

# Chai~Lights



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July 1 - August 31, 2023

12 Tammuz - 14 Elul, 5783

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**KJCC Does Shabbabeque – Pages 20-21**

**“Milk, Honey and Water” by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal – Pages 22-23**

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Services every Friday at 7:30pm Names denote service leaders. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors.						1 JUL
2 Sunday Funday Game Day 2 p.m.	3 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	4 Independence Day	5	6	7 Joyce Peckman & Donna Bolton <i>Steve &amp; Jan Hartz</i> <i>Joyce Peckman</i>	8
9	10 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	11	12	13	14 Joe Shabathai <i>Nadine Thompson</i>	15
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30	31 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	1 AUG	2	3	4 Donna Bolton & Beth Hayden <i>Joe &amp; Kathy</i> <i>Shabathai</i>	5
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13 KJCC Board Meeting on Zoom 10 a.m.	14 Drop-in Zoom Chat 2 p.m.	15	16	17 Rosh Chodesh Elul	18 Gloria Avner, Art Itkin, & Michael Kaufman <i>Loni &amp; Dave Padden</i> Rosh Chodesh Elul	19
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## 2022 - 2023 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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**CHAI-LIGHTS** is the  
bimonthly publication of the  
**Keys Jewish Community Center**  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Ken Atlas



I'm excited for the summer. By now, everyone must've noticed all the changes we've made around the KJCC property. With the completion of a FEMA grant, we were able to build a fence and electronic gate. I think, it looks surprisingly nice. We have also replaced all of our outer doors with newer and stronger ones. And the new ones have beautiful logos. I especially love the tree of life, painted by our own Gloria. Thank you Gloria. Thanks also, to Beth Hayden and Steve Hartz who got the

ball rolling. And to Joyce, Susan, Donna and Lorena Kaufman for being there while the work was completed.

I cannot wait for the Shabbat on June 30th. I still think of Pauline (whose birthday coincides with this event). Hopefully, she'll be with us in spirit.

Finally, the High Holidays will be here before we know it. I wish everyone a safe and happy summer. ◇

### Shabbat Service Leaders

July 7 ..... Joyce Peckman & Donna Bolton  
July 14 ..... Joe Shabathai  
July 21 ..... Erica Lieberman Garrett & Art Itkin  
July 28 ..... Ken Atlas & Art Itkin  
August 4 ..... Donna Bolton & Beth Hayden  
August 11 ..... Erica Lieberman Garrett & Linda Pollack  
August 18 .... Gloria Avner, Art Itkin & Michael Kaufman  
August 25 ..... Rivka Rizzo

# WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

## July & August 2023

Most of our activities are on-site at the KJCC.  
Please check the weekly announcements for details.

Every Monday 2 p.m. Drop-in Zoom Chat. Contact Steve Hartz

Sunday, July 2 2 p.m. Sunday Funday Game Day – Led by Cheryl & Jeff Margulies

Tuesday, July 4 Independence Day

Friday, July 7 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Joyce Peckman & Donna Bolton

Friday, July 14 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Joe Shabathai

Wednesday, July 19 Rosh Chodesh Av

Friday, July 21 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Erica Lieberman Garrett & Art Itkin

Thursday, July 27 12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club on Zoom.  
Tisha B'Av

Friday, July 28 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Ken Atlas & Art Itkin

Sunday, August 6 10 a.m. Sisterhood Meeting on Zoom  
2 p.m. Sunday Funday Game Day – Led by Cheryl & Jeff Margulies

Friday, August 4 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Donna Bolton & Beth Hayden

Friday, August 11 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Erica Lieberman Garrett & Linda Pollack

Sunday, August 13 10 a.m. KJCC Board Meeting on Zoom

Thursday, August 17 Rosh Chodesh Elul

Friday, August 18 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Gloria Avner, Art Itkin & Michael Kaufman  
Rosh Chodesh Elul

Thurs, August 24 12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club on Zoom

Friday, August 25 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service – Led by Rivka Rizzo



NOSH

Book Club

Summer meetings will continue, but only on Zoom, as we truly love the opportunity to get together. With many of us traveling or summering elsewhere, Zoom has become a way of life. So do come on and say hello, join in the conversation about the book if you wish, or just visit. After several months of heavy WWII historical fiction, we are lightening the reading for the summer with two well recommended books. Both are debut novels about women faced with cultures that limit their life choices.

Thursday, July 27th at 12:30 we meet on Zoom to talk about Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus. This is a sharp yet funny novel about a 1960’s female scientist who was sidelined in her career and hoodwinked into hosting a television cooking show.

August 31st will be the day we discuss Alina Rubin’s A Girl with a Knife. In the early 19th Century, when wealthy young ladies were expected to do little more than embroidery, Ella wants to be a surgeon.

Security Upgrades

When you come to KJCC Congregation Ohr Hayam for High Holy Day services, you will find some changes that will make us more secure. We have new metal front doors replacing our old glass doors. All of the other doors have been upgraded and replaced. We also have a metal gate protecting the entrance to the building which can be opened either remotely or by entering a code. If you have not received the code, contact Ken Atlas, Joyce Peckman or Susan Gordon.

Conversational Hebrew Class!!

Many of you were sorry when Yarden moved away and couldn’t teach her Hebrew classes any more. So here is some good news. His name is Ira Lack and he is an experienced Hebrew teacher. Classes are tentatively scheduled for after Simchat Torah. See Ira’s new ad in the back of this issue to see his other helpful skills, repairing computers. Welcome to the mishpocha, Ira.

Dues & Donations Packets Will Soon be Mailed

We thank you in advance for your thoughtful generosity in supporting all we do to keep our shul alive, in good repair, and vibrant.◇

Anniversaries		
July		Years
2nd	Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross .....	23
9th	Terry Willner-Tainow & Jon Tainow .....	51
18th	Gary & Laurie Grossinger .....	
August		
4th	Arnold and Tina Klein .....	57
7th	Larry & Dorothy Wolfe.....	66
14th	Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer.....	51
15th	Richard & Barbara Knowles .....	24
15th	Paul & Susan Roberts .....	55
16th	Ira & Shirley Stein .....	65
16th	Jeff & Lynn Dils .....	38
21st	Jeff & Lisa Miller.....	46

## 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](mailto: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 Loni Padden 305-772-2584 or email at [dr.padden@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.padden@yahoo.com).

