

Chai~Lights



February 1 - March 31, 2020

6 Shevat — 6 Nissan 5780

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Keys Jewish Community Center

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

February 1 - March 31, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 FEB Sisterhood Meeting 10:00am	3 KJCC Game Night 7:00pm	4	5	6 Rabbi Zucker Hebrew Class 6:30 Seminar 8:00pm	7 KJCC Sisterhood <i>Erica Lieberman-Garrett Susan & Paul Roberts</i> Tot Shabbat	8 Film: Live and Become
9 Board Meeting 9am Annual meeting, Election & Luncheon 11am Tu Bishvat Planting after Lunch	10	11	12	13 Rabbi Zucker Hebrew Class 6:30 Seminar 8:00pm	14 Gloria Avner <i>Medina Roy</i>	15 Torah Learning Service w/ Rabbi Agler 10:00am Film: Mel Brooks: Make a Noise
16	17	18	19	20 Rabbi Zucker Hebrew Class 6:30 Seminar 8:00pm	21 Laurie Blum <i>Jane Friedman</i> Tot Shabbat	22
23 Film: Little Traitor Rosh Chodesh (New Moon)	24 Book Club 10:00am at the home of Elaine Schulberg "The Third Daughter"	25	26 7:00pm Music history Program: Brahms presen- tation by Beth Hayden	27 Rabbi Zucker Hebrew Class 6:30 Seminar 8:00pm	28 Steve Hartz <i>Joyce Peckman</i> Shabbat across America New Member and Advertiser Dinner 6:00pm	29 Film: Anthropoid
1 MAR Sisterhood Meeting 10:00am	2 KJCC Game Night 7:00pm	3	4	5 Rabbi Zucker Hebrew Class 6:30 Seminar 8:00pm	6 Erica Lieberman-Garrett <i>Anonymous</i> Tot Shabbat	7 Film: Lone Samaritan
8 Board meeting 10:00am Art project with Gloria 12:00	9 Purim Megillah reading and party 6:00pm	10	11	12	13 Richard Knowles <i>Medina Roy</i>	14 Fundraising Anniversary dinner at Kaufman home 5:00pm
15 Film: David	16	17	18	19	20 Joyce Peckman <i>Susan Ellner Joyce Peckman</i> Tot Shabbat	21
22 4:00pm Music Program: Brahms presentation by Beth Hayden	23	24 Rosh Chodesh (New Moon)	25 7:00pm film: Prosecuting Evil	26	27 Medina Roy <i>Joel & Toby Bofshever Jane Friedman</i> Dedication of Beiner Collection of Antiquities	28 Torah Learning Service with Rabbi Agler 10:00am
29 Women's Seder 5:00pm	30 Book Club 10:00am home of Rita Rzepka - "Marriage of Opposites"	31	Names denote leaders of Friday Services. Italicized names are Oneg sponsors. Services every Friday at 7:30pm All Movies begin at 7:00 p.m.			

2019 - 2020 KJCC OFFICERS & BOARD

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyce Peckman



Key Jewish Community Center is celebrating its fortieth year as the only synagogue between the mainland and Key West. We have always been lay-led and our Friday night leaders are constantly working to make the services more interesting and personal. We have a lot to be proud of. Just look at our calendar of events: Tot Shabbat, Sisterhood Service, Film Series, Game Night, Hebrew classes, Shabbat Across America dinner, a two-part presentation on Brahms, Book Club, holiday celebrations, Torah learning services with Rabbi Agler...and that's just this month. Take a close look at the many pages of flyers that Linda Pollack has created for this issue of Chai-Lights. We may be small, but we are a dynamic congregation.

On the evening of Saturday, March 14th we will be celebrating KJCC's accomplishments with a gala dinner at the lovely home of Michael and Lorena Kaufman. You can expect music, delicious food, and possibly some surprises. Consider this a "Save the Date." An invitation will be coming in early February. Snowbirds, please let me know if you will not be at your Keys address by then, so that your mail will reach its destination. This dinner will be a time to celebrate the lives of those who had the wisdom to gather together, purchase this property, and create a place of worship and fellowship. I believe that we have justified their faith

in the future. As they "paid it forward", so should we, by standing proudly, and holding firm in our commitment to Jewish life in the Keys. Celebrate with us.

As the sole Jewish presence here, we have long recognized our obligation to offer a community Passover Seder to travelers as well as to our members. I am already getting calls from visitors. This year our Community Seder will be held on the first, not the second, night of Passover at the Islamorada Fishing Club. We are thrilled that cantorial soloist Barry Skolnick has agreed to lead the Seder. Over the years, Erica and Susan have trained the cooks to make delicious Kosher-style Passover food, but we can make arrangements to have strictly kosher l'Pesach food brought in, with three weeks' advance notice. Look for the flyer in this issue.

On Sunday, February 9th at 11 a.m. we will hold our annual board meeting, nominations and installation of officers, followed by a Sisterhood-provided luncheon. We welcome all members to our board meetings, but this meeting is especially for the entire congregation. A lot has happened over the past year. Please attend to hear about what we have done and our plans going forward. Let us know how you want to be involved. Show your support to those who have devoted countless hours to this institution.

WHAT'S UP AT KJCC

Sunday, Feb. 2	Sisterhood Meeting 10:00am
Monday, Feb. 3	KJCC Game Night at 7:00pm
Thurs., Feb. 6	Rabbi Zucker – Hebrew Class 6:30 and Seminar 8:00pm
Friday, Feb. 7	Sisterhood Shabbat service 7:30pm • Tot Shabbat
Saturday, Feb. 8	Film: Live and Become
Sunday, Feb. 9	Board Meeting 9am • Annual meeting, Election & Luncheon 11am Tu Bishvat Planting after Lunch
Thurs, Feb. 13	Rabbi Zucker – Hebrew Class 6:30 and Seminar 8:00pm
Friday, Feb. 14	Shabbat service 7:30pm
Saturday, Feb. 15	Torah Learning Service with Rabbi Agler 10:00am • Film: Mel Brooks: Make a Noise
Thurs, Feb. 20	Rabbi Zucker – Hebrew Class 6:30 and Seminar 8:00pm
Friday, Feb. 21	Shabbat service 7:30pm • Tot Shabbat
Sunday, Feb. 23	Film: Little Traitor
Monday, Feb. 24	Book Club 10:00am home of Elaine Schulberg – “The Third Daughter”
Weds., Feb. 26	7:00pm Music history Program: Brahms presentation by Beth Hayden
Thurs. Feb. 27	Rabbi Zucker – Hebrew Class 6:30 and Seminar 8:00pm
Friday, Feb. 28	Shabbat across America dinner honoring advertisers & new members 6:00pm Shabbat service 7:30pm
Saturday, Feb.29	Film: Anthropoid
Sunday, Mar. 1	Sisterhood meeting 10:00am
Monday, Mar. 2	KJCC Game Night at 7:00pm
Thurs., Mar 5	Rabbi Zucker – Hebrew Class 6:30 and Seminar 8:00pm
Friday, Mar. 6	Shabbat Service 7:30pm • Tot Shabbat
Saturday, Mar.7	Film: Lone Samaritan
Sunday, Mar. 8	Board meeting 10:00am • Art project with Gloria 12:00 (warm up to Purim)
Monday, Mar. 9	Purim • Megillah reading and party 6:00pm
Friday, Mar. 13	Shabbat Service 7:30pm
Saturday, Mar 14	Fundraising Anniversary dinner at Kaufman home 5:00pm
Sunday, Mar. 15	Film: David
Friday, March 20	Shabbat Service 7:30pm • Tot shabbat
Sunday, Mar. 22	4:00pm Music Program: Brahms presentation by Beth Hayden
Weds., March 25	7:00pm film: Prosecuting Evil
Friday, March 27	Shabbat Service 7:30pm • Dedication of Beiner Collection of Antiquities
Saturday, March 28	Torah Learning Service with Rabbi Agler 10:00am
Sunday, March 29	Women’s Seder 5:00pm
Monday, March 30	Book Club 10:00am home of Rita Rzepka – “Marriage of Opposites”
Weds., April,	Pesach First Seder, Islamorada Fishing Club

NOSH

Annual Meeting, Election and Luncheon

This year has flown; the old order changeth (spoiler alert: not by much, but with two wonderful additions). On Sunday, February 9th, KJCC will hear Joyce's report on the State of the Synagogue and vote for next year's slate of Officers and Board Members. You too can choose to run for office and work for change where you see fit. KJCC needs your input and your ideas. For details, see the Letter of Invitation from our President, Joyce Peckman, on P. 18. A beautiful luncheon is being planned by KJCC Sisterhood to follow the election and installation. Fortify yourself with friendship and food for a good New Year.

