

Chai~Lights



June 1 - July 31, 2021

21 Sivan -- 22 Av 5781

World Jewish Report – pages 17-19

On Recent Hostilities – pages 22-23

Almost-Post-Pandemic Musings – pages 24-25

Keys Jewish Community Center

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

June 1 - July 31, 2021

Names denote leaders of Friday Services.
 Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 JUN	7 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	8	9	10	11 Steve Hartz <i>Jane & Steve Friedman</i> <i>Jan & Steve Hartz</i> <i>Max Finklestein & Janis Remer</i>	12
13 KJCC Board Meeting 10 a.m.	14 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	15	16	17	18 Ken Atlas <i>Gloria Avner</i>	19
20	21 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	22	23	24	25 Donna Bolton & Erica Lieberman-Garrett <i>Sisterhood</i>	26
27	28 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	29	30	1 JUL	2 <i>Sisterhood</i> <i>Sisterhood</i>	3
4	5 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	6	7	8	9 Joe Shabathai <i>Joyce Peckman</i>	10
11	12 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	13	14	15	16 Yardena Kamely <i>Beth Hayden</i>	17
18	19 Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	20	21	22	23 Art Itkin <i>Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum</i>	24
25	26 Sisterhood Book Club 12:30 p.m. Drop-in Chat 2 p.m.	27	28	29	30 Laurie Blum <i>Sisterhood</i>	31

2021 - 2022 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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Ken Atlas

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Gloria Avner • Susan Gordon
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chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Joyce Peckman



The next several months will see us emerging from the fog and shadows of living with Covid. It is exciting to look forward to a new normal, hopefully, retaining the best of our previous normal with improvements that we have learned during this past year. The transition will probably be bumpy, with a little motion sickness from the uneven CDC guidance.

We are planning our first in-person Shabbat service on June 4th as a one-time “soft-opening” to test the procedures that we will probably have to use when we open for real on Rosh Hashanah. This service and the High Holy Days this year will be for members only – no guests, by reservation. For the High Holy Days, seats will be assigned. When registering for this service or the High Holidays, please indicate which quadrant of the shul you prefer – right front or left rear, etc. (Email President@Keysjewishcenter.com at least a few days ahead.) The aim is to space people out. We are also asking for proof of vaccination which you can email to me at Joycepeckman@gmail.com. (Let me know if you have a problem with that request.) Because we want to sing softly, everyone is asked to wear masks. The

service will be led by me and either zoomed or (hopefully) live-streamed. (There will be a learning curve here. We are looking for people willing to help out with manning the technology.) The Oneg Shabbat will remain virtual for now. Any socializing before or after services should take place outside of the building.

As much as it pains me to set so many constraints, there are so many new findings each week that we would rather be overly cautious, than have a single person become ill. I am looking forward to seeing some of you in all three dimensions, not just on a screen. We have a new working projector and hope to have lectures and a film series in the fall.

Rosh Hashanah this year falls on Tuesday, September 7th. Cantor Dzubin has agreed to join us in the Keys. We are delighted to announce that Rabbi Agler and Mindy will be flying in from California to join us for High Holidays. Once again, Rabbi Agler, with Cantor Dzubin, will be leading our services.

I wish you a safe and enjoyable summer. ♦

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

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

Every Monday	2 p.m. Drop-in Chat. Please contact us to be placed on mailing list.
Friday, June 11	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Steve Hartz
Sunday, June 13	10 a.m. KJCC board meeting
Friday, June 18	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Ken Atlas
Friday, June 25	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Donna Bolton & Erica Lieberman-Garrett
Monday, June 28	12:30 Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, July 2	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Sisterhood
Friday, July 9	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Joe Shabathai
Friday, July 16	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Yardena Kamely
Friday, July 23	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Art Itkin
Monday, July 26	12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Book Club
Friday, July 30	7:30 Shabbat Services led by Laurie Blum

ONEG SPONSORS

June 4	Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum Beaux's 1 st anniversary of adoption Suzanne & Michael Gilson Suzanne's birthday	June 18	Gloria Avner Memory of Barry Avner Amelia & Steve Kasinof Amelia's birthday
June 11	Jane & Steve Friedman 25th anniversary Jan & Steve Hartz 45th anniversary Max Finklestein & Janis Remer Memory of Fred Remer	July 9	Joyce Peckman Joyce's birthday
		July 16	Beth Hayden Kohengi's birthday
		July 23	Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum Bama's birthday

NOSH

About Our KJCC Cookbook

The cookbook is slightly delayed but should be submitted to the publisher for publication no later than mid-June. It contains more than 200 recipes including some of the most popular recipes from our delicious KJCC dinners which, b'ezrat ha Shem, should be resuming sometime after the High Holy Days. Sisterhood will be advertising the book for sale beginning in July. Cost will be \$20. Covers and dividers have been custom designed by Randy Klein-Gross and Tomar Gross. Thanks to all who supported us by submitting recipes. Many thanks to our small committee who worked on and directed the cookbook: Donna Bolton, Susan Roberts and Linda Pollack. Kudos to Laurie Blum for her editing skills. This will make a great gift for the High Holydays.

Drop-in Chat Change

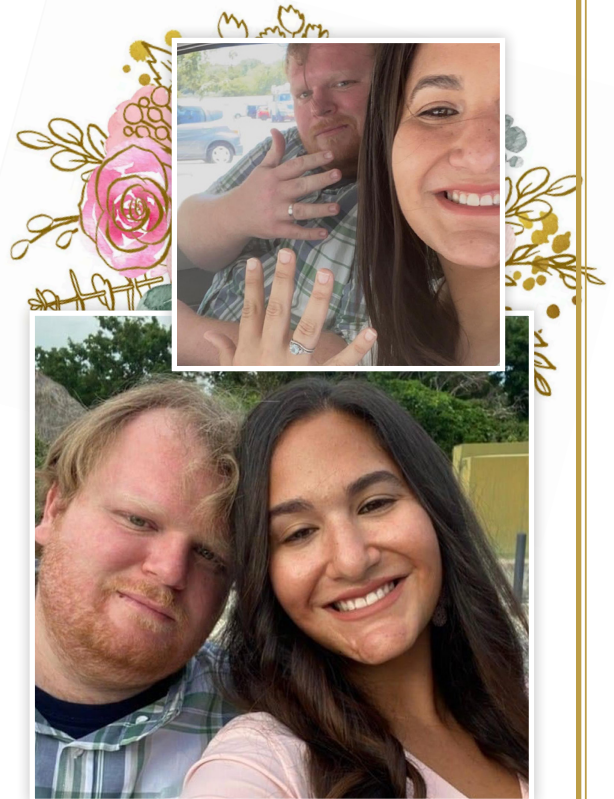
Monday 2 p.m. Drop-In Chat has been a welcoming Zoom space to share a virtual cup of coffee and the latest news, jokes, stories and concerns. Invitations had gone out from the KJCC Constant Contact to all members, but from now on it will be by personal email invitation to those who have dropped in this year. The Zoom will be handled by Laurie Blum through the summer. If you are not on the email list and want to be added, contact Laurie at blum1212@gmail.com.

