles northeast of Amsterdam, has renamed Mayor Tjalma Park. In 2020, a local historian discovered that Jetze Tjalma, who was mayor of Hogeveen for 30 years until 1958, was the first

mayor in Nazi-occupied Netherlands to voluntarily hand over a list of local Jews to the Nazis after the German army invaded in 1940. The list contained some 250 names. But in 1951, according to the Jewish Historical Museum of Amsterdam, Hogeveen had only 27 Jews remaining. Shortly after Tjalma's death in 1985, the park was renamed "Municipal Park."

Several years after World War II, Tjalma had his city take over a portion of the Jewish cemetery and pave a road over it. That portion of the cemetery was returned to Jewish hands in 2019. Earlier this year, the Amsterdam-based Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies confirmed that the research of Hogeveen done by a local historian prompting the municipality to change the park's name. (www.timesofisrael.com, 8-15-22)

And the Nobel Prize Goes to...

Ben Bernanke, the former chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve, was awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize for Economics, sharing it with two other scholars. The three economists examined how banks function in economic crises. Bernanke was recognized for an influential paper he wrote in 1983 when he was a professor at Stanford University that examined the Depression era. In it, he showed "how runs on banks during economic uncertainty tend to exacerbate and broaden a crisis." His theories helped him deal with the 2008 economic crisis and the bailout of major financial institutions at that time. Bernanke, 68, was chairman of the Fed from 2006 to 2014. He was one of at least five Jewish chairmen of the Federal Reserve which is the central banking system of the United States. (www.jta.org, 10-12-22)

In Memoriam

• Judah Samet, a man who survived two unthinkable tragedies – imprisonment in a Nazi concentration camp and then the 2018 massacre at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue – died at the end of September. He was 84. And somehow Samet managed to hold on to his faith in humanity. "I have the right to believe that the world is a rotten place, but I don't," he said in a 2019 interview with the USC Shoah Foundation, which preserves the testimonies of thousands of Holocaust survivors. Surviving the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, where more than 50,000 people died and the Pittsburgh shooting, where eleven people were gunned down was a responsibility he took seriously. Samet was present for the

founding of the State of Israel in 1948 and served as a paratrooper and radio man in the Israeli defense Forces (IDF). He went on to manage a kibbutz where he developed a distaste for socialism and emigrated to the United States. Living in Pittsburgh, Samet raised a family and became a jeweler. He attended the Tree of Life synagogue for decades and usually arrived early to services. But on the morning of October 27th, 2018, he arrived four minutes late and was warned away, remaining in his car outside the synagogue as gunshots sounded. Samet remained a committed community member up until his death, which was on the second day of Rosh HaShanah. (www.cnn.com, 9-30-22)

• David Gottesman, descendant of a Jewish philanthropic dynasty (and also one of the most successful investors in the United States), died recently at the age of 96. He was the son of a banker and a trustee of Yeshiva University (YU). His grandfather Mendel, a paper manufacturer, helped found YU and started a family foundation devoted to supporting YU and its library, which eventually was named for him. Gottesman – known to his friends as Sandy – attended Harvard Business School before he went to Wall Street, where he connected with Warren Buffet, at that time an up-and-coming investor. The two became fast friends. Gottesman was an early investor in Berkshire Hathaway, the company that for a time made Buffet the richest man in a world. More than 50 years after making his initial investment, Gottesman's net worth, according to Forbes, is estimated to be \$3 billion, placing him at number 358 on its list of 400 wealthiest Americans. (www.timesofisrael.com, 10-1-22)

Did You Know...

• Marc Chagall's home in the Catskill Mountains in upstate New York is for sale. The two-bedroom, one-bath cottage on half an acre in Ulster County, where Chagall lived and worked between 1946 and 1948, is on the market for \$240,000. Chagall shared the house with Virginia Haggard McNeil, his much-younger lover, an artist and the daughter of a British diplomat. She had been his housekeeper when he lived in New York City. Chagall grew up in Vitebsk in what is now Belarus. He lived for a time in the south of occupied France and then later in New York on East 74th Street. He also worked for a time in his studio in Sag Harbor, Long Island. (www.clevelandjewish-news.com, 9-29-22) ◇

KJCC Chanukah 5783



Sisterhood Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

Friday
December 23, 2022
6:00 PM
Dairy Dinner - Latkes!

Services at 7:30 pm

Contact Loni Padden by December 16th.
dr.padden@yahoo.com; 305-772-2584

to reserve your spot and coordinate your dish.

Bring Your Own Chanukiah to Light!

Dinner sponsored by
Linda Pollack



No charge ~
Donations Always
Welcome

A LOOK BACK AT HIGH HOLIDAYS

Rabbi Agler may have gotten sick in the middle of our High Holidays, but he still came through for us. He provided us with words of wisdom in our time of need, inspiring us to look deep and find ways to be our better selves, ways to make the world a better place. With Rabbi's permission, we print here his first talk, given on Erev Rosh HaShanah, and his last, from Nieilah, Yom Kippur. We are grateful. If you wish to read more, all the talks are available at his website: rabbiagler.com



הַכִּיָּא – THE FIRST QUESTION

In the Tanakh—the Hebrew Bible, God sometimes speaks. We know this. God speaks to create the world, “Let there be Light!” God speaks to Abraham, “Lech Icha m’artzecha—Go forth from your land.” God speaks to Moses and the entire nation at Mt. Sinai, “I am God who brought you out of the land of Egypt.” There are countless examples.