Tu B'Shevat: Plant a Tree

After our magnificent post Annual Meeting Sisterhood Luncheon, we and our newly elected Officers and Board of Directors will take a walk outside and plant a tree for one of our favorite holidays, Tu B'Shevat. Jane will take the lead in planting and we will take each other's hands and dance around the tree singing "Mayim, Mayim" as the tree gets watered. We want it to take root and grow as we grow, providing nourishment for those yet to come.

Beginners' Hebrew Class

Two courses are in the offering. Rabbi Zucker will be coming up on Thursday evenings to teach a class in beginners' Hebrew. Whether you know the letters or not, whether you have been in Yardena's beginning class or not, he will continue your education in the Hebrew language for conversation and prayer. There is a requested donation of \$50 for the series of six classes. Please contact Joyce at 305-451-0665 or joycepeckman@gmail.com if you are interested. The class is scheduled to begin January 30th at 6:30.

Judaism's Gifts to the World

After the Hebrew class, Rabbi Zucker has offered to teach a course titled "Judaism's Gifts to the World." How did major Jewish ideas evolve into universal values? Rabbi Zucker will be teaching this course on Thursdays at 8 p.m., beginning January 30, if there is interest. The requested donation for the series of six classes is \$36. Please contact Joyce (see above).

New (and old) Member

The next time David Epstein comes to services, you can greet him as both our newest member and one of our oldest. His parents, Barbara and Bob Epstein, were instrumental in our early years, and David holds the honor of being one of the first Bar Mitzvahs ever held at KJCC (in the early 80's). Welcome back, David.

New Torah Learning Services

Here are the latest dates for Rabbi Agler's Torah Learning Services, recently enriched by the addition of the David Saga (in Samuel I) to our continuing Parashah study. Books are in the Library or you can find Samuel I in Tanach, the Hebrew Bible. Don't miss these extraordinary opportunities for learning with our Scholar-in-Residence on February 15th and March 28th, each service beginning at 10:00a.m. sharp. Rabbi Agler is a warm, informal, engaging leader of discussion and great poser of good questions. You'll be glad you came. And there will always be a kiddush after the service.

Book Group Goes Homey

KJCC Sisterhood's Book Group has found a home in more than one place. After two years in restaurants, the group has found that more engaging discussion and personal sharing happens in the warm, informal setting of people's homes. The time has also changed, from noon to 10:00 a.m. Already we've met at Linda Pollack's, Shirley Stein's and Joyce Peckman's homes. See the Poster on p. 12 for February and March offerings and hosts. The books are intriguing, the discussion stimulating, and the refreshments sweet.

New Members' & Advertisers' Dinner on Special Shabbat

This year, on Friday, February 29th, at 6:00 p.m., our annual Dinner honoring new members and our Chai-Lights advertisers will have an extra dimension. We will also be celebrating Shabbat Across America, along with thousands of other Shuls. A big thank you in advance to Medina Roy, event organizer since this event's inception (and the person to whom you will send your RSVP). Many thanks also to the women of Sisterhood who will be assisting in food preparation. This will be a meaningful and delicious event. Dinner will start at 6:00 pm, followed by

services at 7:30. See Poster on p. 14 for more information.

Purim, Pizza and Mitzvah Making

Come to KJCC on March 9th at 6:00 p.m. prepared to party. There will be masks, noisemakers, pizza and, um, adult beverages. Once again we will be reading the Ganze Megillah, the whole story of brave and clever Esther, drowning out the hated name of Haman, and extolling noble Mordechai. Come costumed or be bedecked by Gloria. You will be able to perform all four mandated mitzvahs (bring a little cash for charity/tzedakah and supporting the Pizza). There may also be a guest appearance by Queen Vashti and a few entertaining movie shorts. Bring kids and grandchildren and stamping feet. For more information, see P. 28. Celebrate our survival!!

Concert and Talk by Beth Hayden

If you came early to services in January, then you have heard Beth play Rachmaninov. So you know this is going to be good -- a double good. We get a talk as well as a piano concert by a well-educated professional pianist and music educator. Be at KJCC on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 7:00 pm for a Music History Program with a Brahms presentation. Then come again at 4:00 p.m. on March 22nd to hear more Brahms. It will be breathtaking. For details about the program and Beth Hayden's background, see the poster on P. 26.

40th Anniversary Gala

Ten years ago, we celebrated our 30th Anniversary at Hawk's Cay. We dressed up, danced, bought raffle tickets and congratulated each other. We showed how delighted we were with our Shul's survival on this tiny island by giving as generously as we could. Now we are embarking on our 40th Anniversary Celebration, A Havana Nights Gala (No cigars please). Festivities begin at 5 p.m., March 14th, at the fabulous ocean-front home of the generous Kaufman family. Attire: Black and White (no tie). We want everyone to come. Donation has been set at \$60 per person, but what you can give beyond that, in honor of our continued existence, is up to you; we thank you in advance for opening your hearts and pocketbooks. Invitations will be mailed

shortly. Read Joyce's President's message again. Look through these pages at all the educational and social and religious opportunities we provide and support. This will be a dinner event you will never forget. Lorena Kaufman is a party-giver extraordinaire and promises surprises which will thrill us. We believe her. Many thanks to Lorena, her co-chair, Barbara Knowles, and their hard-working committee. How lovely that we can have a fun, entertaining evening while preserving the future of what we and so many others have worked hard for 40 years to create and maintain. For more details, turn to P. 30.

Antiquities Collection Dedication

Our Scholar-in-Residence, Rabbi Richard Agler, was inspired as a young rabbinical student to start collecting antiquities from Israel by mentor Judith Beiner and her husband, Stephen, of blessed memory. KJCC was extremely honored to accept and create a display for Mindy and Rabbi Agler's gift of the Beiner Collection. On March 27th, Erev Shabbat, Rabbi Agler will speak about the collection and formally dedicate it to this couple, instrumental in its coming together. Judith Beiner will be present for the event. We will be delighted to meet her.

17th Annual Annual Women's Seder

Each year we look forward to this event, one of the most meaningful and enjoyable things we do. Raising money for Tikkun Olam, (repairing the world) through supporting groups that work for the good of women, children and families, celebrating the achievements of one of our own, named "Woman of the Year," honoring an important Jewish woman from history and deepening our friendships with women both within and outside our community, are our worthy goals. We want to DO SOMETHING! And we do. At the same time we make wonderful food, create an art project, and commit to seeking justice and freedom for the oppressed throughout the world. Cost is \$18(chai) plus \$17 (\$1/year) or \$35. All of the money raised is used to support three charities we select by consensus, one from inside KJCC, one from our greater community, and one from the outside world. Don't miss this event. RSVP to Erica Lieberman-Garrett, to reserve your space: hippiejap@hotmail.com ◇

ONGOING PROJECTS & MITZVAH PROGRAMS OF KJCC

BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for information, or send your desired inscription to lindap4000@gmail.com.

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

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

CHAI-LIGHTS or **DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights or annually in our KJCC Directory. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, 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 Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225, or email her at joycepeckman@gmail.com.

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

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Joyce Peckman, 732-447-5225.

