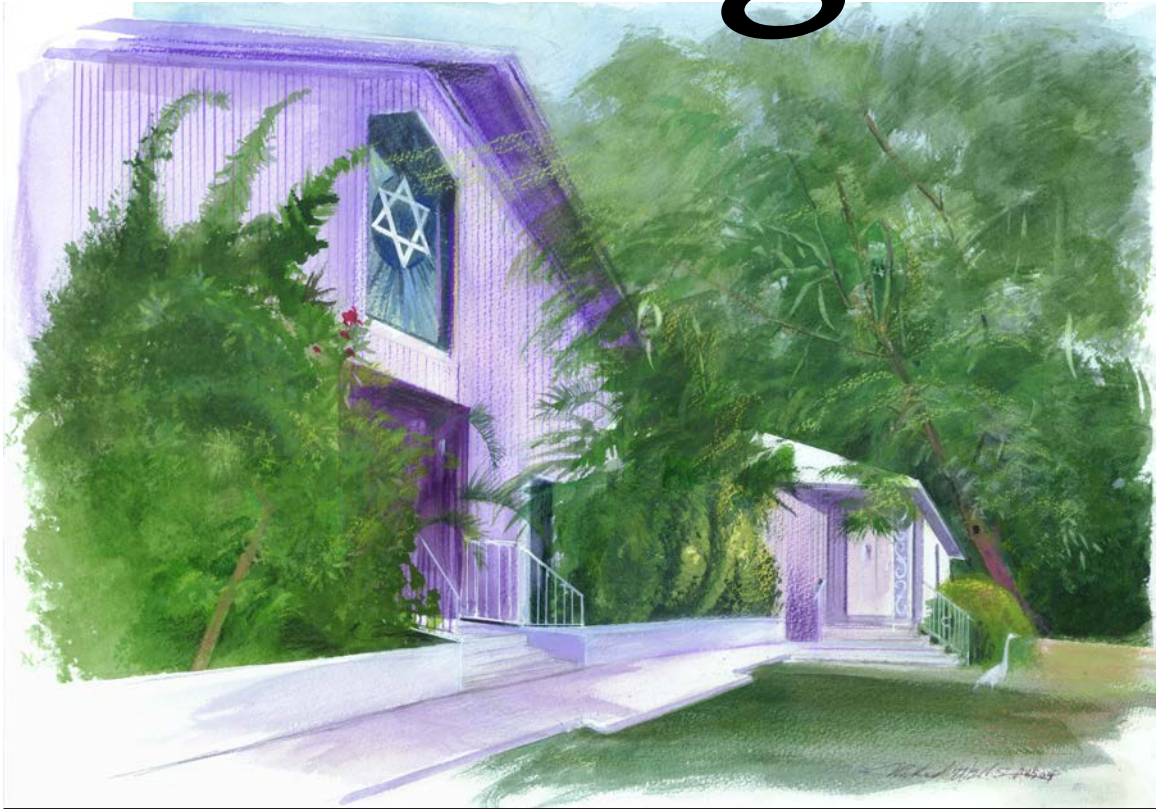


Chai~Lights



December 1, 2020 - January 31, 2021

15 Kislev to 18 Shevat

Oh Chanukah • Lots of Latkes – page 20

KJCC's Highest Honor Awarded to Jane Friedman– page 26

Tu BiShevat • Happy New Year to the Trees – page 30

Should Auld Acquaintance be Forgotten? – page 33

Keys Jewish Community Center

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

December 1, 2020 - January 31, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm		1 <div>DEC</div>	2	3	4	5	
					Parashat Vayishlach Joyce Peckman & Susan Ellner <i>Linda Pollack, Susan Gordon, Steve & Jan Hartz, Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis</i>		
	6	7 Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	8	9	10 First night of Hanukkah. Candle Lighting & Latke Eating Zoom 6pm	11 Parashat Vayeshev Susan Gordon & Gloria Avner <i>Laurie Blum, Muriel Swartz & Beth Hayden, Linda Pollack</i>	12 Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler 12:30pm
	13 Board Meeting 10am	14 Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	15	16	17 Rabbi Ed Hanukkah Talk. Light 8 Candles Together 7:30pm	18 Parashat Vayeshev Yardena Kamely & Joyce Peckman <i>Patricia Isenberg</i>	19
	20	21 Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	22	23	24	25 Parashat Vayeshev Medina Roy <i>Geri & Stuart Smith</i>	26
27	28 Zoom Sisterhood Book Club 12:30pm Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 <div>JAN</div> Parashat Vayigash Erica Lieberman Garrett & Donna Bolton <i>Michael & Suzanne Gilson</i>	2	
3 Sisterhood 10am	4 Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	5	6	7	8 Parashat Shemot Beth Hayden	9	
10 Board Meeting 10am	11 Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	12	13	14	15 Parashat Vaera Steve Hartz	16 Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler - the David Saga 12:30pm	
17	18 Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	19	20	21	22 Parashat Bo Susan Horn	23	
24	25 Zoom Sisterhood Book Club 12:30pm Zoom Drop-in Chat 2pm	26	27	28 Tu B'Shevat	29 Parashat Beshalach Laurie Blum <i>Alfred & Sylvia Rimm</i>	30	
31							

2019 - 2020 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

President

Joyce Peckman

Executive Vice President

Susan Gordon

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Gloria Avner • Michael Kaufman
Medina Roy

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chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



As I write this, we are reading about the development of a vaccine, signaling a light at the end of this tunnel. Our vegetable garden is cleaned of weeds and ready for planting. We look forward to once again meeting in the Cathy Kaplan social hall to enjoy fresh salads, coffee, cake and conversation with friends.

But that light at the end of the tunnel is not a *chanukiah*. We will have to light our candles at home this year. We will meet online 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 10th to eat latkes and light the first candle together.

Meanwhile, Monday chats and Friday services continue on Zoom. We are joined by members and friends who are far away and would be otherwise unable to participate. Rabbi Agler will be giving a Talmud talk from on Saturday, December 12th from San Diego and Rabbi Ed will be joining us from Tampa on Thursday, December 17th, the last night of Hanukkah. We are working on finding a way to Zoom or livestream even after we return to the building. In the meantime, if you want to join in but are worried about the technology, give me a call and I will try to walk you through it.

Board members have used Zoom to join Federation con-

ferences normally difficult to access when they are held in downtown Miami. We continue to participate in the Security Network of Greater Miami Jewish Federation, which includes police, FBI, synagogues and JCCs. They are guiding our security measures and will assist us when we finally open the building. Gloria Avner and I are attending "Sacred Conversations", which covers the topics of legacy, aging and having difficult conversations about illness and death. Laurie Blum, Gloria and I are participating in "*Refuat HaNefesh*," a twelve-session course which deals with visiting the sick, the spiritual life of seniors and the modalities of healing using ritual, music and art.

Laurie Blum will be spearheading the formation of a caring *kehillah*, a more formalized group of people committed to staying in touch and helping out. Please contact me if you can be part of this. We are also planning to have a special healing service. Laurie will give us a taste of this during her January 29th Friday night service. I urge everyone to tune in.

Stay safe and stay in touch.

– Joyce

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

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

Every Monday	Zoom Drop-in Chat • 2 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 4	Parashat Vayishlach • 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10	First night of Hanukkah. Candle Lighting & Latke Eating • Zoom 6:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11	Parashat Vayeshev 7:30 pm. Light 2nd night candles before Shabbat
Saturday, Dec. 12	Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler • 12:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 13	Board Meeting • 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17	Rabbi Ed Hanukkah Talk. Light 8 Candles Together • 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 18	Parashat Miketz • 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 25	Parashat Vayigash • 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 28	Sisterhood Book Club • 12:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 1	Happy New Year! Parashat Vayechi • 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 3	Sisterhood • 10:00 a.m.
Friday, Jan. 8	Parashat Shemot • 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 10	Board Meeting • 10:00 a.m.
Friday, Jan. 15	Parashat Vaera • 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 16	Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Agler – the David Saga • 12:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 22	Parashat Bo • 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 25	Sisterhood Book Club • 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 28	Tu B'Shevat
Friday, Jan. 29	Parashat Beshalach • 7:30 p.m.

NOSH

Sisterhood Invites You to a Virtual Chanukah Latke-Fest

We do miss Sisterhood dinners. Just because we can't all gather around the same table doesn't mean we can't get together virtually to celebrate the tastes and beauty of our favorite holidays. Sisterhood will send out recipes submitted by members on Dec. 3rd. Bring your latkes to our virtual Chanukah Dinner Party on **December 10th** at 6:00 PM (please note the time change). We will light together the first candles of Chanukah, admire and eat our latkes. Please be as creative as you wish with your latkes; we will be voting to choose the most creative looking latke. Join us. You are all invited.

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Agler

Rabbi Agler has volunteered to offer a new monthly Saturday learning series. He is on the opposite coast and in a different time zone, but we found a solution – Lunch & Learn at 12:30. Bring your lunch, a cool drink, get comfortable with your tablet or computer and join us as we honor the Sabbath with learning and conversation.

