

# Chai~Lights



September 2018

21 Elul 5778 - 21 Tishrei 5779

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**Keys Jewish Community Center**

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

# September 2018

21 Elul - 21 Tishrei

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 S'lichot Pizza & Movie 6 p.m.
2	3  Labor Day	4	5	6	7  Barney Coltman  <i>David &amp; Pat VanArtsdalen</i>	8
9 Erev Rosh HaShanah Dinner 5:30 p.m.	10 Rosh HaShanah Day One 9:30 a.m. Tashlich at Ocean Pointe 4	11 Rosh HaShanah Day Two 9:30 a.m.	12	13	14 Erev Shabbat Shuvah  Erica Lieberman -Garrett	15 Shabbat Shuvah Beth Hayden 10 a.m. Havdalah
16 Reverse Tashlich Ocean Clean Up TBD	17	18 Erev Yom Kippur 7:30 p.m.	19 Yom Kippur Yizkor, Havdalah, Break- the-fast	20	21  <i>Ken Atlas</i>	22
23 Erev Sukkot	24  1st Day of Sukkot	25	26	27	28 Family Sukkot Service  Steve Steinbock	29 Sukkot, Havdalah, Pot Luck at Agler's 7 p.m.
30						

**2018 - 2019  
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## President's Message Beth Hayden



**T**his year on the evening of September 9<sup>th</sup> we will enter our beautiful KJCC Stanley and Jenny Margulies Family Sanctuary to mark the beginning of the High Holydays as we conduct evening services for Rosh HaShanah. Last year at this time, September 10<sup>th</sup>, Irma descended on the Florida Keys unleashing the full power of a Category 4 hurricane with widespread destruction and damage throughout the Keys. The vast majority of us were scattered far and wide as we obeyed urgent calls for evacuation. Miraculously, the KJCC building survived without a single scratch and with uninterrupted electrical service. KJCC never flinched and went on to offer full High Holyday services with the strength of Rabbi Agler and Cantor Dzubin.

Now, the cycle is again completed and we look forward to the inspiring thoughts and traditions that characterize our High Holydays. Rosh HaShanah (the "head" of the year) is also called the birthday of the world. Rosh HaShanah ushers in the time of the "Eserot Yamei Tshuvah" (ten days of repentance) as we prepare for Yom Kippur. Rabbi Nachman of Breslau suggests that just as we celebrate HaShem's creation of the world, so we should recreate ourselves during this period

by reflecting on our failures and successes. This is a time to look inward and reflect on our individual strengths and weaknesses.

As we move into Yom Kippur, it is not only that we are not to wear shoes made of an animal's skin – we are to wear no makeup, no jewelry, no fine clothing, no perfume – our fleshly vanities are to be totally forsaken. It is a day of such self-abnegation we are enjoined not even to wash or clean our teeth. This is a time in which we are enjoined to look deeply inward into who we are, what we value, what we want to accomplish – it is a time of self-introspection from which we should emerge newly recommitted to being a better person.

Most of us in the Keys appreciate the wonderful world we are privileged to share with other life forms and species. We can all, if nothing else, do more to ensure we protect and cherish the wonderful world in which we are privileged to live. Rabbi Nachman of Breslau wrote the "Da l'cha": "Know that for each blade of grass there is a special song all its own and from the singing of the grasses is created the melody of the heart."

I wish for all of us an introspective, thoughtful and meaningful High Holydays. ◊

## Nosh

### Come Decorate Our Sukkah

Susan Gordon promises new fruits to decorate with this year when we gather at our KJCC Meditation Garden. Bring children and be part of the creative mitzvah of making a Sukkah. It's always a good time, a way to deepen friendships and, of course, there will be refreshments. Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date; 11:00 a.m. is the time. We'll gather gratefully in the Alan Beth and Candy Stanlake Parents' Memorial Pergola to create our eight-day festival shelter, and on Friday night, the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, we will shake our lulav, sniff our etrog, say our blessings and share an Oneg, eating a mini-meal under the stars after Shabbat services are concluded.

### September's Book Club Meeting

Thanks to a devoted core of readers, discussers and enjoyers of social lunches, the KJCC Sisterhood book club has not missed a monthly meeting since it began. Impressive. September's meeting will take place on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of September at noon, in Islamorada's Marker 88 Restaurant. The book is called "The Fortune Teller's Kiss," written by Brenda Serotte. For details, see Poster on page 26 or contact Randi Grant at rkgcpa@bellsouth.net. Thanks for shepherding this so well, Randi.

### A Heartwarming "Good/Bad"

It's always sad when a synagogue has to close its doors for the last time. This phenomenon, called sunsetting, is what happened to Congregation B'nei Jacob in the small town of Ottumwa, Iowa, this past June. It had been a vibrant community for over 100 years, established in the early 1900s by Jewish immigrants from Russia, but membership and attendance had plummeted and their story was ending. That was the bad. The 40-year-old Rabbi gave a moving last speech about how appreciative she was for having been able to pour love and blessings, just as Jacob blessed his children, into this fading community in

## BOOK PLATE

In Memory of  
**Louis R. Coltman**

*by Barnet Coltman*

its last years and days.

But life, especially Jewish life, has a way of creating and focusing on cycles. Think of Ecclesiastes' "a time to be born, a time to die." Think of the round loaf of challah we say *HaMotzi* with on Rosh Hashanah. The roundness implies circularity, with no beginning and no end. Out of a consuming fire rises the phoenix.

Almost immediately after the rabbi's last sermon, a series of connections, coincidences and lucky breaks set a chain of events in motion that brought new meaning to the Iowa closure and new light to a small Jewish community in Paraguay, South America, where a newly formed congregation in a very small town, meeting in an old house, needed a Torah. Long story short, sunset in Iowa led to sunrise in Paraguay. The new congregation has a Torah now, donated and flown from Iowa to Paraguay, where the first Bat Mitzvah with their new Torah was celebrated in July. They also decided to re-name their congregation, taking the name of the Torah's Iowa donors. At

## Yahrzeit Plaque

**Leonard Weiser**  
Forever in our Hearts  
October 21, 2001

*Andy & Randi Grant*



this New Year, we honor the new Congregation B'nei Jacob in Paraguay and the generous Jewish people of Ottumwa, Iowa. May they all be inscribed for a good and rich life.

### Havdalah on Shabbat Shuvah

On Saturday evening, September 15<sup>th</sup>, we round our day, and Shabbat Shuvah, with a Havdalah service in one of KJCC's favorite settings – Linda Pollack's bayfront home. We'll watch for three medium stars from her rooftop and then prepare to sing, light our woven candle, drink wine and smell spices. There will be refreshments. Linda's house is in Pirates Cove (approx. MM 98.6, bayside) address 107 Long Ben Drive. RSVP to Linda at (305) 587-7429. We may be returning to the secular from Shabbat but we will still be going forward spiritually, to the last of the days of awe.

### Reverse Tashlich

Usually we throw bread bits and bagels into the ocean to give ourselves a clean slate for the New Year. We are vowing, praying, hoping to let those "bad behaviors" that don't reflect our best selves feed the seagulls and fish. This year we will be part of a statewide (well, at least the Keys and Tampa-wide) project devised by member-friend Rabbi Ed Rosenthal and his Hillel students, the Scubi Jews. On September 16<sup>th</sup>, we will take trash out of the water in our efforts for a fresh start on Tikkun HaYam (Repair of the Sea). See Rabbi Ed's article on page 48. And watch Beth's announcements for details of where and when.



### Sukkot Pot-Luck Open House

After a one-year hiatus due to Irma, we are grateful once again to be invited to the home of Mindy and Rabbi Richard Agler for a Sukkot Pot

## September Anniversaries

	<b>Years</b>
7th	Jay & Nancy Hershoff..... 19
9th	Neal & Cathy Rakov..... 34
9th	Steven & Barbara Smith..... 40
27th	Gary & Lyn Sherman
30th	Marsha & Tom Garrettson..... 28

Luck dinner and celebration, on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. There will be *lulav* and *etrog* blessings, some olive eating in the sukkah, home-cooked food by our *mishpocha*, and Rabbi Agler will lead us in the sweetest, and shortest, of all services, Havdalah, as we say goodbye to Shabbat. Food contributions will be coordinated by Erica Lieberman-Garrett, by e-mail or phone: hippiejap@hotmail.com or (305) 393-1162.

### A Grand Addition to KJCC

Next time you enter the Margulies Family Sanctuary, take time to admire our latest resident, the beautiful six-foot Steinway Model A Grand Piano now gracing the spot between the seats and the side storage closet, thanks to Beth Hayden. The piano had belonged to a dear friend and musical colleague of Beth's, Elinor Carlson, who had had it rebuilt in 1986 and cared for it lovingly. Knowing it was a treasure, Beth acquired it and had it shipped from Massachusetts to Tavernier, where it is now getting acclimated to its new home. (They're very sensitive to climate.) In another month or so it will be tuned and adjusted. And then the pleasure will be all ours.

*KJCC sends its deepest condolences  
to Elaine Schulberg  
and all sides of their extended family  
on the death of Alan Schulberg.*

## Leaf on the Tree of Life

Honoring  
Alan Schulberg  
July 5, 2018

From the Mahj Gals

### High Holiday Guests

We have long maintained, and always tried to prove, that KJCC is the most open and welcoming place we know. We work very hard to make sure every type, ilk, practitioner and theorist of Judaism has a home here. Our services are lay-led, and each leader is encouraged to paint with his or her own brush. (And either inside the lines or eclectically out, as they wish.)

