

# Chai~Lights



February 2011

27 Shevat - 24 Adar 1 5771

**Remembering the Keys Homeless - page 25**

**Happy Birthday Mr. Lincoln - page 31**

**Debbie Friedman In Memoriam - page 32**

**Keys Jewish Community Center**

P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • [keysjewishcenter.com](http://keysjewishcenter.com)

Chai-Lights February 2011 | 1

# February 2011

27 Shevat - 24 Adar 1

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Poker Night at KJCC 7:30 p.m.	3	4 Gloria Avner, Yardena Kamely & Sam Vinicur  <i>Susan &amp; Alan Cooper</i>	5
6 <b>Sisterhood Meeting</b> Theater out- ing—Putnam Valley Spelling Bee	7	8	9	10	11 George Swartz & Yardena Kamely  <i>Pat &amp; David VanArtsdalen</i>	12
13 <b>Board Meeting 9, Annual Meeting</b> 10:30 a.m. at KJCC	14	15	16	17	18 Gloria Avner & David Gitin  —————  (Purim Katan)	19
20	21 President's Day	22	23	24	25 Stuart & Lauren Sax  6:30 Service  <i>Rita &amp; Jim Williams</i>	26
27 Deli Nite 4 p.m. at KJCC	28					

Names denote leaders of Friday services.  
*Italicized* names are Oneg sponsors. KJCC  
 offers services every Friday.

## 2010 - 2011 Officers and Board

**President**  
Alan Beth

**Executive Vice President**  
Stuart Sax

**Vice Presidents**  
Gloria Avner – Susan Gordon – Stan Margulies

**Treasurer**  
Linda Pollack

**Recording Secretary**  
Beth Hayden

**Financial Secretary**  
Rene Rose

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Roberta McNew

**Directors**  
Marc Bloom – Joan Boruszak – Steve Friedman  
Bernie Ginsberg – David Goldfinger  
Elinor Grossman – Kurt Kluger – Ron Levy  
Neal Rakov – Steve Smith – Joan Stark  
Sam Vinicur – Mark Wasser

**Sisterhood**  
Lauren Sax

**Adult Education**  
Yardena Kamely

**Historian**  
Mary Lee Singer

**Past Presidents**  
Joel S. Cohen  
Robert Faeges  
Ronald Horn  
Lester Nieman  
Irving Stein  
Myron Rubin  
Bea Graham  
George Swartz  
Susan Horn  
Jim Boruszak  
Joel Pollack  
Jeff Schocket  
Steve Steinbock

**Newsletter**  
Lisa Richardson Rutherford  
*Editor*  
Marty Graham  
*Editor 1987-2007*

**CHAI-LIGHTS** is the  
monthly newsletter of the  
**Keys Jewish Community Center**  
P.O. Box 1332  
Tavernier, Florida 33070  
chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

## President's Message Alan Beth



This is my last message as KJCC president. As I conclude my term, our synagogue is thriving and doing better than ever. It truly is! We have more activity and more involvement than ever before in our brief history. This is not to be credited to any one individual, but to all of us as a community. I want to thank the officers and board of directors for their hard work and support. Thanks to the past presidents—Bea, George, Jim, Joel, Jeff and Steve—whose advice and guidance I have relied on and with whom it has been a joy to work. I want to thank all the heads of committees, and all the religious leaders. Thanks to all of Sisterhood. Great thanks to all who pitch in when asked, and to those special people who help behind the scenes, not wanting the spotlight and not wanting any credit for the hard work they do. My last “thank you” goes to my mentor and wife – Candy Stanlake.

I know that all these gifts of time and dedication were not for me personally but for the KJCC itself. The larger picture here is how much we continue to give to each other as a community. Active involvement is crucial if our KJCC is to provide education and meaningful services, to teach our children, to continue an environment that

nurtures our individual and collective growth. We do so much so regularly, and I think we should all be proud of each other. The essence of us as a community center is just that – a center to which we can come, feel welcome and be right at home. I believe that those who founded KJCC thirty years ago would also be proud of us.

Our kitchen, our classrooms, our sanctuary and our building itself would be nothing if it weren't for all the energy you bring when you come through our door. In our surveys the last few years, your feedback has been terrific, and positive. Now, in a couple of weeks, I will turn over the presidency to my friend and our current Executive V.P., Stuart Sax. Like other past presidents, I'll be there to do all I can to help Stuart and the new board continue our success and work confidently toward a wonderful KJCC future. I know that we are on the right track.

Our Annual Membership Meeting and Election of the KJCC Board of Directors and Officers will be held on Sunday, February 13, 2011. Please attend.

Thank you to all.

-Alan

# Nosh

## Your New Online Calendar

If you haven't checked the online KJCC calendar recently, you're in for a pleasant surprise. Alan has been fine-tuning and tweaking, and it's better than ever. Chai-Lights attempts to bring you all the information available for any upcoming month. But once we print we can't change anything. Alan updates the online calendar daily, or even more often if necessary. So now you'll never have an excuse not to know about all the wonderful things going on at KJCC. Take a look.

## The KJCC Annual Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>

An important event each year is the KJCC Annual Membership Meeting. This year it's on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, in the KJCC sanctuary. The Nominating Committee forwards its slate of nominees to the sitting Board, which must approve it. Both of those things have happened, and now the slate awaits approval by the entire membership at the Annual Meeting. Sisterhood will provide a light lunch to all present after the election and swearing-in of officers and board. For details, and the names of nominees, please see page 27.

## Chai-Lights Deadlines

We haven't run this one for a while, and we're getting questions, so here's the info: the deadline for articles and photos and any other information you'd like to see in Chai-Lights is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding. (This apparently does not apply to Yardená.) We welcome all photos and articles and ideas, subject of course to editorial discretion and judgment. If you can't quite make the deadline, let us know anyway; we try to be flexible, especially for calendar entries.

## Oneg Sponsors for February 2011

February 4<sup>th</sup>—Susan and Alan Cooper  
February 11<sup>th</sup>—Pat and David Van Artsdalen  
February 25<sup>th</sup>—Jim and Rita Williams to celebrate Jim's birthday.

## The 2011 Upper Keys Concert Series

The final three of the season's concerts (the Harry James Orchestra and a young Chopin Prize-winning pianist will have already played by the time you get this) will all take place in February. There's a Boston-based chamber orchestra, a 14-year-old Russian cello/piano prodigy, and the wonderful - operatic yet hilarious - Dueling Divas. Contact Joyce Peckman at 451-0665 or Mary Lee Singer at 240-0061 for ticket information and any remaining discount plans.

## The Garden Progresses...

Our new KJCC Meditation Garden continues to receive loving care and horticultural tending from the Garden Committee – Steve Steinbock, Candy Stanlake and Georgia Landau, and occasional help from many others. (They still need red mulch, by the way.) And now the pergola being donated and built by Alan and Candy is underway. (Not sure what a pergola is? As Stuart said, think of a *chuppa* made of wood.) We even have three benches now, so you can just sit and ponder. Please take a moment to look around as you enter or exit the parking lot.

### February Anniversaries

		Years
9 <sup>th</sup>	Uri & Liliam Kameley.....	19
11 <sup>th</sup>	Joel & Linda Pollack.....	49
21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Murray &amp; Claire Cooper.....</b>	<b>63</b>

*The KJCC extends deepest condolences to*

**Bob and Fred Hermann  
and their family**

*on the death of  
Eileen Hermann*

## February Birthdays

1st.....Evan Grossman	12th.....Paul Roberts
1st.....Roy Pollack	14th.....Debbie Madnick
2nd.....Linda Rutkin	14th.....Steven B. Sanders
3rd.....Caeleigh Stuart	15th.....Judith Weber
3rd.....Dick Bromwich	18th.....Beth Hayden
5th.....Rebecca Smith	21st.....David J. Marmar
5th.....Robin Kantor	22nd.....Harry J.C. Friedman
6th.....Martin Field	24th.....Emily Caryn Gershowitz
7th.....Erica Lieberman-Garrett	24th.....Muriel Swartz
7th.....Larry Jacobs	24th.....Suzie Greenman
9th.....Deborah Kaplan	25th.....Rita Conklin
9th.....Ron Garrett	26th.....Jim Williams
10th.....Shirley Burnett	26th.....John D. Schur
11th.....Justin Solomon	27th.....Betsy Grossman
12th.....Johnny Knowles	28th.....Arlene Line

## Keys Jewish Community Center

# 8th Annual Women's Seder

Save  
the  
Date

Tuesday  
April 5, 2011



### Still a Few Theater Tickets Left, But Hurry

Joyce still has a few tickets left for the February 6th performance of "Putnam Valley Spelling Bee," to be held at the wonderful Actors Playhouse in Coral Gables, for a show she's seen and says everyone will leave smiling. Donation is \$40. Contact Nancy Kluger, 305-393-2129 or klugerkeys@bellsouth.net. (But hurry.)