Sometimes though, instead of making statements, God asks questions. That’s kind of a funny thing. Why would God ask a question? Doesn’t God know all the answers?

According to tradition, yes, God does know all the answers. So then why does God ask anything? Well, perhaps it’s the way we do sometimes, asking a question in order to teach something.

God’s first question comes near the beginning of the Torah. It’s to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. In Hebrew, the question is one word: הַכִּיָּא—Ayeka? (Gen. 3:9) It means, “Where are you?” And it is directed specifically to Adam who is trying to hide after having tasted the forbidden fruit. Now, God knows where Adam is. God is not asking where Adam is in order to determine Adam’s physical location. God seems to be asking in order to help Adam understand where Adam is. And where Adam is is trying to hide from God. Which is a losing proposition if ever there was one.

We can take God’s question to Adam and put it in the context of the High Holydays. Today, and for the next ten days, our tradition is for us to gather and give an account of our lives, to ourselves and to God. In other words, each of us is being asked the same question, הַכִּיָּא—Ayeka?—Where are you?

Indeed, where are we? And the answer is not “Tavernier,” or wherever we may be remote accessing

from. It is not a question about our physical location any more than it was about Adam’s. The question is meant to grab us, even to bring us up short, and to account for where we are at this point in our journey through life. Nu? Where are we?

This one Hebrew word may be the central question of the entire High Holy Days. And we are the only ones, as individuals, who can answer it. Where are we? As we begin this new year?

Adam was less than truthful and didn’t answer the question very well. He couldn’t bring himself to say, “I’m trying to hide.” Because that would have meant acknowledging that he had messed up. Which he should have done because he would have gotten to the moment of truth much sooner. But instead, he blurts out ridiculous responses and points his finger in every other direction. “I was afraid.” “I’m not dressed.” “Eve gave it to me.” Yeah, right. Hopefully, we can be more honest in our answers than Adam was in his. Perhaps we can say something like, “I’m right here, God. Proud in some ways, embarrassed in others, but doing the best I can. I know I haven’t been perfect. I know I’ve made mistakes. I know I haven’t always been everything I should have been or could have been. I know I’ve fallen short. I want to do better and I know that I can. I know life is a priceless gift, and we only get to live it once. And if I can find You within me, around me, above me, anywhere really, Your strength and presence will help me. Thank you, God. This is where I am. Signed, Me.

Your mileage may vary when it comes to the answer. But God’s first question, the question to the ancestor of all of us, is today’s question for every one one of us. L’shanah tovah. ◇

POWER AND US

Who doesn't love having power—and being powerful? It comes with so much! Ego fulfillment, Status, maybe a better job, the ability to do more things, to put your ideas into action, to direct others instead of them directing you. Who doesn't want that?

But as we've seen, power is never a free lunch. There is always the danger that we will misuse it. Think of the typical schoolyard bully. Or an adolescent "mean girl." They might be power at its most petty—putting down and lording it over others, mostly in order to make themselves feel better in the process—taunting, abusing, and causing pain just because they can.

Most schoolyard bullies and mean girls grow up and find other, better, ways to be fulfilled. But not all of them. Some who don't end up in street gangs and prisons. Others end up in workplaces. Others end up in governments. Where they continue to use power to serve themselves instead of making positive differences in the lives of others.

We can think of Lyndon Johnson as a counter-example. He was warned that if he signed the Civil Rights Act, it would cost him politically, and, therefore, personally. He wasn't having it. He said, "If I can't do this, what's the Presidency for?" He wasn't always right about the power choices he made but that time he was. It was a monumental decision that did right for others, at enormous cost to himself.

Power is deployed on behalf of the self is hazardous to others. In the new Ken Burns documentary on the US and the Holocaust, a survivor recalls that her neighbors were antisemitic before the war, but with power, they became vicious.

And yes, we have to be careful about who has it. As the science fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein observed, "Almost any sect, cult, or religion will legislate its creed into law if it acquires the political power to do so." When power becomes political, when the arena is bigger than the schoolyard or even the workplace, the stakes become higher, even ultimate. And if there is one lesson that the Bible teaches, and it is not the least bit contradicted by history, it is that Power selfishly exercised leads to tragedy for some, horror for others.

The modern philosopher Isaiah Berlin wrote, "Both liberty and equality are among the primary goals pursued by human beings throughout many centuries; but total liberty for wolves is death to the lambs, total liberty of the powerful, the gifted, is not compatible with the rights to a decent existence of the weak and less gifted."

Some of us recently undertook to study the King David saga. One of the things we learned was that David's selfish use of power brought his kingdom to depths from which neither he nor it, ever recovered. Power, its use and misuse, was and is the fulcrum upon which much of human history pivots.