**CARING KEHILAH/SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:** If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations, condolence card, or phone call from the KJCC, call Lonie Padden, 305-772-2584, or email [dr.padden@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.padden@yahoo.com).

**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](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com). Further Information about pricing can be found on the KJCC website: [keysjewishcenter.com](http://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.

### 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.

# 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.

## MAY & JUNE 2023

Yahrzeit	In Honor/Memory of	Other
Marshall & Myra Kaplan.....	Max Tuchman Les Reitman	Michael & Lorena Kaufman..... Banner for KLS
Larry & Dorothy Wolfe.....	Rose Fine	<b>Unrestricted</b>
David & Pamela Marmar .....	Mercedes Pietromartire	Donna Bolton..... Medina's Birthday
Donna Forst.....	Erna Forst	Laurie Blum & Gary Margolis ..... Medina's Birthday
Medina Roy.....	Carl Roy Leon Kirschenbaum	Joe & Bobbie Pennar..... Trash clean-up
Michael & Lorena Kaufman.....	Lucy Kaufman Ruth Rosen Emilia Mendez Celestina Bravo-Mendez Jack Kaufman	Steve & Jan Hartz ..... Annual Donation
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies.....	Max Margulies	Rivka Rizzo-Trent & Max Trent
Adam & Judy Starr.....	Norman James Schuman Manya Starr	KJCC Sisterhood ..... Annual Donation
Hermine Taramona .....	Robert Robinson	<b>Leaf for the Tree of Life</b>
Larry & Dorothy Wolfe.....	Frieda Feinberg	Linda Pollack..... Medina's Birthday
Susan Horn & Dot Brooking.....	Ron Horn Dot Horn	<b>— SISTERHOOD DONATIONS —</b>
Judith Weber .....	Alfred Eichler	<b>Onegs</b>
Ronald & Deborah Kaplan .....	Sidney Kaplan Catherine Kaplan	Joyce Peckman ..... Celebrating Her Birthday
Gloria Avner.....	David Gitin	Steve & Jan Hartz ..... Celebrating Their Anniversary & Steve's Milestone Birthday
<b>Meditation Garden</b>		Michael & Lorena Kaufman ..... Celebrating Their Anniversary & Michael's Birthday
Mindy & Richard Agler .....	In loving memory of my father, Jack Steinberg	Barney Coltman
		<b>Dinner sponsorship</b>
		Michael & Lorena Kaufman..... Shabbabaque



## *In Memoriam – July 2023*

### **Jack Steinberg**

By Richard & Mindy Agler

### **Sandra Kanarek**

By Wes & Rita Conklin

### **Ronald Horn**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

### **Margaret Isenberg**

By Patricia Isenberg

### **Miriam Margulies**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

### **Tracey Yvette Sinclair Mcmillon**

By Rivka Rizzo-Trent & Max Gordon Trent

### **Alan Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

### **Nettie Goodman**

By Gloria Avner

### **Sylvia Hershoff**

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

### **Jacob Ratchik**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

### **Chanoch Levy**

By Yardena Kamely

### **Isaac Cohen Pardo**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

### **Harold Rosenthal**

By Ed & Mindy Rosenthal

### **Harvey Kelman**

By Elaine Schulberg

### **Ralph Bofshever**

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

### **Manuel Hershoff**

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

### **Dorothy Horn**

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

### **Otto Kluger**

By Nancy Kluger

### **Fred Ross**

By Joyce Peckman

### **Beth Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

### **Stanley H. Klipper**

By Mary Lee Singer

### **Norman James Schuman**

By Adam & Judy Starr

### **Meyer G. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

### **Milton Swartz**

By Muriel Swartz

### **Frieda Feinberg**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

### **Manya Starr**

By Adam & Judy Starr

### **Ben Steinbock**

By Stephen Steinbock &  
Rosemary Barefoot

### **Alfred Eichler**

By Judith Weber

### **Mollie Z. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

### **Mack Swartz**

By Muriel Swartz

### **Albert White**

By Susan White

*Happy Birthday, Pauline Roller. You are not forgotten.*



## *In Memoriam – August 2023*

### **Sunny Andracchio**

By Zoe Berk-Moshe

### **Sidney Stark**

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

### **Jacob Ephraim Brush**

By James Brush

### **Henry Kirschenbaum**

By Marilyn Greenbaum

### **Eva Raub**

By Harvey & Judith Klein

### **Max Lieberman**

By Erica Lieberman Garrett

### **Josephine Margulies**

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

### **Isaac Berman**

By Sylvia Berman

### **Morris Abramson**

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

### **Elsie (Chava) Duman**

By Michael & Laura Duman

### **Sheldon David Horowitz**

By Beth Horowitz

### **Shirley Lieberman**

By Erica Lieberman Garrett

### **Mollie Lawent**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

### **Anne Hendin Margulies**

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

### **Sam Roazen**

By Sylvia Berman

### **Priscilla Leshin**

By Joan Boruszak

### **Jesse Ginsberg**

By Bernard Ginsberg

### **Shlomo Kaboli**

By Yardena Kamely

### **Billie Kornbloom**

By Erica Lieberman Garrett

### **Burton Margolis**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

### **Jim Nobil**

By Lynn Nobil

### **Chanoch Shiloh**

By Jan Price

### **Tom Klipper**

By Mary Lee Singer

### **Irving Kopecky**

By Adam & Judy Starr

### **James Nobil**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

### **Ralph Tallent**

By Lillian Tallent

### **Howard Shutan**

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

### **Selma Smith**

By Steven & Barbara Smith

### **Samuel Wainer**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

### **Milton Willner**

By Jon S. Tainow & Terry Willner-Tainow

### **Martha Schulberg**

By Elaine Schulberg

### **Olga Schuman**

By Adam & Judy Starr

### **Erwin Wainer**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

### **Ida R. Estrin**

By Lillian Tallent



# Sunday Fun Day Game Day

Join your friends for an afternoon of game playing and camaraderie. We will meet at the KJCC on the 1st Sunday of the month.