Sisterhood Book Club

Rain or shine, summer or fall, the members of KJCC Sisterhood Book Club meet and enjoy discussions of our monthly selections on the last Monday of every month at 12:30 p.m. See P. 10 for poster and selections. Join in.

Mazel Tov
Rachael & Brandon Traina

Your KJCC mishpocha wishes you a beautiful and fulfilling married life. We are so happy for you.



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.

MARCH - MAY, 2021

Yahrzeit

Joan Wohl	Milton Wohl
Richard & Mindy Agler	Sylvia Agler
Stephen Harris	Lee Hartz
Adam & Judy Starr.....	Norman James Schuman
David & Pamela Marmar	Mercedes Pietromartire
Frank Rose.....	Rene Rose
Richard & Mindy Agler	Carol Steinberg
Jeff & Cheryl Margulies.....	Max Margulies
Marshall & Myra Kaplan.....	Gertrude Kaplan
	Les Reitman
Dorothy & Larry Wolfe.....	Rose Fine
Donna Forst.....	Erna Forst
Skip Rose.....	Milton Lang
	Morris Rose

In Memory/Honor of

Tzeddakah

Steve & Jan Hartz Purim-Keys to be the Change

In Memory/Honor of

Meditation Garden

Start & Lauren SaxSam & Lilyan Sax
Jan Shutan

Unrestricted

Stephen Harris
Sanford Yankow
Lenore Sherman
Terry Willner-TainowRon Cole

Library

Barney Coltman Louis R Coltman

SISTERHOOD DONATIONS

Oneg Sponsorship

Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum	Beaux's 1st anniversary of adoption
Suzanne & Michael Gilson	Suzanne's birthday
Steve & Jane Friedman.....	25th Anniversary
Jan & Steve Hartz	45th Anniversary
Max Finklestein & Janis Remer	Memory of Fred Remer
Gloria Avner.....	Memory of Barry Avner
Amelia & Steve Kasinof	Amelia's birthday
Joyce Peckman	Joyce's birthday
Beth Hayden	Kohengi's birthday
Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum	Bama's birthday

In Memory/Honor of

Shabbat Service Leaders

June 04.....	Joyce Peckman	July 02.....	Sisterhood
June 11.....	Steve Hartz	July 09.....	Joe Shabathai
June 18.....	Ken Atlas	July 16.....	Yardena Kamely
June 25.....	Donna Bolton & Erica Lieberman-Garrett	July 23.....	Art Itkin
		July 30.....	Laurie Blum

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

June Birthdays

2nd..... Barbara Osder	15th William Bolton
2nd..... Myra Kaplan	16th Marvin Blumenfeld
3rd Abraham Rakov	18th Amelia Kasinof
3rd Elanor Forbes	20th Harvey Klein
5th Dorothy Wolfe	21st..... Aaron Quesada
5th Joseph Sachs	21st..... Nancy Hershoff
6th Donna Bolton	21st..... Roberta Chester
6th Nancy Kluger	21st..... Taryn Nobil
6th Suzanne Gilson	22nd..... James Patrick Brennan
7th Carrie Smith	23rd Dale Chasteen
7th Joan P. Wohl	24th Delaney Rohde
8th Elaine Solas	24th Rita Bromwich
9th Renee Brodie	25th Jake Benjamin Markowitz
9th Zoe Berk-Moshe	27th Frank Emkey
13th Israel Mayk	27th Kristy Moss
13th Jeff Miller	28th Alan Cooper
13th Justin Greenbaum	30th Bob Friedman
14th Jennifer Nobil	30th Milo Tainow

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 bemaah 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.

June Anniversaries

		Years			Years
1st	Joel Bernard & Joan Stark	35	19th	Richard & Mindy Agler	45
5th	Erica Lieberman-Garrett & Ron Garrett ...	27	21st	Nelson & Roberta Chester.....	51
7th	Richard & Sheila Steinberg.....	62	23rd	Stuart & Lauren Sax	47
8th	Steve & Jane Friedman	25	28th	Wes & Rita Conklin	51
10th	Scott & Sharon Greenstein	37	28th	Lloyd & Rae Wruble	52
12th	Steven & Jan Hartz.....	45	29th	Oran Kurtz & Lucinda Hesterman.....	
12th	William & Donna Bolton	28	29th	Jerry & Betty Small	52

July Anniversaries

		Years			Years
2nd	Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross..	21	18th	Gary & Laurie Grossinger.....	
9th	Terry Willner-Tainow & Jon Tainow.	49			