On Yom Kippur, we are here to pray. And one of the things we can pray for is the courage to stand up to misused Power, and the strength to speak Truth to it. I believe that such prayers are answered to the degree that they are sincere and coupled with the resolve to act. On this holy day, let's pray these prayers and pray them hard. It is not too much to say that our world depends on it.

G'mar tov and shanah tovah. ◇





Rosh Hashanah Dinner



Dave Padden & Kleins with Cantor



Markowitz family and KJCC President, Ken Atlas, at Rosh Hashana/Musaf break.



THIS MONTH IN JEWISH HISTORY - DECEMBER

Chai-Lights is reviving a column initiated by Sam Vinicur during Bernie Ginsberg's Presidency. Historical changes are happening faster than ever in this 3rd decade of the 21st century. We have survived as a people for 5000 years. It's good to keep perspective on what we have lived through and the changes of which we've been a part, beyond these last few years.

● **519 B.C.E.** – Supported by the prophets Haggai and Zechariah, the foundations for the Second Temple are laid during the second year of the reign of Persian ruler Darius The Great. It will take four years to complete the project.

● **220 C.E.** – Rabbi Judah Hanasi (Judah the Patriarch) dies. Born in Eretz Israel in 138 (three years after the last rebellion against Rome, the one led by Bar Kochba), Judah's greatest claim to fame is as the compiler of the Mishna, the compilation of Oral Law, which will serve as the basis for both the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds. It served, and still serves, as a code for regulation of all Jewish life. Some of his more famous sayings include: "Be as punctilious in observing a light as a weighty commandment, for you do not know their relative reward." And the favorite of all who teach: "I have learned much from teachers, more from my colleagues, but most from pupils."

● **321 C.E.** – A letter from Emperor Constantine the Great regarding special taxes provides the first evidence of Jews living along the Rhine in central Europe.

● **771** – Charlemagne becomes sole Frankish king upon the death of his brother, King Carloman. Contrary to typical historical patterns, the consolidation of political power in the hands of one monarch actually helps the kingdom's Jews. Charlemagne is favorably disposed to his Jewish subjects, even to the point of defying edicts of powerful prelates.

● **1197** – During the Third Crusade, the wife and daughters of Rabbi Eleazar ben Judah ben Kalonymous of Worms are murdered and he is gravely wounded. A Kabbalist, Halachic scholar and religious poet, Rabbi Eleazar describes in Sefer HaHokhmah (The Book of Wisdom)

the loneliness he feels after the death of his family and also his teacher, Judah he Hasid. He ultimately leaves behind a body of writing that still influences Kabbalists almost eight hundred years later.

● **1254** – Pope Innocent IV dies. During his papacy, Innocent denounces Blood Libels against the Jews as "unfounded." In 1247, Innocent issues a declaration on behalf of Jews stating that the Talmud is an absolute necessity for the Jews, if Judaism is to continue to exist as a separate religion; and that burnings of the Talmud are to cease. This is not a position taken by many medieval Popes.

● **1655** – Oliver Cromwell convenes a gathering of English notables at Whitehall to decide if the Jews should be readmitted to England. Cromwell is a strong proponent of readmission, as are most of Cromwell's military and government leaders. Opposition comes from merchants and the mainline Christian clergy. The council is stalemated, and eventually disbanded. But conferees do agree that there is no legal reason not to readmit the Jews since they had been expelled by royal decree and not by an act of Parliament.

● **1787** – Delaware becomes the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. It abolishes all religious tests for public office in 1792.

● **1847** – Solomon Schechter is born in Rumania to a Chabad Chassidic family. His Chassidic upbringing does not satisfy him, and in 1879 he goes to study at the Hochschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums at the University of Berlin. He quickly rises to prominence as a rabbinic scholar and spokesman for Jewish traditionalism, gaining international fame as a scholar when he discovers and brings back to London more than 100,000 pages of rare manuscripts from

the Cairo Geniza. In 1913 he is instrumental in founding the United Synagogue of America, the umbrella organization of all Conservative congregations. Though a staunch traditionalist, Schechter admits that there can be change in modern Judaism. He is supposedly quoted as saying, "Gentlemen, in order to be a success in the American rabbinate, you must be able to talk baseball."

● **1861** – An edition of the Louisville–Nashville Courier gives the following details concerning the burning of a bridge at Whip-poorwill on the Memphis Branch Railroad: "A detachment of fifty or sixty federal soldiers under the command of a Dutch Jew peddler named Netter fired a volley of over one hundred rounds from Sharp's revolving rifles" at the Confederates guarding the bridge. "Netter" is probably Gabriel Netter, a French-born Jew (not Dutch) living in Kentucky, who within a year would rise to the rank of Lt. Colonel before being killed in fighting near Owensboro.

● **1864** – A meeting is held in Philadelphia, which results in the establishment of the first Jewish theological seminary in America. The seminary is established under the joint auspices of the Hebrew Education Society and the Board of Delegates of American Israelites, and is named Maimonides College. The school begins operations in 1867. It ceased operations in 1873 due to lack of support and funds.