We are equally welcoming to guests. Rabbi Agler has offered a mantra that we've adopted and strive to live: everyone who comes in peace is welcome here. That includes the searchers and the scholars and the challengers and the merely curious. And unlike many synagogues, we also make it a point to invite Jewish non-members to join us on High Holidays. There aren't any tickets. The idea is to be, always, the sanctuary and home and place of quiet acceptance we all found when we came, however we came. (We also have a very good track record of impressing the guests we welcome. Many of our members were once visitors.)

So if you know local Jews who aren't members, or peeps who will be coming into town during the holidays, invite them to join us. Just be sure to let us know whom to expect.

## Leaf on the Tree of Life

In honor of  
Sean Kaufman's 5th birthday

Richard, Barbara and Eve Knowles

## September Birthdays

1st.....	Mildred Finklestein
2nd.....	Lloyd Wruble
4th.....	Chase Barrett
4th.....	Debby C. Block
6th.....	Steven Greenbaum
7th.....	Mindy Agler
7th.....	Morton Silverman
7th.....	Stellar Levy
8th.....	Susan Horn
9th.....	Jacob Klimpl
10th.....	Gerri Emkey
13th.....	Andy Tobin
13th.....	Lisha Lane
13th.....	Shawn Borisoff
16th.....	Larry S. Schur
17th.....	Ellen Ecker
17th.....	Judd Daddona
18th.....	Avery Haviv
18th.....	Shirley Krissel
19th.....	Barbara Bernstein
19th.....	Brenna Nobil
19th.....	Joel Bofshever
19th.....	Steven Schur
22nd.....	Fred Hudson
23rd.....	Lauren Schur
24th.....	Noah Bitton
24th.....	Orlando Quesada
25th.....	Marla Berenson
25th.....	Michel Bitton
27th.....	Shirley Karger

### Oneg Sponsors for September 2018

*September 7th* - David & Pat VanArtsdalen in honor of Dylan VanArtsdalen's birthday.  
*September 14th* - Sisterhood  
*September 21st* - Ken Atlas in honor of KJCC.  
*September 28th* - Stuart & Geri Smith in honor of Geri's parents' anniversary.

### **Leaf on the Tree of Life**

Celebrating 25 years  
of KJCC membership.

**Lee and Bob Schur**

### **Leaf on the Tree of Life**

For Pauline at 103  
Chazak, Chazak, V'Nitchazeik  
**From Arthur**  
New York City

## **Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC**

**BOOKPLATES for siddurim:** Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for information, or send your desired inscription to [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

**CEMETERY INFORMATION:** If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Beth Hayden, 305-773-0067.

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

**CHAI-LIGHTS ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Gloria Avner, 305-619-0216, for annual rates.

**DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT:** Your business ad will be featured prominently in our Membership Directory. Call Beth Hayden, 305-773-0067, for annual rates.

**GIFT SHOP:** We have lovely items for all holidays and for every day enjoyment. If you have a special request, call Sydney! Faye-Davis, 305-613-3010, or 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](mailto: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 Sydney! Faye-Davis, 305-613-3010, or 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 Chanah David, 305-774-6048.

**TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT:** Bring your empty prescription and vitamin bottles to the KJCC and place in the collection box. We are assisting Burton Memorial with a project to provide empty medicine bottles to Haiti where they are needed.

**TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, SOCIAL HALL CHAIR PLATES, YAHR-ZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Send your desired inscription to Linda Pollack at [lindap4000@ymail.com](mailto:lindap4000@ymail.com).

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

*Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332,*

*Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well.*

*Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds; e.g. Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial*

*Tzedukah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.*

KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER SISTERHOOD  
invites you to our

# Erev Rosh Hashanah Potluck Dinner

On Sunday, September 9th, at 5:30 p.m., we  
will gather at the KJCC for a haimische  
chicken dinner, followed by  
7:30 p.m. Services.

Please rsvp by September 4th if you would like to attend and let us  
know what side dish or dessert you will be bringing.

Cost \$10



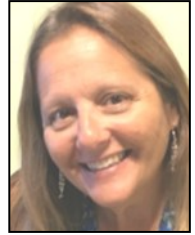
RSVP to Rita Conklin  
wesandrita@aol.com  
305-849-3374

Please send in your payment payable to  
KJCC Sisterhood  
PO Box 116, Tavernier, FL  
33070



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## Sisterhood Susan Gordon



**I**t's hard to believe that Summer has passed, and we are already getting ready to enter into the New Year of 5779! A large turnout of Sisterhood members, 21 to be exact, enjoyed a relaxing "end-of-season" luncheon on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Bayside Grill in Key Largo. It was a beautiful early summer afternoon on Florida Bay as we celebrated the birthday of Donna Bolton while enjoying one another's company and a delicious lunch! Next, just three days later, though it wasn't a Sisterhood event, we had a fun-filled day of fishing onboard the Charter Boat "Sailors' Choice." There were ten enthusiastic anglers from the KJCC, and you could say that it was truly a day of "catching" rather than "fishing." The fish were biting just about every time a line was dropped into the water! The champion catchers were Jon and Terry Tainow's grandchildren! (See photos of the happy KJCC anglers in Photo Gallery.)

Our annual Fourth of July Shabbabaque and the Celebration of Pauline's 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday was an enormous success, and enjoyed by all who attended. Rumor has it that there may actually have been 103 people there to celebrate Pauline's birthday (and eat)!

The KJCC Sisterhood Book Club has met every month throughout the Summer. Attendees enjoyed one another's company and lunch at Marker 88 Restaurant while discussing the book of the month. The next book club meeting will take place on September 24<sup>th</sup>, and the group will meet again at Marker 88. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings. If you would like further information, contact Randi Grant at rkgcpa@bellsouth.net or call her at 1-954-383-4320. As I'm writing this, we do not yet have a book title, so watch for it in Beth's Tuesday messages.

The August Sisterhood meeting was held on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. We had a full agenda. Much planning was done for the High Holidays, beginning with an Erev Rosh Hashanah Chicken

Dinner on the evening of Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. Please see the flyer for the dinner in this issue of Chai-Lights. Rita Conklin will be accepting reservations and coordinating the menu, with a deadline of Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. Please give her a call to reserve your spot for this delicious *haimische* chicken dinner! Erev Rosh Hashanah services will begin at 7:30 p.m. following the dinner. On the next two days, Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Sisterhood will host a lovely oneg at the conclusion of Rosh Hashanah services each afternoon. Moving ahead one week, Sisterhood will provide a bountiful "Break-the-Fast" Dairy dinner at the conclusion of Yom Kippur services on Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. This event is always a wonderful feast and well attended. If you would like to join us, please make your reservation before the deadline of September 14<sup>th</sup> by contacting Erica Lieberman-Garrett, e-mail hippiejap@hotmail.com or call her at 305-393-1162. (See the poster on page 30 for more information) On Friday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, Sisterhood will sponsor an oneg in our Sukkah. We will perform the *mitzvot* of saying blessings, shaking *lulav* and eating refreshments. The final item on our full Sisterhood meeting agenda was the planning of the now-annual *Simchat Torah* Chocolate Extravaganza, scheduled for Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. A special service that evening will begin at 7:30, with the Chocolate Extravaganza to follow.

Sisterhood at the KJCC is a very active group, and we welcome all female members of the KJCC to join us at our monthly meetings! Please attend the next meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. We hope to be participants later that day in a *Tikkun Olam* ocean clean-up project (See Article on "Reverse Tashlich," page 48.)

Wishing everyone a very happy and healthy New Year! ◇

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# 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.*

## June, July & August Contributions

### **Bookplate**

Coltman, Barney

### **In Memory of**

Louis R. Coltman

### **General Fund**

Tallent, Claire      Pauline Roller's 103rd birthday

### **In Honor of**

### **Gold Leaf**

Plutzer, Arthur      Pauline Roller's 103rd birthday  
Knowles, Richard/Barbara & Eve      Sean Kaufman's  
5th birthday

### **In Honor of**

### **Library**

Sax, Stuart & Lauren

### **In Honor of**

Pauline Roller's  
103rd birthday

### **Meditation Garden**

Sax, Stuart & Lauren

### **In Memory of**

Alan Schulberg

### **Oneg Sponsorship**

Hayden, Beth  
Kaufman, Michael & Lorena  
Kaufman, Michael & Lorena  
Knowles, Richard & Barbara

### **In Honor of**

Kohengi's birthday  
their anniversary  
Sean's birthday  
their anniversary

### **Yahrzeit**

Avner, Gloria  
Avner, Gloria  
Boruszak, Joan  
Finkelstein, Richard  
Finkelstein, Richard  
Forst, Donna  
Kaplan, Marshall & Myra  
Kaplan, Marshall & Myra  
Kaplan, Ronald & Debra  
Kaplan, Ronald & Debra  
Margolis, Gary & Blum, Laurie  
Margolis, Gary & Blum, Laurie  
Riley, Michelle  
Roy, Medina  
Starr, Adam & Judy  
Starr, Adam & Judy  
Taramona, Hermine  
Tobin, Andrew

### **In Memory of**

David Gitin  
Nettie Goodman  
Priscilla Leshin  
Ada Finkelstein  
Paul Finkelstein  
Erna Forst  
Len Roberts  
Les Reitman  
Catherine Kaplan  
Sidney Kaplan  
Burton Margolis  
Mollie Lawent  
Paula Travers  
Leon Kirschenbaum  
Manya Starr  
Olga Schuman  
Robert Robinson  
Leonard Tobin

### **Yahrzeit Plaque**

Grant, Andrew & Randi

### **In Memory of**

Leonard Weiser



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# Contributions to KJCC (cont.)