The first session will be on **December 12th**, when he will discuss a section of the Talmud (Ara-khin) dealing with last kings of Judah. The next class will be **January 16th**, when we return to The David Saga, reading from Samuel II, Chapter 1.

Rabbi Ed and the Age of the Universe

On Thursday evening, December 17th, we have a double treat. Adult Education Committee and Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will present us with a teaching grappling with the discrepancies between Western Science's view of how old we are and the Biblical view. It should be fascinating. And because the 17th marks the 8th and final night of Chanukah, bring your chanukiahs within view of your computer screens. We will start the evening by lighting and blessing all our candles and listening to Rabbi Ed's short Chanukah d'rash. See poster on PP 14 for details.

Sisterhood Book Club

Solid as a rock, the devoted readers among us continue to enjoy lively discussions every last Monday of the month. See poster on PP 18 for titles, dates and times. All KJCC members are invited to attend (even if you have not read the book).

Trees for Tu BiShvat

For as many years as we can remember, on the New Year of the Trees, we've gathered in spiritual seders, planted trees, blessed, watered, sang and danced with our children to them to *Mayim, Mayim, Mayim (Water)*. Once more we need to recalibrate our ritual practices in the light of safety. A tree will surely be planted in our KJCC orchard on January 28th, but the only group prayer may be the one recited at our zoom service on Friday, **January 29th**. It will be sincere, even if socially distant. Tu BiShvat is one of our favorite holidays.

Shabbat Service Leaders

Dec. 4: Vayishlach.....	Joyce Peckman & Susan Ellner
Dec. 11: Vayeshev (Chanukah-2nd night)	Susan Gordon & Gloria Avner
Dec. 18: Mikeitz.....	Yardena Kamely & Joyce Peckman
Dec. 25: Vayigash	Medina Roy
Jan. 1: Vayechi	Erica Lieberman Garrett & Donna Bolton
Jan. 8: Shemot	Beth Hayden
Jan. 15: Vaera	Steve Hartz
Jan. 22: Bo	Susan Horn
Jan. 29: Beshalach.....	Laurie Blum

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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 or DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights or annually in our KJCC Directory. Call Linda Pollack, 305-587-7429, for annual rates.

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

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

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

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

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 305-447-5225.

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.

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.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 2020

Yahrzeit

Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	Sidney Blum
Patricia Isenberg	Henry Walter Isenberg
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	Rose Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov
Randy & Eileen Kominsky	Natalie Kominsky
Lillian Tallent	Samuel Tallent
Rosalyn Kofler	Lilian Kofler
Joan Boruszak	Harold Goldstein
Robert Temkin	Kenny Temkin
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies	Benjamin Margulies Ilse Doellefeld
Patricia Isenberg	Helene Tulskey
Gloria Avner	Alex Avner
Joan Boruszak	Burton Boruszak Julius Kohlenbrener
Michael Krissel	Deborah K Cannon

Unrestricted

Sisterhood	Annual Donation
Joel Agler	Richard & Mindy Agler
Rita Williams	Jim Williams
Gloria Avner	Honor of Agler's New Grandbaby

Book plate

Barney Coltman	Evelyn Coltman
----------------	----------------

Meditation Garden

Stephen Steinbock	Carol Steinbock
Stuart & Lauren Sax	Jim Williams Friend & Fellow Veteran
Stephen Steinbock	Gerry Pizer

Sisterhood Donations

Dinner	In Memory/Honor of
Linda Pollack	12/11 Hanukkah Dinner

Oneg

Barbara & Richard Knowles	Birthdays of Sam Knowles & Barbara Knowles
Sisterhood	Sisterhood
Sisterhood	Shabbos Project
Linda Kaplan	Birthday
Gloria Avner	Birthdays of David Gitin & Gloria Avner
Linda Pollack	Skip Rose's 91st Birthday
Susan Gordon	Rhett Casey's 5th Birthday
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	Anniversary
Steve & Jan Hartz	Jan's Birthday
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis	Laurie's Birthday First Night of Hanukkah
Patricia Isenberg	Lillian Forbes' Birthday
Stuart & Geri Smith	Birthdays
Paul & Susan Roberts	Yahrzeit of Ruth Greenwald
Michael & Suzanne Gilson	Birthdays of Charlie Horowitz, Howard Gilson,
Heather Gilson	
Alfred & Sylvia Rimm	Anniversary
Erica Lieberman-Garrett	Birthdays of Erica & Ron
Beth Horowitz	Birthday

Leaf

Marvin Blumenfeld

Rock

Marvin Blumenfeld

High Holy Days

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Nancy Kluger

Joe & Linda Levi

Joyce Peckman

Yizkor

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Beth Kaminstein

Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages-Dandrea

Jane Friedman

Yardena Kamely

Holocaust Education

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Scholarship

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Beth Kaminstein

Jane Friedman

Tikkun Olam

Nelson & Bobbie Chester

Unrestricted

Joyce Peckman

Bernie Ginsberg

Andrew Tobin

Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Marvin Blumenfeld

Frank & Judy Greenman

**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.

December Birthdays

1st.....	Paul Hudson	16th	Diana Lal
2nd.....	Joseph Burke Grossman	16th	Samuel Klimpl
3rd	Ashley Berk	17th	Bruce Forman
3rd	Cammie Berk	17th	Jeffrey Schocket
4th	Jan Hartz	17th	Lilian Forbes
4th	Jodi Yeager	18th	Emelyn Anne Juenger
4th	Judith Klein	18th	Jerry Small
5th	Geri Smith	19th	Jonah Gross
5th	Joseph Beth	19th	Lorena Kaufman
5th	Stuart Sax	19th	Terry Willner-Tainow
6th	Haley Borisoff	20th	Jennifer Erin VanArtsdalen
6th	Leslie Boruszak	22nd.....	Laura Molly Friedman
7th	Franklin Rose	22nd.....	Lisa Miller
7th	Gary Grossinger	22nd.....	Stuart Smith
7th	Rhett William Casey	23rd	David Morris
7th	Vada Charity (Bella) Greenbaum	26th	Steven Smith
9th	George Swartz	27th	Claire Tallent
9th	Jacob Grossinger	27th	Steve Kasinof
10th	Susan Greenbaum	28th	Elaine Schulberg
11th	Oran Hesterman	28th	Emily Sherman
11th	Sara Rose Friedman	28th	Len Levi
12th	Laurie Blum	28th	Michael Klimpl
13th	Robin Margulies Juenger	28th	Tyler Jacob Morris
13th	Sarah Boruszak	29th	Joan Stark

Congratulations/Mazel Tov

*To Janis Remer &
Max Finkelstein
On Their Engagement*

From Your KJCC Mishpocha



December Anniversaries

7th	Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum.....	10
10th	Linda & Bruce Pincus	31
11th	Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner	55
11th	Jamie & Laura Goodman	15
14th	David & Pat VanArtsdalen	39
27th	Joe & Linda Levi	





KJCC SISTERHOOD COOKBOOK

The cookbook is a work in progress and our committee is enthusiastically exploring features which will be of interest. The book will be professionally published and will be available in our gift shop. What better gift could you want to send your children, parents, friends? And of course we will all want to have a memento of our own Community Mishpachah!

Here is a listing of the proposed sections for the book.

Holidays

Appetizers, Soups, Salads

Main Dishes - Meat, Fish, Poultry

Main Dishes - Egg, Cheese, Pasta, Kugel

Vegetable Side Dishes

Quick and Easy

Desserts and Baked Goods

What we want from you are your favorite recipes!

Please refer to letter from Sisterhood President

Beth Hayden for instructions as to how to submit

your recipes,

or contact her directly at

hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net

**We look forward to featuring your recipes in our new
cookbook!**

SISTERHOOD

Beth Hayden



Sisterhood met via Skype in November. Nine people were present. Sisterhood activities for November included the Shabbat Project. Jane Friedman led a Challah Bake on November 5th at 2 PM to prepare dough; participants reconvened at 3:30 to braid loaves. Thanks to Jane for her preparation and leadership in conducting the Challah Bake. On November 6th, a Shabbat Project virtual dinner took place at 6 PM prior to Erev Shabbat services. Four members participated.

Planned activities for the month of December include:

- Channukah – begins on Thursday, December 10th – plans made include Sisterhood gathering latke recipes from the KJCC community and sending them out to the general membership for preparation and frying. We will send out recipes on December 3rd – one week prior to the first night of Channukah. A link to our celebration will be sent the morning of Thursday, December 11th, the first night of Channukah; Sisterhood invites all KJCC members to join us via Zoom in lighting Channukiyot at 5 PM and eating latkes made earlier per the recipes sent out in celebration of the holiday. We will social distance, but still share camaraderie and joy as we celebrate. On the second night of Channukah, December 11th, Sisterhood again invites KJCC members to light Channukiyot prior to lighting Shabbat candles. Per KJCC's calendar, we have usually had a Channukah dinner, generously sponsored by Linda Pollack. This year, our sponsor generously will continue to sponsor, but there will be no dinner. Only the lighting of Channukiyot and Erev Shabbat services. Please join us. We will also light Channukiyot on the last

day of Channukah, December 17th – as we plan to spend an evening with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal (see Adult Education on PP 32 in this Chai-Lights).