● **1875** – Father Bernhard Lichtenberg, anti-fascist German priest and outspoken defender of the Jews of Germany, is born. After Kristallnacht, Lichtenberg is the only prominent Church figure to raise his voice publicly and fearlessly against Nazi brutality. "We know what happened yesterday, we do not know what lies in store for us tomorrow. But we have experienced what has happened today: Outside burns the temple. This is also a place of worship." He is arrested in 1941, but continues to speak out. In 1943, Lichtenberg asks to accompany the Jews being sent to the Ghetto at Lodz, Poland. The Church refuses, but the Gestapo orders him sent to Dachau. Not yet seventy, Lichtenberg dies

while awaiting shipment to the concentration camp.

● **1889** – Poet Robert Browning dies. Browning's poem "Rabbi ben Ezra" is based on the life Abraham ibn Ezra, a leading figure in the Golden Age in Spain and second only in fame to Rashi as a Torah commentator. The poem begins with the famous line "Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be..."

● **1891** – Rachel Sasoon Beer, granddaughter of David Sasoon and daughter of Sasoon David Sasoon, is named editor of The Observer in London, making her the first female editor of a national newspaper. During her tenure The Observer achieves one of its greatest exclusives: the admission by Count Esterhazy that he had forged the letters used to condemn innocent Jewish Captain Alfred Dreyfus to Devil's Island. The ensuing international outcry leads to the release and pardon of Dreyfus and court martial of Esterhazy.

● **1917** – British troops under General Allenby fight their way into Jerusalem, defeating the Ottoman Turks and freeing the ancient Jewish homeland from hundreds of years of Ottoman rule. The whole city turns out to greet the General, as do the Chief Sephardic and Ashkenazi Rabbis. The Jaffa Gate is opened after years of disuse to enable Allenby to enter on foot, but also to enable him to enter the city without having to use a gap in the wall created for Kaiser William in 1898.

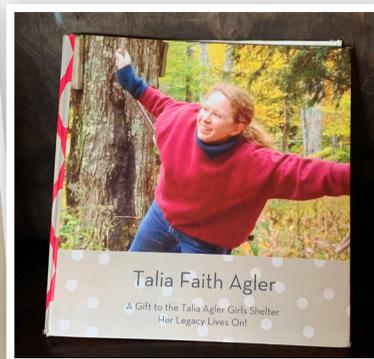
● **1917** – Corporal Louis Isaac Salek, a Galilipoli veteran from New Zealand, hoists and flies the first Jewish flag to fly over Jerusalem since the city's fall to the Romans almost two thousand years ago. The flag is made by an Egyptian–Jewish department store owner named Moreno Cicurel with the assistance of a tailor from Alexandria named Eliezer Slutzkin. Salek's flag design is blue and white – the top half blue, the bottom half white – with a Magen David in the center. Salek plants Moreno's flag atop the Tower of David – the Citadel – where it flies for 20 minutes before being removed by the British. ♦

A WONDERFUL VISIT TO THE TALIA AGLER GIRL'S SHELTER

by Linda Kaplan

Prior to going on a 17-day safari in Kenya and Tanzania, I visited TAGS which is about an hour drive from Nairobi. The safari far exceeded my grand expectations but the visit to TAGS was one of the highlights of the trip. I was given a tour by Edith Murogo, Executive Director of the Centre for Domestic Training and Development and Agnes, the director of the shelter. Meeting with the school/mental health counselor and primary school teacher was part of the tour. Edith was especially impressive, but they were all bright, energetic, and very much dedicated to the wellbeing of the girls. At the time of my visit there were about 30 primary school students there with the secondary school students away at boarding school. Other girls with babies were elsewhere.

The girls were friendly, delightful to meet and expressed ambitious goals for their future. Thanks to all that contributed things for the girls, we were able to give each girl (including the ones away at boarding school) two shirts and three pair of underwear. The clothing was very much appreciated because they do not have money budgeted for clothing. Even the girls with shaved heads enjoyed the head bands and I was told that the older girls have more hair so will enjoy the other hair accessories. In the future when I am rested from the trip, I will prepare a power point presentation on TAGS. I learned so much about what they were doing, that I want to share this with anyone interested. I urge you to visit if you can, they will welcome you like royalty. ◇



Rabbi Agler's daughter, after whom the shelter is named.

Linda giving out clothing presents to grateful girls.



PHOTO GALLERY



This is Roy Pollack's Daughter and Linda Pollack's granddaughter, Maddy, having just taken 1st place in two heats in her horse show this weekend. Bravo, Maddy!! Your KJCC family is proud of you!



Donna outdoes herself with baked goods for High Holidays and Sukkot.



Joyce Peckman and Yardena Kamely have been on a wonderful educational expedition in Greece, specifically visiting places of historical Judaic importance. These photos give a small taste and make us eager for her story in the next issue of Chai-Lights. Perhaps there will be a talk and slide show



"Can you guess who this is?" 1977



Gloria explains the elements of Lulav species while Susan and Sean appreciate the scent of Etrog



Joyce leads hamotzi blessing after leading services on October 23rd



Jacob was telling us of his stay in Israel and telling us of his hat and coat. We were delighted when he shared this picture of himself with us at the oneg table

Loni Padden made mini quiches for our Sukkot brunch. We were so grateful to enjoy the blessing of eating together in our own Sukkah



Erica and Buddy travel to North Carolina for Sister-in-laws wedding.