### Havdalah Hosts Needed

Contact Gloria, 619-0216, if you'd like to host a "short and sweet" (and spicy) Havdalah ceremony during February or March.

### Hosting An Oneg Shabbat

Our Oneg Shabbat is one of the many pleasures of belonging to the Keys Jewish Community Center. Following the Friday night services, the Oneg is a time to have a nosh and mingle in a relaxed setting. It is also a great opportunity to celebrate and honor special events such as a birthday, anniversary, new baby, graduation, safe

return, yearzeit, or any other occasion of your choice. There are three forms of sponsorship:

1. For a \$60 donation (whether you are present or not) Sisterhood will purchase challah, Kosher wine, coffee/tea/soft drinks, and assorted baked goods.

2. You may elect to provide your own foods. In that case, we suggest food for forty people to be at the KJCC thirty minutes prior to the start of services. Challah, wine, coffee/tea/soft drinks will be provided by Sisterhood at no cost to you. All goodies will be cut up and placed on serving trays by our kitchen staff unless Sisterhood is notified otherwise.

3. For a contribution of \$300 you may sponsor a Shabbat Potluck Dinner that Sisterhood will organize in your honor.

For additional information or to sponsor an Oneg, please contact me at 305-451-0665 or 305-240-1000.

-Joyce Peckman

## Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

**Sunshine Committee** - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from KJCC, call Rene Rose, 852-3959.

**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 Bea Graham, 852-0214.

**Picture Postcards** - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities to fit your needs and can be mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 852-0833.

**Oneg Shabbat Sponsor** - To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 451-0665.

**Meditation Garden** - Participate in our newest venture. A beautiful garden is in progress and you can be part of this exciting new project by making a donation for an engraved brick, an engraved bench, or for plants in honor or memory of a loved one or event. Call Steve Steinbock for information, 394-0143.

**KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yearzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim** - Call Carol Steinbock to arrange your donation, 852-6152 or 393-1205.

**JNF Trees In Israel** - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 852-4353

**Chai-Lights Mitzvah** - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 852-8575 to make your donation.

**Advertisement In Chai-Lights** - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack 852-8575 for annual rates.

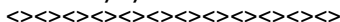
*Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds: e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund.*

# *In Memoriam February 2011*

In Memory Of

**Lou Roazen**

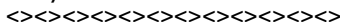
By Sylvia Berman



In Memory Of

**Sunnie Bernstein**

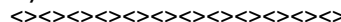
By Paul & Barbara Bernstein



In Memory Of

**Kitty Nyman**

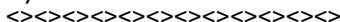
By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake



In Memory Of

**Ted Nyman**

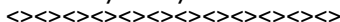
By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake



In Memory Of

**Max Boxer**

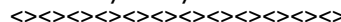
By Shirley Boxer



In Memory Of

**Ida Boxer**

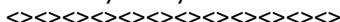
By Shirley Boxer



In Memory Of

**J. L. Fierberg**

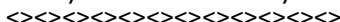
By Shirley Boxer



In Memory Of

**Robert Kinney**

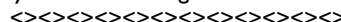
By Frank & Gerri Emkey



In Memory Of

**William Feinberg**

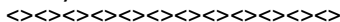
By Arthur Feinberg & Patrice Gerard



In Memory Of

**Louis Geller**

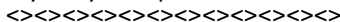
By Milton & Claire Geller



In Memory Of

**Elsie Gilderman**

By Larry & Stephanie Gilderman



In Memory Of

**Rose Gilson**

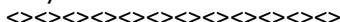
By Michael & Suzanne Gilson



In Memory Of

**Charles Gilson**

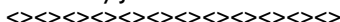
By Michael & Suzanne Gilson



In Memory Of

**Joseph Gorson**

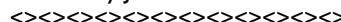
By Janice Gorson



In Memory Of

**A. James Weiss**

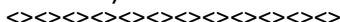
By Janice Gorson



In Memory Of

**Nicholas Goldenberg**

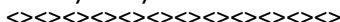
By Bea Graham



In Memory Of

**Robert Greenbaum**

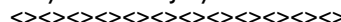
By Marilyn Greenbaum



In Memory Of

**Ilona Ban**

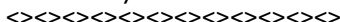
By Franklin & Judy Greenman



In Memory Of

**Chalom Haviv**

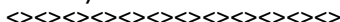
By Leo Haviv



In Memory Of

**Fred H. Hermann**

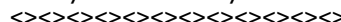
By Robert Hermann



In Memory Of

**Ida Ratchik**

By Ron & Dorothy Horn

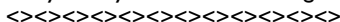


# *In Memoriam February 2011*

In Memory Of

**Fannie Phillips**

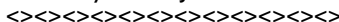
By Henry & Patricia Isenberg



In Memory Of

**Isaac Jacobson**

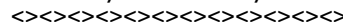
By Melvin Jacobson



In Memory Of

**Pinchas Kamely**

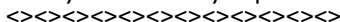
By Michal Kamely



In Memory Of

**Irving Stockser**

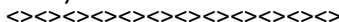
By Frank & Sandy Kaplan



In Memory Of

**J. George Cooper**

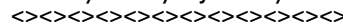
By David & Lois Kaufman



In Memory Of

**Sylvia Kay**

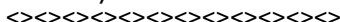
By Harvey & Joan Kay



In Memory Of

**Joseph Krissel**

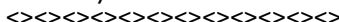
By Michael Krissel



In Memory Of

**M. Teresa Astray-Caneda**

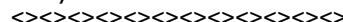
By Teresa Kwalick



In Memory Of

**Samuel Marmar**

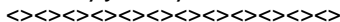
By David & Pamela Marmar



In Memory Of

**Sara J. Cohen**

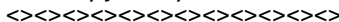
By Jim & Lynn Nobil



In Memory Of

**Irene Nobil**

By Jim & Lynn Nobil



In Memory Of

**William Pollack**

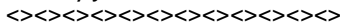
By Joel & Linda Pollack



In Memory Of

**Malka Frank**

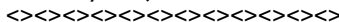
By Joel & Linda Pollack



In Memory Of

**Ida O. Present**

By Marjorie Present



In Memory Of

**Amos M. Present**

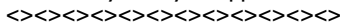
By Marjorie Present



In Memory Of

**Russ Wayne Rolnick**

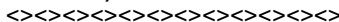
By Marilyn Rapp



In Memory Of

**Shirley Horowitz**

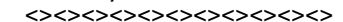
By Pauline Roller



In Memory Of

**Al Roller**

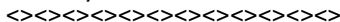
By Pauline Roller



In Memory Of

**Irving Sanders**

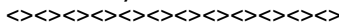
By Steven B. Sanders



In Memory Of

**John A. Schur**

By Lee Schur



In Memory Of

**Miriam Blinder**

By Steven & Barbara Smith



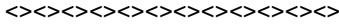


# *In Memoriam February 2011*

In Memory Of

**Sarah Felder**

By Stuart & Geri Smith



In Memory Of

**Paul Buchman**

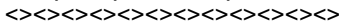
By Mel Taks



In Memory Of

**Morris Feinberg**

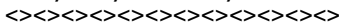
By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe



In Memory Of

**Samuel Wolfe**

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe



In Memory Of

**Pinchas Kamely**

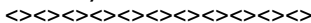
By Michal Kamely



In Memory Of

**Al Roller**

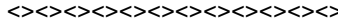
By Pauline Roller



In Memory Of

**Sara J. Cohen**

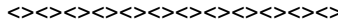
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg



In Memory Of

**Minnie Berger**

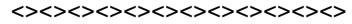
By Mark & Sofy Wasser



In Memory Of

**Ann R. Kapulskey**

By George & Muriel Swartz



In Memory Of

**David C. Willner**

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner



**KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Sunday, February 6, 2011  
2:00 PM  
Actors Playhouse, Coral Gables

**The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**

Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. This hilarious tale of overachievers' angst chronicles the experience of six adolescent outsiders vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Spelling Bee is the unlikeliest of hit musicals about the unlikeliest of heroes; a quirky yet charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time.