- Sisterhood has sent out Oneg letters for the year 5781 – please be generous in your response. We look forward to celebrating and commemorating your simchot and memorial virtual Onegs. Please note that Erica Lieberman-Garrett is now coordinating and handling Onegs. You can reach her at hippiejap@hotmail.com.
- Sisterhood's cookbook project continues to progress. If you have not submitted a recipe or two or three, please reconsider. We would love to have every member represented by at least one recipe. We hope by the next Chai-Lights issue, our very distinctive and unique cookbook will be close to printing or already printed. We will have information on how to order in the next Chai-Lights. I want to thank those who have worked hard on this project: Linda Pollack, Susan Roberts, Donna Bolton, Erica Lieberman-Garrett and Randy and Oceana Klein-Gross.
- Sisterhood will meet again via Zoom on January 3rd at 10 AM to plan our participation in a February Friday night service. Please join us as we plan that and discuss other activities we can undertake for the future. If you have items for the January agenda, please let me know. All are welcome. Remember – the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

In Memoriam – December 2020

Alex Avner

By Gloria Avner

Stephan Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

Raymond Martell

By Skip Rose

J.D. Stanlake

By Alan Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Rose Beth

By Alan Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Steven Garfinkel

By Betty Small

Ivy W. Blumenfeld

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

Teddy Sharenow

By Marc Bloom

Fannie Zacks

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

Burton V. Boruszak

By Joan Boruszak

David Pearlman

By William & Donna Bolton

Evelyn Stockser

By Sandy Kaplan

Leatrice Tomor

By Barbara A. Caley

George Paul Tomor

By Barbara A. Caley

Deborah Krissel Cannon

By Michael Krissel

Morris Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Eva Levine

By Barnett O. Coltman

Daniel Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Harry Wolfe

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Harry Friedman

By Jane Friedman

M. Arlene Hess

By Jan Price

Laurie Beth

By Alan Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Alvin S. Gross

By David & Patti Gross

Rhonie Lee Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Daniel Birnbaum

By Norbert Birnbaum

Sylvia Sarah Grossman

By Stuart Grossman

Murray Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Betty Abramson

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Janet Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Sylvia Joan Ichel

By David & Janice Ichel

Julius Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Gary Kreitman

By Marcia Kreitman &
John David Hawver

Kurt Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

Robert Scott Coltman

By Barnett O. Coltman

Charles Margolis

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Harris Warren

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Sidney P. Finklestein

By Max Finklestein

Claire Lempel

By Linda Pincus

Mitch Harvey

By Linda Perloff

In Memoriam – December 2020

Harvey Sherman

By Alfred & Sylvia Rimm

Sylvia L. Singer

By Mary Lee Singer

Peter F. Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Steve Cimkowski

By Stephen Steinbock

Frances Willner

By Jon S. Tainow &
Terry Willner-Tainow

Bernard Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Eve W. Zinner

By Donald Zinner

Harold Tainow

By Jon S. Tainow &
Terry Willner-Tainow

In Memoriam – January 2021

Bea Avner

By Gloria Avner

Emma Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Yetta Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Kitty Nyman

By Alan Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

David Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Marvin Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Ellen Bloom

By Marc Bloom

Larry Daddona

By Hanna David

Ernest Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

Betty Weinstein

By Rita Bromwich

Louis Hartz

By Steven & Jan Hartz

Bernard Kaminstein

By Beth Kaminstein

Lola Rosenberg

By Robert Dandrea & Joni Sages

Dinah Levy

By Yardena Kamely

David M. Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Judy Lombardi

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Sunnie Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

John Evans

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Sylvia Emsig

By Lawrence Jacobs

Muriel Blitzer

By Murray Blitzer &
Bev Strumor-Blitzer

Ruth Greenwald

By Paul & Susan Roberts

Bernice Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Bea Gulkis

By Elaine Schulberg

Annette Bitton

By Michel Bitton

Irving J. Kulick

By Thomas & Renée Brodie

Joseph Cohen

By Jules & Nettie Seder

In Memoriam – January 2021

Joseph Shapiro

By Libby P. Shapiro

Mr. Bobby Serota

By Selma (Sandy) Serota

Joan Kaminsky

By Elaine Schulberg

Karen Hayhurst

By Stephen Steinbock

Janet Garfinkel

By Betty Small

Jacob Menahem Shabathai

By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai

Walter Hankin

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

Morris I. Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

Hedy Kopecky

By Adam & Judy Starr

Betty Weinstein

By Jerry & Sheila Olsen

Goldie Schweitzer

By Richard & Barbara Knowles

Sheldon Paul Frankel

By Nadine Thompson

Mr. Samuel Roth

By Joel & Mary Roth

Clayton Allan Rakov

By Neal & Cathy Rakov

Adele Siegel Bayer

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Paul Kaminsky

By Elaine Schulberg

Nat Gulkis

By Elaine Schulberg

Oneg Sponsors

- Dec. 4** Linda Pollack
Birthday of Skip Rose
Susan Gordon
Rhett's Birthday
Steve & Jan Hartz
Jan's Birthday
Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis
Anniversary
- Dec. 11** Laurie Blum
Laurie's birthday & Hanukkah
Muriel Swartz & Beth Hayden
George Swartz's 90th birthday
Linda Pollack
Hannukah Dinner celebration
- Dec. 18** Patricia Isenberg
Lillian Forbes' Birthday
- Dec. 25** Geri & Stuart Smith
Their birthdays
- Jan. 1** Michael & Suzanne Gilson
Charlie Horowitz, Heather &
Howard Gilson
- Jan. 29** Alfred & Sylvia Rimm
Anniversary



Leaf on the Tree of Life

**Ivy & Marvin
Blumenfeld**

January Birthdays

1st..... Jerry Olsen
 1st..... Justin Wade Gilson
 1st..... Laura Goodman
 2nd..... Sherrie Willner
 3rd Lucinda Kurtz
 4th Howard Gilson
 4th Randi W. Freundlich
 6th Stanley Margulies
 8th Jan Price (Karen)
 8th Matthew Barrett
 9th Cathy Rakov
 11th Michelle Zinner
 12th Alex Dutton
 13th Amy Nobil
 15th Charlie Horowitz
 15th Heather Gilson
 15th Jamie Goodman
 16th Brieze Levy
 16th Donald Zinner
 17th Andrea Kluger
 17th Neal Rakov
 17th Suzi-Sarot Feder
 18th Wendy Morris
 19th Benjamin Friedman
 19th Mark Kanarek
 19th Peyton Ruth Morris
 19th Sandy Seder
 22nd..... Sheila Olsen
 24th Bev Strumor-Blitzer
 24th David Epstein
 24th Randy Klein-Gross
 24th Stuart Grossman
 26th Marshall Kaplan
 27th Beth Hudson
 27th Pat VanArtsdalen
 28th Arthur Itkin
 28th Yardena Kamely
 29th Beth Kaminstein
 29th Jeffrey Boruszak
 30th Kristen M. Schur



Happy Announcement:

Roy Pollack, son of Linda Pollack and Joel Pollack of blessed memory, while visiting for Thanksgiving, took his girlfriend Elizabeth Giddens out for a boat ride, got down on one knee and proposed. She said "Yes!" Mazel Tov and Siman Tov to the whole family! Your KJCC Mishpocha wishes you all good things!

January Anniversaries

4th Steve & Amelia Kasinof..... 38
 12th George & Muriel Swartz 40
 27th Alfred & Sylvia Rimm 63

Leaf on the Tree of Life

Paul Kaminsky

"Not to help Justice in her Need would
 be an Impiety." - Plato

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

AN EVENING WITH RABBI ED ROSENTHAL

Thursday, December 17, 2020
7:30 p.m. • Zoom



Judaism and the Age of the Universe

Every week we say, "the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath in every generation as a covenant for all time. It is a sign forever between Me and the people of Israel, for in six days the Eternal G-d made heaven and earth and on the seventh day G-d rested from all labors."

So, G-d created the world in 6 days, 5781 years ago? How does Judaism address the conflict between Torahh and the Science concerning the Age of the Universe?

Please join us to celebrate the last night of Chanukah with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal prior to his presentation. Bring your chanukiyot as we will light candles and Rabbi Ed will present a short Chanukah d'rash (talk).



This presentation is open to all. Please share with your friends.
For information contact Beth Hayden hayden.elizabeth@comcast.net
Zoom invitations will be sent out.

Rabbi Ed encourages us to bring fried food of choice.
He is bringing a doughnut.