July Birthdays

1st.....	Alex Hudson	17th	Shira Goldman
1st.....	Chely Markowitz	19th	Matt Hesterman-Kutz
1st.....	Eitan Loi-Kamely	20th	Lyn Sherman
1st.....	Jennifer Gilson	20th	Roos-mary Benowitz
1st.....	Nelson Chester	21st.....	Arlington Garrett
1st.....	Patti Gross	21st.....	Brian Smith
2nd.....	Dan Levi	21st.....	Joshua Samuel Bernstein
2nd.....	Rabbi Ed Rosenthal	21st.....	Linda Perloff
3rd	Joseph Moss	22nd.....	Millie Tainow
3rd	Max Finklestein	23rd	Barat Barefoot
3rd	Michael Kaufman	23rd	Carrie Temkin
4th	Mindy Rosenthal	25th	Alan Markowitz
7th	Lucy Moss	27th	Marc Bloom
8th	Gary Sherman	27th	Rachael Traina
9th	Joyce Peckman	28th	Lila E. Juenger
11th	Steven Hartz	29th	Andy Loi-Kamely
12th	Dana Grace	29th	Barry Neumann
12th	Miriam Frankel	29th	Bruce Boruszak
12th	Rebecca M. Schur	29th	Candy Stanlake
12th	Richard Steinberg	29th	Mary Lee Singer
13th	Dot Brooking	30th	Molly Bloom
13th	Leslie Reamer	31st.....	Drew Nobil
14th	David Gross	31st.....	Linda Levi
14th	Paul Eric Bernstein	31st.....	Mark Steinberg
17th	John David Hawver		

In Memoriam – June 2021

David Gitin

By Gloria Avner

Lucy Kaufman

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Candi Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Laura Bofshever

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Emilia Mendez

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Rose Fine

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Louis R. Coltman

By Barnet O. Coltman

Abraham L. Blumenfeld

By Marvin A. Blumenfeld

Fred Doellefeld

By Jeff & Cheryl Margulies

Sharon Grossinger

By Gary & Laurie Grossinger

Lois Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn

Morris Rose

By Skip Rose

Samuel Horn

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

John Carson

By Scott & Sharon Greenstein

Harold Rosenthal

By Ed & Mindy Rosenthal

Les Reitman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Andrew Hutchison

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Jan Finer

By Stuart & Lauren Sax

Ruth Rosen

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Sydney Emsig

By Lawrence Jacobs

Leonard Tobin

By Andrew M. Tobin

Samuel Segal

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Celestina Bravo-Mendez

By Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Miriam Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

William Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn

Arthur Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Jean Shaw

By Skip Rose

Jack L. Gould

By Joe Gould & Marla Berenson

Jacob Maxwell Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

Carl Roy

By Medina Roy

Sylvia Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

Fred Ross

By Joyce Peckman

Wally Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Pearl Jacobs

By Lawrence Jacobs

Milton Lang

By Skip Rose

Mark White

By Susan White

Leon Kirschenbaum

By Medina Roy

In Memoriam – July 2021

Jack Steinberg

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Sidney Stark

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark

Beth Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Phyliss Bloom

By Marc Bloom

Zelda Edelman

By Dale Chasteen

Stanley H. Klipper

By Mary Lee Singer

Gary W. Cohn

By Nancy L. Cohn

Ethel Feinberg

By Hanna David

Olga Schuman

By Adam & Judy Starr

Manuel Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff

Ronald Horn

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Samuel Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Jacob Ratchik

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Margaret Isenberg

By Patricia Isenberg

Mack Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Chanoch Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Shirley Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Ralph Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

Mollie Lawent

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Frank Stanley Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Frieda Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Nettie Goodman

By Gloria Avner

Morgan Rowen

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Alan Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Ralph Bofshever

By Joel & Toby Bofshever

Harvey Kelman

By Elaine Schulberg

Bernard Solas

By Elaine Solas

Sandra Kanarek

By Wes & Rita Conklin

Manya Starr

By Adam & Judy Starr

Mollie Z. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Nathan Herson

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

Meyer G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Erwin Wainer

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg

Sheldon David Horowitz

By Beth Horowitz

Ben Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Milton Swartz

By George & Muriel Swartz

Otto Kluger

By Nancy Kluger

Ida R. Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

Alfred Eichler

By Judith Weber

Isaac Cohen Pardo

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Albert White

By Susan White

Henrietta Zinner

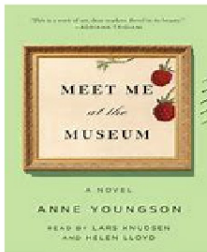
By Donald Zinner



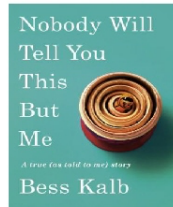
Sisterhood Book Club

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

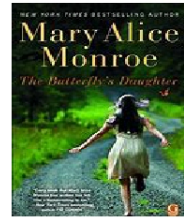
May 24, 2021 ~ *Meet Me at the Museum* by Anne Youngson
June 28, 2021 - *Nobody Tells You This But Me* by Bess Kalb
July 26, 2021 - *The Butterfly's Daughter* by Mary Alice Monroe



An epistolary novel consisting of letters between a farm wife living in England and a Danish museum curator



A funny, warm, and brilliantly original memoir in which a grandmother speaks to her granddaughter from beyond the grave, telling, with candor and irresistible humor, stories from both their lives



An informative and entertaining read about both the monarch butterfly and a group of women journeying across the U.S. to Mexico.

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

SISTERHOOD Beth Hayden



This has certainly been a year that none of us could have imagined. It was January of 2020 when the new Sisterhood Board was sworn in. Sisterhood, following the February Annual Meeting prepared a delicious luncheon, as always and went on towards the end of February to combine Shabbat Across America with the new members/advertisers dinner. Sisterhood met with great plans and projects and no inkling of a disease called Covid-19. That all changed in March of 2020. The KJCC Board, after a compelling address from Bernie Ginsberg, decided to cancel all forthcoming events. There would be no 40th gala, no dinners, no Onegs, no Women's Seder, no First-night Seder, no Beiner Antiquities Dedication, no Shabbabaque, no Sisterhood June luncheon, and no group gatherings. So we learned to Zoom. We could be together but remain apart. Our computers and phones became our links to the outside world. And Sisterhood remained a bedrock of stability for the KJCC. Sisterhood undertook compiling a cookbook, which is, as I write this, very close to submission for publication – if you are looking for a nice gift for someone in the late summer or early fall – consider purchasing a copy of “Recipes from the Rock”. Someone will be very grateful.