**WINNER! 2 TONY AWARDS**

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Multi-colored over-the-shoulder fabric purses and challah covers from Rifkas in the Old City of Jerusalem



Also: Silver star necklaces with multi colored stones and hand made parchment note paper from Zickran Yaakov.



Blessing for the Home

May there be light, joy, peace and friendship in this house, with an abundance of blessing in every room.



Beautiful talit and kepahs from Jaffa

Individual orders can be accommodated.

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# YEDA VE'TORASHA

## Yardena Kamely



### Our Community and Adult Education - A Congregation of Learners

On November 7, 2010, the Jewish Community of Miami participated in a special event: *Global Day of Jewish Learning*. In celebration of our shared religion, culture, texts and history, more than 250 communities worldwide came together to study and grow. This event was inspired by renowned Jewish scholar Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz who, after 45 years and 45 volumes, has completed his monumental Talmud translation and commentary.

Jewish learning is critical to the continuity of Jewish life because learning is at the core of our identities as Jews. For Jews, learning is more than an intellectual exercise; it engages our emotions and influences our actions. It is, by definition, communal; even when one learns alone, one is linked to Jews in other times and places.

Synagogues have an important role to play in linking Jews to their heritage (*torasha*) and to one another. The synagogue is often the first point of entry into the Jewish community. Today most synagogues attract members because of the programs they offer; but too few members see the congregation (*kehilah*) as a source of community. It wasn't always this way. The traditional *kehilah* was a *Bet T'filah* (house of prayer), a *Bet Midrash* (house of study), and a *Bet Knesset* (house of assembly) all rolled into one.

How do current leading scholars and educators envision Jewish education, its purposes, the values it should serve, and the personal and social character it ought to foster? What are their visions of an ideal Jewish education for the contemporary world? Isadore Twersky, a historian and specialist in Jewish thought, places philosophical understanding at the core of Jewish living. For Twersky, the practices of Judaism cannot be separated from the ideas

and ideals of Judaism. If properly educated, we achieve harmony between the practice of *mitzvot* and the appreciation of their meanings. The *Halacha* (Jewish law) is the center of education.

Menachem Brinker is a scholar of Hebrew literature and philosophy. His outlook is secular. Brinker considers the thinkers of the East European *Haskalah* important to Jewish learning, their ideas having continuing relevance for our own period. Jews, for him, are those who identify themselves with the Jewish People, committing their energies and fate to its well-being. Such commitment implies affiliation with the historical heritage of Judaism, emotional and intellectual involvement with the Jewish People, and participation in Jewish society.

For Moshe Greenberg, a biblical scholar, Jewish education is religious rather than secular. Greenberg sees religion as the response to the universal question about meaning and value in life. For him, it is important to foster four qualities through Jewish education: 1. Love of learning Torah and love of the fulfillment of the *mitzvot*. 2. Acceptance of the Torah as a moral guide. 3. A way of life that creates a community. 4. A relationship to the Jewish people in all the lands of their dispersion.

A congregation of learners is much more than a collection of individuals that happens to learn. Learning will, inevitably, spill over into every other aspect of congregational life, changing people's approach to prayer, to ethics, and to social justice. Learning brings people together, creating the sense of community so many seek. When members of a congregation have a common understanding that Jewish learning is for everyone, and when they are provided with a range of engaging and stimulating opportunities for learning, that congregation will have become a congregation of learners. ◇

# Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their 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 signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

*Chai-Lights*  
Kirschenbaum, Bianka

*In Honor of*  
Medina Roy

Smith, Steve & Barbara  
Steinbock, Steve & Carol  
Swartz, George & Muriel  
Werthamer, Robert & Heide

*General Fund*  
Davidson, Foster & Carol Laskin  
Gilson, Michael & Suzanne

*In Honor of*

Itkin, Arthur  
Kahn, Lawrence & Bette  
Levi, Nancy  
Sax, Stuart & Lauren  
Tobin, Andy

Grandson's bar mitzvah  
Jim Boruszak's birthday  
Jim Boruszak's birthday  
Get well wishes for Jim Boruszak

*Tree of Life*  
Willner, Arthur & Johanna

*In Honor of*  
New grandson Aaron

*Yartzeit Contributions*  
Coltman, Barney & Ellen  
Emkey, Gerri  
Grossman, Stuart  
Olsen, Gerald & Sheila  
Tallent, Ralph & Lillian  
Taramona, Hermine  
Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

*In Memory of*  
Eva Levine

Sylvia Grossman  
Betty Weinstein  
Morris Estrin  
Norma Robinson  
Diana Wolfe

*Meditation Garden*  
Kamely, Michal  
Smith, Steve & Barbara

*Oneg Fund Sponsors*  
Cooper, Alan & Susan  
Mahjonggettes  
VanArtsdalen, David & Pat  
Williams, Jim & Rita  
Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

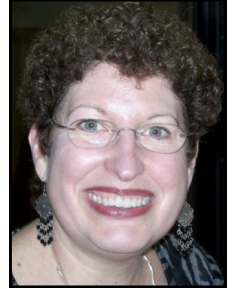
*In Honor of*  
Gratitude to the KJCC  
Jim's birthday  
Larry's birthday

*Raffle*  
Alter, Barry  
Boruszak, Jim & Joan  
Coltman, Barney & Ellen  
Dorf, Barry & Natalie  
Goldfinger, David & Toby  
Graham & Mayk  
Graham, Bea  
Gross, David & Patti  
Hartz, Steve  
Kluger, Kurt & Nancy  
Kwalick, Teresa  
Peckman, Joyce  
Perloff, Linda  
Pollack, Joel & Linda  
Rakov, Neal & Cathy  
Rose, Skip & Rene  
Sax, Stuart & Lauren  
Silverman, Mort & Gene  
Singer, Mary Lee

**Are you getting tired of your everyday cutlery? Sisterhood is stocking the kitchen and would be happy to have what you do not want. Bring your forks and knives and spoons to the KJCC. And we thank you.**

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## Sisterhood Lauren Sax



**H**ere We Go.....

As I was being elected at the December Sisterhood Meeting, I was reminded of the phrase that Oprah uses every month in her column in "O" Magazine. Did I really know what I was doing? I'm managing a business, being a wife and now a new grandmother. Do I have the time and ambition to successfully lead the women of the KJCC?

Here we go again...and I stress the "again." Accepting the Sisterhood presidency takes me back twenty years ago when I became Sisterhood President of our congregation in the southern suburbs of Chicago, and then years later moving to Miami and chairing various Sisterhood fundraisers at Temple Judea in Coral Gables as well as helping in their gift shop. I suppose it all boils down to passion, a passion for wanting Sisterhood and our synagogue to succeed. No matter what city or what congregation, Sisterhoods everywhere are the backbone of the congregation. The KJCC is no different. From cooking sumptuous congregational dinners, providing weekly Onegs, sponsoring "Break-the-Fast" and fundraising in our spare time, the women of Sisterhood are a force to be reckoned with.

I strongly believe that without Sisterhood, the KJCC would be missing a great deal. I am very fortunate to have a wonderful executive board and I look forward to working with them and all the ladies of Sisterhood. Isn't that the meaning of Sisterhood? Being able to work together?

We have already started forging ahead. Erica Garrett and Kathy Shabathai are hard at work preparing for our Deli Nite on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, which will include games, music, and of course lots of delicious food! New Gift Shop chairwomen, Susan Gordon and Roberta McNew, have reduced prices on current goods while they are on the lookout for some exciting new merchandise. In the coming months there will also be a new look to the

KJCC foyer, as Candy Stanlake is in the process of collecting photographs of past Sisterhood presidents for our new Sisterhood Wall.