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



Honors for “Proud Daughter of Brooklyn”

A bronze statue of former Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg will be unveiled in Brooklyn, New York, where she was born and raised. The unveiling will take place on the late justice's birthday, March 15th, during Women's History Month. The statue will be placed in front of City Point, a residential and commercial area in Downtown Brooklyn. The statue's artists, Gillie and Marc, installed 10 statues of notable women in New York City last year, increasing the city's representation of women in public sculpture from 3% to 10%. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said, “As a lawyer, jurist, and professor, she redefined gender equity and civil rights and ensured America lived up to her founding ideals – she was a monumental figure of equality, and we can all agree that she deserves a monument in her honor.” In September, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the Brooklyn municipal building will be renamed for Ginsburg. The campaign to rename the building after the “proud daughter of Brooklyn” began some two years ago. (www.abcnews.go.com, 10-14-20)

Following in Ramon's Footsteps

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin recently announced that Eytan Stibbe, 62, is expected to depart for the International Space Station next year. Stibbe, a former ace fighter pilot turned big-time investor, will become only the second Israeli in space — and he'll be paying for the trip himself. Pending approval by NASA, the mission will be the first entirely manned by private astronauts. Axiom Space, a private Houston-based company that aims to create the world's first commercial space station, is initiating the trip. (Stibbe once held the distinction of having the most enemy kills of any Israeli pilot when he served as a combat pilot for the Israel Defense Forces.) Since his military career ended, he has been involved in investing in Africa as the founding director of the “Vital Capital Fund.” Stibbe will be following in the footsteps

of Ilan Ramon, another former Israeli pilot, who died along with six other astronauts aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia when it exploded upon reentry into the Earth's atmosphere in 2003. (www.haaretz.com, 11-16-20)

Jewish Connections to COVID-19 Vaccines

Mikael Dolsten, head scientist at Pfizer, has been helping to develop their COVID-19 vaccine for the better part of 2020. And recently they have reported it to be over 90% effective. “This may turn out to be one of the biggest medical advances of the past 100 years,” Dolsten said. He was referring not only to the historic need to medically fight a virus that's again ravaging the world (particularly the United States, which is setting case records by the week) but also the fact that the Pfizer product is part of a groundbreaking new type of vaccine made quickly from synthetic versions of the virus' genetic material. But he also saw it as a proud moment for Jewish immigrants like himself who have contributed to American scientific innovation. “A lot of the great breakthroughs in America have come from people that immigrated,” he said. “There has been a strong Jewish tradition around contributing to humanity and a strong tradition within medicine.” Born in 1958, Dolsten grew up in the small Halmstad Municipality on Sweden's western coast, the son of a Jewish father with prewar roots in the country and a Jewish mother who escaped from Austria in the early days of World War II. His home life wasn't religiously observant, but he visited Israel several times growing up, something that helped inspire him to spend nearly a year of his doctoral studies at the renowned Weizmann Institute just south of Tel Aviv. He trained as a physician and began his career on the medical faculty

at the University of Lund, but his experience in Israel learning about cutting-edge immunology helped inspire his turn to pharmaceutical science. Dolsten and his family moved from Sweden to New York in 2004.

But Dolsten is far from the only Jewish immigrant in his field. Pfizer's Jewish CEO Albert Bourla is from Thessaloniki, Greece. And the chief medical officer for Moderna, the competing drug maker that announced its COVID-19 vaccine to be nearly 95% effective, is Tal Zaks, an Israeli immigrant. The new Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, like the one created by Moderna, is made from mRNA, a relatively new technology that Dolsten says will allow companies to combat pandemics in the future with greater speed and effectiveness. So far, the vaccine success rates have impressed Dr. Anthony Fauci, our country's top infectious disease expert, who was hoping for a 75% success rate. The scientist responsible for the scientific breakthrough that allowed for the development of an mRNA vaccine is University of Pennsylvania's Jewish professor Drew Weissman, who once worked under Dr. Fauci at the National Institutes of Health. (www.jta.org, 11-16-20)

Add Them to the List

- Louise Gluck, 77, American granddaughter of Hungarian Jews, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in early October. She was awarded the prize "for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal." In 1993, she received the Pulitzer Prize in poetry for "The Wild Iris." She became the United States' poet laureate in 2003 and received a National Humanities Medal from President Barack Obama in 2015. Gluck's paternal grandparents owned a grocery store after settling in New York City. Her father helped invent the X-Acto knife. She is the first American and first Jewish writer to win the Nobel in Literature since songwriter Bob Dylan won it in 2016. (www.jta.org, 10-8-20)
- Jewish-American economist Dr. Paul Milgrom, 72, is sharing the Nobel Prize in economics with fellow American Robert Wilson for their work in auction theory. Their theoretical discoveries in how auctions work have "used their insights to design new auction formats for goods and services that are difficult to sell in a traditional way, such as radio frequencies. Their discoveries have benefitted sellers, buyers, and taxpayers around the world." Milgrom is now the Shirley and Leonard Ely Jr. Professor of Humanities and Sciences at

Stanford University. Wilson was his thesis advisor. Milgrom is known for "analyzing the bidding strategies in a number of well-known auction formats, demonstrating that a format can give the seller higher expected revenue when bidders learn more about each other's estimated values during bidding." (www.timesofisrael.com, 10-12-20)

- Harvey Alter, 85, Jewish researcher at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), shares the Nobel Prize in Medicine with two other scientists for identifying the hepatitis C virus. They were cited for their "landmark achievement in the ongoing battle against viral diseases. Thanks to their discovery, highly sensitive blood tests for the virus are now available and these have essentially eliminated post-transfusion hepatitis in many parts of the world, greatly improving global health." Alter was born in New York. Early in his career he worked with Jewish Nobel Prize-winning scientist Baruch Blumberg, who identified the hepatitis B virus. In 2000, Alter received the Albert Lasker Award for Clinical Medical Research for his work leading to the discovery of the virus that causes hepatitis C. (www.forward.com, 10-5-20)

"I Had the Whole Nation Behind Me"

Deni Avdija, 19, the Israeli basketball phenom who is known as "The Prince of Tel Aviv," was taken by the Washington Wizards with the ninth overall pick of the NBA Draft in mid-November – the earliest an Israeli has been picked in league history. Avdija, the 6'9" forward for Maccabi Tel Aviv in Israel's top professional league, becomes the second player from the Jewish state to go in the first round. Omri Casspi, also a standout forward for Maccabi Tel Aviv, went 23rd to the Sacramento Kings in the 2009 draft and played ten years in the NBA for several teams. "I had the whole nation behind me," Avdija said. "I'm still thinking it's a dream." Avdija, a native Israeli, lives in the coastal town of Herzliya and holds dual Israeli and Serbian citizenship. His father, Zufer, a Muslim Serbian-Israeli citizen, played for his native Yugoslavia's national basketball team as well as several Israeli pro teams in the 1990s. His mother, Sharon Artzi, is a Jewish Israeli and former track and field athlete. A second Israeli was chosen later, marking the first time that two Israelis were picked in the same draft. The Boston Celtics took Yam Madar with the 47th selection. Also 19, he has played for Hapoel Tel Aviv, in the same Israeli league as Avdija, for the past two

years. He's a 6'2" point guard described as a solid defender and passer. (www.jta.org, 11-18-20)

Fired, Rehired and Fired Again

A year ago, the Palm Beach County School Board voted to fire William Latson, principal of Spanish River Community High school in Boca Raton, after he told a parent that "he can't say the Holocaust is a factual, historical event." Latson sued, saying he had been wrongfully terminated. In August, a judge concluded that he should not have been terminated but rather reprimanded, so the board voted early in November to rehire him rather than face a protracted and costly legal battle. The board's only Jewish member voted against the rehiring and said, "If we rehire Dr. Latson, it is going to be a stain on this school district that will never go away." The board chair asked the board to reconsider. A meeting to reconsider the decision ended without action after the board received more than 1,200 public comments that members were required by law to read or hear before voting. (At that point, Latson issued a public apology.) On November 2nd, the board voted unanimously to fire Latson again. Members said "they had come to the conclusion that their decision represented a statement of the district's values that transcends the risk of litigation." One board member who switched her vote said, "What Dr. Latson did was open the door for the students whose parents are Holocaust deniers for generations to come to deny the atrocity of the Holocaust." (www.sun-sentinel.com, 11-2-20)

In Memoriam

- Bernard Cohen, the lawyer who made history when he volunteered with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and successfully argued that the Supreme Court should overturn laws banning interracial marriage in 1964, died in mid-October. He was 86. Cohen was born in Brooklyn to immigrant Jewish parents. He was 29 when Mildred, a Black and indigenous American, and Richard Loving, a Caucasian, contacted the ACLU. They had been criminally charged in Virginia for marrying. The couple avoided jail time by agreeing not to enter Virginia for 25 years. They moved to Washington, D.C., but they were both homesick. Mildred returned to Virginia while Richard remained in Washington. The ACLU assigned Cohen, who had a private law practice in Alexandria, Virginia, and Philip Hirschkop (also Jewish) to the case. "I knew it was going to the Supreme

Court," Cohen said in an interview in 1992. "And I definitely thought there was something serendipitous about the fact that the case would be called "Loving vs. the Commonwealth of Virginia." (www.npr.org, 10-16-20)

- Shlomo Sulayman, Israel's oldest person, died recently at the age of 117. According to his grandson, Sulayman was living on his own and with a clear mind until the very end. But the confinement to his home due to the pandemic contributed to his decline. "Until the pandemic, he would go to the synagogue, even at the age of 116. He was a very modest man, which is why everyone loved him. But I guess the isolation at home contributed to his health deteriorating." Sulayman was born in Yemen and immigrated to Israel with his wife and four children in 1949. Two other children would later be born in Israel. Sulayman served in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and worked in agriculture. (www.jpost.com, 10-12-20)

Did You Know...