## Membership Renewal Contributions

### **Chai Lights Fund**

Peckman, Joyce  
Pollack, Linda  
Margulies, Jeffrey & Cheryl

### **Chai Lights New Year's Greeting**

Agler, Rich & Mindy  
Bofshever, Joel & Toby  
Boruszak, Joan  
Fishman, Eina  
Hayden, Elizabeth  
Kaplan, Sandy  
Margulies, Jeffrey & Cheryl  
Peckman, Joyce  
Rimm, Alfred & Sylvia  
Schur, Lee  
Shapiro, Libby  
Smith, Stuart & Geri  
Wohl, Joan

### **General Fund**

Bofshever, Joel & Toby  
Bolton, William & Donna  
Boruszak, Joan  
Brush, James  
Conklin, Wes & Rita  
Fishman, Eina  
Hartz, Steve & Jan  
Horowitz, Beth  
Kaplan, Sandra  
Margulies, Jeffrey & Cheryl  
Pollack, Linda  
Singer, Mary Lee  
Shapiro, Libby  
Smith, Stuart & Geri  
Wohl, Joan

### **Holocaust Education Fund**

Goldfinger, David & Toby  
Tallent, Lillian

### **Leaf on Tree of Life**

Schur, Lee

### **Library Fund**

Tallent, Lillian

### **Meditation Garden**

Agler, Rich & Mindy  
Conklin, Wes & Rita  
Horn, Susan  
Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

### **Rabbi & Cantor Fund**

Bofshever, Joel & Toby  
Bolton, William & Donna  
Brush, James  
Coltman, Barney  
Margulies, Jeffrey & Cheryl  
Peckman, Joyce  
Pollack, Linda  
Rose, Skip  
Smith, Stuart & Geri  
Steinbock, Stephen  
Temkin, Robert  
Wohl, Joan

### **Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedakah Fund**

Agler, Rich & Mindy

### **Scholarship Fund**

Tallent, Claire  
Tallent, Lillian

### **Siddur Book Plate**

Haviv, Leo

### **Tikkun Olam Fund**

Agler, Rich & Mindy  
Bofshever, Joel & Toby  
Rimm, Alfred & Sylvia  
Tallent, Lillian

# Contributions to KJCC (cont.)

## Membership Renewal Contributions

### Yizkor Book 5779

Agler, Rich & Mindy  
Bernard, Joel & Joan Stark  
Berman, Sylvia  
Bofshever, Joel & Toby  
Boruszak, Joan  
Calev, Barbara  
Cline, Meredith  
Coltman, Barney  
Conklin, Wes & Rita  
Cooper, Alan  
Cooper, Claire  
David, Hanna  
Fishman, Eina  
Garrettson, Marsha  
Goldfinger, David & Toby  
Gordon, Susan  
Greenbaum, Marilyn  
Hartz, Steve & Jan  
Harvey, Mitch & Linda Perloff  
Hayden, Elizabeth  
Horn, Susan

### Yizkor Book 5779

Itkin, Art  
Kaplan, Marshall & Myra  
Kaplan, Ron & Deborah  
Kaplan, Sandra  
Krissel, Michael  
Margulies, Jeffrey & Cheryl  
Peckman, Joyce  
Pollack, Linda  
Riley, Michelle  
Rose, Skip  
Schur, Lee  
Shapiro, Libby  
Singer, Mary Lee  
Smith, Stuart & Geri  
Steinbock, Stephen  
Swartz, George & Muriel  
Tallent, Lillian  
Temkin, Robert  
Willner, Sherrie  
Wohl, Joan  
Wolfe, Larry & Dorothy

## How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

**Yahrzeit Plaques:** KJCC has six special, Israeli-made boards in the sanctuary for yahrzeit memorial plaques. Each plaque is accompanied by its own light, which is switched on for both yahrzeit dates and on Yom Kippur; names are also read aloud in memory from the bemah each yahrzeit and published annually in our Yizkor Book. The cost for eternal synagogue memory is \$400.

**Book Plates:** We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the wonders that lie between these covers."

**Tree of Life Leaves:** We have three beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

**Garden Bricks:** \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing cheese blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate living tribute, with an outdoor plaque included in the price.

# *In Memoriam September 2018*

In Memory Of

**Harry Carman**

By Julia Berger



In Memory Of

**Goldie Berman**

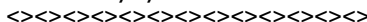
By Sylvia Berman



In Memory Of

**Stephen Berman**

By Sylvia Berman



In Memory Of

**Mae U. Stark**

By Joel Bernard & Joan Stark



In Memory Of

**Molly Feldblum**

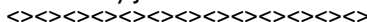
By Marc Bloom



In Memory Of

**Jim Boruszak**

By Joan Boruszak



In Memory Of

**Lillian Goldstein**

By Joan Boruszak



In Memory Of

**Sydney Edelman**

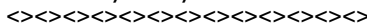
By Dale Chasteen



In Memory Of

**Ronald Repka**

By Nancy L. Cohn



In Memory Of

**Ida Hitzig**

By Wes & Rita Conklin



In Memory Of

**Abraham Kanowsky**

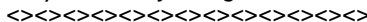
By Wes & Rita Conklin



In Memory Of

**Leo Rosenberg**

By Robert & Joni Sages Dandrea



In Memory Of

**Sadie Suchman**

By Foster Davidson



In Memory Of

**Albert Improta**

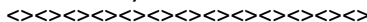
By Carol Field



In Memory Of

**Hannah Improta**

By Carol Field



In Memory Of

**Natalie Field**

By Carol Field



In Memory Of

**Nettie Gorson**

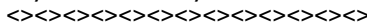
By Janice Gorson



In Memory Of

**Beverly Harvey**

By Mitchell Harvey & Linda Perloff



In Memory Of

**Leah Kamely**

By Yardena Kamely



In Memory Of

**Sadie Klimpl**

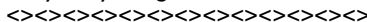
By Michael Klimpl



In Memory Of

**Sidney Blum**

By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum

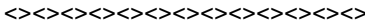


# In Memoriam September 2018

In Memory Of

**Rosie Kleinfeldt Blum Krilov**

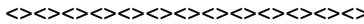
By Gary Margolis & Laurie Blum



In Memory Of

**Toby Mitchell**

By Linda Pollack



In Memory Of

**Melvin Richardson**

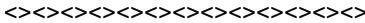
By Lori Richardson & George Smyth



In Memory Of

**Lorraine Martell**

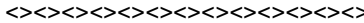
By Skip Rose



In Memory Of

**David Gulkis**

By Elaine Schulberg



In Memory Of

**David Schur**

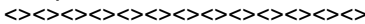
By Lee Schur



In Memory Of

**Max Rosenfeld**

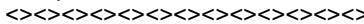
By Morton & Gene Silverman



In Memory Of

**Mollie Silverman**

By Morton & Gene Silverman



In Memory Of

**Solomon Felder**

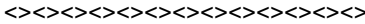
By Stuart & Geri Smith



In Memory Of

**Roger Starr**

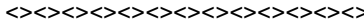
By Adam & Judy Starr



In Memory Of

**Saunders G. Cohen**

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg



In Memory Of

**Charlie Temkin**

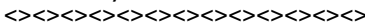
By Robert Temkin



In Memory Of

**Sarah Wernicoff**

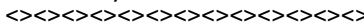
By Donald Zinner



In Memory Of

**Doran David Zinner**

By Donald Zinner



In Memory Of

**Molly Feldblum**

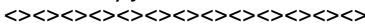
By Marc Bloom



In Memory Of

**Jim Boruszak**

By Joan Boruszak



In Memory Of

**Lillian Goldstein**

By Joan Boruszak



In Memory Of

**Ida Hitzig**

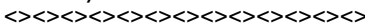
By Wes & Rita Conklin



In Memory Of

**Abraham Kanowsky**

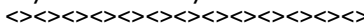
By Wes & Rita Conklin



In Memory Of

**Beverly Harvey**

By Mitchell Harvey & Linda Perloff



In Memory Of

**Leah Kamely**

By Yardena Kamely



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# World Jewish Report

## Medina Roy



### Five Jewish MLBers Homer on Same Day

June 8<sup>th</sup> was the most productive power day for Jewish batters in Major League Baseball history. Five members of the tribe combined for six home runs to help their respective teams to victory. Here's the scorecard:

Ryan Braun, "The Hebrew Hammer," and who played locally at the University of Miami, hit two home runs, driving in five runs to lead the Milwaukee Brewers to a 12-4 win over the Philadelphia Phillies – who have a Jewish manager in Gabe Kapler. Braun's first dinger was a three-run shot in the first inning. His second homer left Philadelphia's Citizens Bank Park with an exit velocity of 112.9 miles per hour, according to the new high-tech analytics. It's the hardest ball Braun has hit since they started measuring these things in 2015.

Kevin Pillar, the Toronto Blue Jays outfielder known mostly for his highlight-reel defensive skills, hit his sixth homer of the year in a 5-1 win over the Baltimore Orioles. Danny Valencia, the third baseman for the Os that night, was the only Jewish position player *not* to hit one out that day.

Alex Bregman hit his eighth home run, a solo shot, in the Houston Astros' 7-3 win over the Texas Rangers. The Astros selected his younger brother A.J. in the recent MLB draft, so it's conceivable they could become the first set of Jewish brothers on the same team since Norm and Larry Sherry on the Los Angeles Dodgers from 1959 to 1962.

Ian Kinsler's seventh homer was good for two runs and gave the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim the cushion they needed in their 4-2 win over the Minnesota Twins. (On July 31<sup>st</sup>, trade deadline day, he was traded to the Boston Red Sox.)

Finally, Dodger Joc Pederson launched lucky No. 7 – his sixth in June – as the Dodgers beat the Atlanta Braves, 7-3. Pederson had gained some national distinction last fall when he set a new record for homers by a Jew in a

World Series, connecting three times against the Houston Astros. That surpassed Detroit Tigers Hall of Famer Hank Greenberg, who clubbed two in the 1934 Fall Classic against the St. Louis Cardinals.