Also, I'd like to send a huge "thank you" to Alan Beth for organizing and setting up the Sisterhood portion of the KJCC website. There is now a complete listing of Sisterhood-sponsored events on the KJCC calendar as well as *everything* you need to know about hosting an Oneg Shabbat. Please do not forget that your Temple dues make ALL women of the KJCC automatic members of Sisterhood.

I will need help for what I want to accomplish this year. Membership retention and fundraising are paramount to our success. It is my vision and my hope that we can eliminate (yes, I'm stealing and adapting a line by Winston Churchill) "so much being done by so few." In this way, with more people to share in the tasks, the more we can accomplish. I am asking all of you to help keep Sisterhood alive. Consider it an investment in your synagogue.

I am most appreciative and grateful for those volunteers who have stepped up to offer their support this year and serve alongside me: Vice President Georgia Landau, Treasurer Nancy Kluger, Recording Secretary Carol Steinbock, Kitchen Committee Erica Garrett and Kathy Shabathai, Gift Shop Susan Gordon and Roberta McNew, Oneg Shabbats Joyce Peckman, Picture Wall Candy Stanlake.

And a special "thank you" to those past Sisterhood presidents who have already offered their expertise to me: Joyce Peckman, Linda Pollack, Joan Stark, Joan Boruszak, Bea Graham and Pauline Roller.

It will be an exciting and I hope productive and enjoyable time for all of us. My e-mail is MrsDirtDevil@aol.com. Stay in touch. <

# GET OUTTA TOWN

A fundraiser for the Keys Jewish Community Center

## Tickets \$100 each

Only 100 tickets will be sold.

Where else can you fly to an exciting weekend destination for \$100?

Rules are simple. Buy a raffle ticket and when you win, you choose your destination from one of these four exciting weekend packages.

### New York Long Weekend

Includes 3 nights at the Hilton New York, dinner at one of three premier restaurants, and a Broadway experience for two.

### Sonoma, CA VIP Wine Experience

Includes lodging at the Fairmont Sonoma Inn & Spa and limousine service to a privately hosted tour of the Jacuzzi Family Winery.

### New Orleans Jazz & Dining Package

Includes 3 nights at the Renaissance Pere Marquette Hotel, VIP seats at Preservation Hall, and five-course dinner for two at Commander's Palace Restaurant.

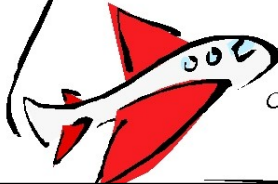
### Ultimate Sports Fan Getaway

Priority seats at your favorite MLB, NBA, NFL, NHL, PGA, or College Bowl Game. Deluxe accommodations with breakfast included.

All packages are for two and include air travel and lodging. Travel times and itineraries are flexible.

Winner to be drawn February 13, 2011

Call Stuart Sax @ 305-852-2353 or email  
[SLJISAX@aol.com](mailto:SLJISAX@aol.com)



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# World Jewish Report

## Medina Roy



### “A Breakthrough in Journalism Research”

That’s what Oren Weinberg, director of the National Library of Israel, is calling the library’s latest project to scan and upload to the internet hundreds of thousands of pages from Jewish newspapers dating as far back as the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Calling itself the *Historical Jewish Press*, the project is a joint initiative of the National Library and Tel Aviv University. The website – [www.jpress.org.il](http://www.jpress.org.il) – currently holds more than 400,000 pages from newspapers that until recently were hidden away in dusty archives. Among the collection’s highlights: *Hatzvi*, founded by Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (regarded as responsible for the revival of modern Hebrew) and *Hamelitz*, the first Jewish weekly in Czarist Russia. The site also includes Jewish newspapers from France, Germany, Morocco and Egypt, among other places. Full-text search is available and access to all the material is free. ([www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com), 12-28-10)

### 1,200 New Species

At the end of December, biologists from around the world gathered in Jerusalem to mark the conclusion of a ten-year-long world census of sea life. The comprehensive research was conducted by 3,000 scientists from 80 different countries and resulted in the discovery of an additional 1,200 new species of marine flora and fauna. Three Israeli scientists were among those who carried out the planet-wide census, the first of its kind ever done. Among the new sea creatures discovered is a multi-cell organism that lives without oxygen – the first such creature ever to be identified. ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 12-20-10)

### New iPhone App

The Western Wall Heritage Foundation, the Israeli organization that administers the

Western Wall, recently launched an iPhone application that streams live from the Wall 24/7 – except on Shabbat and Jewish holidays when transmissions are forbidden by Jewish law. Users are now able to send e-mail messages to be placed in the crevices of the wall, a traditional Jewish custom. The application also includes a compass, which allows users to follow the Jewish practice of praying in the direction of Jerusalem. (*Associated Press*, 12-29-10)

### Spying for Israel?

Saudi Arabian security forces have “arrested” a vulture that was carrying a global positioning satellite (GPS) transmitter and a ring around its leg etched with the words “Tel Aviv University.” They suspect the bird of spying for Israel. The arrest comes several weeks after an Egyptian official accused the Mossad of being behind a series of shark attacks aimed at tourists off the Sinai shore. The GPS and ring were connected to the bird as part of a long-term project by Israeli scientists that follow vultures’ location and altitude for research purposes. Researchers said that seven vultures tagged in Israel in the last few years reached Saudi Arabia but transmissions from four of them have ceased. The four vultures are presumed dead. ([www.israelnationalnews.com](http://www.israelnationalnews.com), 1-4-11)

### Focusing on the New Anti-Semitism

“Nazism was defeated in Europe 65 years ago. Anti-Semitism was not,” said Indiana University Professor Alvin Rosenfeld, the founding director of the Borns Jewish Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences. With those thoughts guiding him, Rosenfeld has recently established the Institute for the

Study of Contemporary Anti-Semitism (ISCA) at IU. The new institute, only the second of its kind at an American university, joins four major research institutes abroad. ISCA will focus especially on the “intellectual and ideological roots of what has been called the ‘new’ anti-Semitism, and will also seek to elucidate the social, cultural, religious and political forces that nurture such hostility.” IU has a long history of a strong program in Jewish studies. (*The College Magazine, Indiana University, Fall 2010*)

### **An Important Warning**

Two students from Jerusalem’s College of Technology’s Yeshiva High School have developed a sensor that warns of water leaks in home piping systems and even turns off the water when necessary. The gadget earned the two young inventors the top prize in a nationwide contest for young scientists and was Israel’s entry in the international Junior Water Prize competition held in Stockholm. It placed in the top five among 100 entrants from around the world. The small device can be attached to water meters and might soon be standard in new apartments. The cost? \$27 per home. Based on average water use that it “learns” beforehand, the sensor can detect unusual increases in water use. It then warns the user via cell phone or internet of the situation and can even shut off the water supply. It is thought that a third of the world’s water supply goes to waste because of leaks or water theft. (*www.israelnationalnews.com, 12-16-10*)

### **Eichmann’s Free Ride**

According to a report in the German daily magazine *Bild*, the West German secret service knew about Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann’s hiding place in Argentina nearly ten years before Israeli agents captured him in 1960. The report’s source is a recently discovered index card from 1952 which stated that “SS Colonel Eichmann is not to be found in Egypt but is residing in Argentina...[his] address is known to the editor-in-chief of the German newspaper in Argentina *Der Weg*.” German historian Dr. Bettina Stangneth, who

has been researching the topic for six years, said the discovery of the index card is indeed a “sensation.” Eichmann was captured by Mossad agents in 1960, secreted to Israel, publicly tried there and sentenced to death. He was hanged in 1962. (*www.haaretz.com, 1-9-11*)

### **In Memoriam**

-Raphael Hillyer, founding violist of the Juilliard String Quartet, one of the world’s premier chamber music ensembles, died at the end of December. He was 96. Hillyer was born Raphael Silverman in upstate New York to musician parents. His father, Louis Lazare Silverman, helped found Tel Aviv University. Hillyer began violin studies at the age of seven and studied with Dmitri Shostakovich in Leningrad when he was ten. He studied music at Harvard with Leonard Bernstein, who wrote a violin sonata for him. The Quartet has received four Grammy Awards and is scheduled to be the recipient of a lifetime achievement award at the upcoming 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Grammy Awards to be held February 13<sup>th</sup>. (*www.jta.org, 1-6-11*)