According to Forbes, Israeli actress Gal Gadot, best known for her role as superhero Wonder Woman, is the third-highest-paid actress in 2020, earning \$31.5 million. She earned \$20 million for "Red Notice," which also stars Ryan Reynolds and Dwayne Johnson. It is the biggest feature film ever made by Netflix and is scheduled to be released in 2021. She will also star in the sequel "Wonder Woman 1984," whose release date has been postponed four times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It's now scheduled to be released on December 25, 2020. (www.jpost.com, 10-3-20) ◇

Rock on the Tree of Life

To Our Dear KJCC
Our Jewish Light in the Keys
We Honor and Appreciate You

Ivy and Marvin Blumenfeld





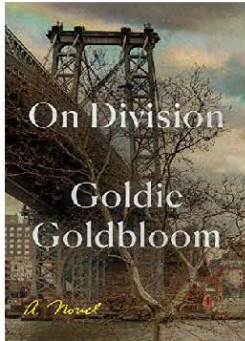
Sisterhood Book Club

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

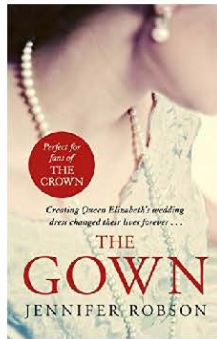
November 30, 2020 *On Division: A Novel* by Goldie Goldbloom

December 28, 2020 *The Gown* by Jennifer Robson

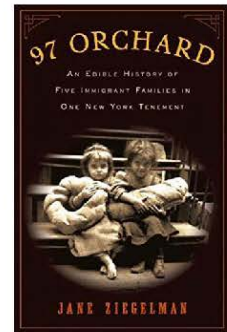
January 25, 2021 *97 Orchard* by Jane Ziegelman



Pregnant at 57
A novel of wisdom
and uncertainty
2020 Jewish Fiction Award



An enthralling tale of making
the Queen's wedding dress



Unique narrative of
New York's immigrant culture

RSVP and more information - Joyce Peckman

joycepeckman@gmail.com

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

WHAT'S NEW? KJCC'S BIKKUR CHOLIM COMMITTEE

Joyce Peckman, Gloria Avner, and Laurie Blum have embarked on a journey to help promote the well being of KJCC members. These three women are taking part in the Refuat Ha'Nefesh class offered through Mishkan Miami, a division of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. This class started in October and runs through April 2021. As a result of COVID 19, this year's class is virtual. As such, we couldn't miss such a wonderful opportunity.

The class is all about healing, spiritual healing. A Mitzvah Project is required for our class. We are so blessed that KJCC has such helpful members who are willing to step up when they see a need. A member needs a ride to a doctor's appointment. A member may be confined to their home for health reasons, but would welcome a phone call to check in, or maybe a visit after COVID. Someone may need a helping hand after a hospital stay. You get the idea. Many of us are doing this already for members that we know. How about we extend our outreach? We would love to have you be part of this committee.

We are recruiting volunteers to help in whatever capacity you are willing, able, and comfortable doing. Initially, we plan to start small with calls to members who we haven't seen or heard from in a while. This is especially true since we've gone virtual for services and programs, and not everyone is willing and able to do Zoom. A short chat once a week might be the highlight of the recipient's week. If nothing else, it would certainly brighten his or her day. Joyce, Gloria, & Laurie are working on putting together a list of those members we haven't heard from in a while. So....

If you know of anyone, please contact Laurie 414-698-5647 or blum1212@gmail.com

If you, yourself, would like to receive a call, please contact Laurie. It's hard to ask for help, but KJCC is family. Most of us don't have relatives living in the Keys, but we have each other. We can only help those members that we know of.

If you'd like to be on our committee, please contact Laurie and let her know how you'd like to assist.

REMEMBER...IT'S A MITZVAH!!!



Lots of Latkes

Creativity has come to the realm of potato pancakes. We love the classics but oh the exciting possibilities of colorful, otherly textured vegetables. Think zucchini and beets, cauliflower and carrots, spinach and turnips. And then there's the realm of shape. Enjoy the process. Here's a little peek into a page or two of our coming KJCC Sisterhood Cookbook. Bring your creations to the Virtual Chanukah Dinner on December 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Latkes Classic

Makes about 24 pancakes

- 1 medium onion, peeled
- 4 large russet or Idaho potatoes (about 3 1/2 pounds), peeled
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 6 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- Applesauce and/or sour cream, for serving

1. Preheat oven to 200°F. Place 2 nonstick baking sheets in oven.
2. Using box grater or food processor fitted with grating disc, coarsely grate onion and place in colander set in sink. Coarsely grate potatoes, add to colander, and set aside to drain.
3. In large mixing bowl, lightly beat eggs, then whisk in flour.
4. Press potatoes and onion to extract as much liquid as possible, then add to egg/flour mixture. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Using wooden spoon or hands, mix well, but do not overwork.
5. In heavy-bottomed, 12-inch skillet over moderately high heat, heat 1 tablespoon oil and 1 tablespoon butter until hot but not smoking. Drop 4 scant 1/4-cup portions of potato mixture into pan and flatten with spatula to form four 3-inch pancakes.
6. Fry until bottoms are golden-brown, 4 to 5 minutes, then turn over and fry until golden-brown and crisp, an additional 4 to 5 minutes. Transfer to paper towels to drain; season immediately with salt and pepper. Keep warm on baking sheets in oven while making remaining pancakes.

1. Using paper towels, carefully wipe out pan. Add 1 tablespoon oil and 1 tablespoon butter and fry 4 more pancakes. Repeat with remaining batter, wiping out pan and adding 1 tablespoon oil and 1 tablespoon butter before each batch.
2. Serve pancakes hot with applesauce and/or sour cream.



Gingered Carrot Latkes

Donna Bolton

- 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
- 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).



Cauliflower Latkes • Gloria Avner

- 1 2lb bag frozen cauliflower
- 2 fresh pressed garlic
- ½ tsp salt
- 6Tbs reduced fat cream cheese
- 2 eggs
- 1Tbs flour
- 1 Tbs olive oil

- Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil. Add the cauliflower, and simmer for 10 minutes or until soft. Drain and return the cauliflower to the pot. Using a potato masher, mash the cooked cauliflower. Add the garlic, salt, cream cheese, eggs, flour and olive oil and mix until well combined.

- Heat 3 Tbs oil in a frying pan. Drop cauliflower mixture by tablespoon into the hot oil. Cook until nicely browned on both sides. Serve immediately with a dollop of sour cream.

- These freeze well and are delicious when warmed up in the oven at 300 F for about 15 minutes.

Latkes • Lisa Miller

- small bag Yukon Gold potatoes
 - 2-3 large sweet onions
 - 2 gala apples
 - 2-3 eggs
 - 1/4 cup +/- flour
 - little baking powder
 - salt/pepper
-
- peel/grate potatoes, apples and onions
 - put mixture in bowl and add eggs salt pepper and flour (with baking powder mixed in) – mix well.
 - Heat oil in pan – fry pancakes med heat.
- Place on paper towels in metal pan.
can freeze and take out all year.

Sweet potato latkes with apple-sauce • Roos-Mary Benowitz

Serves 4

- 2 Golden Delicious (or similar) apples, peeled and cubed
 - 2 teaspoons honey, divided
 - Dash of cinnamon
 - Dash of salt
 - 10 ounces sweet potatoes, peeled & grated
 - 1/2 teaspoon cardamom
 - 1/4 cup flour
 - 1 egg, beaten
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 1/3 cup vegetable oil
 - 8 ounces sour cream
- Place apples in a small saucepan. Add cinnamon, dash of salt and half the honey. Add just enough water to cover the bottom of the saucepan. Cook on medium-low heat, covered, until the Apple chunks become soft and mushy. Add more water as needed to prevent burning. Apples should resemble a chunk h sauce. This should take at least 30 minutes.
- Mix the sweet potatoes, cardamom, flour, egg and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Heat the oil in a large skillet over high heat until oil glazes over and is hot. Turn heat to medium-low. Add 1/8 to 1/4 cup spoonfuls of the potato mixture to the pan, patting gently with a slotted spatula to flatten. Cook about 2 to 3 minutes per side, until golden brown. Remove from heat. Drain excess oil using a rack or paper towels.
 - Serve hot with applesauce and sour cream.

Celery & Cilantro Relish

- 2 cups finely diced celery
 - 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
 - 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro
 - 2 teaspoons Sherry wine vinegar
- Combine all ingredients in medium bowl
- Season with salt and pepper
 - Let stand at least 30 minutes
 - Can be made 6 hours ahead, cover and chill

Latkes-Beet • Donna Bolton

- 6 cups coarsely shredded peeled beets (about 6 medium)
 - 6 T all purpose flour
 - 1 1/2 t salt
 - 1 1/2 t ground cumin
 - 3/4 t ground coriander
 - 3/4 t baking powder
 - 1/4 t black pepper
 - 3 eggs
- 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 1/4 cupfuls into skillet; spread to 3 1/2" 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.