All told, Braun, Pillar, Bregman, Kinsler and Pederson accounted for 29 percent of their teams' RBIs that day. (It was a Friday, by the way, meaning that most of the games were played after the onset of Shabbat.)

And then, in this year's All-Star game at Washington's Nationals Park, a record ten home runs were hit by both teams, easily breaking the previous record of six. But the shot that won the game, in the tenth inning, was hit for the American League by the Astros' Alex Bregman, playing in his first All-Star game. Bregman was then named the game's most valuable player, the first Jewish player to win the award since its institution in 1962.

To give this a little historical perspective...

On May 23, 2002, former All-Star Shawn Green of the Dodgers hit four home runs – along with a double and single – in a 16-3 win over the Milwaukee Brewers. Fewer than 20 batters in baseball history (including the likes of Lou Gehrig and Willie Mays) have hit four in one game. Green also set a single-game record that day with 19 total bases.

On Aug. 20, 1938, Morrie Arnovich and Phil Weintraub of the Phillies hit home runs in an 8-7 win over the New York Giants. Harry Danning, the Giants catcher, also hit one out. According to the Jewish Major Leaguers 2009 card set, this marked the only time that three Jewish players accomplished the feat in the same game. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 6-12-18)

### It's Official: The First Kosher Cheeseburger

The "Impossible Burger," a meatless patty that tastes like real beef, has been certified both kosher and *pareve* by the Orthodox Un-

ion, the largest certification agency in the United States. And since the burgers are made without animal products, they can be eaten at the same time as cheese without violating the laws of *kashrut*. “Impossible Burgers” are made from wheat protein, potato protein, coconut oil and water – no hormones, cholesterol, artificial flavors or antibiotics. According to Impossible Foods, the company that makes these burger substitutes, the key ingredient is a protein called heme, which gives the product their meaty taste and texture. Heme is found in almost everything we eat, but especially in animal tissues. Scientists at the company discovered that it is the abundance of heme in animal tissue that makes meat taste like meat. The company then genetically engineered and fermented yeast to produce soy leghemoglobin, a heme protein. But there’s still one lingering question that requires an answer: What blessing do you say over a kosher, plant-based cheeseburger? ([www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com), 5-22-18)

### **Ginsburg Wins Lifetime Achievement Award**

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg received the inaugural Genesis Prize Foundation *Lifetime Achievement Award* held at the Rabin Center in Tel Aviv in early July. She earned the award for her “legendary advocacy on behalf of gender equality and the advancement of women.” Although there is no monetary payment for this award, the Genesis Foundation will commit some \$3 million in new investments in organizations working for women’s causes.

Ginsburg was selected for this inaugural award by the five previous Genesis Prize winners: former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg; actor and activist Michael Douglas; violinist Itzhak Perlman; sculptor and activist for the rights of refugees Sir Anish Kapoor and actress, director and native-born Israeli Natalie Portman. (Portman refused to attend the ceremony – which was then canceled – because she disagrees with the policies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.)

“I am a judge, born, raised and proud of being a Jew,” Ginsburg said. “The demand for justice, for peace and for enlightenment runs through the entirety of Jewish history and Jew-

ish tradition.” In 1971, Ginsburg co-founded the “Women’s Rights Project” of the American Civil Liberties Union. She was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Clinton in 1993. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 7-4-18)

### **They Tried, They Failed**

Cyber 2.0, an Israeli cyber security company, launched a unique competition in June: successfully hack into the company’s defense systems and win 100,000 shekels. (That amount of the Israeli currency is equal to about \$27,300.) The competition was open to hackers around the world. Hundreds participated, simultaneously launching more than one million attacks. Every one of them failed. To run the test, Cyber 2.0 opened up a computer network to simulate a commercial company whose only protection was their defense system. At the start of the competition, the hackers received a valid IP address within the network and included the administrator password of the computers. Cyber’s software and systems successfully blocked every one of the attacks – which included viruses, ransom attacks, trojan horses, information leakage and more. Hertzil Ozer, founder of Cyber 2.0, said that his company was the first to put its systems to such a test. And what makes the Cyber 2.0 system so much better? It operates on the basis of the mathematical principles of chaos. Other companies operate on biological models. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 6-6-18)

### **A Message From Above?**

A heavy stone recently fell out of the *kotel* (the Western Wall) in Jerusalem and came crashing down on the area set aside for egalitarian prayer. It fell just a few hours after hundreds of worshippers had been at the site to commemorate *Tisha B’Av*, the saddest day of the Jewish calendar that mourns the destruction of both Holy Temples along with other catastrophes in the history of the Jewish people. Daniella Goldberg, 79, was praying at the site when the stone fell (it fell about 23 feet), but was not injured. Israeli archaeologist Zachi Dvira says that the 2,000-year-old wall is badly in need of restoration and that the massive limestone blocks need to be reinforced. Some, however, saw theology and not erosion at work in the



near disaster. Dov Kalmanovich, deputy mayor of Jerusalem, blamed the activists who want men and women to be able to pray together at the Orthodox-controlled Wall. "The falling of one of the Western Wall stones, so close to *Tisha B'Av*, and exactly at the location of the controversial prayer area, should be a red light for us all," he said. "I suggest Reform leaders, Women of the Wall and the other quarrel-mongers examine themselves and not the Wall." Several religious news websites showed similar sentiments. The entire wall is now being inspected for other loose stones. The Israel Antiquities Authority, offering the scientific perspective, said the boulder may have been dislodged by erosion caused by vegetation or moisture. ([www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 7-23-18)

### In Memoriam

• Claude Lanzmann, the French filmmaker whose 1985 documentary "*Shoah*" changed the world's perception and awareness of the Holocaust, died in early July. He was 92. The 9½-hour film bore witness to the Holocaust through interviews with Jewish victims, Nazi murderers and Polish bystanders. The son of French Jews from Eastern Europe, Lanzmann and his two younger siblings were once taught to hide from the Gestapo in a hole their father dug in the garden. He and his younger brother later fought in the resistance. After the war, he studied philosophy in Paris at the Sorbonne and then moved to Germany, where he taught literature and became a journalist. It took Lanzmann eleven years to make "*Shoah*," five of which he spent in the editing room. "When I broke down in tears," he said describing the editing process, "I knew the scene was good." Movie critic Roger Ebert wrote, "There is no proper response to this film. It is an enormous fact, a 550-minute howl of pain and anger in the face of genocide. It is one of the noblest films ever made...It is not a documentary, not journalism, not propaganda, not political. It is an act of witness." Lanzmann was not the first filmmaker to chronicle the Holocaust, but he realized that what was missing from other films was the focus on death itself rather than survival: "...death...from which no one had returned to report." Lanzmann searched obsessively for

witnesses, tracking down some of the former *sonderkommandos* (groups of Jewish prisoners who were forced, on threat of their own deaths, to dispose of those who died in the gas chambers). He especially wanted to interview former Nazis, yet in the beginning was unsuccessful in doing so after telling them who he was and what he was doing. So he began using a fake name, telling his Nazi subjects that he was an academic scholar conducting research, concealing his microphone and his video camera. Holocaust films of all genres changed after "*Shoah*" by focusing on survivor testimony, which at the time was unprecedented. In 2011, Lanzmann received the French *Legion of Honor*, his country's highest distinction of merit. In 2013, his documentary film "*The Last of the Unjust*" was released. It is based on interviews Lanzmann conducted in 1975 with Benjamin Murmelstein, the only surviving president of the Jewish Council in the Theresienstadt concentration camp. ([www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com), 7-5-18)

### Did You Know...

• For the first time ever, Mexico City – the largest city in North America – recently elected a Jewish woman as its mayor. Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo, 55, is the granddaughter of Jewish immigrants from Lithuania and Bulgaria. She is a scientist, with doctorates in engineering and physics. Previously, she served as Mexico's secretary of the environment. Mexico City is home to some 50,000 Jews. ([www.jta.org](http://www.jta.org), 7-2-18)

• Elisheva Baumel lives in *Givat Ze'ev*, a neighborhood in Jerusalem. She gave birth to her 10<sup>th</sup> child shortly after her son's wife Leah gave birth in the same ward at Hadassah *Har Hatzofim* hospital. Leah's new baby is Elisheva's first grandchild. (And, yes, that does make her son's child older than its aunt or uncle.) ([www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com), 7-13-18)

• The search-and-rescue teams who worked to save twelve boys and their coach trapped in a cave in Thailand in early July relied on advanced communications systems donated by Israeli company MaxTech Networks. The technology facilitates communication in areas without reception. Ordinarily, MaxTech Networks systems cost upwards of \$100,000. ([www.israelhayom.com](http://www.israelhayom.com), 7-3-18) ◇

# S'lichot

## Pizza, Popcorn, and Redemption

Before High Holidays comes Elul,  
a month of t'shuvah, returning, atonement, and asking for Divine mercy.

Some synagogues blow the shofar each day and read Psalm 27,  
asking God to "hear our voices and be gracious unto us."

S'lichot prayers for forgiveness on the Saturday before Rosh HaShanah  
are the culmination of Elul's spiritual self-examination.