-Adele Starr, who became “an important but unacknowledged figure in gay rights,” died in early December at the age of 90. She was the first president of “Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays” (PFLAG), the national support group. (The organization’s official name is now “Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.”) Starr founded the Los Angeles chapter of PFLAG in 1976. Three years later, she spoke at the U.S. Capitol at the first March on Washington, which is seen now as the “seminal event in gay rights activism.” She became the group’s first national president two years later. Starr, born Ida Seltzer in Brooklyn, moved to Los Angeles in 1951 and was primarily a stay-at-home-mom with four sons and a daughter. One of her sons, Philip, told his parents he was gay in 1974. PFLAG now has more than 200,000 members. (*www.jta.org, 12-16-10*)

### **Preserving the Most Powerful Symbol**

The German government is scheduled to pay \$80 million over the coming months to a special fund for the preservation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the infamous Nazi death camp. The



camp itself, and other evidence of crimes committed, have been deteriorating and are at the point of collapse. More than one million people, mostly Jews, died in the camp's gas chambers or through forced labor, disease or starvation during World War II. "Germany acknowledges its historic responsibility to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive and to pass it on to future generations," Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle said in a statement. The memorial site is widely regarded as the most powerful symbol of the Holocaust. Each year, more than a million people visit the museum there. (*World Jewish Congress, 12-17-10*)

### **The Best Economy in the West**

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Israel's economy is the fastest-growing in the West. Israel's Gross National Product (GNP) grew by 4.5 percent in 2010 - that's 0.5 percent more than had been expected. This compares with only 2.7 percent in the other 33 countries of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). Israel became an OECD member state this past September. In 2009, in spite of the great worldwide economic crash, Israel's economy still grew by 0.8 percent, after 4.2 percent growth in 2008. The GNP per capita grew by 2.7 percent in 2010, compared with a drop of 1.1 percent the year before. (*www.israelnationalnews.com, 12-30-10*)

### **Four Million and Counting**

The Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Jerusalem has now confirmed the names of four million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. Ten years ago, the museum launched a "rescue" operation for the identification of victims by means of testimonial pages filled out by relatives. Avner Shalev, the museum's chairman, hopes that researchers will be able to identify an additional one million victims in the years ahead, but he is skeptical regarding the ability to retrieve the remaining million. Many Jews murdered in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union were the victims of mass executions committed at the beginning of the genocide and their fates

were seldom documented. (*World Jewish Congress, 12-22-10*)

### **World Champs**

Meir Yarom and Michael Shapiro, members of Haifa University's Debating Society, are the World Debating Champions for 2011. The two took first prize in their category at the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) held in Botswana in early January. More than 300 teams from about 50 countries participated in the championship. In the final round, Yarom and Shapiro debated the motion, "This house believes that the courts should break up consistently dominant political parties." In earlier rounds they debated internet privacy, prohibiting teacher union strikes, the right to possess nuclear weapons, and more. (*www.israelnationalnews.com, 1-4-11*)

### **Did You Know...**

-Amazon's e-book reader Kindle, one of the hottest gadgets around, was largely developed in Israel's Herzliya Industrial Zone. Israel has also helped develop many of the most important technological components of modern life: anti-virus software, cell phone technology, AOL chat and recent editions of Microsoft's Windows. (*www.israel21c.org, 12-16-10*)

-Mickey Mouse is heading to Haifa. Well, not exactly...but a 20-acre, \$168 million entertainment complex, including a 25-screen multiplex, and a Disney amusement park (though not a theme park) is scheduled to be built near the exit of the Carmel Tunnel in Haifa. The project is still in the development stage and is scheduled to open in 2013. (*www.jta.org, 1-4-11*)

-Israeli-American actress Natalie Portman, 29, is expecting her first child with fiancé Benjamin Millepied. He's a dancer and choreographer with the New York Ballet. The couple met last year while filming "The Black Swan," a ballet drama recently released and for which Portman received a Best Actress Golden Globe Award. Portman was born Natalie Hershlag in Jerusalem to an Israeli father and American mother. She has lived in the United States since the age of 3. Millepied, 33, is not Jewish. (*www.jta.org, 12-29-10*) ♦

# Keys Jewish Community Center



Moishe . . . did you hear???? They're having **BINGO !!**

## “AUTHENTIC” DELI NITE

Sunday, February 27, 2011

4:00 pm

KJCC, 93250 Overseas Hwy, Tavernier

Come to Kibbitz & Nosh

## Sisterhood Fundraiser

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Great Food from a GREAT DELI

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Great Food from the Mainland

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**\$25.00** Early Bird Special Donation  
(Before February 20)

**\$30.00** Donation (AFTER February 20)  
All proceeds going to KJCC

# Photo Gallery



**Rabbi Richard Agler had volunteered to conduct a Shabbat service at KJCC on Saturday morning, December 25th. He and wife Mindy have a house in Key Largo, and they love the Keys. And we at KJCC often reap the benefits.**

**Some fifty of us were there, in part because we knew to expect a warm, approachable service with plenty of**

**thought-food and lively discussion. It's also a special treat when we can open and read from our Holocaust Torah. It was the beginning of a special day.**





Part two of a very special December 25th came immediately after Rabbi Agler's service, when all of KJCC was invited to Steve and Carol Steinbock's world-famous annual Christmas Day Open House. Even two manatees joined in, as photographed below by Mindy Agler. (Or maybe they just cruised up the canal to see Steve's Garden.)



**This New Year's Day, as many others before it, saw the now-traditional Blessing of the Fleet from the Whale Harbor Bridge. Gloria ably represented KJCC. Blessings rained but the sky, happily, did not. (Photos from Patti Gross.)**



**Sunday, January 2nd saw the first Sisterhood meeting of the new year at KJCC, below. It was time to install the new officers and thank Joyce for two years as president. And then they got to work planning the rest of the season.**



**The new Sisterhood officers, above: Nancy Kluger, Treasurer; Georgia Landau, VP; Lauren Sax, President, and Carol Steinbock, Secretary**



**Stuart, that old romantic softie, showed up at the Sisterhood meeting with roses for Lauren just after her official installation as president. (And they've been married for 35 years.)**



**Below left, we were able to gather all the attending Sisterhood past-presidents and have them show off their Hebrew "Ahava" necklaces (the word means "love," for those who don't know, although you would if you came to Ulpan class), given in gratitude at the end of each Sisterhood presidency.**



**It's high season, and the first Shabbat dinner of the new year took place at KJCC on Friday, January 14th. As they have on other occasions lately, Erica Garrett and Kathy Shabathai put out a splendid array of home-cooked entrees and desserts. (They wish to thank all who helped.) And most people were so glad they came they stayed for services. (Alan, who led services, counted from the Bemah.)**





Never one to let a business opportunity pass, Stuart sold raffle tickets while he collected for the Dinner, above.



As he does so often, Harry Friedman helped Gloria with the HaMotzi blessing, left.



Our Shabbat began, as they always do, with the lighting of candles, far right. Gloria and Kathy did the honors. George and Yardena led the blessing of the wine, center.





The photo of Gerry Emkey, left, speaks for itself. The crown was only a prop, however. She had to give it back.



David Gitin, top, at Snapper's, where Gloria had taken him on his birthday to listen to jazz guitarist Frank Carmelitan.



Arthur and Johanna Willner pose, above center, with camera-shy granddaughter Elliana and new grandson Aaron John, born December 10th. Their son and daughter-in-law happily complete the picture. Below, Georgia, Steve, Candy and Alan rest after installing the posts for the new Garden pergola Alan and Candy are donating to KJCC.

Joshua Bernstein and friend Jonathan Gahagen work on a nature trail for disabled people in Marathon as part of an effort to help Jonathan get his Eagle award. The ranger is Michael Romance, Jonathan's project advisor.



At bottom is Nissan and Israel Mayk's house in New Jersey after the Boxing Day blizzard. As Nissan put it, "So much snow! Too bad our snow blower didn't work..."