The Keys had roadblocks in place until June 1st. Covid cases were in single and double digits, but that would soon change with the lifting of the roadblocks. But Sisterhood rallied and came through – we offered a virtual Rosh HaShanah dinner on September 18 th with a challah bake led by Erica Lieberman-Garrett the day before. In September of 2020, Sisterhood made its annual donation to the KJCC. Sisterhood resumed every other month meetings in November of 2020 via

Zoom. We offered a second challah bake led by Jane Friedman prior to the November 6 th Shabbat Project virtual dinner. That was followed by sharing some of the latke recipes from Sisterhood's cookbook with our KJCC family. Sisterhood also offered a virtual Chanukah Celebration on December 11 th . We continued to send out letters for Oneg Sponsorships despite our altered circumstances and the KJCC response was nothing short of extraordinary. We needed a new Recording Secretary and Janis Remer, a relatively new KJCC member, rose to the occasion as Erica Lieberman-Garrett also responded to the need for someone to coordinate the Onegs. Sisterhood once again in 2021 donated to the KJCC, and, despite holding no Women's Seder which has been our traditional funding source for Tikun HaOlam, managed also to donate very generously to Keys to be the Change, which operates a program assisting families of school children in need of food here in Key Largo. Sisterhood also donated to the Talia Agler Girls Shelter in Nairobi, Kenya. Covid, indeed, slowed Sisterhood down, but in no way knocked it out.

Now it begins to look as though we may be close to the end of the Covid-mandated isolation. Hopefully, we can look forward to limited attendance in person for High Holydays with additional attendance via Zoom. Hopefully, everyone is vaccinated and ready to move on. With many thanks to our Sisterhood members who have kept us going with creativity and innovation. Todah milibi.◇

Happy to be Home

Friday night, June 4, KJCC congregants were back in our sanctuary for the first time in 15 months. There were smiles behind the masks as we greeted each other for this “soft opening.” The feeling of gratitude to be there, in each other’s and our Torah’s presence, was palpable, a very good thing.



Thank you, Joyce, for leading an excellent and meaningful service.





So good to see the Kaufman family again. We've all missed Sean's youthful energy.

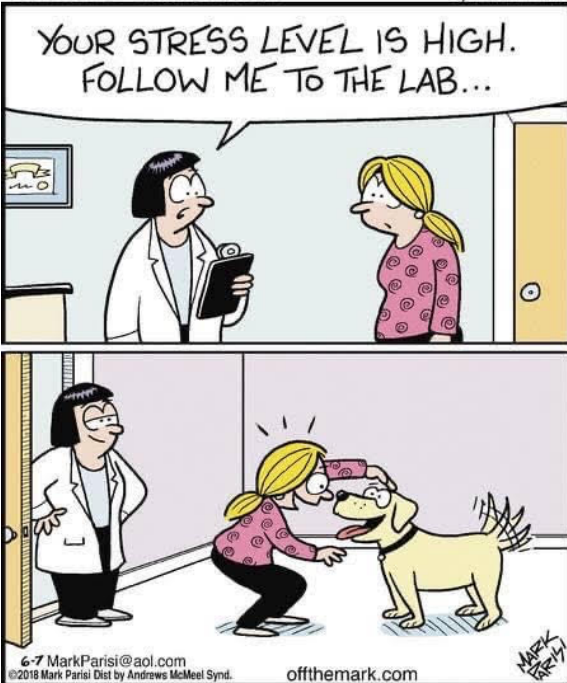


“Look Mom, I can see!”
Laurie Blum with Beau, her
previously blind puppy. He
had an operation and now he
can see out of one eye!!



We love seeing KJCC
MASCOT Buddy at Monday
afternoon check-ins.

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



Happy
Birthday,
Kohengi!



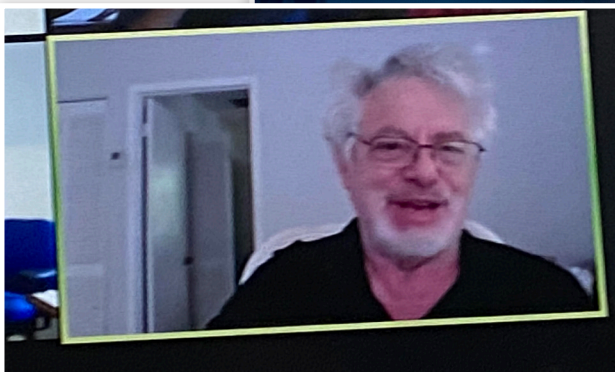
Lucky much loved Linda Pollack sits beaming while surrounded by multiple generations of family wishing her a happy Birthday. Mazel Tov!

Linda Pollack and Skip Rose

We've been really enjoying our Lunch and Learn sessions studying the fascinating David Saga with Rabbi Agler.



Bernie Ginsberg loves the story of Ruth. He calls it the most unique of all biblical stories because it has all happy endings. And we love celebrating our Leil Shavuot learning with his cheerful "drasha."





Rachel Traina and Maddie Bloom know how to enjoy the Keys summer weather.



Gloria has made greeting cards from some of her favorite paintings. These dancing rabbis are celebrating Shabbat, or some other simcha. A Mazel Tov, a siman Tov.



Jane Friedman, harvesting veggies for the Food Bank. Jane's orchids are prolific as well as beautiful this season. Magic hands and generous heart.

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



Elie Wiesel Honored

Washington's National Cathedral is known for its role during presidential inaugurations and other days of national importance. The Human Rights Porch, visible as one enters the cathedral and a popular tourist attraction, hosts a variety of sculptures including Mother Teresa, Rosa Parks and Oscar Romero, the El Salvador archbishop who was assassinated in 1980 while saying mass. The cathedral is not just a Christian shrine (though it is indeed that). It also pays tribute to those throughout the 20th century who stand as moral examples. And now the cathedral is honoring Nobel Peace Laureate Elie Wiesel. His bust on the Human Rights Porch will make him the first Jew to be so honored. Rev. Randy Hollerith, the cathedral's dean, said of the decision to honor Wiesel, "...to have him in this cathedral is also a reminder for everyone who walks through those doors of the reality of the Holocaust and what happened and that must never be forgotten." The cathedral belongs to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, but its mission is to be "a sacred space where the country gathers during moments of national significance" and to be open to all faiths. Wiesel's widow Marion said, "Not only does his presence in the National Cathedral memorialize his life and honor his commitment to human rights; it also ensures that new generations will learn from his teachings and carry the lessons of his life forward into the future." (www.cnn.com, 4-28-21)