Sunday June 4, 2023  
Sunday July 2, 2023  
Sunday August 6, 2023  
Time: 2-4 p.m.



Games will be provided beginning with Mexican Train, 5 Crowns, Phase 10 and Wahoo. If you would like bring a different game, by all means do so.



Thank you to Jeff and Cheryl Margulies for facilitating this enjoyable activity. If you have questions, they can be reached at ~

Cheryl 201-681-8182 [cherylmargulies@aol.com](mailto:cherylmargulies@aol.com)

Jeff: 201-923-5013 [jazzy316jeff@aol.com](mailto:jazzy316jeff@aol.com)



## WORLD JEWISH REPORT

### Medina Roy



#### Preserving the Records

The Jewish community of Oporto paid for the preservation and digitization of Portuguese Inquisition archives from the 16th century. It is now looking to sign an agreement to preserve the 17th century archives and, at the same time, calling on the international Jewish community to help in preserving later centuries. "The Portuguese Inquisition was in force between 1536 and 1831. (Historian) Cecil Roth said since the beginning of history, there has probably been no time when such a systematic and long persecution was perpetrated because of such an innocent practice," said Michael Rothwell, director of the Jewish Museum of Oporto. Professional restoration personnel were recruited by today's Jewish community. They restored and digitized 1,778 court cases filed in the 1500s against "Jewish infidels."

Ashley Perry (Perez), whose ancestors fled Portugal in the early 16th century, is president of Reconectar, an organization dedicated to assisting the descendants of Spanish and Portuguese Jewish communities reconnect with their Jewish ancestry. She said this: "The archives are in danger of being lost to time, which would be a tragedy, not just to our past but also to the future as millions of people around the world are researching possible Jewish ancestry. The preservation and digitization of Inquisition records is essential to preserve our global Jewish history, because Portuguese Jews, many of whom had been forcibly baptized and forced to flee, formed the historic Jewish communities in the U.S., the UK, the Netherlands, and elsewhere. These archives are Jewish history, and we dare not let them disappear." The Inquisition's documentation has become the most reliable source for the history of the Jewish community in Portugal. ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 5-30-23)

#### The Oldest Existing Hebrew Bible

A 1,100-year-old Hebrew Bible recently became the most expensive book ever sold when it drew a price of \$38.1 million at auction at Sotheby's in New York City. Known as the Codex Sassoon, the buyer was the American fundraising group on behalf of ANU – Museum of the Jewish People (formerly known as the Museum of the Jewish Diaspora), located in Tel Aviv. Alfred Moses and his family provided the funds for the purchase. The manuscript is the world's oldest (nearly complete) copy of the Hebrew Bible and includes all 24 books; only about eight pages are missing. It was handwritten probably in Syria or the land of Israel roughly 1,000 years ago and consists of 792 pages of sheepskin. The seller, Swiss financier and collector Jacqui Safra, has owned the volume since 1989. The Tel Aviv museum announced that the book would be part of its core exhibition. (There was anxiety that it might be sold to a private collector rather than a place that would put it on display with global access to all people.)

The Codex Sassoon is named after book collector David Solomon Sassoon, who acquired it in 1929 for 350 British pounds (the equivalent of about \$28,000 today) when it resurfaced after 600 years. It has earned comparisons to other high-priced texts that have also commanded prices in the tens of millions of dollars: a copy of the first printing of the U.S. Constitution's final text sold for \$43.2 million in 2021; the Codex Leicester, a journal with writings by Leonardo Da Vinci, \$30.8 million in 1994; and a copy of the Magna Carta for \$21.1 million, sold in 2007. (Written in 1215, the Magna Carta makes numerous references to England's Jews.) Sotheby's had estimated that the Hebrew Bible would sell for

somewhere between \$30 million to \$50 million. The auction took less than six minutes. ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 6–1–23)

### Lacrosse Grows in Israel

Not long after Israel's under-20 soccer team shocked the world with a 3rd place finish in the FIFA Under-20 World Cup, another one of the country's national teams is looking for international glory. The 2023 World Lacrosse Men's Championship began on June 21st (and runs through July 1st) in San Diego, and Israel is ranked 7th among the 30 teams. They were ranked 2nd in Europe coming into the tournament. The Israel Lacrosse Association estimates that between 300 and 400 Israeli children and teens play the sport across the country, and that's after over a decade of recruitment and youth development. Israel's national lacrosse team is mostly made up of American-born Jews. (The American connection is logical, since lacrosse was invented by Native Americans.) The lacrosse association, based out of the Daniel Kraft Family National Lacrosse Center in Ashkelon, was founded by one American in 2010 and is currently run by another American. But two of the 23 players on the national team are Israeli natives, and the women's national team has one native Israeli. Yakov Silberlicht, who is Israel Lacrosse's director of youth development and the men's team captain, pointed to another telling statistic: Israel's under-21 men's team featured 19 native Israelis out of 23 players. And the women's under-21 team, which is preparing for the U-21 European Lacrosse Championships in Prague next month, is also almost entirely Israeli. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 6–15–23)

### Tomb of the Patriarchs

After 30 years of legal and political battles, there is now an elevator to improve handicapped accessibility at Hebron's Tomb of the Patriarchs (Ma'arat HaMachpelah in Hebrew), the burial place of our patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and our matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca and Leah. It is one of Israel's most visited tourist sites. According to Elimelech Karzen, one of the tomb's managers, visitors had to climb some 90 steps to reach the prayer area. He noted that before the coronavirus pandemic, the holy site had 1.5 million visitors a year. Now visitors are returning in increasing numbers, making the need for the elevator more

acute. Efforts to build the elevator were stuck in legal petitions filed by Palestinians, who claimed that the elevator damaged the site's archaeological and architectural significance, and that Israel illegally expropriated land for the initiative. But in 2021, a High Court of Justice cleared away the last of the legal hurdles. (The elevator is aesthetically an eyesore, but the concession to practicality was a valid trade-off.) For security reasons, the tomb is divided into Jewish and Muslim areas. A rotation system allows Jews and Muslims to visit each other's side on certain religious holidays. Asked about accessibility on the Muslim side, Karzen said the Palestinians rejected Israeli offers to build a second elevator there. He added that there are fewer steps on the Muslim side.