# “Tzena Tzena” – *The Roots of a Popular Hebrew Song*

by Joyce Peckman

Anyone who attended a Jewish camp or youth group in the 1950s or 1960s who hears the words “Tzena Tzena” will involuntarily begin to hum and tap their toes. It was one of the tunes, along with “Mayim Mayim” and “Hava nagila” that were sung on every bus ride and at every campfire where Jewish kids were found. The other two songs have survived as popular folk tunes, yet in its time “Tzena” was the most well known. This song was composed in 1941 by Issachar Miron, using lyrics brought to him by a young soldier named Yehiel Haggiz who was serving in Jewish Company Number 22 of the British Buffs Regiment in Palestine. The lyrics were easy with few words, and the melody was upbeat and could be sung in a round. It quickly caught on and Miron remembers that, “almost instantly, the whole camp was singing it.”

The words speak to the young girls of the Moshav farming settlements, saying, “Go out, Go out daughters, and see the young soldiers in the settlement. Do not be afraid of a soldier, a man of the army!” (Tze-na, tze-na, tze-na, tze-na, habanot ure-na chayalim bamoshava. Al-na, al-na, al-na,al-na – Al-na titchaben-na

mi-ben chayil ish tzava.)

For those studying Hebrew, the “na” is a version of “please.”

From there it went to Israeli radio and by 1949 it was found in a collection called “Songs of Israel.” Probably in the form of



**His name was Lilo, but Joyce was no farm girl and she wasn't afraid.**

sheet music, the original Hebrew version of the song found its way into the hands of Pete Seeger, who at that time was a part of the trail-blazing American folk group called the Weavers. Seeger had by then committed himself to collecting and recording American folk songs, but he said he always liked to include a few “songs from other countries, hinting at different types of people in this big world.”

In the 1950s United States, older Jews still listened to Yiddish radio or cantorial music, while their children liked rock-and-roll or Broadway tunes. Others, largely the parents of the Boomers, turned away from ritual and towards Israel to express their Jewish identity.

When the Weavers recorded “Tzena,” it became an instant hit. It was recorded by Mitch Miller and sung by Vic Damone, Sophie Tucker, Judy Garland, Dusty Springfield and Chubby Checker (four of whom were definitely not Jewish). ♦

*This article is largely based upon an article by Ari Y. Kelman in Tablet e-magazine.*

# KJCC Annual Passover Second Seder



Tuesday, April 19, 2011

6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

Contact Leslie Dillon at 305-853-2693,  
222law@gmail.com, for information and reservations.

Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116,  
Tavemier, FL 33070.

Your check is your reservation. Reserve early as we will  
be opening this up to the public after April 1st.

## PASSOVER

Adults \$50

*Children 12 and under are our guests.*

# On "Shalom", In "Shalom": On Winter Solstice, a Memorial to the Homeless

by Gloria Avner

When Reverend Pam asked me to give a talk on "Shalom," my first thought was that nearly everyone must know of the three meanings of Shalom, or at least the three ways it is typically used – to greet someone (to say hello), to take leave of someone (to say goodbye), and to express all that is meant by our English word "peace." But the more I thought about this word, which we sing multiple times every week at Friday night services at the KJCC, the deeper and wider my understanding has grown.

When I say "Shalom" in greeting, I am not just saying hello. I am wishing you the greatest blessing of all, that peace be upon you. When I leave you and say "Shalom," I am not just taking leave; I am leaving you with a wish that you remain, and walk through the rest of your day and life, in a peaceful state.

Let's talk for a minute about peace, and what that state really means. "Shalom" is so much more than the absence of war. The root of the word, in Hebrew, is *shalem*, which means to make restitution. The word "shalam" means wholeness and completion. From a multitude of sources and commentary we see these synonyms for "Shalom": Completeness, wholeness, health, welfare, safety,



**Representing KJCC at the interfaith service, Gloria speaks of "Shalom."**

soundness, tranquility, prosperity, perfectness, fullness, rest, harmony, the absence of agitation or discord.

And then, of course, there are the profoundly spiritual connotations. What a blessing we give to another human being and to ourselves when we meet or greet or part with the very layered, rich word, "Shalom." It is a word of magnificent, expansive depths.

Now let's think for a moment about why we are here today. Whoever chose this theme for today was perfectly on target. Could any of us abide in "Shalom" today if we didn't know where we or our children would be sleeping tonight, if we didn't have enough

warm clothing for the bitter cold spells that strike the Keys each winter for days or even weeks in a row? How can you possibly have rest, health, safety or soundness when you have none of life's essentials, much less a reliable roof over your head? How can you not be agitated when you or your child is hungry and you don't have money to buy food? How can you have tranquility of mind, much less a feeling of prosperity, when your feeling of self-worth, of being able to provide for your own basic needs, is anything but whole? If addiction to alcohol or drugs is part of the problem, I suspect it is a behavioral attempt to regain that feeling of wholeness, or at



**Everything possible was done to gently remember the homeless. As he does so often, Dave Feder came to offer the graceful balm of music.**

people meet their basic needs. Bless those who are here to remember and honor the memory of people who could not, in their lifetime, achieve "Shalom."

Shalom is anti-anxiety medicine. If one could bottle it, the world would be a better place. We *can't* bottle it, so we do our best to *live* it and to share it. It might be through our religion or just plain neighbor-to-neighbor sharing. We are all part of the human family, all potential friends to whom we

would love to wish "Shalom." ♦



*Gloria spoke these words at an interfaith gathering on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Community Park in Tavernier to honor and bless the Keys homeless who had died in the past year. Carol and Steve Steinbock also participated, with Carol reading the poem Remembrance from the KJCC Yizkor Book and Steve leading the assembled in Kaddish. Our thanks to David Gitin for all the photos.*



**A makeshift altar was set up. It was, after all, a religious ceremony.**

least to deaden the feelings of unsoundness, agitation, and inadequacy.

Not an easy image. Not an easy question. No easy answers.

But bless the fact that there are those who care and work to help challenged

**Flowers, candles and a final communal prayer.**



# **Keys Jewish Community Center, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • [keysjewishcenter.com](http://keysjewishcenter.com)**

To all KJCC members:

The KJCC Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 13, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. in the KJCC sanctuary.

The February Board meeting, in the Ruth Richardson Social Hall, is scheduled for the same day at 9:00 a.m. All members are invited to attend both meetings.

The primary order of business at the Annual Meeting is the election and installation of Officers and the Board of Directors. According to our by-laws, nominations from the floor can be accepted at that time.

A light lunch will be served to all present immediately following the installation of Officers and Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee has met as required and selected the following slate of 2011-2012 Officers and Board Members. This slate was approved at the January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Board Meeting:

**President – Stuart Sax**

**Executive Vice President – Bernie Ginsberg**

**Vice Presidents – Gloria Avner, Susan Gordon, Stan Margulies**

**Treasurer – Linda Pollack**

**Recording Secretary – Beth Hayden**

**Financial Secretary – Rene Rose**

**Corresponding Secretary – Joyce Peckman**

**Directors:**

**Marc Bloom**

**Joan Boruszak**

**David Gitin**

**Steve Hartz**

**Kurt Kluger**

**Medina Roy**

**Gene Silverman**

**Sam Vinicur**

**(Note: Past presidents are automatically voting members of KJCC's Board.)**

**Respectfully submitted by the 2011 Nominating Committee:  
Sam Vinicur (chair), Alan Beth, Stuart Sax, Steve Steinbock**

# February

362 – Roman Emperor Julian issues an edict recognizing equal rights for all the religions in the Roman Empire. Known to Church historians as Julian the Apostate, Julian effectively undoes the edicts of Constantine that made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. Julian is sympathetic to the Jewish people and is prepared to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem, but is assassinated by a Christian apparently angry at Julian's decision to deny sole religion status to Christianity.

1451 – Sultan Mehmed II inherits the throne of the Ottoman Empire and conquers Constantinople in 1453. He allows Jews from today's Greek Islands and Crete to settle in Istanbul. His published declaration reads: "Listen, sons of the Hebrew who live in my country...May all of you who desire come to Constantinople and may the rest of your people find here a shelter." Mehmed also invites the Ashkenazi Jews of Transylvania and Slovakia to settle in the Ottoman Empire.

1481 – The first *auto-da-fe* of the Spanish Inquisition takes place in Seville, Spain. (Auto-da-fe means, literally, "act of faith.") It is a ceremony that culminates in burning at the stake those decreed as heretics by the Inquisition. The first are Jews forced to convert and found guilty of secretly practicing their Judaism. The next year, by Papal order, seven new Inquisitors are nominated, among them Tomas de Torquemada, who will zealously lead the Spanish Inquisition and in 1492 help bring an end to the most advanced, learned and successful Jewish culture since Solomon.