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

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

CONTRIBUTIONS TO KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please specify the names to be honored and the recipient fund if one is desired.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2019 & JANUARY 2020

Yahrzeit

Michael Krissel
Joan Boruszak
Joan Boruszak
Karyn Zoren
Joyce Ruthen
Jeffrey Schocket

In Memory of

Deborah Krissel Cannon
Burton Boruszak
Julius Kohlenbrener
Pauline Roller
Pauline Roller
Patty Silver
Mitch Harvey
Pauline Roller
Ernest Isenberg
Emma Kohlenbrener
Norma Robinson
David Cohn
Leo Forst
David Kaplan
Betty Weinstein

Patricia Isenberg
Joan Boruszak
Hermone Taramona
Nancy Cohn
Donna Forst
Marshall & Myra Kaplan
Gerald & Sheila Olsen

Book Plate

Barney Coltman

Robert Coltman

Unrestricted

Marvin Blumenfeld
Mah Jongg
Stan & Jenny Margulies
Barbara Calev
Stan & Jenny Margulies
David Goldfinger

Adult Education

Michael & Lorena Kaufman

Movie Sponsorship

Meditation Garden Tree for Foster Davidson

Joyce Peckman
Linda Pollack & Skip Rose
Anonymous

Oneg Sponsorship

Joe & Kathy Shabathai
Beth Hayden
Steve & Jan Hartz
Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum
Skip Rose
Terry Willner-Tainow
Steve & Amelia Kasinof
Susan Roberts
Steve & Amelia Kasinof
Stan & Jenny Margulies
Joan Stark
Joe & Kathy Sahbathai
Beth Horowitz
Erica Lieberman-Garrett
Joel & Toby Bofshever
Sylvia Rimm
Susan Ellner
Roy Pollack
Erica Lieberman-Garrett
Donna & Bill Bolton
Steve & Jan Hartz
Steve & Amelia Kasinof
Steve & Jan Hartz
Joel & Toby Bofshever
Susan Ellner
Anonymous

In Honor of

Kohengi's Birthday
Jan's Birthday
Anniversary
90th Birthday
Birthday
Steve's Birthday
Yahrzeit of Mother
Anniversary
Stan's Birthday
Parents Anniversary
Anniversary
Birthday
Birthday
Anniversary
Sylvia & Al's Birthdays
Birthday
Madelyn Pollack's Birthday
Anniversary
Anniversary
Anniversary
Anniversary
Amelia's birthday
Steve's birthday
Joel's birthday
Rabbi Agler & Cantor Dzubin

Dinner Sponsorship

Linda Pollack
David Goldfinger
Stan & Jenny Margulies
Hanukkah dinner
Advertisers /New Members

Unrestricted

Michael & Lorena Kaufman
Susan Ellner

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.

Oneg Sponsors

February 7	Erica Lieberman-Garrett Honor of Erica & Ron's Birthdays Susan & Paul Roberts Honor of Paul's Birthday	March 13	Medina Roy Honor of Carl's Birthday
February 14	Medina Roy In Memory of Bianka Kirschenbaum	March 20	Susan Ellner Honor of Granddaughter's birthday Joyce Peckman Honor of Grandchildren's Birthdays
February 21	Jane Friedman Honor of Harry & Angelina's Birthdays	March 27	Joel & Toby Bofshever Honor of their Anniversary Jane Friedman Honor of Jane's birthday
February 28	Joyce Peckman Honor of KJCC board		
March 6	Anonymous Honor Rabbi Agler & Cantor Dzubin		

Service Leaders

February 7	KJCC Sisterhood
February 14	Gloria Avner
February 21	Laurie Blum
February 28	Steve Hartz
March 6	Erica Lieberman-Garrett
March 13	Richard Knowles
March 20	Joyce Peckman
March 27	Medina Roy

March Anniversaries

7th	Joseph & Susan Sachs	55
8th	Adam & Judy Starr	41
16th	Frank & Gerri Emkey	12
22nd	David & Patti Gross	23
24th	Joel & Toby Bofshever	52
30th	Jeff & Cheryl Margulies	52

KJCC's Adult Education Program

Proudly Presents Its
2020 Third Annual KJCC

Moms' Memorial Winter Film Fest

A Lovingly Selected, Eclectic Trove of
Cinematic Takes on Life Through a Jewish Lens



Saturday	2/08	Live and Become
Saturday	2/15	Mel Brooks: Make a Noise
Sunday	2/23	Little Traitor
Saturday	2/29	Anthropoid
Saturday	3/07	Lone Samaritan
Sunday	3/15	David
Wednesday	3/15	Prosecuting Evil

All films begin at 7:00 p.m.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME - There is no charge.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

For more information, contact Medina Roy
hiitsmedee@gmail.com

Sponsored in full by Michael & Lorena Kaufman

In loving memory of their moms

Lucy Kaufman and Celeste Bravo Mender

In Memoriam – February 2020

Sue Steinberg

By Richard & Mindy Agler

Joshua Daniel Blitzer

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

Ida Ratchik

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Kitty Nyman

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Sylvia Weiner

By Nelson & Roberta Chester

Bernard Kaminstein

By Beth Kaminstein

Judy Strumer Hartman

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

Nathan Weisberg

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

Malka Frank

By Linda Pollack

Diana Smurkler

By Naomi Copeland

Rose Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Joseph Shapiro

By Libby P. Shapiro

Robert Kinney

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

Frances Weiser

By Randi Grant

Sarah Felder

By Stuart & Geri Smith

Charles Gilson

By Michael & Suzanne Gilson

Judy Lombardi

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Morris I. Estrin

By Lillian Tallent

Leila Horne

By Randi Grant

Robert Greenbaum

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Louis Hartz

By Steven & Jan Hartz

Lou Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Archie Zacks

By Jerry & Barbara Herson

Fannie Phillips

By Patricia Isenberg

Ted Nyman

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Lillian Janowitz

By Sam & Leslie Janowitz

Irving Stockser

By Sandy Kaplan

Marvin Galanty

By Marc Bloom

William Pollack

By Linda Pollack

Maria Quesada

By Orlando Quesada

William Brooks

By Lynn Dils

John A. Schur

By Lee Schur

Janet Garfinkel

By Betty Small

Dr. Louis Fishman

By Eina G. Fishman

Miriam Blinder

By Steven & Barbara Smith

Hedy Kopecky

By Adam & Judy Starr

Nicholas Goldenberg

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Mr. Harry Miller

By Shirley Stein

Morris Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Stanley Bush

By Randi Grant

Nella Gross

By Tomar Gross & Randy Klein-Gross

Samuel Wolfe

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

Sunnie Bernstein

By Paul & Barbara Bernstein

Sydney Zinner

By Donald Zinner

In Memoriam – March 2020

Harvey Roazen

By Sylvia Berman

Lillian Adler Grant

By Randi Grant

Joseph Krissel

By Michael Krissel

Mathew Strumor

By Murray Blitzer & Bev Strumor-Blitzer

Chalom Haviv

By Leo Haviv

Annie Kleinfeldt Bernstein

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Louis Weinstein

By Rita Bromwich

Eleanor Sonn

By Sam & Leslie Janowitz

Joseph Kaufman

By Jeff & Lisa Miller

Leroy Weisberg

By Gerri & Frank Emkey

Pinchas Kamely

By Yardena Kamely

Dorothy Ross

By Joyce Peckman

Selma Elson

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Luba Tuchman

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Cissie Rose Lang

By Skip Rose

Arlene R. Brenner

By Marilyn Greenbaum

Shirley R. Krissel

By Michael Krissel

Thia San Filippo

By Michael (Sandy) San Filippo

Anna Horn

By Susan Horn & Dot Brooking

Janet Blum

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

Dolores Feldman

By Jeffrey Schocket

Robert Berman

By Sylvia Berman

Sara J. Cohen

By Lynn Nobil

Esther Schur

By Lee Schur

Audrey Pearlman

By William & Donna Bolton

David Harvey

By Linda Perloff

Alexandra Louise Starr

By Adam & Judy Starr

Eve Greenstein

By Barnett O. Coltman

Bianka Kirschenbaum

By Medina Roy

Ann R. Kapulskey

By George & Muriel Swartz

Harry Kaplan

By Marsha Garrettson

Rachamim Levy

By Yardena Kamely

Anne Temkin

By Robert Temkin

Lillian Melnick

By Mrs. Marty Graham

Marian Rose Klimpl

By Michael Klimpl

David C. Willner

By Arthur Lee & Johanna Willner

Samual Lieberman

By Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Nate Schulberg

By Elaine Schulberg

Iлона Ban

By Franklin & Judy Greenman

Oscar Margulies

By Stanley & Jenny Margulies

Isadore Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

Harry Phillips

By Patricia Isenberg

Irene Nobil

By Lynn Nobil

Mrs. Anne Miller

By Shirley Stein

Dorothy Stanlake

By Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake

Denise Moss

By Linda Pollack

Abe M. Reider

By George & Muriel Swartz

Robert Kohlenbrener

By Joan Boruszak

Leslie Allen Sachs

By Joseph & Susan Sachs

Alice Weber

By Judith Weber

Maxine Kaplan

By Marsha Garrettson

Monroe (Monty) Kaplan

By Marshall & Myra Kaplan

Maxine Ruby Feinberg

By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe

In Memoriam – March 2020

Sondra Lundy

By Elaine Schulberg

Theresa Steinbock

By Stephen Steinbock

Deborah Eichler

By Judith Weber

Ida Seder

By Jules & Nettie Seder

Ida Tallent

By Lillian Tallent

Irwin Cutler

By Donald Zinner

February Birthdays

1st.....	Libby Shapiro	13th	David Levi
1st.....	Roy Pollack	13th	Hannah David
2nd.....	Jaxson Brandon Lebofsky	13th	Jerrold Benowitz
3rd	Beth Horowitz	15th	Judith Weber
3rd	Leslie Janowitz	18th	Beth Hayden
5th	Rebecca Smith Strasser	18th	Evan Daddona
6th	Evan Harvey	22nd.....	Harry Friedman
7th	Erica Lieberman-Garrett	22nd.....	Tomar Gross
7th	Larry Jacobs	23rd	Sienna Rose Lebofsky
8th	Devin Parker Morris	24th	Muriel Swartz
9th	Linda Pincus	24th	Suzie Greenman
9th	Ron Garrett	25th	Rita Conklin
9th	Rosemary Barefoot	26th	Jim Williams
12th	Johnny Knowles	26th	John D. Schur
12th	Paul Roberts		