Tree of Life Hope, Resilience and Renewal

Daniel Libeskind, the internationally celebrated architect who designed the new World Trade Master Plan in New York following the September 11th attack in 2001, has been chosen as lead architect to reimagine the site of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue. The renovation is part of the REMEMBER.REBUILD.RENEW. campaign to memorialize the events of October 27, 2018, when a

white supremacist gunman murdered eleven worshippers during Shabbat services held at the three congregations that were housed in the building, the most violent anti-Semitic attack in United States history. Following a search by the Tree of Life board of trustees and steering committee, eleven architects submitted applications for the project. Libeskind, the son of two Holocaust survivors, was selected unanimously. "When my parents...and I came as immigrants to America, we felt an air of freedom as Jews in this country," Libeskind said. "...this project is not simply about 'Never Again.' It is a project that must address the persistence of antisemitism and the intolerance of our time and affirm the democratic values of our country." In addition to commemorating the 2018 massacre, the reimagined space will include classrooms, areas for worship and reflection along with exhibitions and public programs of the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. Libeskind's previous projects include the Jewish Museum in Berlin and the National Holocaust Monument in Ottawa, Canada. (www.timesofisrael.com, 5-4-21)

No Justice For Sarah Halimi

On April 7, 2017, Kobili Traore, a 27-year-old devout Muslim man with a history of anti-Semitic behavior, killed his upstairs neighbor Sarah Halimi, a 65-year-old Jewish kindergarten teacher and retired physician in a town in eastern France. He was "troubled by Halimi's mezuzah." Traore broke into Halimi's apartment and began beating her savagely for about 30 minutes, shouting "I've killed the devil of the neighborhood." He then threw her body out the window of her third-floor apartment. This past April, four years later, France's highest court determined Traore, now

31, was not criminally liable for his actions because he “was having a psychotic episode induced by his use of a large amount of marijuana shortly before the killing.”

The court affirmed rulings by lower tribunals. (Interestingly, in France, a man who threw his dog from his fourth-floor apartment was sentenced to a year in prison.) Outraged by the high court’s ruling, Jack Brouda, a French-Jewish judge, resigned his post. This was followed by a march of some 26,000 protesters – many of them non-Jews – demonstrating in Paris against the ruling and demanded a trial for Traore. Simultaneous demonstrations were held all over France as well as Tel Aviv, London, Los Angeles, Miami and New York. Halimi’s murder is one of a string of anti-Semitic murders that have shaken French Jews in recent years. Following the rally in Paris, Anne Hidalgo, mayor of the 4th District (also known as the Marais, which was the heart of Jewish life in Paris before the Holocaust) announced that a street will be named for Sarah Halimi. French President Emmanuel Macron is calling for a change in his country’s legal system. (www.ny-times.com, 4-17-21, and www.jta.org, 4-30-21)

Chatting with Sperm Whales?

Marine scientists from the University of Haifa, along with other researchers from top universities around the world, are hoping to learn how to communicate with sperm whales. We know that whales communicate with one another, but it would be an amazing breakthrough if we could understand what they say and communicate back to them. The ambitious five-year project is taking place in Domenica in the Caribbean. The scientists will be joined by colleagues in marine biology, marine acoustics, artificial intelligence and linguistics from Harvard University, The City University of New York, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and others. The whales make a clicking sound at varying frequencies when they are with other whales. The scientists are wondering if this is just a simple code or a true language. The researchers hope that if they gather enough data about the whale’s voices – plus the context in which the sounds are used and understood and the behavior and motivation behind these sounds – they can develop an algorithm which will determine whether the whales have an authentic language and if we can communicate with them on their terms. Sperm whales are considered a

vulnerable species. They have the largest brains, more than five times heavier than those of humans. And like humans, they live in tight-knit family groups and have a complex communication system. Sperm whales can grow to 68 feet and live for 70 years or more. They are crucial to our environment because they keep carbon out of the atmosphere, support our supply of oxygen and increase marine life. They are also, both scientifically and esthetically, magnificent. (www.israel21c.org, 4-21-21)

In Memoriam

- Rabbi Robert Marx, a social justice advocate and leading Reform rabbi who marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and drew inspiration from the iconic civil rights leader, died in April. He was 93. Born in Cleveland, Rabbi Marx witnessed white Chicagoans throwing rocks and bottles at civil rights marchers during the summer of 1966. During that march, he sat guard in front of a pile of rocks in order to prevent the racist protesters from using them. “What I saw in Gage Park seared my soul,” Marx wrote in a letter to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (now called the Union for Reform Judaism). “I was afraid and I am afraid now. I saw how the concentration camp could have occurred, and how men’s hatred could lead them to kill.”

Rabbi Marx marched alongside Dr. King in August of 1966, as he had in the famed Selma march of 1965. Marx’s legacy lives on through the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, a group devoted to social justice causes in Chicago that he founded in 1964. Marx also founded the Hakafa congregation on the city’s North Shore in 1983, which grew from just a few families to hundreds of members. His Jewish Council fought racist housing policies and policing tactics and he became one of the country’s leading Reform activists. Rabbi Marx ran Congregation Solel in Highland Park from 1973 to 1983. After losing his 15-year-old son to a longstanding illness, He co-wrote a book, “Facing the Ultimate Loss,” to help other grieving parents. (www.chicagotribune.com, 4-6-21)

- Rep. Alcee Hastings, the Florida Democrat representing the 20th Congressional District, the majority black neighborhoods in and around Ft. Lauderdale, died in April at the age of 84. Hastings made Jewish allies in his early days as a civil rights lawyer because he advocated for Jewish

issues and helped guide Black–Jewish relations through periods of tension. He won a number of civil rights victories in the 1960s and '70s when segregation and racism were prevalent in South Florida. As a federal judge, Hastings was impeached by Congress in 1988 in a bribery scandal but was acquitted in criminal court. He was convicted in the Senate but not banned from holding public office. He came back to public life in 1992, defeating the favored (and Jewish) candidate Lois Frankel in the Democratic primary before winning in the general election. (Years later, Hastings and Frankel became close friends.) Once in Congress, Hastings was considered the pro–Israel's community's most reliable ally in the Congressional Black Caucus. He often spoke out against anti-Semitism in Europe and elsewhere and called for the preservation of Jewish heritage sites. He was among the minority of Democrats who voted against the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, which was strongly opposed by Israel and many in the pro–Israel community. Hastings nurtured the Black–Jewish alliance and spearheaded the raising of a forest in Israel in 2007 to replace one that was destroyed during the previous year's war with Hezbollah. He named it for the civil rights icon, Coretta Scott King. (www.jta.org, 4–6–21)

Did You Know...