1697 – In Great Britain, a site is acquired for the first Ashkenazi cemetery.

1772 – Poland is first partitioned by Russia, Prussia and Austria, effecting the demise of Poland as an independent nation until after World War I. Russia acquires a large Jewish

population as a result of the partition, a population the Russians decidedly do not want.

1838 – Together with a dedicated group of Philadelphia Jewish women, Rebecca Gratz, descendant of one of the Grandee families and renowned for her education and beauty, establishes the first Jewish Sunday School.

1876 – The National League, the first and oldest of baseball's two Major Leagues, is formed. Lip Pike, already a professional, plays that same year with the National League team in St. Louis. He is the first known Jew to play major league baseball.

1905 – Alissa Rosenbaum is born in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her father is a pharmacist, a middle-class professional, a rare accomplishment in anti-Semitic Czarist Russia. The family loses everything in the Bolshevik Revolution. Alissa emigrates to the United States, where she changes her name to Ayn Rand and eventually manages to publish the two novels that define the ideas and philosophy she calls Objectivism, "The Fountainhead" and "Atlas Shrugged."

1925 – The Technion, Israel's first modern university, opens in Haifa after years of effort and deep involvement by no less than Albert Einstein. The first undergraduate class consists of sixteen students in two areas of instruction, Civil Engineering and Architecture. After serious debate, the language of instruction is chosen to be Hebrew instead of German.

1936 – Bronislaw Huberman, a prominent Polish violinist, announces that a symphony orchestra is being formed in Palestine, to be known as the Palestine Orchestra Association. Many in the orchestra are Germans no longer allowed to work under their country's new Nazi regime. Huberman reports that \$25,000 has been contributed to help the orchestra with its organization. ◇

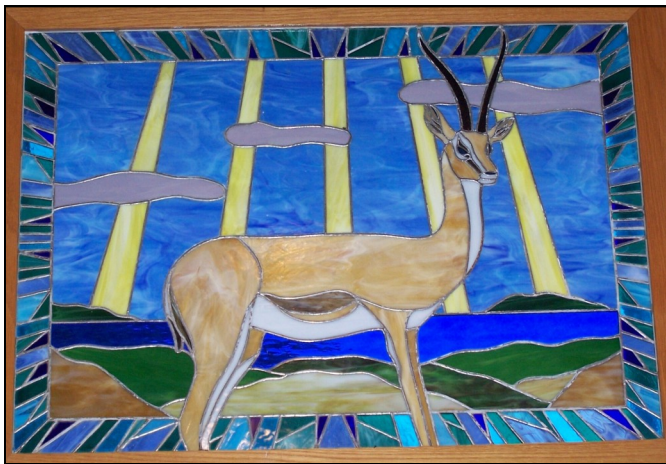
# Stained Glass of KJCC

Part six of our closer look at the story behind the art.

As our gaze departs from the window of the tribe of Levi, on the northern—or Miami—side of the KJCC sanctuary, the next window we see as we continue clockwise offers a far gentler central image, and a return to the graceful rays of sun and open sky and peaceful terrain seen in earlier windows. There is a hint, in an inset lower center, of the rolling, fertile hills of the territory of this tribe. The central image represents a description given of this son by his father Jacob. It is the window of the tribe of Naphtali.

We actually know very little about this sixth son of Jacob. He was the second son born to Jacob and Bilhah, the handmaid (an archaic and lovely word for servant) of Rachel, Jacob's first choice but second wife. It's a familiar Bible story that Rachel, believing herself to be infertile, sent Bilhah to Jacob to conceive a proxy son on her behalf. The strategy succeeded, first with Dan and then with Naphtali, sons number five and six. (The first four were with Leah.) Naphtali's name, translated variously as "my wrestling" or "my struggle," was bestowed by Rachel as a vindication of her struggle with sister Leah for Jacob's affection and an equal place in his household. (The literature and commentary was silent as to why this name, so poignant in its meaning, was given to the second son by Bilhah and not the first.)

The next mention of Naphtali is when Jacob, issuing his blessings to his sons, refers to Naphtali as "giving beautiful words," seemingly implying that he is intelligent and eloquent, and also compares him to a hind, a female red deer, a slightly more opaque reference. The standard interpretation of this is that Naphtali was swift and graceful. The deer image has clung to discussions of Naphtali, however, which explains our window art. Not



**KJCC's window representing the Tribe of Naphtali.**

explained is why the window looks far more like a gazelle than a red deer, though perhaps the answer is simple: gazelles are more attractive and stately. The last mention of Naphtali himself is that he and his sons Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer and Shillem went to Egypt during the famine, where Naphtali died and was

buried at the age of 137.

The Tribe of Naphtali that emerged during the Exodus and the conquest of Canaan had a far different personality than its eponym. During the travail in the desert, as the Israelites faced every imaginable kind of test, including learning to think like free people and also defend themselves against a generally hostile world, three tribes were regularly placed at the rear of the caravan (at God's own instruction), its most vulnerable place. They were the tribes most to be relied upon to provide fierce and unwavering defense.

The three tribes were led by Dan; the other two were Asher and Naphtali.

Naphtali was probably central to the first major battle of the Canaan conquest, described in the Book of Joshua, because the territory involved was in the north, where Naphtali had received its allotment. This was the Battle at the Waters of Merom. The king of Hazor – the dominant city of northern Canaan, just nine miles north of the Sea of Galilee and possessed of the key strategic location in all of northern Canaan – had summoned an alliance of other Canaanite city states to fight the Israelite army led by Joshua. As we know, the Canaanites were routed, and Joshua turned to destroy Hazor. Interestingly, archeological evidence at Hazor indicates a violent conflagration and its destruction shortly before 1200 B.C.E., at almost the exact time it would have happened in the Bible.



The second major battle in which Naphtali participated was under the leadership of the judge Deborah, who with a Naphtali general named Barak faced a far-superior Canaanite army under its commander Sisera in the Jezreel Valley. The undermanned Israelites gathered at Mt. Tabor, the Canaanites at their stronghold Megiddo (the supposed location

of Armageddon), which commanded the entire central valley. We all know who won. The Song of Deborah, which recounts the battle in the Book of Judges, gives high praise to the warriors of Naphtali.

Naphtali is also mentioned in Chronicles concerning the coronation of King David at Hebron two hundred years later, as bringing voluminous amounts of food and supplies to the feast. They were also one of the prime sources of his troops. King Solomon later imported a specific and highly skilled metalworker to help him construct his Temple, one Hiram of Tyre, of the tribe of Naphtali.

Naphtali's territory was the Galilee, in the north. Its eastern boundary was the Jordan River. In the south it surrounded the Sea of Galilee, and it occupied some of the most beautiful and arable land in all of Palestine. The historian Josephus referred to Naphtali's territory as "an earthly paradise." But being in the north, they were closest to the Syrians and the Arameans, and through their territory wove most of the important roads and trade routes of the north, from Damascus to the east and Tyre and Acre, Philistia and Egypt. As a northern tribe, Naphtali allied with the northern kingdom of Israel after Solomon's son and heir could not hold the country together. But despite their valor, and experience as warriors, they were badly exposed by geography to the newly aggressive kingdoms in western Mesopotamia, and were no match for the Assyrians under Tiglath-Pileser, who conquered and dispersed Naphtali along with the rest of Israel in 722 B.C.E.

There once were dozens of cities in Naphtali. Today, only two in its area still have importance – Tiberias, on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee, and Safed, the medieval mystical city of Isaac Luria. ◇





# Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln – *Your friends, the Jews.*

by Gloria Avner

A nearly SRO crowd gathered to hear an unusual and enlightening presentation in our KJCC Social Hall on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Roger and Danna Levy, and KJCC's commitment to enriching educational experiences, we were privileged to hear Harold Holzer, world-renowned Lincoln author and expert, talk about Lincoln and the Jews. (There is, as you might imagine, a story behind the story: Roger met Holzer at an annual Lincoln Club meeting, where all distinguished members wear tuxedos and top hats. As President of the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware, Roger suggested the talk, invited Holzer to Wilmington, and a crowd of 300 was able to see and hear it in person at Roger's temple. It was our good fortune to be able to watch the DVD that resulted.)