The current structure around the tomb was built 2,000 years ago by King Herod the Great. It was turned into a church by Byzantine and Crusader conquerors. During the Mameluke conquest, the site was converted into a mosque and Jews were banned from going past the seventh step of a staircase outside the building. ([www.jns.org](http://www.jns.org), 6–1–23)

### In Memoriam

- Ben Ferencz, the last surviving member of the prosecuting team at the Nuremberg trials that convicted Nazi leaders for crimes against humanity, died in April. He was 103. Ferencz was only 27 when he was named as the chief prosecutor at the Einsatzgruppen Trial, where 20 members of the SS's mobile death squads were convicted of war crimes. "Vengeance is not our goal, nor do we seek merely a just retribution," he said to the tribunal. "We ask this court to affirm by international penal action, man's right to live in peace and dignity, regardless of his race or creed. The case we present is a plea of humanity to law." Ferencz would later go on to play a key role with the team that negotiated the landmark 1952 reparations agreements under which West Germany agreed to pay \$822 million to the State of Israel and to groups representing Holocaust survivors. It also directed the office pursuing the recovery of assets of Jews who were murdered.

Born in Transylvania, Ferencz's Jewish family immigrated to the United States and settled in Manhattan. After law school at Harvard, he joined the U.S. Army, where he was assigned to

the headquarters of Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army and then eventually assigned to a team tasked with collecting evidence for war crimes. Thanks to lobbying efforts by six US House of Representative members led by Rep. Lois Frankel (D-FL), Congress awarded Ferencz the Congressional Gold Medal, its highest honor, in December 2022. His accomplishments are too numerous to list here. ("Prosecuting Evil," a documentary of Ferencz's life was the last film shown at the KJCC Jewish Film Festival when the Coronavirus forced us to shut down in March 2020.) ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 4-9-23)

- Chaim Topol, best known for his iconic portrayal of Tevye the Dairyman in the film version of "Fiddler on the Roof," died in March. He was 87. The film, for which Topol earned an Oscar nomination and a Golden Globe Award, made him a star. For much of the late 20th century he would be, in the words of The Jerusalem Post in 2012, "Israel's most famous export since the Jaffa orange." By his own estimate, Topol played the character more than 3,500 times. Born in Tel Aviv, Topol served in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) entertainment unit before launching his career on stage and screen. Using only his last name – possibly because his first name was easily mispronounced by non-Hebrew speakers — he ultimately starred in more than 30 films in both English and Hebrew, published two books and released several albums. His sketches of Israeli presidents were made into postage stamps.

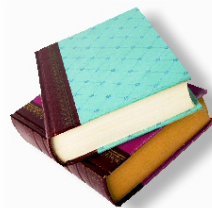
At the beginning of June, 1967, while he was starring as Tevye in London's staging of "Fiddler," Israel became bogged down in a war with several Arab states. Topol was called up as a soldier and returned to Israel to serve in what eventually would be known as the Six-Day War. Israel's swift defeat of an alliance of enemies caused the world to take notice of the young country and the actor who participated in its victory. In her 2013 book, "Wonder of Wonders: A Cultural History of Fiddler on the Roof," Alisa Solomon wrote that "'Fiddler' became a site for celebration, drawing Jews as well as gentiles to the theater — some for repeat viewings — to bask in Jewish perseverance and to pay homage to Jewish survival. The show didn't change, but the atmosphere around it did. Topol had left London as a star; he returned as a hero." From there, Topol was cast in the film production

of the musical. In Israel, Topol was perhaps best known for his breakout role as the lead character in the 1964 film "Sallah Shabati," about the difficulties faced by a Mizrahi immigrant family. The film was Israel's first Academy Award nominee in the foreign language film category and earned Topol a Golden Globe for best new actor. Israeli President Isaac Herzog noted Topol's contributions to Israel not just through the arts but through his service in the army and his dedication to a nonprofit camp for children with medical needs in Israel's north. He was board chair of the Jordan Youth Village, modeled after Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Camp in the United States, until his death. Topol won Israel's most prestigious award, The Israel Prize, for his lifetime of achievement in 2013. ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com), 3-9-23)

- Harold Kushner, one of the most influential congregational rabbis of the 20th century, whose popular books about theology reached millions of people, died in April. He was 88. Kushner was a Conservative rabbi and shortly after his arrival to lead Temple Israel of Natick (Massachusetts), his three-year-old son Aaron was diagnosed with progeria, a fatal premature aging condition. In 1981, Kushner published "When Bad Things Happen to Good People," his attempt to make sense of his son's suffering and eventual death, just a few days after Aaron's 14th birthday. (The book was initially turned down by two publishers.) In it, Kushner tries to reconcile the twin Jewish beliefs in God's omnipotence and benevolence with the reality of human suffering. His views in the book ran afoul of some traditional Orthodox Jewish teaching about God but it resonated to a great extent with both Jews and non-Jews and shot to the top of the New York Times' best-seller list. (More than four million copies have been sold in at least a dozen languages.) Kushner eventually stepped away from his duties as a congregational rabbi and focused on writing, authoring many best-sellers. He received many accolades: he was honored by the Roman Catholic organization as someone "who made the world a better place;" in 2004 he read from the Book of Isaiah at the state funeral of President Ronald Reagan and his congregation made Kushner their rabbi laureate, a title held by only a handful of spiritual leaders. ([www.jewishjournal.com](http://www.jewishjournal.com), 4-29-23) ◇

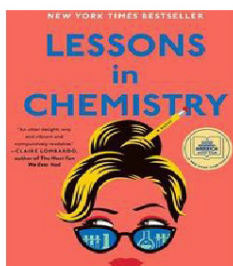


# Sisterhood Book Club



**Thursday, July 27, 2023** ~ *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus via Zoom

**Thursday, August 31, 2023** ~ *A Girl With a Knife* by Alina Rubin via Zoom



The story of Elizabeth Zott, a brilliant scientist who has the misfortune of being a woman in 1950s America. After a frustrating failed academic career, Zott finds success in an unlikely place: as the host of a television cooking show.