- Academy Award winner Helen Mirren will portray Golda Meir in an upcoming biopic focusing on her time as prime minister in 1973, during the period of the Yom Kippur War. In March, another production about Meir, "Lioness," was announced, a series with Shira Haas (of "Unorthodox" and "Shtisel" fame) portraying Meir from her birth in Kiev to her American upbringing in Milwaukee, her role in the formation of the State of Israel, and her rise to become the new nation's first and (so far) only female prime minister. (www.jpost.com, 4–7–21)
- In April, an Israeli artist set the Guinness World Record for the longest megillah scroll, the Book of Esther. Avner Moriah's creation is over 30 yards long, just about the length of a basketball court. It took him 15 years and more than a million brush strokes. He calls it the "Ganze Megillah." (www.timesofisrael.com, 4–24–21)
- Steven Spielberg is not only donating his Genesis prize winnings but will also match the sum with \$1 million of his own money to help both Jewish and non–Jewish groups that are working to

promote racial and economic justice. He plans to split the money among ten organizations. "Judaism and Jewish history begin with two narratives: Genesis and Exodus, stories about creation and liberation from oppression, about the discovery of the moral voice and of human dignity," Spielberg said. "From these accounts come the ethical precepts commanding us to work for a more just and equitable world." All past recipients of The Genesis Prize, nicknamed the "The Jewish Nobel," have also donated their winnings to philanthropic causes. (www.abcnews.go.com, 3–25–21)

- Rabbi Moshe Dov Ber Beck was a major leader of the Neturei Karta, an extremist anti-Zionist ultra-Orthodox sect. Beck died in April from complications of COVID. His anti-Zionist group began in 1938. It opposes the modern state of Israel based on the belief that only God can return the Jewish people to the land of Israel and reinstate Jewish sovereignty at the time of the coming of the Messiah. The group has met with Holocaust deniers and leaders of the Iranian government who have threatened Israel with extermination. (Even the leader of the Satmar Hasidic sect – also an anti-Zionist Orthodox group – had condemned the Neturei Karta.) In 2006, Neturei Karta participated in a Holocaust denial convention in Tehran, Iran. And in 2008, Beck was among its leaders who met with Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in New York one day after the Iranian president made an anti-Semitic speech at the United Nations. (www.jpost.com, 4–17–21). ◇





Jewish Holidays Between Shavuot and Rosh Hashanah

Summer at KJCC is our slow time, our off season, so to speak. Yet, Judaism doesn't take time off. There are several Jewish holidays throughout our summer months that help remind us of our history. As this is being written, Israel is defending herself against attacks. Funny, that no matter how much things change, things remain the same. These holidays coming before Rosh Hashanah allow us to greet the New Year with much thanks and gratitude that our Nation, that we as Jews, are still not only a presence in this world, but a strong presence.


THE 17TH OF TAMUZ - JUNE 27, 2021 - This holiday is known as Shivah Asar B'Tamuz (17th of Tamuz). It is the start of a 3 week mourning period for the destruction of Jerusalem and both Temples. It is a fast day. Yet, other events in Jewish history also occurred on this day. Moses broke the tablets on this day when he saw the Children of Israel worshipping the golden calf. The Babylonians sieged Jerusalem on this day, and the Jews were forced to stop their daily sacrificing/offerings due to a lack of sheep. The Babylonians were on their way to destroy the first Temple, which occurred 3 weeks later. The walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans on this date and 3 weeks

later, they destroyed the second Temple. Special prayers are said on this day, including the Slichot prayers which we say prior to Rosh Hashanah. Avinu Malkeinu is also recited. The Torah reading is about Moses asking Hashem to forgive the Israelites for their sin of worshipping the golden calf.

THE THREE WEEKS - This is a period of mourning the destruction of both Temples and the ongoing exile of the Jewish people. It concludes on the 9th of Av. During this 3 week period, no weddings are held. In more traditional Jewish communities, haircuts, new clothes purchases, and music are prohibited.

THE NINE DAYS - This is the period of the last 9 days of the 3 week mourning period. In addition to the prohibitions of the 3 weeks, during this period, the more orthodox and traditional communities prohibit eating meat and drinking wine (except for Shabbat and several other exceptions), laundering clothes (Again, there are a few exceptions and some work arounds.), swimming or bathing for pleasure, home remodeling, planting trees used for shade and fragrance, buying or making new clothes (Again, there are some exceptions.), and cutting nails during the actual week of the fast of Tisha B'Av. There is a bit of variation






in the Sephardic tradition for the 9 days. While not prohibited, traveling during the 9 days is not encouraged, unless it is necessary. Engagements are allowed but any engagement celebrations are prohibited until after Tisha B'Av. Even Rosh Chodesh, the sanctification of the new moon, is postponed until after Tisha B'Av, the 9th of Av. The mourning period of the 9 days actually lasts through the morning of the 10th of Av. The reason for this is that the Temple was set on fire on the 9th but burned through the 10th.

TISHA B'AV– JULY 18, 2021 – This day is referred to as the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. It too is a fast day. On this day, the spies returned from the Promised Land with their reports. This resulted in the Children of Israel questioning going into the Promised Land and subsequently wandered in the desert for 40 years. Both Temples were destroyed on this day. The first by the Babylonians. The second by the Romans. The Bar Kochba revolt ended with the Jews being defeated. The Jews of Betar were murdered on Tisha B'Av and one year later the Romans plowed over the Temple Mount. While we know that the Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, that also occurred on Tisha B'Av, along with the 1290 expulsion of the Jews from England. Germany's declaration of war against Russia in 1914 was essentially the beginning of World War I and that secular calendar date corresponds to Tisha B'Av. Additionally, some historians have concluded

ed that World War II and the Shoah were actually a continuation of World War I, which previously noted began on the 9th of Av.