**Saturday, September 1, 2018**

6:00 p.m. S'lichot Service to be led by Beth Hayden

6:30 p.m. Pizza and Salad followed by a movie



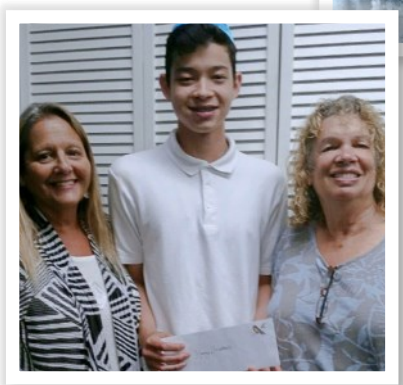
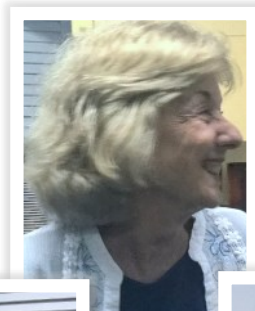
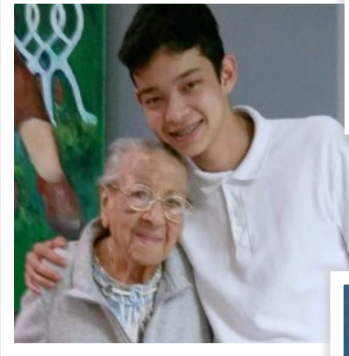
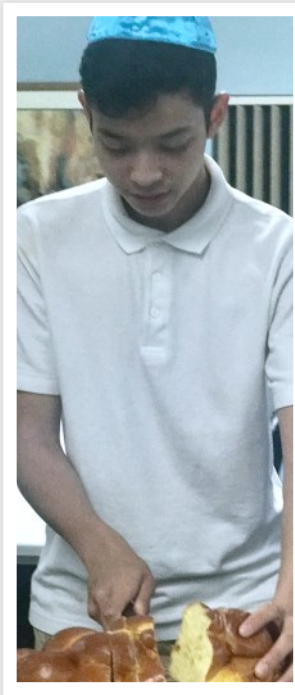
A Hologram for the King is a 2016 comedy-drama  
film starring Tom Hanks as a washed-up corporate  
salesman, who goes to Saudi Arabia to propose a  
business deal.

rsvp to Linda Pollack  
lindap4000@ymail.com  
(so we know how much pizza to get)

Sponsored evening - No charge

# Photo Gallery

All the photos on this page were taken at the May 25th oneg, sponsored by Medina Roy in honor of her mother Bianka's 103rd birthday. (She's actually two months older than Pauline.) As you can see, Harry Friedman (who didn't always seem so tall) was there, to receive his KJCC college scholarship. It was also a special treat to see Wolf and Nancy (b'rai parie hagofen), below right.





**These photos are from the June 1st oneg, co-sponsored by Erica Lieberman-Garrett and Jane Friedman. (Make a note to make a note when Jane is sponsoring an oneg...the food is always fresh and wholesome and yummy.) Some quick math says that, at photo time, Pauline and Sean were a total of 106 years old. (Both have since had birthdays.)**



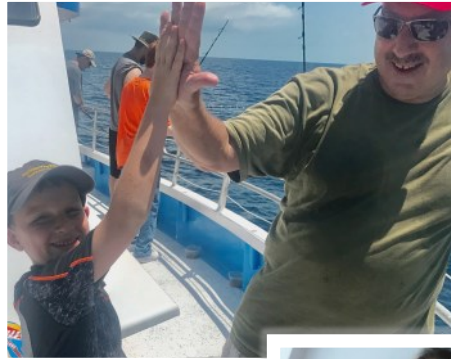
This page features photos from the annual end-of-season luncheon held by Sisterhood on June 3rd. This year's venue was the Bayside Grill. It was also a celebration of Donna Bolton's birthday. Gloria hand-drew the card (lower left) and Susan happily delivered the birthday cake. (Good thing the fire marshall wasn't there.) Note the queen-for-a-day tiara. At bottom, Terry Willner-Tainow's granddaughter helped blow out the candles.





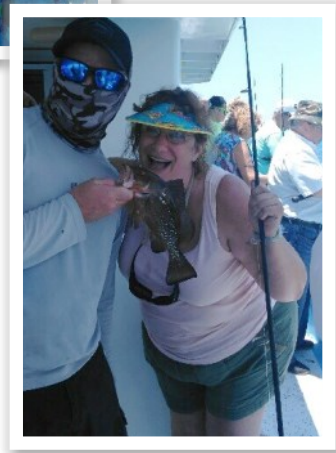
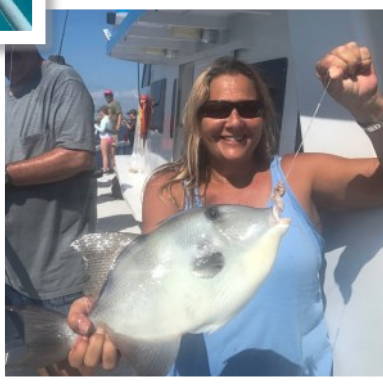
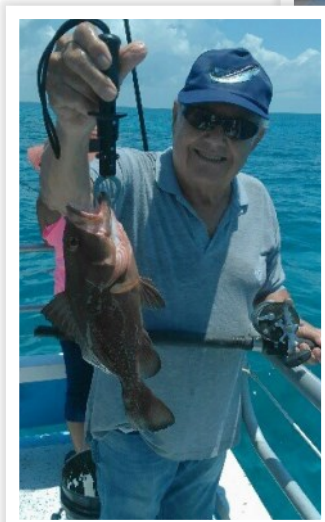
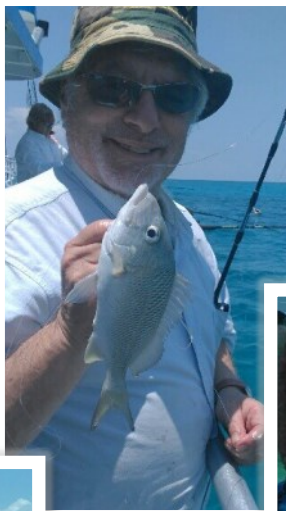


There's been lots of talk for a long time about a KJCC fishing outing, and, under the guidance of Mitch Harvey's Activities Committee, it finally happened on June 6th. Everyone, they report, caught something, though we all know what they say about fish stories...



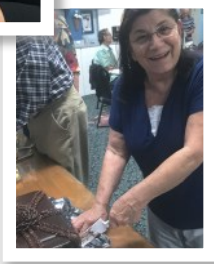
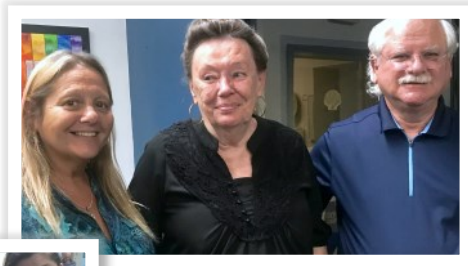


...and more photos from the June 6th fishing trip. Those reading the online color version of this issue will be impressed at the creative angling of Jane Friedman, at right, who cleverly managed to catch a fish the same color as her tank top.





The top three photos were all taken at the oneg after the service on Friday, June 8th. As you can see by the photo of her happily cutting the cake, it was sponsored by Donna and Bill Bolton in honor of their birthdays.



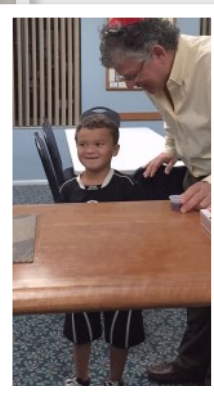
The photo above was taken at the July 13th oneg, sponsored by Joyce Peckman in honor of her birthday.



The photo just above of the Blooms was taken on July 27th. Marc sponsored the oneg, celebrating his and daughters Rachael (the same day) and Molly's (three days later) birthdays. Maddie loved the triple celebration.

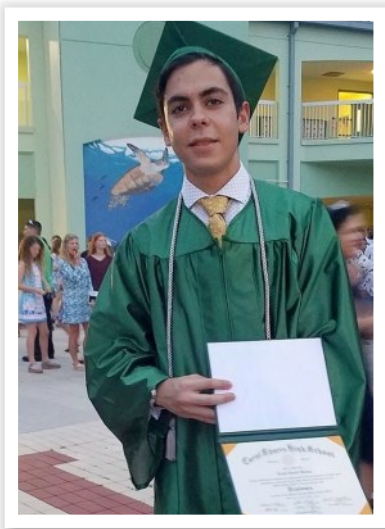


The two photos below right are from the August 3rd oneg, sponsored by Michael and Lorena Kaufman in honor of Sean's fifth birthday. The cake's decoration was a Spider-man head; Sean figured out how to make the eyes light up.





One of the few places Jules and Nettie Seder had never been was to Ireland. So that's where they went this summer. Yes, that's a statue of Charlie Chaplin, who wasn't Irish. (It's a long story.) And, yes, that's a lamb that Nettie is holding...

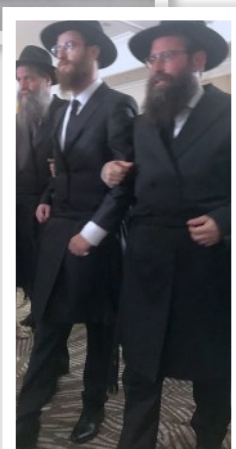


Harry Friedman wasn't the only KJCC alumnus to graduate High School this year. Noah Bitton is shown above at his Coral Shores ceremony and with his certificate.



Our garden has a new tree, sponsored by Joe and Kathy Shabathai in memory of Joe's dad Jacob, who lived in Switzerland and never visited KJCC, but is now forever one of us.

All these photos are from the June 12th wedding of the eldest daughter of Key West Chabad rabbi Yaakov Zucker, a friend and mentor to a number of KJCC members, who all attended the wedding. (Actually, it was through Rabbi Zucker that Mitch Harvey and Linda Perloff met, and he officiated at their wedding.) The groom was also from a rabbinic family.