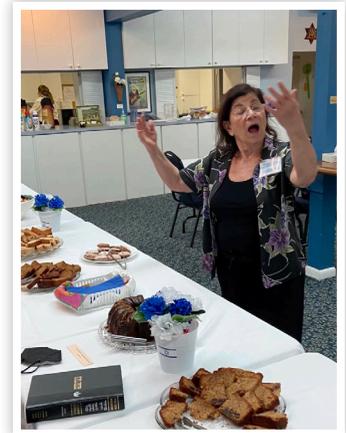
So good to have Day I Rosh HaShanah services in our Sanctuary, live with Rabbi Agler and Cantor Dzubin, while those from away were still able to watch via zoom.





Susan Gordon leading services.

Donna Bolton, happy with her display of High Holiday baked goods.



Lili Padden, her mother Lonnie and Cantor Dzubin deliver the blessings and Haftorah reading for Yom Kippur morning services.

We did not have Jonah Gross this year for that final Tekiah Gedolah, but his mom Randy Klein-Gross did a wonderful job.

BOOK BURIAL WITH HONORS

While cleaning KJCC before the holidays, we discovered a large hidden stash of very old prayer books that had been donated many years ago.

To the pile, we added our old Yizkor books and other items with the Hebrew name of God. We then made arrangements to have them buried behind the parking lot. Chad came in with his back-hoe, dug a ditch, and along with his young worker, helped me lay a white sheet in the hole and pile the books inside. The worker asked why we were burying the books, and this is what I told them:

“These books contain the written Hebrew name of God, and for that reason, they are sacred and cannot be just tossed in the trash. They contain prayers written just as they were said many hundreds of years ago. Some of the prayers written in these books were spoken by Moses, King David, the priests and prophets of the ancient Temples, and even by a young Jesus.” As we covered the books with the white sheet and prepared to cover it with soil, the young man said that it seemed like burying a person. I thought about that. The books, like us, are made of made of carbon-based material that came from the earth, and to the earth must return. Both deserve respect even when their useful life is done. I am proud that Congregation Ohr HaYam is able to fulfill this task.

Thank you to Chad Ellis at All Keys Landscaping for his assistance.





Going Global For Chanukah

A fresh take on Holiday Food: the tradition of Zengoulah

We know that Chanukah is all about the oil, but we'd be very much mistaken if we thought it was all about the potato. In the home of Amelia Saltsman, a Canadian food critic and author, Chanukah means Zengoula (Iraqi funnel cakes) as well as sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts), and latkes, all fried dishes from different Jewish traditions, commemorating the eight nights of oil that fueled the Chanukah miracle. Jews have been on the move for 3,500 years and we've been cooking wherever we go.

Sure, potato latkes are the food of Chanukah in European and North American Jewish cultures but that's relatively recent. What about the Jews of the Middle East? What about the great history of Mizrahi and Sephardic Jews well before potatoes came from the New World?

Saltsman is the daughter of a Sephardic Iraqi father and Ashkenazic Romanian mother; her parents were both raised in Israel. In working on her most recent cookbook, *The Seasonal Jewish Kitchen* (Sterling Epicure, 2015), she took a look at traditions, her own included, and asked: why do people tend to view their family rituals as definitive? Certainly the local quality of holiday foods gives more meaning to our celebrations.

So this year let's add zengoula to our repertoire, a tradition hundreds of years old among Iraqi Jews.

Variations on the deep-fried sweet can be found in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia (where they're known as jalebi). Growing up in California, they weren't part of her family's Chanukah traditions until a cousin's tales of their Iraqi grandmother's version compelled her to learn more. She developed her own recipe, based in tradition and scented with local California citrus. The cakes are dipped in lemon simple syrup, and embellished

with long strands of lemon zest (recipe follows).

Zengoula has been a Hanukkah treat in Iraq since the 13th or 14th century. It's a very typical Middle Eastern pastry. "If you're in Paris and go to a Tunisian bakery, you will find them on Rue des Rosiers in the Marais district," she says.

Diversity has been a big topic in world news for the last few years; we mostly focus on those things in the abstract. We don't realize that in our daily acts – how we get our food, how we cook – there are myriad opportunities for honoring and celebrating diversity and interconnectedness. Fair food in the form of "funnel cakes" will never be the same to me. Perhaps someone will take on the following recipe and we can expand our Chanukah repertoire (we are already expanding our range of vegetables used when we gather on December 23rd for our Chanukah dinner. Chag Sameach, dear mishpochah

Recipes reprinted from *The Seasonal Jewish Kitchen* © 2015 by Amelia Saltsman, Sterling Epicure, an imprint of Sterling Publishing Co., Inc





Iraqi Funnel Cakes: Makes: 8 servings
1½ tsp (5.5 mL/½ package) active dry yeast
¼ cups (300 mL) warm water (100° to 110°F/38° to 43°C)

1 cup (125 g) unbleached all-purpose flour

¾ cup (95 g) cornstarch

Scant ½ tsp (2 mL) salt

For the syrup:

2 to 3 lemons

½ cup (120 mL) water

1 cup (200 g) sugar

2 quarts (1.9 L) mild oil with a medium-high smoke point, such as grapeseed, sunflower, or avocado, for deep-frying

1. To make the dough: In a small bowl, stir together the yeast and ¼ cup (60 mL) of the warm water and let stand in a warm place until the mixture bubbles, about 10 minutes.