Most pleasurable activities are prohibited. Only subject matter relating to the destruction of the Temple and the laws of mourning are allowed to be studied. It is customary for the curtains of the ark to be removed and lights dimmed for evening prayers, which are followed by chanting/reading/studying Lamentations. There are no tallit and tefillin at morning services, as they are considered adornments. Work is allowed but discouraged, and if one has to work preferably it is done after mid-day. It is customary to give extra charity on this day and on all fast days. For afternoon prayers, the ark's curtain can be returned. The restrictions of the 9 days extends thru the morning of the 10th of Av. Tachanun (Penitential prayers) is omitted on Tisha B'Av. If Tisha B'Av falls on a Thursday, and of course, if it falls on Shabbat, the rules are amended so that one can prepare for Shabbat and so that Shabbat can be celebrated and enjoyed.

While Tisha B'Av is considered the saddest day of the Jewish calendar, scripture refers to Tisha B'Av as a holiday. While this may seem contradictory, it really isn't. After we mourn and deal with our grief as a nation, we look forward to the time when Israel can exist in peace and there will be an end to anti-Semitism. – *Laurie Blum*



On Recent Hostilities

By Elizabeth Hayden

I thought it was important to write something about the current conflict between Hamas and Israel because the 30-second soundbytes that pass for news often misrepresent or do not tell an entire story. It is important to me, being a citizen of Israel, that people have correct and full information in order to understand and make decisions about events so important to the future of Israel and the Palestinians.

THE CURRENT CONFLICT in the Middle East is very upsetting, particularly because the news media are selling a story which is only partially true. Their story is that these attacks began because Israel “invaded El Aksa Mosque” and planned to remove Palestinians from the Sheikh Jarrah area of Jerusalem. **Here are the facts:**

1. The Sheikh Jarrah area was Jewish, known as *Shimon haTsadik* (Simon the Righteous) before the 1948 war, when the State of Israel was declared and immediately attacked by its Arab neighbors. The FACTS are that during the 1948 fighting when Jordan took over areas of east Jerusalem, this Jewish area was abandoned by Jews. Litigation in the Israeli courts has been ongoing for more than 30 years. FACT is – the Israeli courts ruled the current Arab residents can stay in Sheikh Jarrah houses so long as they pay rent. The current residents refuse to pay rent because they were warned by Palestinians against making any agreement with Israel – which is why this is back on the Israeli court docket. Yes, extreme right-wing Jews want the current Arab residents to be evicted. This has not happened yet and would not be up for discussion had the current residents not been threatened by their own governing body and had they agreed to pay rent.

2. Al Aksa Mosque, unfortunately, has become a flash point for quite some time. It is a center of unrest, calls for unrest and a cache for weapons. It is not unusual for Israeli police to have to break up violence originating from Al Aksa Mosque, partic-

ularly on Fridays and towards the end of Ramadan. While it is a law that Israelis/Jews cannot enter the **Al Aksa Mosque**, it is not a secular law that Israelis/Jews cannot enter the **Al Aksa compound**. However, the Chief Rabbinate in 1967 declared that Jews/Israelis **should not** enter the compound, believed to be the location of the inner sanctuary of the Temple – the Holy of Holies. Jews are forbidden by the rabbinate to enter because of the fear of unintentionally walking where the Holy of Holies was located. I remember sticking my head in the compound gates, but I also did not enter. I did not enter out of respect for the Muslims and also, while I am hardly the most observant Jew in the world, out of respect for the Holy of Holies.

3. Gaza – Charges Against Israel – Perhaps someone remembers that Israel did not unilaterally attack the Gaza Strip; Hamas attacked Israel. It launched thousands and thousands of rockets into Israeli civilian population centers. Despite the blockade from Egypt and Israel, Hamas, as a proxy for Iran, has been supplied with thousands of rockets, money from Qatar and Iran. Bordering on the Sinai Desert, which has a high trade in weapons, Hamas in Gaza has no problem securing armaments. Monies that are sent earmarked for schools, hospitals, health care and to improve the lives of Gaza residents are subverted to build tunnels beneath Gaza (the “Metro”) as well as tunnels



Picture of damage in Ahkelon from Gazan rockets.



into Israel. The purpose of the tunnels into Israel is to kill, capture or maim as many Israelis as possible. These tunnels are supported by concrete with electricity and are wide enough to drive a truck through. Both Hamas and Hezbollah want to capture Israelis because Israelis are of high negotiating value in making demands of the Israeli government. Hamas still holds 2 live Israeli hostages, one of whom is mentally disabled, and the remains of Israeli soldiers from previous engagements which Hamas has refused to release.

4. – Israel indiscriminately attacks Gaza residents and kills Palestinians – nothing could be further from the truth. More than any other army in the world Israel attempts to minimize civilian casualties. Do you remember watching the US go into Iraq in 2003 and televise “Shock and Awe”? I remember watching it and being horrified at the callous indifference to loss of life. How many civilian casualties do you think that resulted in? Oh, gosh, the US media was so thrilled being “embedded” I guess they forgot to report on that. Same for US performance in Syria. How many thousands of miles away from the US are these countries? Iraq is some 6,900 miles distant from the US and Afghanistan is some 7,500 miles distant. Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are approximately 40 to 60 miles away from the Gaza Strip. Israel, if it has nothing else,

has some of the best intelligence in the world. Before a building is bombed – first of all there are meetings by military and intelligence to determine the value of the target, the cost of the target in both moral and ethical terms as well as in strategic terms. No target is selected until all branches of intelligence, security and the military are in agreement. Once a target is selected it is notified by phone; it then receives a “knock” on the roof – to alert anyone remaining in the building that it is about to be bombed. What other army in the world does this? If you know of one, please tell me. Please remember that with all the improvements in Hamas’ rocket capabilities, at least 30% of them are falling within Gaza and killing, who knows, how many Gaza residents? The reports of people killed in Gaza come from Hamas-approved sources with no differentiation between people killed by Israel or by Hamas, and how many were militants versus civilians. There is no way to know how objective these figures are; they are verified and checked by no one. Lastly, as Ron Dermer, former Ambassador from Israel to US (who is currently sleeping with his kids in a bomb shelter as so many in Israel are) remarked: Were Israel trying to kill Palestinians with the capabilities Israel has there, would be tens of thousands of dead Palestinians. Israel is trying to do the best it can to minimize civilian casualties.