March Birthdays

1st.....	Sasha Dutton	16th	Natalie Hope Markowitz
3rd	Louis Ulman	16th	Steven Nobil
3rd	Stephen Steinbock	17th	Daniel Friedman
5th	Annie James Brennan	17th	Naomi Copeland
6th	Bea Graham	19th	Michelle Palacino
7th	Hannah Feig	20th	Janet Palacino
7th	Toby Goldfinger	20th	Susan Sachs
8th	Rita Rzepka	21st.....	Barbara A. Calev
10th	Kate Horowitz	21st.....	James Jr. Nobil
10th	Thomas Davis Smith	21st.....	Joseph Palacino
11th	Bryan Schur	23rd	Ken Atlas
11th	Sandy Yankow	23rd	Lynn Dils
12th	Barbara Herson	25th	Stephanie Coeurjoly
12th	Heath Greenbaum	25th	Sylvia Berman
12th	Oceana Gross	26th	Anna Verity Greenbaum
13th	Carl Roy	30th	Chaplain Roger Dieckhaus
13th	Ira Stein	30th	Lee Schur
14th	Randi Grant	31st	Jane Friedman
15th	Allan Boruszak	31st.....	Madison Bloom
15th	Johanna Willner	31st.....	Sari Eliz. Goldstein
16th	Jeff Margulies		



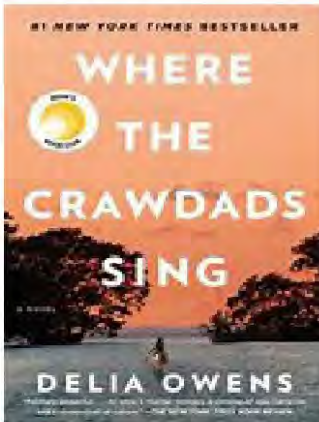
Sisterhood Book Club

Books and dates for the coming three months
Meetings will be rotated amongst book club members' homes.
10 a.m. - Coffee and cake

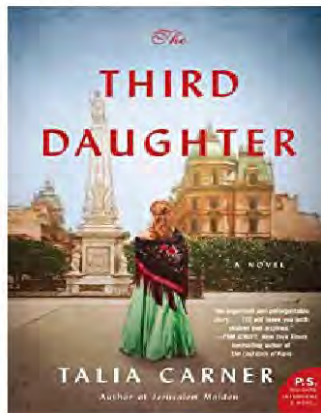
January 27, 2020 Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

February 24, 2020 The Third Daughter by Talia Carner

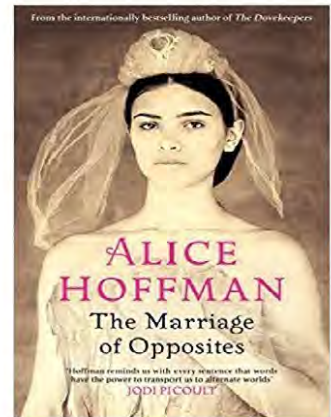
March 30, 2020 Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman



home of
Joyce Peckman



home of
Elaine Schulberg



home of
Rita Rzepka

RSVP and more information - Bobbie Chester
bobbiebunkin@aol.com 630-430-7100

SISTERHOOD

Beth Hayden



The new Sisterhood Board took over their positions in January 2020. The new Sisterhood Board consists of: Beth Hayden, President; the inimitable Susan Gordon as Vice-President; the equally inimitable Erica Lieberman-Garrett as Treasurer; Geri Smith (thank you, Geri) as Recording Secretary and Hanna David as Corresponding Secretary. Payments for Sisterhood events should be directed to Erica at KJCC Sisterhood, PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL 33070.

All kudos to our past President, Susan Gordon, for her hard work and elevation of Sisterhood. Sisterhood is and remains the back bone of the Keys Jewish Community Center Sisterhood not only supports and supplies our monthly dinners, it also supports other activities at the KJCC not directly credited to Sisterhood. How can we ever thank these strong women who continue to cook and supply food and good company to our community? We would not be KJCC without them. Hats off to Sisterhood!

Sisterhood met in January and began planning for upcoming activities in 2020. One thing I want to be sure all KJCC members are clear on and **this is important**. In 2019, the KJCC Board made a significant change in our Pesach observances. **Please be aware – KJCC Sisterhood will no longer sponsor a second night Seder.** The Board made the decision, in view of the changing needs of our KJCC community, to no longer offer a second night Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club. Instead, the Board decided to have Sisterhood take over and sponsor the first night Seder and, because of declining attendance, no longer offer a second night Seder. Therefore, in 2020, Sisterhood will continue to sponsor the Women's Seder and will now sponsor the **First Night Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club**; there will be no second night Seder offered by KJCC.

As a small sampling of the activities Sister-

hood is planning for your future – here is some of what was planned at January's meeting. First of all, Sisterhood, as always, will offer a delicious luncheon following the KJCC Board's Installation Meeting on February 9th at 11 AM; Sisterhood will offer luncheon following the meeting at approximately noon. Please join us and RSVP to Hanna David at 305-744-6048 or hdavid2012@icloud.com to register your attendance and coordinate your dish. Thanks also, to Nettie Seder, who will once again coordinate setup and food. This is a lot of work so all thanks to those volunteering to help.

Sisterhood will also, on behalf of the KJCC, support the new member's/advertiser's dinner which will be combined with Shabbat Across America on February 28th, 2020. The new member's/advertiser's dinner is not a Sisterhood function; Shabbat Across America is a Sisterhood sponsored dinner. Thanks to Medina Roy who coordinates the new member's/advertiser's dinner on behalf of KJCC for agreeing to combine that event with Shabbat Across America. RSVP's for that dinner and coordination of dishes should be sent to Medina at 305-394-1702 or hiits-medee@gmail.com.

Sisterhood continues to plan for the upcoming year and has begun planning for upcoming events such as the Women's Seder, First Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club, Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Memorial Day to all our fallen) and Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel's Independence Day immediately following Yom HaZikaron), Shavuot, the KJCC annual Shabbabaque in July and through the September High Holidays.

Thank you all for your support and cooperation with Sisterhood and KJCC. Your support and cooperation are very much appreciated as we continue to do our best to serve the KJCC community. ◇

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA
ADVERTISERS & NEW MEMBERS
SHABBAT DINNER



Once again, we are inviting our Chai-Lights and Directory advertisers to join us for dinner to thank them for their support. We are also extending a special invitation to our newest members. And we are encouraging you, our members, to encourage prospective members to join with us also.

This year, at the same time, we will be observing Shabbat Across America along with hundreds of Jewish Congregations throughout the U.S. We will celebrate with a dairy Shabbat dinner at the KJCC.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020

6:00 PM

SERVICES TO FOLLOW AT 7:30



Contact:

Medina - hiitsmedee@gmail.com - 305-394 -1702

to reserve your spot and coordinate your covered dish.

Please reserve by February 21st.

No charge for members in good standing

Non-advertiser guests: \$10

This dinner is sponsored by
Stan and Jenny Margulies.