2. In a medium bowl, using a fork, stir together the flour, cornstarch, and salt. Stir in ½ cup (120 mL) of the warm water and the yeast mixture. Then slowly stir in enough of the remaining ½ cup (120 mL) warm water until the dough is lump-free and the consistency of thick pancake batter. You should have 1½ to 2 cups (360 to 480 mL) batter.

3. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate until doubled in bulk, at least 6 hours or up to 24 hours. The dough will be loose and spongy and have a yeasty aroma.

4. To make the lemon syrup: Using a five-hole zester, remove the zest from 1 of the lemons in long strands. Halve and squeeze enough lemons to yield ⅓ cup (75 mL) juice. In a small pot, stir together the

lemon juice and zest, water, and sugar over medium heat. Bring to a boil and cook, stirring frequently, until the sugar is completely dissolved and clear, about 1 minute. Pour into a pie pan and let cool. (The syrup can be made 1 day ahead, covered, and refrigerated.)

5. To make the fritters: Scrape the dough into a 1-gallon (4-L) resealable plastic bag or large pastry bag fitted with a ¼-inch (6-mm) plain pastry tip and set the bag in a bowl for support. Let the dough stand for about 15 minutes before frying. Line a large plate with paper towels. Place the prepared plate, tongs, a small spider or slotted spoon, the syrup, and a tray to hold the finished fritters near the stove.

6. Pour the oil to a depth of 3½ inches (8.5 cm) into a 4- or 5-quart (4- or 5-L) pot, wok, or electric fryer and heat to 375°F (190°C). If using a plastic bag for the dough, snip ¼ inch (6 mm) off of one of the bottom corners, cutting on the diagonal, to create a piping tip. Roll the top of the pastry bag closed to move the batter toward the opening. Don't worry about air pockets.

7. Pipe a bit of the batter into the hot oil. The oil should bubble around the batter immediately. If it does not, continue heating the oil and try again. Pipe the dough into the hot oil, creating 3- to 4-inch (7.5- to 10-cm) coils or squiggles, letting gravity help push the batter out. Be careful not to crowd the pan. Fry the dough, turning once at the halfway point, until bubbled, golden, and crisp, 4 to 5 minutes total. Use a spider or slotted spoon to fish the fritters out of the oil, drain them briefly on the towel-lined plate, and then drop them into the syrup for a moment or two, turning them to coat evenly. Lift them out of the syrup and transfer them to the tray in a single layer to cool. Repeat with remaining batter, skimming any loose bits of dough from the hot oil between batches to prevent burning. Scrape any batter that escaped into the bowl back into the pastry bag to make more pastries.

8. The cooled pastries can be piled on a platter. Pour any remaining syrup over the top. The fritters taste best served the same day they are made, although they will hold their crispness overnight. Store loosely covered at room temperature. ◇





The Mystical Dreidel

Just when we thought we knew all there was to know about the dreidel game, here comes Rabbi Goldie Milgram, a modern mystic and member of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, with a new twist. Yes, we knew that the boys studying Torah during the Maccabean time brought dreidels with them as subterfuge, so they could tell Greek soldiers who came looking to arrest violators of the “Do Not Study Torah” decree, that they were just playing a harmless gambling game. And of course we knew that the letters on each face of the dreidel were emblematic of the sentence: “Nays Gadol Hayah Sham,” Hebrew for “a great miracle happened there.”

Now, here is Rabbi Goldie’s mystical reading of the nun, gimmel, hey, shin inscription and the rules of the dreidel game.

There seems to be no limit to the depths of meaning that can be found in the simplest of our traditions.

Shin : Shafal – “**humility.**” When the dreidel lands with “shin” facing up, a player must put a

coin/raisin/candy (or whatever is being played for in the dreidel game) back into the pot. Once an ego is shrunk to proper size the call to contribute to the pot of life is answered with enthusiasm.

Gimmel : Galgal – “**wheel.**” Happy is the dreidel player who lands on Gimmel because the whole prize pot becomes his. Those who open themselves to the twists of life evolving, revolving, unending shifts of fortune and fate get everything the pot of life has to offer.

Nun : Nivdal – “**separate.**” Dreidel players who turn up a Nun generally cluck in despair because one gets nothing from the pot when a Nun turns up. Getting nothing, standing apart from the grabbing masses, or Nivdal in mystical parlance, is not such a bad thing. Separateness helps distinguish between that which is holy and that which is not.