Compelled by her intelligence and interest in medicine, Ella prepares for a medical career, but there's a catch: in early 19th century England, women are not accepted into universities. To fulfil her dream of becoming a doctor, Ella must disguise herself as a young man with aspirations of becoming a doctor.

**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.**

**All sessions are at 12:30 p.m.**

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

## SISTERHOOD PRESIDENTS

### Susan Gordon & Joyce Peckman



Summer has fully arrived, bringing rain, heat and northbound travels for many. We had a delightful luncheon on June 4<sup>th</sup> at Hobos, outside under the awning. That same afternoon at 2 p.m. some of us came to KJCC for our first Sunday Funday Game Day. Although this was not a Sisterhood –sponsored event, we are grateful to Jeff & Cheryl Margulies for introducing this monthly activity. We had a good time learning a new card game and joking around. It is a perfect activity for a hot Sunday afternoon. The next one will be on July 2 at 2 p.m.

Sisterhood co-Presidents are out of town for much of the summer, but the work of Sisterhood continues. For those of us who remain in the Keys, KJCC can provide a welcoming place to connect with friends. We hope that you join us on Friday nights for our easy-going Shabbat services and then stay to relax and talk. Jane Friedman, Donna Bolton, Kathy Shabbathai, and Loni Padden

ensure that a delicious oneg Shabbat is provided every Friday. It is easy to sponsor an oneg Shabbat in someone's honor or memory. Erica Lieberman Garrett continues to collect checks and coordinate special dinners. By the time you read this, the Shabbabeque will have already occurred. Thanks goes to Erica for coordinating, and to all those who set up and cooked. Linda Pollack is coordinating the Book Club, which meets the final Thursday of each month and continues on Zoom through the summer. After the past few months of thought-provoking World War II related historical fiction, we are switching to easy summer reading. Look for the flyer for details.

The next Sisterhood meeting will be on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. on Zoom. We will be planning for High Holiday meals and refreshments. Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer. ◇

#### ONEG SPONSORS

July 7	Steve & Jan Hartz Celebrating Steve's 75th Birthday
	Joyce Peckman
July 14	Nadine Thompson Celebrating Her Birthday
July 21	Ken Atlas Honoring New Treasurer, Barnet Coltman
July 28	Dave & Loni Padden Celebrating Lily & David Padden's Birthdays

Aug. 4	Joe & Kathy Shabbathai Celebrating Julie's Birthday
Aug. 11	Jane Friedman Celebrating Her Husband Steve's Birthday
Aug. 18	Loni & Dave Padden Celebrating Her Birthday
Aug 25	Barnet Coltman In Remembrance of His Anniversary with Ellen



## *Birthdays*

### **July**

1st.....Alex Hudson  
 1st.....Chely Markowitz  
 1st.....Eitan Loi-Kamely  
 1st.....Jennifer Gilson  
 1st.....Patti Gross  
 2nd.....Dan Levi  
 2nd.....Rabbi Ed Rosenthal  
 3rd.....Michael Kaufman  
 4th.....Mindy Rosenthal  
 9th.....Joyce Peckman  
 11th.....Steven Hartz  
 12th.....Dana Grace  
 12th.....Miriam Frankel  
 12th.....Rebecca M. Schur  
 12th.....Richard Steinberg  
 13th.....Dot Brooking  
 14th.....David Gross  
 14th.....Paul Eric Bernstein  
 17th.....John Hawver  
 17th.....Shira Goldman  
 18th.....Luzviminda Levine  
 18th.....Sage Indy Leofsky  
 19th.....Matt Hesterman-Kutz  
 20th.....Roos-mary Benowitz  
 21st.....Arlington Garrett

21st.....Brian Smith  
 21st.....Joshua Samuel Bernstein  
 21st.....Linda Perloff  
 22nd.....Millie Tainow  
 23rd.....Barat Barefoot  
 23rd.....Carrie Temkin  
 25th.....Alan Markowitz  
 28th.....Lila E. Juenger  
 28th.....Lily Gitel Padden  
 29th.....Andy Loi-Kamely  
 29th.....Barry Neumann  
 29th.....Bruce Boruszak  
 29th.....Candy Stanlake  
 29th.....Mary Lee Singer  
 31st.....David Padden  
 31st.....Drew Nobil  
 31st.....Linda Levi  
 31st.....Mark Steinberg

### **August**

4th.....Jessica Forman  
 8th.....Hank Ryan Casey  
 8th.....Sean Kaufman  
 9th.....Arnold Klein  
 9th.....Delia Grace Smith  
 9th.....Eric Freundlich  
 10th.....Barbara Smith



*Leaf on the tree of life:*

**Celebrating Medina's Birthday**

- Linda Pollack



## PHOTO GALLERY

Bravo Gerry Emkey, who sent us this happy message. Mazel Tov! "Our team the Mammoglamms went to New Zealand to Dragonboat with over 100 teams from around the world. We raced and placed 13 th in the world, 3rd in the USA , and 2 nd in Florida. The weather conditions did not cooperate with us and the winds picked up and we only raced one day. The event was still fantastic. I want to thank all the supporters who joined us and our coaches. Our team is very proud. To all breast cancer survivors join a Dragon boat team in your area for the best support you can imagine.