PHOTO GALLERY



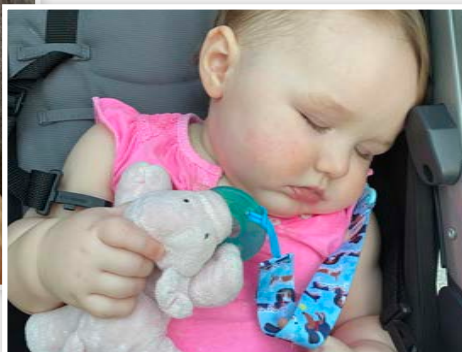
We may not be able to meet indoors for worship or meals and holiday celebration right now, but we are always welcome to walk through and have a peaceful sit in our lovely KJCC Meditation Garden. Enjoy the many trees, engraved bricks, orchids and resting benches dedicated to our beloved friends.



Gloria celebrates an open-air Covid-careful birthday:



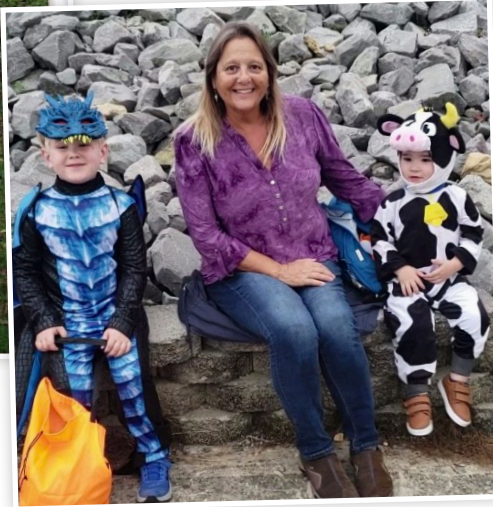
Gloria's newest great grandson, Niko.



And her great granddaughter Jackson, who helps put ChaiLights together (Lacy's daughter).



No wonder Susan drives to Tennessee for two weeks every two months. Who wouldn't want to hang out with such a cute blue dragon and baby cow (grandsons Rhett and Hank).

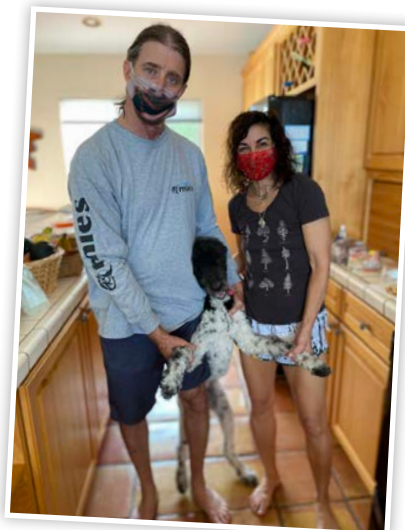


Photos from Mindy and Rabbi Agler's trip out West. They only wished they could have spent more relaxed time seeing the sights.

Thanksgiving



Buddy loves eating Thanksgiving dinner from Erica's plate.



Roy Pollack and Elizabeth and poodle Violet Pearl. Visiting Key Largo for Thanksgiving.



Susan Gordon, under her chickee, with her Thanksgiving Feast!



Gloria's turkeyless table with Beef Wellington and lots of cranberry.

Post Thanksgiving neighborhood walk with Lacy, ChaiLights designer, and Gloria's great-granddaughter Jackson.

Jane Friedman Receives KJCC's Highest Honor

Let the Standing Ovation Begin!

It's not easy keeping a secret for nine months. One could produce an entire human being in that time. We were excited for our recipient. We just wanted to honor an exceptional human being, and we wanted to do it in person with as many of our mishpocha present as possible. The plaque had been engraved, the presentation had been planned for the day of our 40th Anniversary Gala, and then, one week ahead, Covid-19 pulled the rug out from under us.

Joel Cohen and his wife Sarah were the founding force and spirit behind the KJCC. When it was decided to give an annual award to the person who most embodied that indomitable, hard working spirit, it was a natural that the first recipient would be Joel and that the award would be named after him. Many of

those now gone from us and lots still with us keep this place alive and thriving and these past winners are the ones who nominate and vote on each year's winner. I



Steve came with a truck and tools to help his wife clean out the garden. He was as surprised and delighted as Jane, and quelled when she said, "I could not have done any of this without my husband, Steve."

want to share the strong nominating letter that came in from Sam Vinicur for Jane Friedman this year.

It was greeted enthusiastically and Jane was elected unanimously:

The Joel Cohen Fellowship Award "is not a popularity contest, or a gift to give to friends. It's to recognize the person or couple who has, aside from other winners, made the greatest ongoing contributions to the health, well-being, sustenance and mission of KJCC for the longest and most sustained period of time. It isn't necessarily given to someone who's been flashy or particularly visible. In fact, my favorite winners have been the unsung heroes, the people who quietly and consistently do the day-to-day work that adds up to making KJCC not only work but become a better place. I'm specifically thinking fondly here of Marc Bloom, Rene Rose and Jules & Nettie.

So, in that spirit, my candidate for this year is Jane Friedman. To me she's the only person who checks off all the boxes. It isn't just the dutiful maintenance of Harry's garden and regular, vital contributions to the hungry in our midst, though that's huge and too many do not realize the delightful reflection that offers to KJCC. Do you enjoy the coffee and delicacies of the KJCC onegs, plus so much of the ready availability of plates and utensils for dinners?



"Oh no! I don't deserve this. I never expected it. I do what I do because I love it." – You do deserve it Jane. We love you.

Jane shops for those, week after week, month after month, year after year, with no fanfare or attempt to shine a spotlight on her. She's always one to help with anything else anyone asks of her, be it leading services or running errands or schlepping mulch on behalf of KJCC. And they often ask, because Jane always makes herself available and then quietly and efficiently just makes things happen. It is said that both armies and synagogues run on their stomachs. Well, Jane is the quartermaster who just makes everything in the background work. It's easy to come up with ideas, or opine about what needs to be done. Jane is the one who always just does it. (I haven't even mentioned the flowers and the regular attendance at virtually everything from her home in Homestead.) And she has done all this for a long time. She deserves recognition."



Donna, Erica and Yardena, thank you for your work in the hot afternoon sun. We're glad Jane saved you from the snake.

Snake? Yes, a snake appeared out of the underbrush, fat, scary and long according to Erica, a dangerous coral snake according to Jane. Our indomitable gardener and master chef, the 9th of 13 children, is not fazed by dangerous beasts. She warned everyone away, grabbed an appropriate tool and swiftly dispatched it.



Past Honorees and a few garden friends gather in our Meditation Garden to bear witness to this amazing talented, hardworking, humble woman.

Within 24 hours, the verdict was a unanimous fait accompli. And what was Jane's reaction when a small assembly of previous winners and friends surprised Jane with her plaque at a scheduled November workday to get the KJCC Harry Friedman Organic Garden ready for winter planting?

"Oh no! I don't deserve this. I never expected it. I do what I do because I love it." – You do deserve it Jane. We love you. ◇

Jane Friedman

*For all the years you've cared for us,
In graceful ways great and small,
Quietly providing for KJCC's needs
Shopping, cooking, service leading,
Digging holes for trees,
Sharing the bounty
Of son Harry's organic garden,
Nourishing the needy,
You are our unsung hero.*

*We honor your generosity of spirit
With gratitude and love.*

The Jews of Azerbaijan

The Russian-brokered peace and territorial exchange ending the conflict between majority-Muslim Azerbaijan and majority-Christian Armenia is recent news. The New York Times had photos of Armenians burning their homes as they left for relocation to Armenia. The U.N. will supervise the return of Azerbaijanis to their former communities. So, an article in Tablet written by Milikh Yevdayev, head of the Community of Azerbaijan's Mountain Jews, caught my attention. Here is a synopsis. – Joyce Peckman

On Nov. 10, the 44-day war between Armenia and Azerbaijan ended. Armenia agreed to withdraw from territories it had occupied since the 1990's, when they invaded villages in Azerbaijan's Karabakh region, destroying homes, turning ancient mosques into barns, slaughtering many civilians and forcibly displacing 800,000 people. Before that had been the March Genocide of 1918, when Armenian Dashnaks and Bolsheviks massacred 12,000 Muslim civilians in the capital city of Baku within a few days. Many Jews tried to save their Muslim neighbors. The pogroms then spread throughout the country, targeting both Muslims and Jews, killing over 50,000. Muslims and Jews fought and died together.

When the recent war began, an additional 250,000 people were forcibly exiled from Armenia. Days before the November ceasefire, Azerbaijan took back the city of Susha, its cultural capital and the place where Albert Agarunov, a Jewish tank commander, became a national war hero in 1992. It might seem strange that there is a statue and a street in the capital honoring a fallen Jewish soldier in a Muslim country, but his is the story of the remarkable cultural coexistence of Azerbaijan.