WORLD JEWISH REPORT

Medina Roy



Molecule PJ34

An Israeli breakthrough study was recently published in the biomedical journal "Oncotarget." Scientists at Tel Aviv University's Sackler Faculty of Medicine discovered a molecule named PJ34 that can cause pancreatic cancer cells to self-destruct. After treatment with molecule PJ34, there was a 90 percent reduction of these cancer cells in mice. Professor Malka Cohen-Armon and her team did their experiment using xenografts – transplantations of human pancreatic cancer into mice. The mice's immune systems were compromised so that their bodies wouldn't reject the transplanted cells. The Sackler/Tel Aviv group collaborated with a team at the Cancer Research Center at Sheba Medical Center. Together they injected PJ34 into the mice for fourteen days in a row.

Originally developed to treat stroke, PJ34 has been found to have a powerful effect on human cancer cells. The molecule causes something to go wrong during cancer cell duplication, leading to the rapid destruction of the cancer cells without affecting normal cells. "We now have harnessed this information to efficiently eradicate pancreatic cancer cells in xenografts," Cohen-Armon explained. A month after the molecules were administered, the number of cancer cells in the mice's tumors were reduced by 80 to 90 percent. One mouse's tumor completely disappeared. In addition, the treated mice suffered no adverse effects from the molecule regimen, nor did they experience changes in their weight or behavior.

Pancreatic cancer needs immediate attention. It's the twelfth most common cancer worldwide and the fourth leading cause of cancer death. This type of cancer has often proven resistant to existing treatments. Early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer is difficult because there are often no symptoms, which results in some 80 percent of patients being diagnosed after the cancer has reached the metastatic stage; fewer than three percent of such patients survive more than five years after diagnosis.

The Israeli research holds great potential for the development of a new, effective therapy to treat this aggressive cancer. It could also prove effective against aggressive forms of breast, lung, brain and ovarian cancers. PJ34 is now being tested in pre-clinical trials according to FDA regulations. (www.israel21c.org, 12-3-19)

A New Award Named for RBG

The Dwight D. Opperman Foundation is a private foundation based in Irvine, California, and founded in 1997. The foundation has recently established a new woman's leadership award named for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. According to the foundation, the award is in honor of Ginsburg's "exemplary career and life." The award "will recognize an extraordinary woman who has exercised a positive and notable influence on society and served as an exemplary role model in both principles and practice." "Justice Ginsburg is a hero of our time," the foundation chair said. "Her influence is felt far beyond the corridors of power, and she is an inspiration to women and girls around the world." Dwight Opperman died in 2013. Before his death, he had donated more than \$150 million to various legal causes. Ginsburg, who recently announced that for the fourth time she is now cancer-free, will herself present the award to its first recipient at a ceremony at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. (just across the street from the Supreme Court building) in February, 2020. (www.jpost.com, 12-6-19)

A New Name for an Old Friend

The Workmen's Circle, one of the oldest Jewish-American social justice organizations, having served Jewish and immigrant communities in New York, is celebrating its 120th year. The celebration includes a new, gender-neutral title. Executive Director Ann Toback – the first woman to lead the organization – announced at the beginning of

December that it is now called The Worker's Circle. This new name is actually an even more accurate translation of the organization's original Yiddish title, "Der Arbeter Ring," where "arbiter" is a gender-neutral noun meaning "worker." The Workmen's Circle began in 1900 as Jewish immigrants arrived in an America where they faced discrimination, harsh working and living conditions, and the challenges of assimilating to a new society. Today, the organization runs Jewish schools, Jewish trips to Europe, and offers Yiddish classes. It also advocates for current immigrant populations, most recently campaigning for living wage laws and New York's "Greenlight Bill," allowing undocumented immigrants to obtain drivers' licenses. (www.forward.com, 12-4-19)

Making Amends

The Reimann family, A German industrial family worth over \$22 billion, recently announced that they will donate "tens of millions of dollars to support Holocaust survivors and former forced laborers in the Nazi era," as well as to educational programs on the Holocaust. The family commissioned historians to delve into their company's history and found that its directors were early supporters of the Nazi party, making donations even before Hitler rose to power in 1933 and who had severely abused slave laborers. You might recognize the company. They own Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Panera Bread, Dr. Pepper and other international brands. With the knowledge that their firm's success had been built on the backs of slave laborers, the current directors announced their plans to make amends. A donation of \$5.5 million will go to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and will be distributed to survivors in dire financial need. These funds would go to some 200 nonprofit organizations over the next three years. Julius Berman, the Claims Conference president, said, "Elderly, poor Holocaust survivors need food, medicine and heat in the winter. These funds will enable thousands of survivors to live in dignity." Another \$5 million will go as a form of compensation to those forced under the Nazis to work for the family's chemical factory, Benckiser. To date, more than 800 former slave laborers – non-Jewish Russian civilians and French prisoners of war – have been found. The firm will also donate some \$28 million annually to educational programs on the Holocaust and democracy. (www.time.com, 3-26-19)

"A Visual Deterrence"

The Guardian Angels began patrolling in Brooklyn, New York recently after a slew of anti-Semitic attacks in the area. The organization is a non-profit volunteer crime-prevention organization of unarmed individuals founded in New York City in 1979 by Curtis Sliwa. It has spread to over 130 cities and 13 countries worldwide. (Sliwa originally created the organization to combat widespread violence and crime on the New York City subway system. The organization patrols streets and neighborhoods but also provides education programs and workshops for schools and businesses.) Sliwa said that the patrols would cover Crown Heights, Williamsburg and Borough Park, all heavily Hasidic areas. The announcement came in the wake of at least eight attacks on Jews in Brooklyn since December 13th and just hours before an attack on a Chanukah party at a Hasidic rabbi's home in Monsey, N.Y. that left five injured. Local leaders of the Lubavitch-Chabad movement approached Sliwa asking for his group's help. "We're a visual deterrence in our red berets and our red satin jackets," he said. (www.jta.org, 12-29-19)

2020 Genesis Prize Recipient

The Genesis Prize Foundation has announced that Jewish "refusenik," leader in the Soviet Jewry emigration movement and former Israeli politician Natan Sharansky is the 2020 Genesis Prize winner. Dubbed the "Jewish Nobel Prize," the Genesis award began in 2013 and is financed through a permanent \$100 million endowment. The award is given annually and honors "extraordinary individuals for their outstanding professional achievement, contribution to humanity and commitment to Jewish values." Sharansky was selected because of his "extraordinary lifelong struggle for political and religious freedoms, emphasizing the relevance of his work in today's world." Sharansky was jailed in 1977 by the communist authorities the Soviet Union for his pro-Zionist, pro-democracy efforts and spent nine years in prison. A child chess prodigy, he kept himself sane in solitary confinement by playing chess in his mind. "I played thousands of games, and I won them all," he told the New York Times in 1996, the same year he defeated chess champion Garry Kasparov. Sharansky's wife Avital tirelessly lobbied governments around the world for his release. Largely as a result of her efforts, plus his growing international fame, he was released in 1986 and they immigrated to Israel. As a politician

and later head of the Jewish Agency for Israel, he advocated for the rights of Israeli immigrants, religious minorities and women. “Even in democracies our freedoms cannot be taken for granted,” Stan Polovets, co-founder and chairman of the Genesis Prize Foundation said. “Natan’s ideals and vision are as relevant today as they were in the 1980s when he took on the totalitarian Soviet regime – and won.” Sharansky will receive the prize in Jerusalem in June. (www.washingtonpost.com, 12-10-19)

In Memoriam

- Branko Lustig, Holocaust survivor and producer of the Oscar-winning film “Schindler’s List,” died in November at his home in Croatia. He was 87. Born to a Jewish family in 1932, Lustig was a prisoner in Auschwitz and much of his family was killed by the Nazis. His film career took root in Yugoslavia in the 1950s. He worked as a production supervisor on the 1982 film “Sophie’s Choice,” some of which was shot in Yugoslavia. His work on American films allowed him to move to Los Angeles in the 1980s, where he met and worked with Steven Spielberg. “My number was 83317,” Lustig announced in an emotional speech at the Academy Awards ceremony. “I’m a Holocaust survivor. It’s a long way from Auschwitz to this stage.” Lustig continued, recalling the people he saw die in the camps who urged him to be a witness to their murder. “By helping Steven to make this movie, I hope I fulfill my obligation to the innocent victims of the Holocaust.” Lustig worked with other Hollywood luminaries and earned another Oscar for producing Ridley Scott’s 2000 film “Gladiator.” Ten years ago, Lustig returned to Croatia to become president of the Festival of Tolerance. (www.jpost.com, 11-15-19)