Gloria's new twin great grandsons in Bass Harbor, Maine. Color her happy.



Joyce Peckman's son Keith and her New Jersey Grandchildren celebrate Yom Ha Atzma'ut, Israel Independence Day.



Happy Birthday Donna Bolton. We are delighted to celebrate you with your own homemade cake, you masterful baker.



Goodbye, Linda Kaplan. Happy trails to you. We wish you and Sara much happiness in your new Gainesville home. Words can't express how grateful we are to her for your years of work as our KJCC Treasurer.



The grand finale of the Sisterhood Season was this well attended and much enjoyed Luncheon at Hobo's restaurant. We are enjoying each other's company (Such lovely smiles) but sad that Linda Kaplan (front, left) is leaving us to settle in Gainesville. We wish her well and hope she will come back and visit often



The behind the scenes faces that make everything work so smoothly at services, dinners and Onegs at KJCC. Thank you for all you do Jane Friedman, Susan Gordon, Erica Lieberman Garrett, Donna Bolton and Kathy Shabathai, our new maker of zoom services to work on Erev Shabbats.

More of our doers and makers. Thanks again, sisterhood members.



Another new great-grandson for Gloria. Theodore is the son of Chai-Lights graphic designer, Lacy.



Susan Gordon and her grandsons know how to get the most out of summer vacation in Tennessee.



Cruising down the Tennessee River.







Two of our favorite service leaders and cooks of delicious food, Jane Friedman and Rivka Rizzo-Trent.

Creative Caprese salad on skewers was just one of the tasty dairy dishes for our Shavuot dinner, sponsored by Lynn Nobil in memory of her parents, our founders Joel and Sarah Cohen.



A cheerful blessing of the bread (or hamotzi) before Shavuot dinner with President Ken Atlas and Sisterhood co-presidents Joyce Peckman and Susan Gordon.



Medina shows off another of her creations (both of which were purchased by the owners of a beautiful local gallery, Our Place in Paradise.

Beth Kaminstein, pottery teacher extraordinaire, displays the bottom of a piece by Medina Roy. In May Beth Kaminstein hosted a pottery display and sale at her home studio.

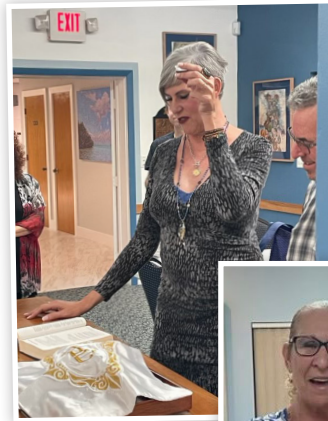


Barbara Bernstein's pieces were also displayed at Beth's studio and purchased by the gallery, which also carries work by photographer Jan Hartz and painter Gloria Avner. Congregation Ohr HaYam is blessed with many talented and creative members.

John Hawver's piece across from the courtroom in new Courthouse in Tavernier



Happy 75th  
Birthday,  
Medina, to  
you and to  
Israel.



Loni Padden leads kiddush during the Oneg after her first service leading experience. Well done. Sweet smile from husband David, looking on.



Erica Lieberman Garrett did a lovely job mentoring Loni Padden through her first service. Chanting HaMotzi topped the truly enjoyable evening, with an excellent Torah talk by Art Itkin. Thank you Kathy Shabathai for sending these pictures.

## A DAY ON BROADWAY – PARADE!

My gift for Libby's 8 th grade graduation was the promise of trip to a Broadway musical. We decided that everyone needs at least one TKTS experience, waiting on line in Times Square for discounted same-day tickets. She loved it...talking to the young would-be actors who worked the line handing out flyers hawking their plays and trying to decide between so many offerings. Once she learned that Ben Platt (who became her obsession after watching him in the film version of "Dear Evan Hanson") was starring in the limited run of "Parade", the choice was made.

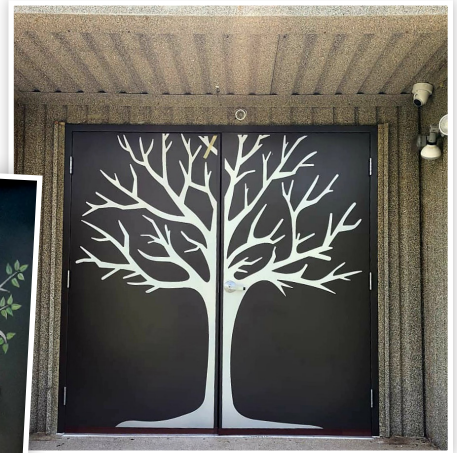
This excellent revival tells the true story of Leo Frank, a quiet young Jewish man who married a girl from Marietta, Georgia. In 1913 he was managing her uncle's pencil factory when a 13-year-old girl who worked there was found murdered in the basement. Without evidence, Leo Frank was arrested and convicted. The marvelous score, acting and choreography all capture the feeling of people living in post-Civil War Georgia. Some of the singing was heart-wrenchingly beautiful and the cast was uniformly splendid. If you are in the NYC area before August 24 th, you should consider seeing "Parade." – Joyce Peckman





## SECURITY UPGRADES TO KJCC

To make our new bullet proof steel security doors beautiful as well as safe, KJCC commissioned Gloria Avner to create a tree of life that would greet congregants whenever they turned from the Bimah to the Sanctuary doors or when they left the sanctuary. The roots, doves, leaves and branches seem both spiritual and uplifting as well as lovely. We are pleased with both sides of the doors.



This is how the tree of life on our front security doors looks from the yard. That's Cut out of aluminum and painted Silver.



New Logo proudly displayed on the door we enter every Erev Shabbat. Thanks again to Erica's sister Risa.



New blue stars of David grace the door to the schoolroom and the inside of the door we enter through. They are all part of the upgraded security grant and Synagogue improvement package.