Jews have lived in Azerbaijan for over 2,000 years, since the destruction on the Second Temple, living in peace with Zoro-

astrians, then Christians, then Muslims. In 1742 the Muslim ruler of the Quba region gave the Jews resources to build a flourishing town of their own. Many Russian and Eastern European Jews tried to flee there for safety and called it "Little Jerusalem." Today, called "Red Town," it is the only all-Jewish town outside of Israel or New York State. It boasts a flourishing community, with incomparably beautiful synagogues, schools, kosher restaurants and organizations for Mizrahi and Ashkenazi Jews. About 30,000 Jews live in Azerbaijan, involved in all facets of life, including all three branches of government.

Azerbaijan has a long tradition of standing on the right side of history. It protected Jews over the centuries and sheltered 10,000 European Jews fleeing the Holocaust. Hitler had his eyes set on Azerbaijan's oil fields. While the German Wehrmacht included an Armenian legion that helped the Nazis round up resistance fighters and Jews, one fifth of the adult men of Azerbaijan died fighting Nazi Germany. Since its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, Azerbaijan has been a strong ally of Israel. While the world celebrates the recent treaties signed by Israel with other Muslim nations, Azerbaijan stands as the long-time exemplar of this peace process – proof that multifaith harmony works and brings benefits for everyone.



TAKE CARE: A SERIES

Mindy Agler



Well, it's been quite a year. I don't think I need to remind anyone of the challenges of 2020! By the time you read this, the election will be over and we will be preparing for Chanukah and the arrival of 2021. Let's take this opportunity to look at how we can improve our self-care and reduce our stress levels for the new year. This is the first in a series of articles on the subject, and the first stress-buster we will consider is to BREATHE!

Breathe: It sounds so simple, yet it can be so easily forgotten. When we get stressed, we tend to hold our breath. And the more we hold our breath, the more stressed we get, because our cells aren't getting the oxygen they need to function optimally. Anything we can do to improve our awareness of our breathing is therefore beneficial. Yoga, pilates, working with weights, dancing, running, singing, all include proper breathing patterns in their practice. Getting exercise will help not only with breathing, but also with increasing stress-reducing brain chemicals that will improve our moods. So get out there and move! Meditation is also a practice that has been shown to have both physical and emotional benefits. There are probably as many ways to meditate as there are people on the planet, but I have a very simple meditation that I think is great for beginners.

Before we begin, a few words about meditation in general. Meditation is an attempt to rein in our brains from what they are designed to do: think 24/7. Even when we sleep, our brains are working. So getting our brain to slow down is a challenge, and is what we strive for when meditating. Meditation is NOT an opportunity for us to criticize ourselves. When a thought pops up during our practice, we can just notice it, like clouds blowing in the breeze or leaves floating downstream. The idea is to notice the thoughts, but not attach to them, and if you do attach, to bring yourself back to the meditation as soon as

you're aware you've strayed. No judgment!

There are probably as many ways to meditate as there are people on the planet. I am going to teach a very simple meditation here that involves pairing your breath with counting up to 10 and back down to 1 several times. I will talk you through it so you can just focus on your breath and not worry about the mechanics. A note about attaching to thoughts: sometimes when I am using this technique, I find myself at 24—remember I just said we will be counting up to 10 and back down to 1. When I realize I have gotten off track, I just note that I must really be needing to meditate at that time, and I go back to 1 and start over. Again, NO judgment.

To try out the simple counting meditation, click <https://voca.ro/1okcAZMcg5OK>

I hope you found that calming. The deep breaths at the beginning and end are important, so don't skip them! Remember to breathe at your own pace, regular breathing in and out through your nose for the counting parts. That session was about 5 minutes. You will get the most benefit from practicing on a daily basis, preferably at the same time, and on an empty stomach. You can start with 5 minutes and work up to 20 minutes. If you think you like the idea of meditation, but this one didn't work for you, please find other techniques to try. There are several apps and you-tubes to investigate! And when you're ready to do this on your own, the trick is that every inhale is an odd number, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and every exhale is an even number, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10. So transition from 10 on an exhale back to 9 on an inhale.

I hope this was helpful, and I'll have more suggestions for managing stress in the next issue of Chai Lights! ♦

"Etz Chaim Hi" Happy Birthday, Tree of Life

By Gloria Avner

When spring arrives and you first see a fruit tree burst forth with blossoms, there is a blessing we are told to say: Baruch Atah Adonai Elohainu Melech ha-Olam, Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who did not cause any lack in this world, but created in it good creatures and good trees that all may enjoy them." As Jews, we are nothing if not constantly attentive to "firsts" and grateful to be alive to celebrate them. Witness all our "She-hechyanu's". But this prayer, and these trees, are even more special. The Kabbalah teaches that the blessing upon blossoming fruit trees, Bircat Hallanot, can redeem souls.

Imagine it is Shabbat morning in normal times. We're getting ready to take out the Torah. Rabbi chants: "L'dor va dor ." We echo with gusto: "L'dor va dor," from generation to generation. There is pride in our on-goingness, and in almost every mention of continuity there is metaphor. In every metaphor, at bottom, is a tree.

As children we learn to count growth rings to tell the age of a tree. When we want to document our personal ancestry, generation to generation, we make a graph of continuity and call it a family tree. Awe sets in early when we discover that trees use the carbon dioxide waste we exhale to make their food and they then excrete oxygen. We breathe their air, eat their fruit, and plant their seeds to make new trees. The linkage between trees and man, physically and metaphorically extends throughout every field of study from biblical history to anthropology, art, poetry, philosophy, biology, and mysticism. The deep-rooted fascination (pun intended) crosses cultural

boundaries, continents, and centuries. On the 15th day (the number Tet Vav, pronounced Tu) of Sh'vat, the Jewish take on trees comes to life.

Because Tu B'Shvat marks the last of the winter rains in Israel, it also marks the time when life force in the form of sap begins to rise from earth, roots, and tree trunk to the growing tips of branches. Seasons transition from death like winter stasis to a promise of spring and budding fruit growth. The day is not just a birthday, but the beginning of a New Year for the Trees, one of the four distinct New Years that Jews celebrate over the course of one calendar year.

For us, the tree is a double symbol, representing both Man and Torah. From the psalmists we hear ". . . a man is as a tree of the field." From our liturgy on Shabbat morning, we sing "Etz chaim hi." Torah is a "tree of life" for all who cling to it. Both man and Torah have roots, trunk, branches, and fruit, all the major elements of a tree.

The roots of man, the Jewish people, are our ancestors, our matriarchs and patriarchs, the whole book of Genesis. The trunk is the whole body of the Jewish people, the "signers-on" to the covenant at Sinai, who received the Torah and entered the Promised Land, the cast of the Book of Exodus.

In Hebrew, the word for tribe is Shevet, a word close to Sh'vat, the name of this month and also the exact word for branch of a tree, all who came before us, survived oppression, and nurtured coming generations in the ways of Judaism. Our tribes are our branches, spreading out from but still attached to the trunk, with sub branches from original branches reaching all the way to and throughout the diaspora.

What is the fruit? The fruit of Man and

the fruit of the Torah are the same: the good deeds of every living soul. When Rabbi Agler talks on a Shabbat morning of those deeds that we cannot do too much of – visiting the sick, honoring our parents, consoling the bereaved, celebrating with bride and groom – studying Torah is the last act mentioned, and said to be the greatest, because, as the verse goes on, the study of Torah leads to them all.

One interpretation of Torah's roots, trunk, and branches are its inner secrets, the concealed mother and father principle explored in Kabbalah, and the body of written and oral Torah with all the different methods of commentary. Torah's fruits can be seen as new insights that flow to those who devote themselves to its study and share those insights with the world, resulting in tikkun olam actions.

People, Torah and trees. There are very specific laws (Halacha) that interrelate the three. We are told not to harvest the fruit of a tree until it is three years old. Even in war, it is forbidden to cut down a fruit tree. There are laws about gleaning. And numerology (Gematria) adds even more mystical depth.

The period from Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat to Tu B'Shvat falls exactly between the two holidays of Chanukah and Purim. From the last day of Chanukah until Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat there are 29 days. From the 2nd of Shevat until Tu B'shvat there are 14 days. Following Tu B'shvat, from the 16th to the day of Purim again there are 29 days. 2 times 29 (58, the value of the word chen, "grace" and "symmetry") plus 14 gives a total of 72 days, the value of chesed, "lovingkindness". We come back to the fruits of Man and Torah, "gemilut chasadim." From the fruits of kind deeds we move to fruits we can eat. The holiday of Chanukah is the holiday of pure olive oil. The holiday of Purim is the holiday of wine. All of the seven species and fruits of the land of Israel are contained within and encompassed by these two primary fruits.

Remember all the years in the school-

room when we held the mystical seder devised more than 5 centuries ago in S'fat during the time of the Ari. We would sample all 15 varieties of fruit, listen to stories, drink four cups of "wine" progressing from pure white to rose to russet to pure red, symbolizing each season of the year. And then we'd plant a tree or two, sing and dance and say the blessings from the Torah.

The words of the first psalm describe a person who follows the Torah: "she shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in season; her leaf shall not wither; and whatsoever she does shall prosper."