Hey : Hiuli – “**formlessness.**” When a Hey faces up, the spinner receives half the pot. Regarding one’s fortune as half the pot is to be a co-creator in the future. ◇





Hidden in the Candles of Chanukah: Long Days' Journey into Light

By Gloria Avner

As an avocational ethnologist, I studied world religions for years. As a practicing, enthusiastic Jew I look for answers to life's big questions in my own tribal heritage. Every early religion found powerful teachings and created ceremonies of hope, appeasement, and gratitude in the time of shortest, darkest days. How could life go on if the sun did not return to warm the earth. I have read words from contemporary rabbis linking Chanukah to winter solstice, saying that in our earliest days, sacrifices were made for eight days both before and after the shortest day of the year. Whether we are talking about bonfires or candles, it is all about light (and not just the oil or the latkes).

"Light " is a big concept. As an artist I am in love with light and the act of creation. Light against dark is what makes a painting come alive. My father, whose personal light went out 20 years ago on the eighth day of Chanukah, gifted me with light through his name. "Av" is the Hebrew word for father and "ner" means both candle and light. Every synagogue in the world has its ner tamid, or everlasting light.

The light of "yiddishkeit" nearly went out when our Temple was desecrated by the Greeks of Ahashverosh's time, 2100 years ago. Their primary goal was to assimilate if not annihilate us. Laws were passed making Torah study illegal. Disobedience was punishable by death. When the unlikely band of students warriors, the Maccabees, recaptured the temple, cleansed and restored it, they needed oil to re-dedicate it (the meaning of the word Chanukah) but to complete the dedication they needed an additional seven days in which to replace the consecrated oil that had been defiled by the Greeks. With only one "kosher" vial

left, holding enough oil for just one day, they needed a miracle that would last the exact length of time of the creation.

We all know the historical events behind the "Great Miracle that Happened There," (Nes Gadol Hayah Sham). But where is the deeper meaning of the miracle? This is Judaism. There is always more.

Anyone who has ever prepared a Friday night "parshah" knows how many stories lie within each Torah portion and that within each story there are as many layers as we have time and energy to discover. It does not surprise me as I look for hidden meanings in the light of Chanukah, that I am thrown back to "B'reishit", the beginning, the creation of primordial light.

When Adam and Eve came into being in the Garden on the sixth day of creation, light stepped beyond its bounds. There were thirty-six hours of intense, limitless light says the teaching, and Adam could see from one end of the world to the other. Adam and Eve failed to do their mitzvot and were punished. The brilliant light that was visible for such a long uninterrupted time and distance was withdrawn, hidden away, saved for the righteous in the world to come. We weren't ready for it.





How does this primordial light relate to Chanukah? Let's count the candles. Not the helper candles, or shamashim with which we light the candles, but the Chanukah candles themselves. One plus two plus three plus four plus five plus six plus seven plus eight makes thirty-six. The twelfth century Kabbalist, Rabbi Eliezer of Worms, says: "the 36 candles on the menorah correspond to the 36 hours when Adam and Eve were bathed in The Primordial Light of creation." Today, as we kindle our lights in our own homes, he suggests we are calling forth a remembrance, if not a revelation, of that intense, now hidden light. The light was ours before the mitzvot were disobeyed.

The mysterious expansion of light came to Jews who were rededicating themselves and their temple to the practice of Judaism. They did not succumb to a culture that did not want them to worship their one God in their own way. What was really won was religious freedom. The myriad meanings of the number 36 could fill reams, and range from double "chai" (the Hebrew word for life) to equivalence of the names of God to the amount of years it took Jacob to transform himself on his journey to the number of righteous souls in every generation who keep alive that spark of primordial light. We talk about Chanukah as a minor holiday, and yet there is an understanding that when the messiah comes the only holidays that will still be celebrated will be Chanukah and Purim. The Sanhedrin declared Chanukah a holiday one year after the event and it has been observed with candle lighting (technically in chanukiahs, not menorahs, which only had room for six candles plus a shammas) ever since --- though Hillel and Shammai did have their disagreement over whether to start with one and go up to eight or start with eight and go down to one. Hillel's school won.

Rabbi Ozair puts it in terms of Earth school. We are here to learn, "training ourselves to reach higher levels of consciousness. The Chanukah lights serve as antennae for holiness, drawing down the energy of the 36. With every day of Chanukah that passes, the light gets stronger. We place our lit candles in the window as a beacon to



all passersby to remind the world that darkness can indeed be dispelled, obscurity can be illuminated, and that it is God's Light which will prevail." Unafraid to be different, to be a minority, we put our lights and belief system on display, on the line.

In the dark of winter, we are encouraged to look within, reconnect with the light of creation by correcting behavior, observing mitzvot, rededicating our inner sanctuaries, and shining our light on all around us. It is not surprising that Chanukah is the favorite holiday of children and mystics. As we enjoy our traditional foods, chant our blessings, sing our songs and spin our dreidels, may we happily give and receive both presents and Presence. ◇





LATKES-BEET

Ingredients

6 cups coarsely shredded peeled beets (about 6 medium)
6 T all purpose flour
1 ½ t salt
1 ½ t ground cumin
¾ t ground coriander
¾ t baking powder
¼ t black pepper
3 eggs

Method:

- Place beets in a large bowl; press with paper towels to absorb any moisture. Whisk flour and next 5 ingredients in second large bowl. Mix in beets, then eggs.
- Pour enough oil into large skillet to cover bottom; heat over medium heat. Working in batches, drop beet mixture by ¼ cupfuls into skillet; spread to 3 ½" rounds. Fry until golden, about 5 minutes per side. Transfer latkes to baking sheet.
- Latkes can be made 6 hours ahead. Let stand at room temperature. Reheat in 350 oven until crisp, about 10 minutes.