The connections between Abraham, forefather of our tribe, and Abraham, father of the effort to salvage our nation during an unimaginably difficult time, ring loud and true. "When I do good I feel good, when I do bad I feel bad. That is my religion," said Lincoln. Hillel said the same thing in a different way: "What is hateful to thee, do not unto thy fellow." Lincoln has also long invited compari-



**Gloria with the afternoon's hosts, Roger and Danna Levy, plus visiting son Brett.**

sons to Moses in his work for emancipation, in black churches and in scholarly papers.

Abraham Lincoln treated Jews no differently from other people, a huge achievement in the society of his day. Though well versed in the Hebrew Bible, Lincoln did not know a Jew personally until at thirty he met the man, Abraham Jonas, who would become his Postmaster General and a

trusted friend the last twenty-six years of his life. When Jewish soldiers, and there were thou-



sands on each side of the Civil war, protested the absence of Jewish clergy, Lincoln made it possible for ordained rabbis to come to the field as chaplains.

Lincoln did not just recognize black Africans as slaves to be liberated. He recognized all claims, including those of Jews, to equality of treatment and opportunity. He was a man of Biblical temperament and Old Testament belief and character. Because he did not regularly attend church and because on the last evening of his life, a Good Friday, he attended a play, some Christians considered him an infidel.

When Lincoln died the next day, on April 15<sup>th</sup>, Passover was ending. The Red Sea had been crossed.

Lincoln did not emancipate the Jews, but he did recognize our claims to equality, a huge step forward. Synagogue services were dedicated to Lincoln's memory, and three hundred Jews marched, mourning, in the streets of New York. *Kaddish* was said for a non-Jew for the first time. ◇

# In Memoriam: Debbie Friedman

## Modern Jewish Troubadour



Sharing a Washington, D.C. stage in 2004 with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Judith Shapiro, then the president of Barnard College; Sally Priesand, the first woman to be ordained as an American rabbi; artist Judy Chicago, and many other extraordinary Jewish women at a UJA event of 1,200 people marking 350 years of achievement in America by these women and their Jewish forebears, Debbie Friedman walked alone to the podium, guitar in hand, to accept her inclusion into this honored and extraordinary group. She announced that she was about to sing a new composition she had just written, "Shma Koleinu." After an unusually long, strummed introduction, Debbie had to admit, out loud, that she'd forgotten the lyrics. No one groaned. No one moved. Since Debbie never learned to read music (neither, by the way, did Frank Sinatra), she couldn't consult any score. So she strummed her guitar in a hushed room until, at last, the words came. Afterward, as related by her friend Letty Cottin Pogrebin, Debbie was devastated at what she'd done.

### A Note from Ritual In Memory of Debbie Friedman

*"If you want to talk to God, pray. If you want God to listen, sing." - Anon.*

As a congregation, we have grown to love the simple melodies we use on Saturday night to bless wine, spices, and light. We gather 'round a table in the warmth of someone's home with our ritual objects to say a sweet goodbye to Shabbat. Everyone joins in on "Ya lai lai ya la lai lai" as we sing and sip and sniff and, ultimately, snuff our candle in a shallow pool of wine. Our voices become one voice. We send out one vibration in the same way that the primary symbol of our service, the Havdalah candle, reminds us of the central fact of our existence.

Who are we?

We embody a congregation, a people, a religion, a "mishpochah." We are also individuals with separate idiosyncratic lives, goals and motivations. We are capable of hurting each other's feelings as much as we are capable of lifting each other up, particularly when one or more of us, or the world, is hurting. We are different from each other, but entwined. At the beginning and end of Shabbat, our voices resonate with one vibration, a vibration of gratitude. We are grateful to our Creator and for the life and legacies of those who've gone before us.

Still in sorrow at her too-early death, I want to honor and remember and say *thank you* to Debbie Friedman, the creator of the melodies to our modern liturgy, especially our *Havdalah* and *Mishabeyrach* songs. May her vibration carry on, in us and through our voices.

-Gloria

But in a measure of her stature among those who understood her importance to Jewish music and modern Jewish worship, people who were there remember only that they heard the premiere performance of a song that is today a beloved part of Debbie Friedman's canon.

As Lee Schur notes in her personal remembrance, Debbie began writing while a song leader at a Jewish camp in Wisconsin in the early 70s. Her first song was a version of the *V'ahavta*. She taught it to kids who were listening to James Taylor, Joan Baez and Judy Collins. They sang it arm-in-arm, crying. It was the first step. She'd opened a door – actually single-handedly created a bridge – between the sacred music and words of Jewish scripture and the ears and tastes and spirit of a new generation, one that had begun to drift away. Ultimately, she brought countless thousands back. Her music now permeates the

services of most Reform and Conservative synagogues. She was once quoted as saying that “what I do is respond to text. A rabbi friend of mine calls my music musical *Midrash*. It’s an interesting way to look at what I do.”

Debbie’s best-known work, by far, is still her “MiShebeyrach” (which was performed not only for Debbie herself recently, but also in Congregation Chaverim in Tucson, Arizona, for synagogue member Gabby Giffords). But she also has a long list of other songs that are now deeply embedded in the modern Jewish liturgy: versions of *Lecha Dodi*, and *Bar’chu*, and *Mi Chamocha*, and *Ma Tovu*. And there are her original compositions “L’chi Lach,” “Miriam’s Song,” “Hal’luyah,” “The Angel’s Blessings,” “Shelter of Peace,” and “Sing Unto God.” Barney the purple dinosaur sang her pre-school “Alef Bet” song on television. She wrote the popular Chanukah songs “Not by Might” and “I am a Latke.” She recorded twenty albums, and sold out Carnegie Hall in 1995. In 1998, *The Forward* named her one of the hundred most influential American Jews.

Debbie Friedman died on January 9<sup>th</sup>, at the age of 59. According to Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union for Reform Judaism,



“What happens in the synagogues of Reform Judaism today – the voices of song – are in large measure due to the insight, brilliance and influence of Debbie Friedman.” ◇

### A Personal Remembrance of Debbie Friedman

by Lee Schur

Debbie Friedman transformed Jewish music, liturgy and worship. We sing her songs in our synagogues, in our schools and in our camps. Every branch of Judaism has been impacted by her musical interpretations of the liturgy. Over 7,000 people watched her funeral online. Temple Beth Israel in Chicago (my home Temple) hosted a community-wide tribute, in song, on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Debbie began her remarkable musical and spiritual journey at Olin Sang Ruby Institute Camp (now called OSRUI), in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Many former campers remember her barefoot and leading them, on the lush and rural camp grounds, in her first composition, the beautiful “Sing Unto God.” When it was first recorded, many of those same campers were thrilled to be included as a part of the chorus. At Olin Sang Camp, my son John worked closely with her. He transcribed some of her music and accompanied her on the piano.

Debbie also put together a choir, which met in Chicago. John remembers fondly a trip to New York City with Debbie and the choir. Generations of Jewish campers remember her inspiring music, including other members of my family.

Debbie appeared almost every year at Chicago’s Jewish Folk Festival, despite physical problems. She has left a giant musical and spiritual legacy for the Jewish people. May her memory be a blessing.

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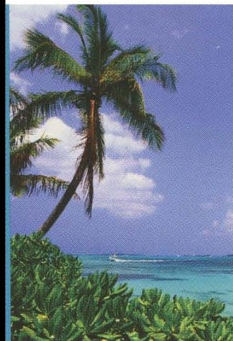
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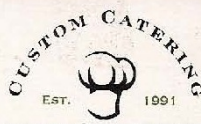
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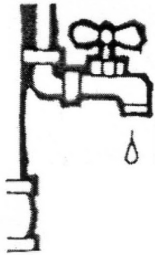
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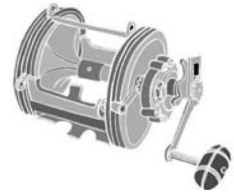
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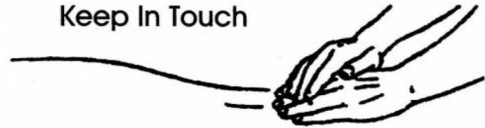


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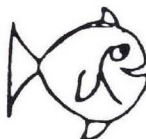
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