ADULT EDUCATION PRESENTS: REVIEWS & RECOMMENDATIONS

December 6 at 2 PM, the Israeli Philharmonic offers a Pre-Hannukah Global Celebration at no charge. The concert will feature works by award winning composer Hans Zimmer, the Music Director of the Israel Philharmonic, Lahav Shani and Ronalee Shimon – star of Fauda and Ester Rada – an Ethiopian jazz singer. There is no cost; you can register here: <https://www.afipo.org/mmm-rsvp/>

On December 8 at 1 PM, the ongoing series from Friends of the IDF will continue with Stories Behind the Headlines – Fighting Media Bias Against Israel with Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus, IDF International Spokesperson and Head of International Public Affairs, Public Diplomacy and Social Media. Register here at no cost: <https://www.fidf.org/events/behind-the-headlines/behind-headlines-fighting-media-bias-against-israel>

Future programs will include stories from the Secret UAE Peace Treaty Negotiations – with Ambassador David Friedman and Unearthing Terror's Tunnels – with Col. Yuval Moshe, Chief of the IDF Engineering Corps, Southern Command, I am delighted to tell you that Rabbi Ed Rosenthal will present a lecture for KJCC in which he will explore the gap between timelines of science and the Jewish calendar. Rabbi



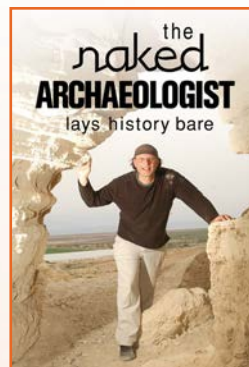
This is a pic of Emek haBacha - the Valley of Tears - if Syria would have gained control of the plateau in the pic - Syria would have had total control over the valley and area below.



Ed, who is well known to all of us, will deliver his presentation over Zoom on **December 17th at 7:30**. Since December 17th is also the last day of Chanukah, we will open the evening with the lighting of *Chanukiyot* and a brief Drash (teaching/explanation) on Chanukah. See Poster, **PP XX** Please join us for an interesting and informative evening. Mark your calendar.

Lastly – I challenge you to watch FAUDA on Netflix. Fauda (Arabic for “chaos”) is an award-winning Israeli series that ran for 3 seasons for a total of 36 episodes. The series was developed by Lior Raz and Avi Issacharoff, drawing on their experiences in the Israel Defense Forces. The series premiered on February 15, 2015. It tells the story of Doron, a commander in the Mista'arvim unit and his team as they pursue a Hamas arch-terrorist known as “The Panther”. The series follows the activities of an Israeli undercover intelligence unit composed of individuals who read, write and speak fluent Arabic. They operate in the West Bank and, in the third season, in the Gaza Strip. (You think you have been under

stress???) The series was even praised by the New York Times (not Israel's greatest fan). And, yes, Virginia, excuse me, I mean Gittel, by popular demand a 4th season will be forthcoming.



Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot ...

People leave us, people who have been incredibly important to KJCC over the years. We had a chance to say a good bon voyage to Mindy and Rabbi Agler, but not to Dr. Steve and Barbara Smith. I asked a few questions and learned some KJCC history. We also received some amazing videos of Steve playing multiple brass instruments in Cuba. Check them out. What he does not talk about is the research he did and the beautiful book he published about our holocaust torah and the hysterically funny Purim spiels he'd write and perform with his son every year. In his own words...

Thanks for asking about Barbara and me. We certainly hope that all are well in the Keys. As you know I retired on July 1 of this year. Our permanent home at that point moved to Orlando, Florida, to be close to our daughter Rebecca and her children, our grandchildren Landon and Skyler. We will now spend the extended summers in Plymouth, Massachusetts. As a matter of fact the pandemic has extended the summer to the point that we are still there, and it certainly is no longer summer. In Plymouth, we are about an hour ride away from our son Brian's family, his wife Carrie, and their two children Tommy and Delia Grace. Our goals in retirement were not only to spend more time with the children and grandchildren, but to travel extensively as well as participate with as many bands as possible.

As a result of the COVID 19 pandemic we travel, but just in a slightly different manner. In June one early Saturday morning we got in the car and drove nonstop 21 hours from Orlando to Plymouth. We

Barbara the filmographer
enjoying a break



Steve and Kids



see Brian's family about once per week in a social isolation manner. We have not stepped foot in a restaurant. For exercise, I take the garbage out and go to the mailbox at non-peak hours. My music has become primarily 1 1/2 to 3 hours per day practice. My band is a one-man band, which performs on YouTube. I have learned to audio and video edit. Find at: <https://youtu.be/Yy8iP7ka1rA> and <https://youtu.be/OwI0c5ifZqY> as well as https://youtu.be/Xiui6rC7_RM

A Smith family Halloween



As for services, in our isolation we have attended the Or Ha Lev Zoom Services where my sister-in-law is the Rabbi and my brother acts as the Cantor. The files above were prepared for their High Holiday Services.

Our diets have become plant based. I don't think that would be possible without "Social Isolation"! It is good that we have been married 42 years.

As far as ancient history, Barbara and I moved to the Keys in 1979 when I completed my General Surgical Residency. We thought we'd spend a year in "Paradise"

and return to the big city. Staying 41 years was not in our plans. Our involvement with the KJCC started in 1982 with a Passover Seder in Marathon at the "Wooden Spoon" Restaurant, which at that time was owned by Susan and Stephen Ban, Judy Greenman's parents. We also attended events at Leo Goldner's house in Marathon. I recall the Horn family attending. In 1984 we started attending services at the KJCC's current location in what is now the Ruth Richardson Social Hall. Service leaders included Dr. Mike Rubin, Joel Cohen, Dr and Mrs Iser and others. We became friends with Ruth Richardson as well as Al and Pauline Roller. As the congregation became more established, the current sanctuary was built. In 1991 after a short lapse in attendance we returned to services on a regular basis. Around that time, along with Muriel Swartz, Bea Graham, Susan Gordon, and myself, we established the Hebrew School. What was very frightening, before we hired a teacher, was that I was one of the teachers. My old Hebrew School Principal was probably turning over in his grave.

Both of our children went through the Hebrew School and became Bar and Bat Mitzvah at the KJCC. During that time I was on the Board for many years, participated with the Holocaust Committee including giving lectures, and received the Joel Cohen Award.

Thanks for everything, Steve and Barbara Your KJCC mishpocha



View YouTube video An American in Havana – too good to miss. Steve playing at list 4 different brass instruments, with himself, simultaneously, Havana in the background.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Owl0c5ifZqY>

Two other key people who have moved away are George and Muriel Swartz. They are sponsoring an Oneg for George's 90th birthday.

When I think of celebrating George's birthday, my memories are always woven together with evenings at Pauline Roller's house, with Yardena, the schoolkids and as many of the KJCC mishpocha as we could fit in her trailer. Good friends, good music, laughter, kids playing dreidel on the rug, grownups sampling latkes and sharing laughter. And then it was time to sing to George. It is all of a piece for me. We, your mishpocha away from home, are delighted to celebrate with you. George too made a great impact at KJCC and was both its president and a Joel Cohen Award winner. In Muriel's words:

As with most people these days, we are "hangin' in there" doing our best to try to make it through the pandemic. We miss not being able to join with our family from time to time as we had been doing during the last three years that we have been living in Hal-landale Beach. We have wonderful memories of our 26 years at the KJCC and are grateful for the friendships we made there with so many truly exceptional people.

We send love to all the KJCC mishpocha and hope they and all their loved ones will



Here is a "Keys " photo of us a "few" years ago. it was taken at the wedding reception of Gerri and Frank Emkey on March 16, 2008... We had just snapped a photo of Linda and Joel Pollack and then they snapped one for us!

stay safe and well. As George turns 90 (WOW!....God willing) on December 9th, we'll have an intimate twosome celebration at our home looking out on the lovely intracoastal waterway. Hoping for calm and peace in the U.S.A. and all the world....BEST always....

Love,
Muriel and George



Lee Schur was a high powered active member who brought us the original idea of having a Women's Seder. Now she lives near family in Chicago. Here she sits telling stories to her great grandson.

Forgotten? Never!!


New Moon in Kislev: Rekindling Our Dreams

A letter from Lucinda Kurtz

As we enter the new moon of the Hebrew month of Kislev, we experience the darkest time of the year, the time when we must use our intuition, understanding, and courage to bring in the light, to keep our faith burning strong and clear in the midst of darkness, chaos and fear. In this moment, we are called to maintain our vigilance, our determination, our perseverance, as the very foundation of our democracy is challenged and a virulent pandemic is sweeping through our world.

Throughout the history of the Jewish people and many others, there have been those leaders who wish to usurp power to themselves. And there are those forces that rise up in protest. We saw it in ancient times when a small band of dedicated souls, the Maccabees, sparked an uprising against the ruler of the Seleucid Empire, attracting enough followers to achieve victory. The 36 candles we light during the eight nights of Chanukah honor their bravery and the human spirit reaching for freedom, for justice, for light.





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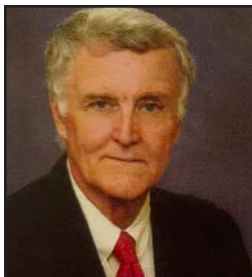
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