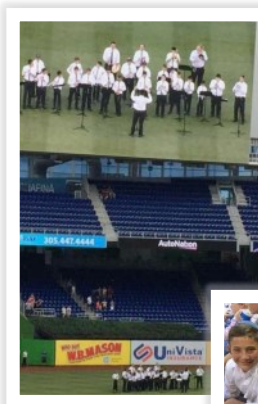


The extended Avner family met in Lincoln Park, Chicago this summer to do a run to raise medical care funds for one of the family's youngest, Charlie. Each is wearing sunglasses with Charlie's picture on the lenses. Below, brother Mark visited Gloria in Maine in July.

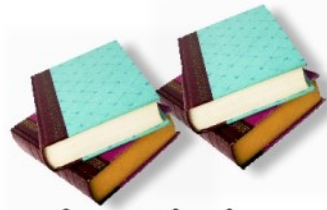
Joyce Peckman, below right, celebrating her July 9th birthday at the New Jersey home of son Keith and the twins.



Joyce is also pictured at bottom enjoying a summer Marlins game with other son Daniel and family. Grandson Yosef had performed the National Anthem along with the rest of his school band.



Susan Gordon, in Tennessee, holds newest grandson Hank in early August. Both he and Mom (and daughter) Rose Marie are doing fine.

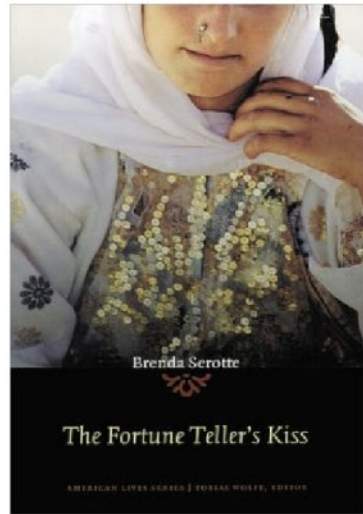


## Sisterhood Book Club

Monday  
September 24, 2018  
Noon

**Marker 88**  
**88000 Overseas Highway**  
**Islamorada - Bayside MM 88**

**The Fortune Teller's Kiss**  
**by Brenda Serotte**



There was always the incantation: "Whoever wishes you harm, may harm come to them!" And just in case that didn't work, there were garlic and cloves to repel the Evil Eye—or, better yet, the dried foreskin from a baby boy's circumcision, ground to a fine powder. But whatever precautions Brenda Serotte was subjected to, they were not enough. Shortly before her eighth birthday, in the fall of 1954, she came down with polio—painfully singled out in a world already marked by differences. Her bout with the dreaded disease is at the heart of this poignant and heartbreakingly hilarious memoir of growing up a Sephardic Jew among Ashkenazi neighbors in the Bronx.

**RSVP and more information - Randi Grant**  
**rkgcpa@bellsouth.net 954-383-4320**



# How I Spent My Summer Vacation



The two photos at top show Steve both before and after a performance with the Coronation Brass Band (from Wales) at the Europaisches Folklore Festival in Bitburg, Germany. At bottom, in a Vienna rathskeller listening to Thomas Gansch, renowned trumpet master and newly minted teacher, with whom Steve spent several weeks studying in Vienna at the beginning of his trip.



by Steve Smith

Last fall I received an e-mail inviting me to reunite with the Vienna Klezmer Orchestra and Vienna Jewish Choir to play in several concerts this summer in L'Viv, Ukraine at the combined "L'Viv KlezFest meets European Jewish Choir Festival." This set off a chain reaction of events that thus far has immersed Barbara and me in a very memorable summer vacation that will last nearly three months. Initially we left the Keys on May 25<sup>th</sup> and landed in Vienna, Austria. Prior to the June concerts in L'Viv, I rehearsed with the Vienna Klezmer Orchestra and started a series of trumpet lessons at Vienna's Jam Music Lab, a private music university, with Thomas Gansch. Mr. Gansch is widely considered one of the world's premier trumpet players and musicians. I had noticed online that he had just affiliated with the school and was taking demo tape applications from potential students. I

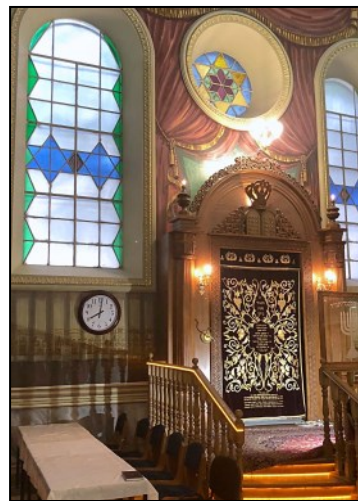
nervously sent in my demo, thinking that a surgeon who recently took up the trumpet again after forty years wouldn't have a chance.



But he accepted me! This series of weekly two-hour lessons lasted until mid July. This also opened the opportunity to see Mr. Gansch perform in three very different venues and styles, which reinforced to me that he is the best of the best.

Participating in the KlezFest from June 6-10 was very special to me. L'Viv

**In the photo at left, Steve as second trumpet with the Vienna Klezmer Orchestra during a series of concerts in L'viv, Ukraine. At right, Beis Aharon V'Yisrael, the one L'viv synagogue re-opened in Ukraine after the fall of the Soviet Union. The center photo is a memorial at Prague's Terezin Concentration Camp.**



was historically in the epicenter of the development of Klezmer Music. In addition, the International Festival of Jewish Music, aka "L'viv KlezFest," for ten years in a row has been contributing to the revival of Jewish culture (once vibrant and richly varied) in the area. It also has helped expand the development of L'viv, the Ukrainian Galician multicultural capital. This year's festival also celebrated the State of Israel's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the All-Ukrainian Jewish Charitable Foundation.

L'viv, also known as Lemberg (German) or Lvov (Polish), depending on which country or empire was historically controlling the region prior to World War II, was established in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century. Jewish merchants and traders have been living there from that time. In spite of many pogroms over many centuries, including the 20<sup>th</sup> century, L'viv had a Jewish population of 150,000 leading up to World War II. Only 2,500 Jews survived the war. At the end of 1945 around 250 Jews remained in the city. The remainder of the survivors immigrated to Israel or the United States. Under Soviet rule, Jews from around the Ukraine gravitated to L'viv. But the Soviets forced closure of the remaining synagogue, snuffing out any open semblance of Jewish life and culture.

At the end of the 1990s, when Ukraine became independent, Jews began to organize once again and reopened one synagogue, Beis Aharon V'Yisrael, which was Orthodox. During the war its building had been used as a horse stable, and after Ukraine fell under Soviet rule it was used as storage area up until Ukrainian independence. For the last 25 years the reestablished synagogue has been led by Rabbi Mordechai Shlomo Bald of Brooklyn, N.Y. Of interest, the night we attended Friday night services and dinner at the synagogue, Rabbi Bald announced that his wife had entered the hospital as an emergency and he asked us to pray for her. A few days later, when we met the Rabbi's daughter at one of our concerts, we found out that her mother was in fact back in Brooklyn; she had given birth, slightly prematurely, shortly after her Transatlantic flight arrived, though mother and their 16<sup>th</sup> child, a girl, were both doing well.

The Jakob Glanzer Shul, built in 1844, is also open in L'viv and serves as a Jewish cultural center.

It should be noted that there are currently about 3,000 Jews in the area of L'viv. Most of those came into the area from Russia and most do not actively practice the religion. But there's definitely a Jewish pulse.



The photos left and below show Steve in performance with the Coronation Brass Band in Bitburg, Germany, after returning from Ukraine. The plaque at right is in Segovia, Spain, once a thriving center of Sephardic culture and learning. As you can see, it announces the old Jewish Quarter, where many lived until the edict of expulsion in 1492.



After our return from L'viv to Vienna, my lessons continued and travel opportunities opened up to see various areas of Austria, including Salzburg, Melk (on the Danube, site of a famous and massive Benedictine monastery, begun in the 11<sup>th</sup> century), and others. We also traveled to Italy, including Venice and Rome. In addition we went to Prague and visited the Terezin Camp (Theresienstadt), the ghetto/concentration camp, where most of the Jews from Czechoslovakia (including Susica, the original home of KJCC's Holocaust Torah) were sent before transfer to the death camps. Lastly we traveled to Germany, including Bitburg (first settled some 2,000 years ago), Munich, and the small Bavarian town of Erding. While traveling I sat in with a "Big Band" from outside of Vienna and played nine concerts. I also played cornet with the "Coronation Brass Band," a British brass band from Wales at the "Europaisches Folklore - Festival" in Bitburg, Germany from July 6-9.

In mid-July, when my lessons ended, Barbara and I headed for Spain and Portugal where

(as I write) we are finishing a two-week tour of this area. Every city on the tour has an "Old Jewish Quarter," aka "Barrio Judio," that has not had a single Jew living in them since the fifteenth century Spanish Inquisition. At that time Jews had three choices - convert to Christianity, leave Spain, or be killed. Today in Segovia, Spain, in the Jewish Quarter, one can see the old synagogue, which was converted to a convent and has remained that way for many centuries. There is also a restaurant called "La Juderia," which is an Indian/Pakistani tapas restaurant. Similar findings are seen in the Jewish Quarters of the other Iberian cities we have seen.