- Jerry Herman, composer of “Hello Dolly!” and other Broadway hits, died recently at the age of 88. He also wrote the music and lyrics for “La Cage Aux Folles.” One of his best-known songs was “I Am What I Am,” from “La Cage” which became an LGBT anthem. Born in New York to Jewish parents and raised in Jersey City, N.J., Herman won two Tony Awards and two Grammys. He stated in an interview that Irving Berlin, the Russian-American Jewish composer, had been a strong influence on and inspiration for him. (www.jta.org, 12-27-19)

- Paul Volker, economist and former chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve System, died in December at the age of 92. Volker served as Fed Chair under Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan (1979 to 1987). He later served as the head of the Indepen-

dent Committee of Eminent Persons – also known as the Volker Commission – which played a critical role in mediating the restitution process for assets contained within the dormant Swiss bank accounts of Jewish Holocaust victims since the end of World War II. The work of the Commission, which included representatives of Jewish organizations and of Swiss banks, greatly contributed to a settlement of \$1.25 billion paid out by the banks in 1998. World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder said, “Paul Volker...played a pivotal role in providing at least a measure of justice to Holocaust survivors and their heirs from Swiss banks.” Volker was born to German immigrants in Cape May, New Jersey. He attended Princeton, Harvard and the London School of Economics. (www.worldjewishcongress.org, 12-9-19)

Update

In the December 2019/January 2020 issue of Chai-Lights, we reported on a scheduled vote by UNESCO in December whether to remove the credentials of the Aalst Carnival – an annual parade in Brussels, Belgium – from its list of important human cultural expressions. It would have been the first time that a place or event had been selected for removal. (In March, 2019, the parade had featured a float depicting anti-Semitic caricatures of ultra-Orthodox Jews.) Well, the carnival’s organizers decided they wouldn’t wait for the vote and a possible censure. Instead, they voluntarily withdrew the carnival from the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, the first time something had been removed from the list as an act of protest. Inclusion on the list of more than 500 cultural expressions from 122 countries maintained by UNESCO can mean millions of dollars in increased tourism revenues. “We are not anti-Semites or racists,” the city of Brussels said in a statement. “Aalst will always remain the capital of ridicule and satire.” The float’s defenders had argued that it was part of the carnival’s tradition of “edgy humor, with themes mocking all religions and creeds.” (www.jta.org, 12-2-19) ◊

Book Plate

In Memory of

Robert Coltman

by Barnet Coltman

KJCC ANNUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2020
MARGULIES FAMILY SANCTUARY - 11 AM

Dear KJCC Member:

The KJCC Annual Meeting will take place in the Stanley and Jenny Margulies Family Sanctuary at 11 AM on February 9, 2020. At the meeting, the 2020 slate of Board officers and directors will be approved and sworn in. Following the annual meeting, Sisterhood will provide a luncheon in the KJCC Ruth Richardson Social Hall.

The primary order of business at the Annual Meeting is the election and installation of KJCC's Board, officers and directors. Per the KJCC Bylaws, nominations from the floor for Board members can and will be accepted at the Annual Meeting. The Board serves the general membership; therefore your attendance and participation at the Annual Meeting as a KJCC member is very important. Please join us and make your voice heard.

**The following slate of officers has been selected and approved
at the January 12th Board Meeting:**

President: Joyce Peckman

Executive Vice President: Susan Gordon

Vice Presidents: Gloria Avner, Michael Kaufman, Medina Roy

Treasurer: Linda Kaplan

Recording Secretary: Beth Hayden

Corresponding Secretary: Erica Lieberman-Garrett

Financial Secretary: Donna Bolton

Directors: Ken Atlas, Marc Bloom, Laurie Blum, Jane Friedman, Steve Hartz, Art Itkin,
Gary Margolis, Stan Margulies, Linda Pollack, Skip Rose, Stuart Smith

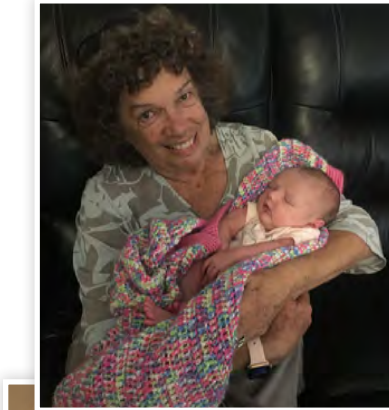
Please accept this notice as your invitation to join us at the KJCC Annual Meeting and Sisterhood luncheon. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Board, please be prepared to nominate from the floor. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting. If you will be at the Sisterhood luncheon, please contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett at 305 393-1162 or hippiejap@hotmail.com. Thank you for your loyalty to and support of the KJCC.

B'shalom
Joyce Peckman

PHOTO GALLERY



Always smiling and adding freshness to our services, Gary Margolis and Laurie Blum drive from marathon to get to services each week. In January we returned the favor with a mobile minyan field trip to Sombrero Beach.



Gloria holding her new great-granddaughter, Jackson, born December 27.



Susan Gordon and Donna Bolton led a particularly tuneful and enthusiastic service on January 10. Beth Hayden set the Shabbat mood earlier with a piano concert featuring works of Brahms and Rachmaninov.

What a pleasure talking to new Upper Keys arrival, young Mr. Snell. He says he wants to get involved. We may have another shofar blower.



Erev Shabbat services are both entertaining and tiring?



Jules Seder, KJCC's other piano pro, helps Beth close the Steinway



Medina Roy took a class in batik painting with Gloria Avner and and came up with this lovely heron painting.



Good to see seasonal faces returning!

A trio of great cooks and friends. Thank you, Jane and Maria especially, for the healthy, delicious treats you bring every Shabbat Oneg.



We love to see our regulars come visiting from up north, even if it's only once a year.



Susan Ellner and Gloria Avner led a thoughtful enjoyable service, inspired by our evening discussing the personal touch and enthusiasm with Rabbi Agler.

Susan Gordon May have missed celebrating Chanukah KJCC this year, but it looks like she had a great time lighting candles with her grandsons Rhett and Hank.



A group of happy hard workers if ever there was one. Thanks for all you do for KJCC, Donna Bolton, Susan Gordon, Erica Lieberman Garrett and Jane Friedman. The best part is that you're happy doing it. Yay!



Donna Bolton taught a class on massage and relaxation as part on KJCC's Adult Education series. Both guinea pigs and Donna were happy with results.



Good to have snowbirds and their friends back with us. Susan Roberts, (left), says we can call her Suzi, mid our wonderful collection of Susans

Sisterhood Elects New Officers

KJCC Sisterhood elected new officers and installed them at their December meeting. Some of the officers and their titles may be new but these generous people are coming in with lots of experience. Past KJCC President Beth Hayden is now Sisterhood President. Past Sisterhood President is now Sisterhood Vice-President. Geri Smith retains her title as Recording Secretary and Erica Lieberman-Garrett remains Treasurer. We welcome Hannah David as Corresponding Secretary. So much to look forward to in the coming year. Thank you, KJCC Sisterhood, for all you do.

Changing of the Guard. With huge appreciation, incoming President Beth Hayden presents the traditional thank you present to outgoing president Susan Gordon, a lovely gold pendent with the word Ahavah, the Hebrew word for love, spelled out in Hebrew.



KJCC Sisterhood Officers for 2020, left to right, Erica Lieberman-Garrett, Treasurer, Hanna David, Corresponding Secretary, Geri Smith, Recording Secretary, Susan Gordon, Vice-President, and Elizabeth (Beth) Hayden, President. Hazel Tov!!



All Sisterhood members who were present at the January meeting, happy to be part of such an active organization.

CHANUKAH PARTIES

KJCC celebrated Chanukah together twice this year. That's right. Two parties.

On day two we celebrated with Rabbi Zucker, two of his children, the youngest, and a coterie of Yeshivah *bochurs* (Yiddish for boys). The Rabbi brought latkes and *souvganiot* (donuts) of course, and provided a lively singalong in yiddish, Hebrew and English, ending with soulful renditions of Oy Chanukah and My Yiddish Mameh. He even created a Chanukah and Hebrew History Trivia game that we all played with correct answers being rewarded with raffle tickets for his finale, a giveaway of free classes and a beautiful mezuzah with kosher scroll inside.