Part of the security grant voted on and pursued by the KJCC Board involved constructing a fence and gate. Thanks to much work by Susan Gordon, Joyce Peckman, Donna Bolton and Steve Hartz, the fence is now completed and operable. Feedback so far has been positive. It looks good!

# KJCC DOES SHABBABEQUE

Erica with the Shabbabaque Buffet



Getting ready for our big summer celebration Shabbabeque dinner, sponsored by Michael and Lorena Kaufman, in honor of Michael's birthday.



Jane is celebrating her husband's birthday as well as leading services.



Thank you Mary Bonnen and Max Trent for masterful grilling. Looks like fun too.





Happy Birthday, Michael. Thank you and Lorena for sponsoring this dinner and oneg. (Brownies made by Randy Klein-Gross)

Satisfaction—three tables of contented KJCC Members.



Thank you, Jane Friedman and Donna Bolton for leading a lovely service.



Donna led services too. Good decorating, Susan! Pres. Ken Atlas looks mighty pleased.



Great Job, Max! Bravo Independence Day.

# Milk, Honey, and Water

by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal

**M**id-June's Torah Portion, Parshat Shelach Lecha, is another one of the Parshiot that does not mention water at all. Milk and Honey? Yes, but no water. The entire Parsha recounts the famous story of the 12 spies Moses sent into Israel to spy it out. The Spies, one from each of the twelve tribes, entered the Land of Israel and roamed it for 40 days to get a sense of its nature and topography. They saw how good it was and cut a cluster of grapes so big it had to be carried by two men on a pole.<sup>1</sup> Indeed it was a land flowing with milk and honey (שָׂבֵדוּ בָלֶחַת תִּבְּרֹה) filled with grapes, pomegranates, figs, and more. However, even though God had promised the land to Abraham and his descendants, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Jebusites, the Amorites, and the Amalekites were also there. The Spies, still imbued with the mentality of slaves, were afraid to go in and fight for the Land God had promised them. So, they spread an evil report about the Land throughout the camp and said:

תִּלְכֹּא אֶרֶץ, הֵתָּה רוֹתֵל הָב וְנִבְרַע רֶשֶׁא אֶרֶץ  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, הִכֹּתֵב וְנִיֵּאֶר-רֶשֶׁא סָעָה-לָּכֹ, אוֹהֵ הַיִּבְשׁוּי  
תֹדֵם

"The land, through which we have passed to spy it out, is a land that eats up its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature." (Numbers. 13:32)

They said the people in the land were giants and that they (the Israelites) were like grasshoppers compared to them. From here, we fall into the pattern already established in the Torah that the people became afraid and complained about Moses and his bad leadership and wanted to return to Egypt. Moses cried to God. God became angry and wanted to destroy the entire nation... again. Moses calms God down and pleads on



behalf of the people. God doesn't kill them all... just a few, then punishes the rest for their lack of faith and insolence. Phew! The punishment was that the entire generation of slaves was forced to wander in the Sinai desert for 40 years until all the men of that generation died in the wilderness. Only the women and children, who after 40 years had grown and forgotten what it was to be slaves, were permitted to enter the Land of Israel.

While no water is mentioned in the Parsha, I can't help but see a parallel between the story of the spies and the world today. In the Torah, God gave the Land of Israel to the Jewish People. It was a good and fertile land, flowing with milk and honey, filled with grapes, figs, pomegranates, and more. It was a unique piece of land in a harsh, dry, and arid region. Likewise, God has given us humans a fertile planet covered with water that sustains life and makes it possible for a vastly diverse ecosystems to exist in a wondrous variety. Earth is unique in a solar system filled with barren rocks. Unlike the Israelites, however, we humans have taken what was given to us, not with humble thanks and appreciation but with wanton abandon, arrogance, and greed. The Israelites did not trust in God and were afraid to enter the land. We, humans, have placed ourselves above God and are destroying the very gift which keeps us alive.



When the Israelites learned of God's anger and the punishment that was to be meted out against them, they quickly changed their minds and said:

יֵכ--הוֹדִי רַמָּא-רָשָׁא מוֹקְמָה-לָא וְנִילְעוּ, וְנִגְטָח וְנִגְטָח

"OK, We're Here. We know we've sinned, but now we're ready to go up to that place that God promised to us."  
(Numbers 14:40)



Unfortunately, it was too late, and there was no turning back the clock. The Israelites had sinned against God and had to pay the price.

We, too, have sinned against God by the way we have treated the Divine gifts of the Ocean and the Planet. The question is: Have we recognized our sin? And... is it too late?

Sure, environmentalists and scientists recognize it, but what about the average person? What about the average Jew? What about our communities? Our synagogues, JCCs, Federations, and day schools still serve fish at communal functions. We make such a big deal about Kashrut. Still, the kosher meat industry (actually the entire meat industry) uses more water and produces more waste than any of us can possibly comprehend. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the number of cows, chickens, pigs, and sheep raised and then slaughtered for human consumption in 2022 alone numbered hundreds of billions.<sup>2</sup> How much water does it take to sustain those numbers? Well, to give you a sense of how much water is used to support the

livestock industry, producing one pound of beef requires approximately 1,931 gallons of water. It's slightly less for chickens and pigs, but you get the idea. And how much fecal waste do hundreds of billions of cows, chickens, turkeys, pigs, and sheep produce? I can't even imagine. And where does all of that fecal matter end up? I don't even want to think about it! We can't just talk about carbon emissions from burning fossil fuels without addressing the greenhouse gasses created by the meat industry.