As I complete this summary of "How I Spent My Summer Vacation," we are heading to Valencia, Spain and then on to Barcelona. Following that we extend our vacation on a Mediterranean Cruise and land tour of Italy's legendary Tuscany region for two and a half weeks. Then, alas, back to the Keys to return to work on September 1<sup>st</sup> in order to pay for this incredible summer of memories! ♦





Keys Jewish Community Center  
Sisterhood

**Yom Kippur**  
**Break Fast**

**Wednesday, September 19, 2018**

**Dairy Dinner  
after the Havdalah service  
at Yom Kippur's end**

**We welcome your home cooked dairy dish, prepared  
with love, to share with your KJCC Mishpacha**

**Please Contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett  
hippiejap@hotmail.com  
(305) 393-1162**

**to coordinate your dish and to reserve your space.**

**RSVP: by September 14th  
Sponsored by the KJCC Sisterhood  
No Charge - Donations welcome**

# *Shabbabaque 2018*

## *A Night of Celebration*



**M***any voices, hands and hearts made our Shabbabaque the seam-bursting success it was. The biggest kudos go to Donna Bolton, planner and organizer extraordinaire. Thanks go, too, to Marc Bloom and Jane Friedman, our shoppers, to the set-up teams, the grillers, folks from afar and all celebrants who came to honor Pauline Roller on her 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday, plus all those who later packed the Margulies Sanctuary for services. Enjoy this small selection of tributes and reflections along with the photos.*





**Donna Bolton:**

Our annual Shabbabaque was held on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the KJCC. We gathered to celebrate Pauline Roller's 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday. There were 100 people and Luigi in attendance. It was so crowded that we had to set up two tables in the hallway.

Pauline had family come to visit for a week and attend the party. Sylvia Murphy, our county commissioner, other locals in the community, friends and staff from her assisted living home attended the party also.

Carla and her crew were in the kitchen making sure that it all ran smoothly. The only mishap was that the grill decided not to work. Steve Hartz and Bernie had to dash out to Ace Hardware in Tavernier to buy a new grill. So dinner got started late. It seemed like everyone was having a great time, so no one truly worried about the delay.

There was so much food that it took four tables for the side

dishes alone. Hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers and condiments went on the long counter. Dessert was on its own table. We had a wonderful birthday cake for Pauline.

Good food, good time and good company were had by all.

**Barbara Bernstein:**

All my memories of Pauline are from KJCC activities, especially functions when a dinner was involved and Pauline's kugel was the coveted dish on the buffet! Pauline was always in the kitchen. The KJCC kitchen is her kitchen!

Chanukah was extra special with Pauline. For many years, when the KJCC children were younger, we would bring our menorahs and candles over to her house. The glow actually was a blaze of smiles *and* candles. Now my feeling is that we all want to protect Pauline and cherish her while we can! Just to sit next to her and hold her hand evokes one word for me ... love.





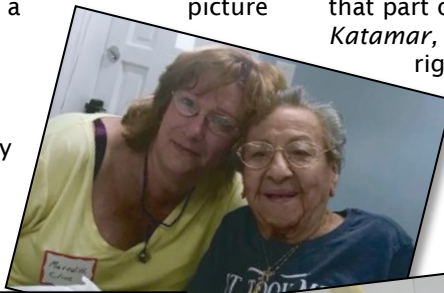


**Linda Pollack:**

There is so much to say about Pauline. Let's not forget that she was our Woman of the Year at the 2010 Woman's Seder, the same year that she was made an official U.S. citizen, thanks to the friends who helped her get her Rumanian birth certificate. She loved to dance at every KJCC event and was good at it. Her face still lights up when she talks about dancing with her husband Al. Her face was well-lit from within on Shabbabeque night...from happiness, I think.

**Barbara Knowles:**

I know this is strange but I was asked by Pauline's niece to take a picture of Pauline's bedazzled butt before they left. Pauline had quite a sense of humor about it. She looked so pretty and very happy in the photos that night.



**Steve Hartz:**

After the gourmet barbeque dinner, services commenced with the enthusiastic singing of Psalm 126 and the recitation of *Birkat HaMazon*, the traditional grace after meals. In honor of Independence Day, congregants pledged allegiance to the flag. Then the service continued on its traditional course, save for the festive chanting of *Kaddish Shalem* in honor of Pauline's birthday using a 19<sup>th</sup> century Hassidic melody popularized by the famed early 20<sup>th</sup> century cantor Yossele Rosenblatt. I gave a brief *Dvar Torah* on Parasha Pinchas, drawing various parallels to the life of Pauline Roller and led the congregation in the chanting of that part of Psalm 92 known as *Tzadik Katamar*, emphasizing that even in old age the righteous retain their vigor, like date

palms and the cedars of Lebanon, planted in the house of the Lord and proclaiming that the Lord is just.



## Shabbabaque (cont.) ...

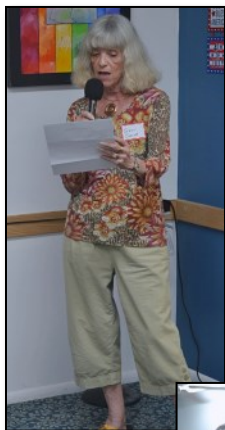
*Geri Smith (shown at immediate right) wrote and performed a special song for Pauline's special birthday...*

**One hundred and three,  
How can that be?  
You look no more than 94...  
Get a look at our Pauline tonight.**

**Her speech is clear,  
Her vision's fair,  
But watch your words  
'cause she can hear.  
Get a look at our Pauline tonight.**

**She doesn't hide in a corner,  
With friends she likes to be.  
So on Friday nights  
she can be found  
At our beloved KJCC.**

**So give a cheer,  
Or two or three,  
'Cause our Pauline's 103.  
And we are blessed to share  
her joy tonight!**





# Reflections on My Birthright Trip to Israel

by Molly Bloom

**“What are your expectations for your Birthright trip?” This was the first question I was asked in my interview for my recent trip to Israel, and I was stumped.**

I originally chose to go on the Birthright trip because it was something my mother had always wanted me to do. When my mother passed away, I knew that the trip was what

I needed to get back in touch with life again. I was always a little hesitant to travel by myself with a group of strangers. What I didn't know is that those strangers would become my *mishpocha* in just ten short days.

I could write a book about my trip, but instead I am going to share

a few of its impactful parts with you. My first day in Israel we visited the small town of Tzfat, widely known as one of the most spir-



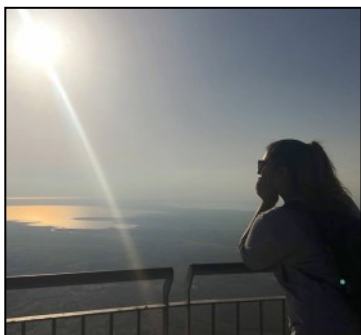
itual towns in the country. While in Tzfat we met a kind man named Abraham, who invited us into his art gallery to tell his story of how he became a permanent resident and eventually raised a beautiful family there. Abraham's art is tied to the Kabbalah, and each one of his pieces has spiritual reasoning behind it. Hearing Abraham talk about what the town of Tzfat has done for him, his family, and many others moved me to tears. For the first time in many years I felt a spir-



**Abraham and his Kabbalah-inspired artwork at his gallery in Tzfat, where Isaac Luria introduced Kabbalah study in the 16th century.**

itual presence around me. That's when I knew that Israel was not just a trip to honor my mom, but was actually a spiritual journey for me.

The next few days we traveled all over Israel, visited the Gaza border, hiked Mt. Masada at sunrise, swam (more like floated) in the Dead Sea, visited Yad Vashem, slept in a tent in the Negev Desert, spent Shabbat in



Jerusalem, visited the Western Wall, and so much more. Had it not been for our amazing tour guide Elchi, I do not think this trip would have changed me the way it

did. The night we spent in the Negev Desert, Elchi had us take 15 minutes to ourselves to meditate. I used this time to think about responding to a letter my mother wrote to me before she died. Thinking about what I wanted to say back was the most powerful 15 minutes of my life. I took the letter that I wrote and a few days later inserted it in the Western Wall for my mom. At that very moment, I knew that this trip changed my life forever.

Most of the experiences from my trip became extremely personal for me. I hope to continue to follow my spiritual faith as well as keep in touch with my inner self as I go back to my everyday life. I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to travel in Israel with 44 amazing people. Every single person I have encountered has made an everlasting impact on my life, and it is safe to say that I left a piece of my heart in Israel. ◊



**At left, sunrise at Masada and thinking about her mom. At top, atop Ein Avdat in the Negev, the climb to which included ladders and her first-ever panic attack. Center, floating in the Dead Sea. At bottom, on a graffiti tour of Tel Aviv.**

# Keeping (Our Holocaust Torah) Kosher

## *An Incredible, Serendipitous Day Witnessing the Holy, Ancient Jewish Art of Scribing*



by Gloria Avner

When a *sofer* (the Hebrew word for scribe) touches a *Torah*, whether to scrape off crumbling letters and repair them or to pen wholly new ones, it is an extended moment of intimacy. Laymen who handle Torahs are cautioned to wear gloves, to protect the Torah from even freshly scrubbed hands. Sofers want to have every sense fully alert because to them a Torah is a spiritual and living thing. So when they go to work there are no plastic or rubber gloves between artist's hands and parchment.

When Rabbi Menachem Bialo, master scribe and grandson-in-law of Sofer-on-Site founder Rabbi Gedaliah Druin, spread his tools carefully on one of the white tables in our school-room early in June, it was hard to avoid mental comparisons to an operating room. The patient, our Holocaust Torah – originally from the community of Susice, a small village then in southwestern Bohemia and now in today's Czech Republic, on permanent loan to us from

London's Westminster Synagogue, where it had first been restored along with hundreds of others, after World War II had made all of them desecrated and despised orphans – lay exposed, its full 80-foot length totally unrolled in careful, ribbon-like looping layers over a 24 ft. length of tables, awaiting expert inspection.

Had the work we had commissioned Sofer-On-Site to do two and a half years ago, and celebrated with a major fund-raising event, held up well enough to maintain its kosher status? What kind of repairs might be needed, and could they be done at KJCC instead of having to go back to the lab-like conditions at the scribal mother ship?