Two candles (in this case oil lamps) are lit for the second night, as Rabbi Zucker's children look on and recite the blessings.

Joyce Peckman, KJCC President looks on, relaxed, enjoying not having any responsibilities for the night.



Bernie Ginsberg loves joining Rabbi Zucker in Ofen Pripichok and other Yiddish oldies but goodies.



What a handsome group of Yeshivah boys.



David Goldfinger and Erica enjoying the Yiddishkeit



Gloria wins the Mezuzah



Rabbi Zucker's son sings "Oh Chanukah"

On Day Six we had a true Chanukah extravaganza. The guests kept coming 'til we filled up every table and then overflowed. Erica and her team came to the rescue and immediately set up another table with everything needed to make everyone welcome. It was noisy, chaotic, and wonderfully haimishe. No one went hungry. There were even take out latkes. The Tot Shabbat crew of Dahveed and Maddy sang "Oh Chanukah" with raucous gusto, and then the amazing deserts started coming. A special thank you to Donna Bolton who must have baked at least five of them and enjoyed every minute even while recuperating. An additional Hurrah to Erica too for the tremendous amount of work that that went into the planning, the set-up and co-ordination given extra on-the-spot stress, all handled with aplomb. It was a great festive dinner party, especially with everyone lighting the candles on their own Chanukiahs, but the Shabbat service afterwards was wonderful, with over 50 people in attendance. Many thanks to the Klein-Gross Family, to Randy especially and both her parents as well as adopted family member, Josh Keller. Thanks to Linda Pollack for sponsoring this happy event. And in case we didn't eat enough before services, there were more deserts afterwards, and a commitment to keep our Chanukah light shining.

What fun to share dinner conversation getting to know Elaine Schulberg's daughter.



Maddy loves her Chanukah present from Jane.



Randi Klein and her Mom and Dad treated us to a beautiful service after our Chanukah feast, with the welcome help of Josh Keller, a lovingly adopted member of this mishpacha.



So nice to have Roy Pollack and family spend a Happy Chanukah with us.



Some people we only see once a year, but we look forward to celebrating Shabbat (and Chanukah) with them. We've been doing it since their boys were tiny tots.



Powerful rendition of "Oh Chanukah!" By Tot Shabbat students Maddy and Binyamin, with their proud teacher, Rachael Bloom.

Keys Jewish Community Center



Presents a two-part series
of music and learning

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

KJCC, MM 93.5 Oceanside

An Evening with Johannes Brahms (Brahms 101) An introduction to the life of Brahms with an overview of his symphonies, concerti, chamber music and vocal works. Who was Brahms? When did he live? Who taught him? Who were the important people in his life? How did he compose? Why is he called a "romantic classicist"? What was Clara Schumann to Brahms? Do these questions keep you up at night? Come to this lecture and ALL will be revealed.



Sunday, March 22, 2020

Time: 4:00 p.m.

KJCC, MM 93.5 Oceanside

A Lecture Recital on selected piano works of Brahms, Chopin and Rachmaninoff. Pianist Elizabeth (Beth) Hayden will perform and discuss selected piano works from the Romantic Era. Musical form, melodic presentation and compositional techniques will be discussed along with performance considerations.



Elizabeth (Beth) Hayden taught piano performance, music history, theory, chamber music and piano literature for more than 20 years at a university level. She performed extensively throughout the mid-Atlantic states including Boston and New York. She has also performed in France, Germany, India, Israel, and Canada. Her teachers included Emil Danenberg, Bela Boszormenyi-Nagy, Richard Hoffman and Roman Totenberg.

Keysjewishcenter.com (305) 852-5235

Eye on the Arts & Education

Look through this edition of Chai-Lights and you will find two months full of worthwhile activities, films, concerts and classes. But in case you want to look further in the Keys community, here is even more to enrich your life.

February 1–8: Marathon Theatre presents: “Four Old Broads.” Thursdays – Saturdays 8 p.m., Sundays at 3p.m. Tickets are available for \$25 at Marathontheatre.org.

Tuesday, February 4: Trumpet duo Mary Elizabeth Bowden and David Dash with Pittsburgh’s Kassia Ensemble. Florida Keys Concert Association presents this powerhouse musical event, at the Coral Shores Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets and information at www.floridakeysconcerts.com. There is also a Monday night, Feb. 3, performance at Marathon High School.

Wednesdays in February and through March 4: Once again John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park presents “The Delicate Balance of Nature” lecture series. This always interesting and popular free series is held Wednesdays from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the visitor center. Come at 7 p.m. with a soft cushion to grab your seat and check out the aquarium.

Friday, February 7: Key Largo Library: Grant Livingston – This country blues guitarist/singer/songwriter will perform from 6 –7 p.m. You can attend the free concert and still make it to KJCC for Friday services.

Tuesday, February 11: Cellist Nicholas Canelakis and pianist Michael Brown perform, Island Community Church, MM 83.3, 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$30, available at the door or from FLKCA at www.floridakeysconcerts.com. For more information, call Joyce Peckman at 305–451–0665.

Saturday, February 15: Garden Walk, 10 a.m.– 4 p.m. Meet at the Garden Club, MM 94 bayside. Information and tickets from www.gardenclubupperkeys.org. See an AGPI art show and vendors too (the Jon Landau pottery will be on the walk).

Thursday February 20: Morada Way Arts Walk, 6–9 p.m. MM 81.5 in Islamorada. Expect lovely crafts, art, food and music.

Tuesday, February 25: The Grammy nominated Lincoln Trio brings classical and modern chamber music to Islamorada and Marathon. Tickets at the door for this 7:30 performance, or at floridakeysconcerts.com.

Saturday, February 29: Pops in the Park – “Wild Kingdom” – ICE Amphitheatre, Islamorada, Founders Park. 4 p.m.– The Keys Community Concert Band presents music as you relax on the lawn. Pets welcome.

Tuesday, March 3: An Evening of Opera Highlights presented by FLKCA at Island Community Church, 7:30 p.m., with a March 2 performance at Marathon High School. Tickets may be purchased at the door at 7 p.m. or at www.floridakeysconcerts.com. Get your early bird series tickets for next season.

Wednesday, March 4: JFK and the Florida Pilots: 5:30 – 7 p.m. at the History & Discovery Center. 82100 O/S Highway, Islamorada. keysdiscovery.com

March 5 – April 4: Marathon Theatre presents “How to succeed in Business Without Really Trying.” Thursdays – Saturdays 8 p.m., Sundays at 3p.m. Tickets: \$25 at Marathontheatre.org.

March 11– 15 and March 19–22: Art Guild of the Purple Isles 54th Annual Juried Show at the History & Discovery Center. Go from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Not only do you get free admission to the Discovery Center (if you aren’t already a member), but you get to see the fabulous work of our members and neighbors. Go to AGPI.US to find out more.

Thursday March 19: Morada Way Arts Walk, 6–9 p.m.

Saturday, March 28: Pops in the Park 4– 5 p.m. at the Murray Nelson Center. Bring lawn chairs.

PURIM & PIZZA

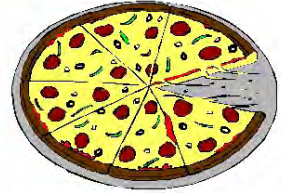


And Movies Too

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Monday, March 9, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.

to celebrate our story



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Share a Festive Meal (Salads and Pizza).

Share gifts of food with Neighbors and Friends.

Give Charity.



Wear masks, don costumes, drown out the name of Haman.

Stamp feet. Spin groggers. Be silly. Drink adult beverages
(yes, it's a commandment).

Then laugh and enjoy a collection of humorous short movies.

Eat Hamantaschen. (Nu, what else?)

Celebrate Survival at KJCC with Mishpachah !!

Contact: Gloria Avner (305) 619-0216, geetavner@gmail.com to let us know you are coming.

Remember, it is a Mitzvah to hear the reading of the entire Megillah.

Donations will be accepted for pizza and tzedakah as we fulfill all four Purim Mitzvot.

KJCC Goes Cruising: The Jewish Connection in Dominican Republic

Many thanks to Dave Mont and Rita Conklin for putting together a mid-December four day get away-from-it-all-cruise for KJCC. Relaxation and entertainment were the order of the day. Friendships deepened, and we even found a Jewish connection on our one island stop among the friendly people and colorful buildings at Amber Cove and Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic.