From the perspective of the Jewish Community, however, we still serve meat and fish at every communal function. We talk about Climate Change and are calling on our communal institutions to install solar panels and tell people to drive electric vehicles, but we must always remember that the water creates the climate. Even if every Jewish institution installed solar panels and every Jew bought an electric vehicle, if we, as a community, don't address the degradation of the aquatic environment and how we contribute to it, there may come a time when there will be more plastic in the Ocean than fish. There may come a time when our rivers and lakes are too polluted to swim in. If we don't recognize that we as a community, no... as a species, have sinned against the greatest life-giving gift from God, then like our ancestors of old... it might be too late. However, if we acknowledge the broader facts beyond fossil fuel consumption and carbon emissions and make the conscious choice to change our practices, both personally and communally, then indeed, we can make a difference, we can turn back the clock, and we can repair the Sea and repair the world. ♦



# Beholding The Wonders Before Us

June 2023 – Tammuz 5783

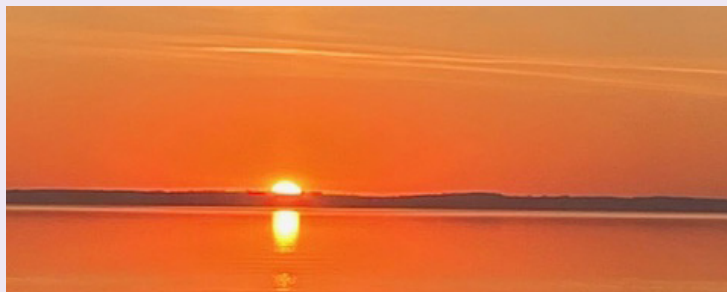
by: *Lucinda Kurtz*

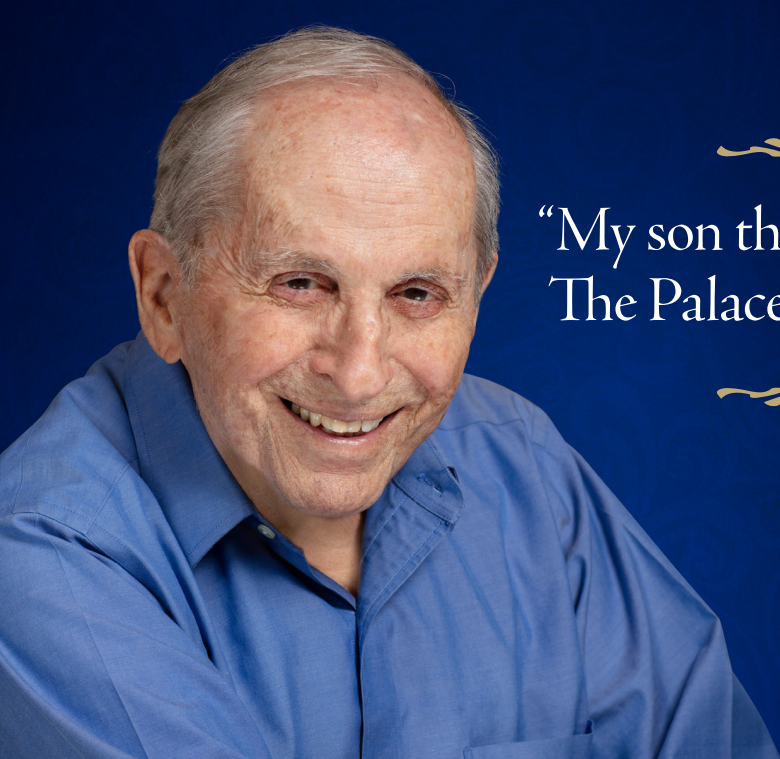
Returning to cold, pure waters of our rippling northern lake  
I greet the new moon of Tammuz,  
Carrying memories of ancient ways  
Visions of castles and crumbling rocks  
Like walls of the Temple  
Breached centuries ago in Jerusalem.

In Tammuz, old structures begin to fade, fall away  
Dissolve, disappear into deep shadows  
Finding new ways to express the truth of what is  
Now unfolding.  
Can we face the full vision of bright sunlight  
The solstice brings,  
The fiery passion of blazing anger that wells up  
Threatening to topple our fragile peace?

Can our eyes behold the wonders before us  
Or are we fated to wander the wilderness of illusion  
For more centuries  
Seeking the exquisite beauty and bounty  
Here for us to savor from Source  
Like the spies entering the Promised Land  
Not tasting the sweet honey on their lips.

I welcome this new month with full embrace  
Embodying what I uniquely offer this moment of creation  
Sensing how I may be present to reveal  
The harmony beneath the chaos  
The unity cradling us all.





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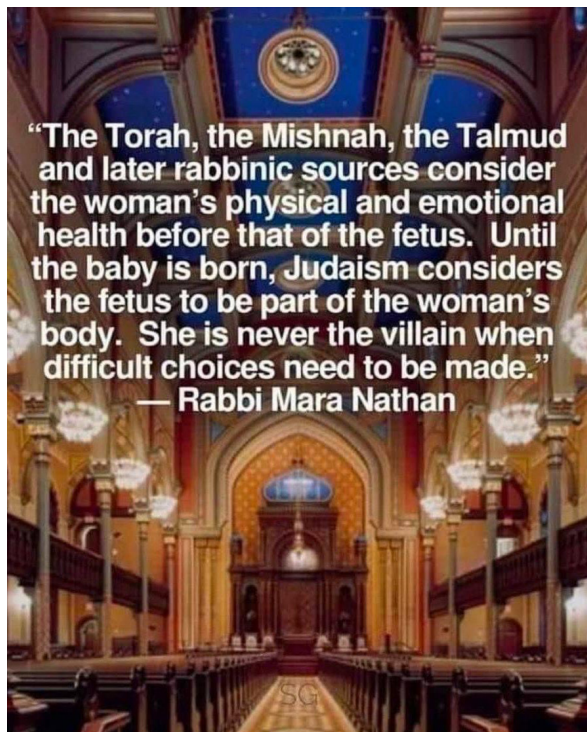
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**"The Torah, the Mishnah, the Talmud and later rabbinic sources consider the woman's physical and emotional health before that of the fetus. Until the baby is born, Judaism considers the fetus to be part of the woman's body. She is never the villain when difficult choices need to be made."**

**— Rabbi Mara Nathan**



happy  
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OF July