CARROT LATKES-GINGER CARROT

Ingredients:

6 cups coarsely grated, peeled carrots
6 T all purpose flour
1 ½ t salt
¾ t baking powder
½ t pepper
7 t finely grated peeled fresh ginger
3 eggs, beaten to blend

Method:

- Place carrots in large bowl; press with paper towels to absorb any moisture. Whisk flour, salt baking powder pepper together in a second bowl. Mix in carrots and ginger, then eggs.
- Pour enough oil into heavy large skillet to cover bottom and heat over medium heat. Working in batches and adding more oil as needed, drop carrot mixture by ¼ cup into skillet and spread into 3 ½" rounds. Fry until golden, about 10 minutes per side.
- Transfer latkes to rimmed baking sheet. Let stand at room temperature. Reheat in 350 oven until crisp, about 10 minutes).



NEW MOON

by Lucinda Kurtz

With the coming of the new moon of Cheshvan, we move inward. After the soul-full intensity of the holidays of Tishrei and joyful community interactions, we exhale. We move into a more reflective space to confront the commitments we made during the New Year. It is time to go beneath the surface and shift the patterns that have blocked our growth.

We surround ourselves with warmth and protection, so we may touch into the difficult places that need to be revealed and released. Our tradition invites us to savor this time of quiet stillness, this opportunity to rest and integrate all that we have taken in during the past months. Still reeling from the multiple shocks of the pandemic, continued political divisiveness, and heightened environmental instability we touch into our vulnerability, our lack of control, our awakened understanding of the fragility of our existence.

We take this opportunity to reconstitute our relationship to natural rhythms of body and earth, to water the roots of our intentions, and discover a new balance.

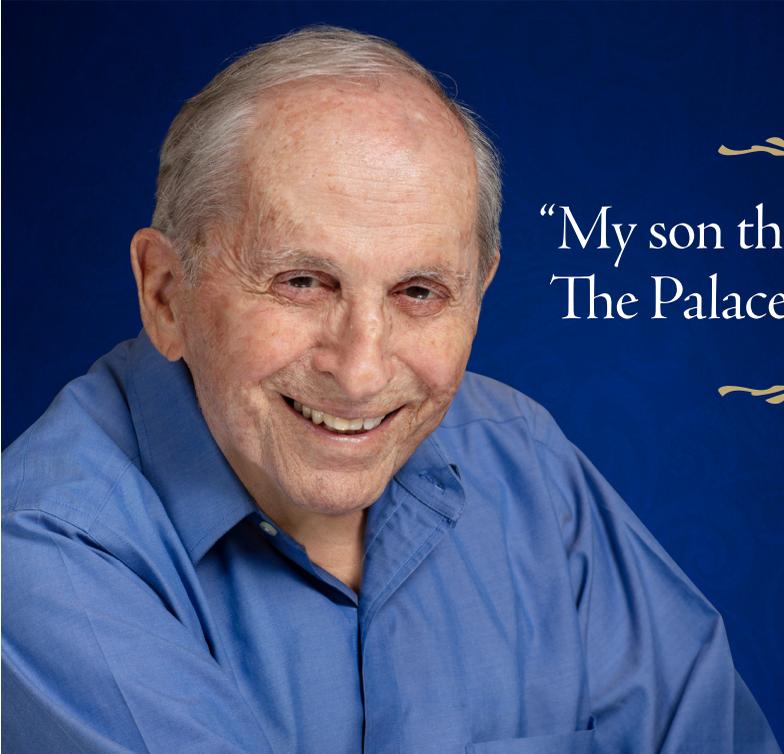
Rabbi Jill Hammer calls Cheshvan “an underground time” when we “seek our roots,

merge with the earth, and give our strength to it, so that it may bloom again in the spring.”

This week I had the privilege of walking among some of the oldest living beings on planet earth in the Redwood Parks of Northern California. Towering redwoods over 350 feet high, more than 2,000 years old, create interconnected root systems that allow these primeval treasures to resist insects, fire and rot. Walking in the lush undergrowth of azaleas and rhododendrons, I peer into giant root balls 30 feet in diameter surrounded by banks of leafy ferns. The native peoples revered these ancient giants and integrated their lives into the surrounding ecosystem, preserving these valuable resources for future generations.

How can we find a new way of resonating with the powerful energy of our forests and waters that can guide us forward, protecting vital resources for our children’s children. We need moments of quiet contemplation that the month of Cheshvan can provide to help us touch into the inner well of wisdom that resides within each one of us. Let us learn from the interconnected root systems of the magnificent redwoods to support one another through heart-to-heart openings that nourish our souls and keep us rooted to the wisdom of our tradition. ◇





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