Over the course of a two hour tour this small KJCC cruising contingent marveled at the rolling mountains, big “silver” clouds and omnipresent trees and greenery. They have served to protect the country, which unlike Haiti, it’s island neighbor, has never been devastated by a hurricane or mud slides. We also marveled at a church we visited in the central square of Puerto Plata,

Why would the magnificent stained glass windows in Puerto Plata’s small cathedral, depicting scenes from the life of Jesus, have plaques on them with the names of Jewish families? For the answer we go back to July of 1938, when Franklin Delano Roosevelt gathered representatives from 32 nations at the French resort of Evian. The goal was to address the problem of Jews fleeing Germany. After a week of discussion, only the Dominican Republic agreed to accept refugees. Rafael Trujillo was looking to develop his poverty stricken country, and he offered the desperate refugees 26,000 acres of remote, overgrown, abandoned banana plantations. Seven hundred mostly well-educated people managed to make it there and quickly learn farming skills. Our tour guide told us that the newly arrived families started the town of Sosua, had excellent relations with the native Dominicans, and eventually taught them better ways to raise dairy cattle, pigs, and make prize winning cheeses and sausages. There is a museum in Sosua depicting their history.

And now for the answer to the question about windows. The ancient church of Puerto Plata had burned down. In the 1950’s it was being restored and named a cathedral; grateful families from the Jewish community of Sosua donated the funds and commissioned an Italian artist to create the stained glass windows.



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Saturday, March 14 ♦ 5:00pm

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Black & White Attire (no tie)

\$60 donation per person

Children, ages 12 & under, are our guests



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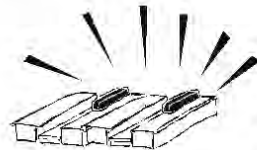
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MOBILE MINYAN GOES TO THE BEACH

Observes Mincha in Marathon

Sunday, January 19th, 2020: What a beautiful day for Mincha (the traditional afternoon Jewish prayer service that has largely been forgotten except for the most observant Jews, who say prayers three times daily). The beauty was more than the sun glinting off the water and the sound of surf hitting sand. More than the newly restored large pavilion filled with Jews, previously known and unknown, eager to interact with each other and actively participating in song and prayer, more than the comfort of knowing we had a police presence for security (and two tables full of food ready to share after our short sweet service). Here are some of the things our members treasured about this special day:

Joyce Peckman: Watching the smiles of Marathon snowbirds who discovered that they could be part of a community of ‘Landsmen’ made the trip worthwhile. People exchanging addresses and phone numbers, playing Jewish geography. Proudly singing and praying in the open air by the beach. A beautiful short service led by Steve Hartz, Bernie Ginsberg, Gloria Avner and Susan Gordon

Steve Hartz: On January 19, a contingent of KJCC members from the Key Largo area journeyed to Marathon to meet with KJCC members from Marathon and other interested people for our second annual Marathon Minyan. The group conducted a Mincha (afternoon) service, amid mild sea breezes, sunshine, and the sound of ocean waves in a large covered pavilion overlooking magnificent Sombrero Beach. Many thanks to our hosts, Barbara and Steve Smith and Gary Margolis and Laurie Blum for a truly extraordinary and moving event. Many thanks as well to the many KJCC members who helped set up the event and who participated in leading the service. Most of all thanks to all of the participants, many of



Keys Jewish Community Center 17th Annual Women's Seder

Sunday

March 29, 2020

5:00 PM @ KJCC

Homemade Seder Dinner

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KJCC Women's Seder.

Donation: \$18 chai
+ \$17.00 for 17 years -
Total cost is \$35.

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whom from the Marathon area were meeting the KJCC for the first time. It takes a village to fulfill the mission of the KJCC as a Jewish Community Center for the entire Florida Keys.

Laurie Blum: We felt honored and valued that our shul, our community, would come to us. As full time Marathon residents as well as part of the KJCC community, it is a privilege to be an emissary for KJCC to other Marathon Jews, no matter whether they are part year or full year residents. We also feel blessed for the opportunity to personally connect with our fellow Jews and hopefully form a sub KJCC community in Marathon.

Gary Margolis adds...in a world where it seems that hatred against Jews is rising, it was great to meet with old and new friends and celebrate in public. "How good and how pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity."

Linda Pollack: Mobile Minyan day was most pleasurable. Not only did I get to enjoy the company of my own mishpachah from the Upper Keys, but I was delighted to meet new people who live in the Marathon area, a couple with whom I share the tai chi experience. And thank you to Jan Hartz for transporting me--:). Most of all though, I enjoyed the warmth with which we were received by the Marathon people. They were genuinely happy to be amongst their own and to participate in prayers with which they were clearly familiar. It was a feel good day all around. ◇



KJCC Annual FIRST NIGHT Community Passover Seder

Seder will be led by Cantorial Soloist

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Wednesday, April 8, 2020 6:30 pm



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Reserve early as we will be opening this to the public
after March 15.

Vegetarian options are available - please request when
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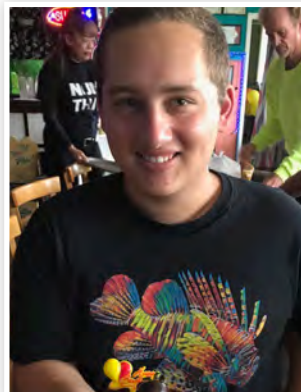
PASSOVER

Donations:

Adults \$54; children 12 and under are our guests.

Jonah Fights the Lionfish

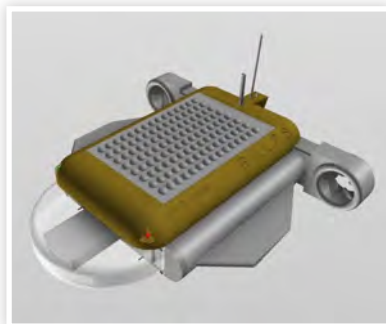
Applies for Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Award



KJCC is proud to announce that one of KJCC's students – Jonah Gross Klein --has had his application accepted for The Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards. He won't know whether he is a recipient or not until late spring, but it is an honor even to have an application accepted. Mazel tov to Jonah and his family. The Helen Diller Family Foundation celebrates Tikkun Olam, or "repairing the world" and knows that supporting Jewish teen leadership today means creating and inspiring future generations of strong Jewish leaders in the global community. The Awards provide major funding for each recipient to use to further their project or their education. Our Jonah has not taken on a whale or any kind of giant, but he is clearly in the David role with Goliath being the millions of ever-reproducing (20,000–30,000 eggs every couple of days) lionfish. And he has developed a significant technological gadget that will help solve the problem of locating and destroying these omnivorous dangers to our ecology.

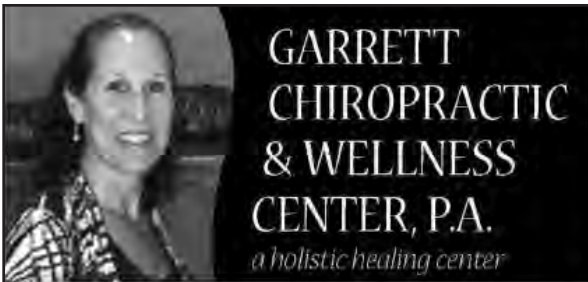
Here is part of Jonah's project description. We wish him well:

"Lionfish are believed to come from the South Pacific and Indian Ocean and have somehow found their way to the east coast of North America. They are known for being a dangerous creature with endless hunger, venomous, and able to withstand any number of weather conditions The common thought that the lionfish versus human battle is being won is actually wrong; the truth is that humans are currently fighting a losing battle. The need for actual change and real observation at greater depths is becoming



This is Jonah's invention, an underwater data gatherer which can send the relevant coordinates back to the hunters.

more important each day. Most humans who hunt lionfish are either free diving or using SCUBA gear, which is effective but limited by time. Only re-breather divers are able to spend hours at the depths where lionfish live, but there are few re-breather divers due to cost. Unmanned AUV (Autonomous Underwater Vehicle) observation could be the best solution to the lionfish problem. This AUV would give hunters a reliable location, less wasted time and would mean more fish caught. It wouldn't have to be limited to locating lionfish either. It could also help locate nearly extinct animals and help to preserve them by giving location information to the proper people. Using this technology will have numerous benefits, not only reducing the ever expanding lionfish population but helping to bring back the ocean's beauty around the world." We in your KJCC mishpacha are cheering you on, Jonah. ◇



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