Emerging back into life... an almost-post-pandemic musing

.....

By Mindy Agler

I was asked to write an article about taking care of ourselves as the pandemic, and the restrictions related to it, ease around us. I'm not sure I have any great words of wisdom, as it's something none of us has ever had to do before! But here are a few random thoughts. I'd love to hear all your thoughts as well, and maybe we can do a follow-up including your thoughts in the next edition of Chai Lights.

We have been shut in, shut out, isolated, maybe very alone, for over a year. We've missed our previous every-day interactions with others: seeing smiles, or even frowns, shaking hands, hugging, being closer than 6 feet to other people. We've developed a wariness around people, hoping not to catch the virus through carelessness or chance, cleaning shopping cart handles, glancing anxiously if someone coughed near us, wearing masks, and washing our hands and using sanitizer until the skin on our hands became raw and red.

And now we're told we can re-enter the world. Is it hard to trust that it's really safe? Are we feeling

anxious being around people again? Had we found some peace in running fewer errands and having more quiet time during the pandemic? Can we somehow keep that peace as we return to "normal?" Or, has our anxiety been at such high alert during the pandemic that it's hard to bring it down to pre-pandemic levels? Or—and this is probably the closest to the truth—do we have all of the above plus every other combination of conflicting emotions and thoughts right now? Is the over-riding feeling simple uncertainty about everything?

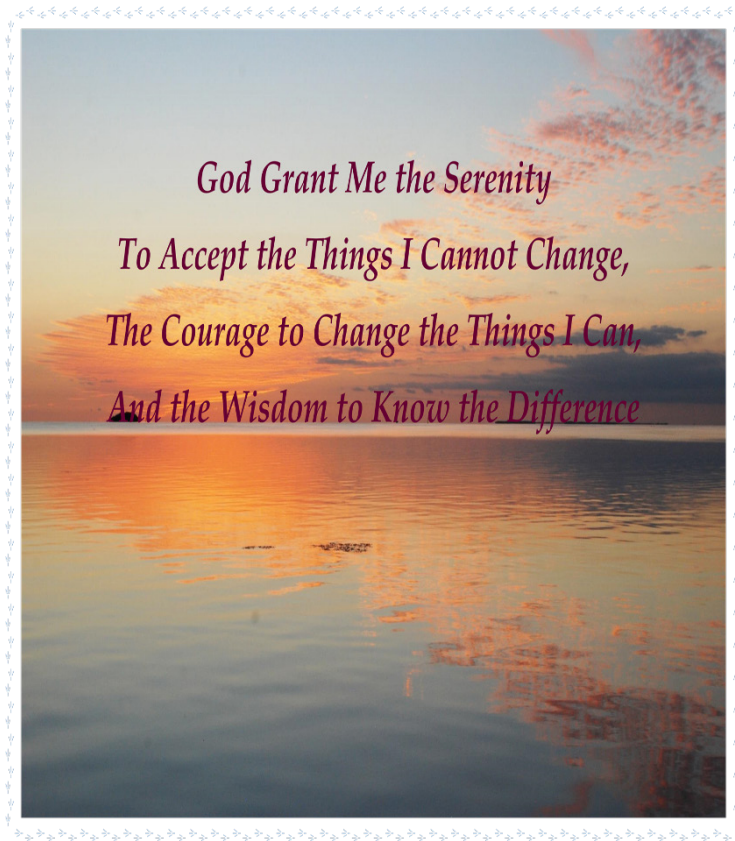
So how do we deal with these thoughts and feelings? Perhaps one way is by examining what we've learned about ourselves during the pandemic and making changes to reflect that new knowledge. Did we develop a new appreciation for alone time? Did we become more comfortable in our own company? If so, let's continue to cultivate that, and work toward a balance of being happy with ourselves and appreciating time with others.

If we found that we were uncomfortable spending so much time alone with our own thoughts and feelings, this might be a message that we have work to do on improv-

ing our relationship with ourSelves, capital "S." Perhaps make a list of 10 affirmations that begin with "I am," and end with a positive characteristic that we already appreciate in ourselves or that we want to develop. Post them on the bathroom mirror, and say them out loud while looking ourselves in the eyes, to help

our brains "learn" that they are true. Perhaps practice a meditation technique. Perhaps find a new hobby or exercise to enjoy.

Perhaps as we ride this current roller coaster, one of the simplest things we can do to hold on tight and keep ourselves balanced is reciting the Serenity Prayer.



May we all come to find the blessings of acceptance, courage and wisdom.

CARING KEHILAH

The Caring Kehilah is pleased to say that the calls they have been making are well received by our members. Fortunately, for the most part the calls now are now to wish our members a happy birthday, happy anniversary, and to thank them for their oneg sponsorship. Fortunately, few of our members are on the mishabarach list.

Our check-in calls to members we haven't seen in a while, which began a few months ago, were very well received. Thank you so much to Gloria Avner and Laura Goodman for their assistance with this very important project. G-d willing, the Caring Kehilah hopes to start in late summer contacting all of our members to wish them a healthy and happy New Year and let them know how we are looking forward to seeing our KJCC mishpacha (family) again this fall. If anyone would like to

volunteer to help with these calls, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Even taking on 5 to 10 calls would be a help and you could do it at your convenience. Even if you get an answering machine and leave a message or send an email, the recipient knows that KJCC is thinking about them. I have done that on many occasions and many members have called, texted, or emailed me back to say...thank you.

Perhaps, even more importantly, if you know of a member who has a loved one who is ill and might appreciate a caring support call from another member, or if you know of a member who would appreciate a regular check-in call, and of course, if you'd like to volunteer to make some calls, please contact Laurie Blum @ 414-698-5647 or blum1212@gmail.com.

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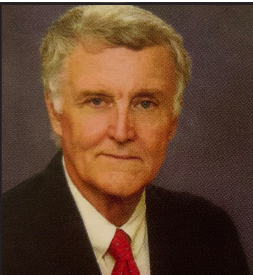
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