About to embark on step two in a Torah Maintenance Program (you may have helped with step one, unrolling the Torah to air it out as we'd been instructed to do by the *soferim*), those were the questions in our heads before Rabbi Bialo arrived. Three of us there (along with Gene Silverman) had taken our Torah to





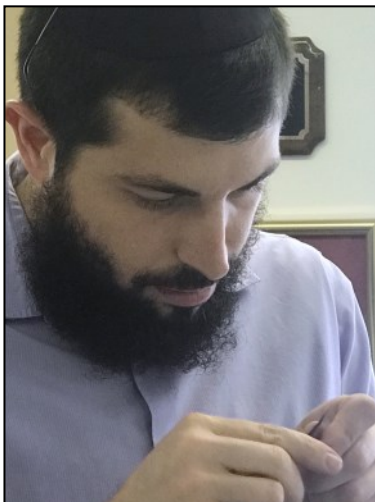
Miami for the initial exam three years ago – Bernie Ginsberg, Sam Vinicur, and myself. Beth Hayden, Rabbi Agler, and Joyce Peckman joined us to welcome Rabbi Bialo to KJCC and observe the process by which we would learn the answers. I thought this would be a two- to three-hour exercise. I was wrong. And we learned so very much more than the answers to our original questions.

First our *sofer* asked for hot water, intensely hot. The turkey feather whose quill he would be cutting and shaping with an *exacto* knife (probably the only tool not exactly identical to those used by scribes writing and repairing Torahs for millennia) needed to be just the right degree of softness for the precise line work and proper ink flow that would be asked of it. (Bernie's great-grandfather had been a *sofer* and had explained to him how the ink was made, with the smoke from a candle, lampblack, and residue scraped from the glass holder.) Then there was warm-up practice, making horizontal and vertical strokes on a small scrap of parchment. Now came the real work, the inspection, column-by-column, line by line, word by word, looking at all the repaired letters, sometimes as many as 400 per column, to see how they were holding up and

whether they needed fixing. (For those, like us, who had only a wild guess as to the total volume of letters in a Torah, it's well over 300,000.)

Sometimes the need for a repair was obvious. There was one *Shin* that was completely missing its middle vertical (making it look sort of like the U in the University of Miami logo). That vertical had to be added. The Torah's very first letter, the big *Bet* in *B'reishit*, had an extra mark at its base that needed to be erased. In one place, what should have been a *gimmel* looked like a *nun*; if uncorrected the verse's meaning, not to mention the Torah's sacred message, would be completely changed. (Just think of the letters on a *dreidel*; in the game we play, the difference between *nun* and *gimmel* is the difference between winning nothing and gaining everything.) There was lettering, scraping (very careful scraping, since too much degrades the surface of the parchment) and erasing to be done. Eighty running feet of cowhide parchment and hundreds of thousands of letters needed close inspection.

All through the Torah we've noticed spots and larger areas that are mildly discolored. We'd been told that these are usually either



**At left, Rabbi Menachem Bialo sharpens his turkey quill (the exact same way it's been done for thousands of years, only now with an exacto knife) in preparation for inking. The photo above right will surprise no one who sees Bernie regularly at KJCC. At any moment something will stimulate a memory or pose a question and he'll sit with a book to study. It was a treat and a privilege just to listen to Rabbis Bialo and Agler talk casually about the Torah.**



variations in the animal skin or telltale signs of aging. But Rabbi Bialo told us that the discolorations are often a result of careless or shoddy work by inexperienced or disinterested sofers, who try to speed up the process of cleaning by using solvents. He clearly did not approve of those using solvents. So what's the correct way to clean the parchment? Sometimes they can use a type of gum eraser, which is time-consuming. More difficult areas must be scraped, but that requires extreme care and is more than four times as time-consuming. And then there is the tension of not knowing whether ink will "fuzz" if the scraping has gone down too deeply.

As we watched Rabbi Bialo work (a process that might sound dull but wasn't at all), we occasionally asked questions. He was patient and always eager to teach. What, one of us asked, was the significance of the letter crowns that appeared throughout the Torah?

left-handed *soferim*. He laughed and said it was a distinct advantage being left-handed, since that way you were never dragging your hand over letters you'd just written. We talked about special sections of the Torah, where text is put into particular designs, such as for Miriam's Song of the Sea. We talked about the positioning of the two end posts, and different ways that are used to assure that when the Torahs are closed they can still stand up straight in the Ark.

Rabbi Bialo is an artist as well as a scribe, one of the fewer than 200 in the whole world who have mastered the 36 different styles of calligraphy that allow him to perfectly match

the lettering on any Torah. He worked steadily at KJCC for seven hours, from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., answering our questions and focusing on the work he loves almost as much as his family. He says that the first few years after initial repair are the most important in maintaining a Torah's "kashrut," or kosher, status, since that is when you can see how well the letters are holding up and catch anything that might have been missed.

Rabbi Bialo encouraged us to put a fan in our safe and to air out our Holocaust Torah regularly. We will take his suggestions and are grateful that, should we contract for the next two years of inspection, he promises to be the *sofer* who will come and make the repairs. If you missed the opportunity to see and learn

from this experience, you may well want to come when we do this again next year. All are welcome. It is a fascinating, educational, and moving experience.

Soon, sitting in services for High Holy Days, we will be reading from *B'reishit* in our Holocaust Torah. As we prepare to correct bad behaviors in 5779, working to become our better selves over the period from the month of Elul through the Ten Days of Awe, I can't help thinking we have the potential to be scribes of our own character - inspecting, erasing, clarifying, reconstructing both our attitudes and behaviors. May the Holy One take note of our efforts and inscribe us all in the Book of Life, for a good and sweet year.

*L'Shanah tovah u'metukah.* ◊

## The Making of a Sofer: *From Doodling to a Labor of Love*

by Rabbi Menachem Bialo

**I**t was about 18 years ago that I was in school and drawing on a piece of paper - just doodling during class and drawing the Hebrew letters. I'm a bit of an artist and I draw lots of things, but what I was drawing then were these letters. A friend of mine saw them and asked me "are you a sofer? Those are beautiful letters." I said no, I'm not a scribe, but how cool would that be. So my friend says, "hey, I have a friend who lives near me, in my neighborhood, someone who is a sofer. Maybe he would teach you if you ask him. Do you want to meet him?" So I say sure, and a few weeks later, on a Friday, I go with him. I visit this man's house. His name was Moshe Druin. I was introduced and I said I would like to learn to be a sofer, a scribe, and what would I have to do to become one? So he gave me some books. I would have to learn 5,000 laws. He gave me a feather, a piece of parchment, and some ink; he showed me how to practice and what I would have to do. So during the school year I practiced in my free time and when it came to the summer, instead of going to camp, I learned how to become a sofer and the following seven years I did that every summer. Eventually, I got my master scribe *smicha* certificate to become a sofer. And that's what I've been doing ever since. (I also married Rabbi Druin's oldest daughter, so we're now all family.)

One of the reasons I love what I do is I don't have to go to work. That's always a plus. Being a sofer is a passion of mine. It's always great to be the one responsible for taking care of God's holiest treasure, which would be the Torah. The Torah belongs to the Jewish people and I love connecting to people and showing them the connection we have to the Torah, and ultimately, to God. The Torah is the blueprint for our lives and, if we follow it, we'll live a fruitful life. It's a joy for me to visit Jewish communities around the world and teach the wonders of Torah.

# The L'Shanah Tovah Page

The KJCC family, from here in the Keys and across the country,  
 send their wishes for the best possible New Year.  
 Here's to a happy, healthy and prosperous 5779.

<p>Shana Tovah        To our KJCC family  <i>Mindy &amp; Rich Agler</i></p>	<p>Missing you,        My KJCC family.        Wishing you a year of        joy and good health.        Love, <i>Gloria Avner</i></p>	<p><i>Toby &amp; Joel Bofshever</i>        wish our family at the        KJCC a Happy        New Year.</p>
<p>To my KJCC        family, may you        go forward with        health &amp; peace.  <i>Joan Boruszak</i></p>	<p>Shana Tovah.  <i>Dr. Eina Fishman</i>        and Family.</p>	<p>Shanah Tovah        M'tukah        Umvurechet.  <i>Beth Hayden</i></p>
<p>L'Shana Tovah.        Best wishes for a happy,        healthy 5779.  <i>Sandy Kaplan</i></p>	<p>Wishing our friends a happy        and healthy New Year.  <i>Jeff &amp; Cheryl Margulies</i></p>	<p>Wishing you a        year of joy, health        and friendship.  <i>Joyce Peckman</i></p>
<p>A happy, healthy year        to our friends and family.  <i>The Rimms</i></p>	<p>To my dear friends,        missing you.        Happy, healthy 5779.  <i>Lee Schur</i></p>	<p>To my dear KJCC friends,        A happy and healthy 5779.  <i>Libby Shapiro</i></p>
<p><i>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Bob Sherman</i>        wish all our friends a happy &amp;        healthy New Year.</p>	<p>To our KJCC family from  <i>Geri and Stuart Smith</i>        – Happy New Year.</p>	<p>Shanah Tovah        To my dear friends        at the KJCC.  <i>Joan Wohl</i></p>



# KEYS JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

## SISTERHOOD SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

**ONEG \$60**

**SHABBAT DINNER \$300**

**YOUR ONEG OR DINNER SPONSORSHIP WILL BE  
PUBLISHED IN CHAI-LIGHTS AND KJCC EMAILS  
AND ANNOUNCED FROM THE BEMA.**

Honor a loved one or celebrate a special event such as a  
yahrzeit, birthday, anniversary, new baby, graduation,  
bar/bat mitzvah, safe return or any other occasion of your  
choice.

For Onegs, Sisterhood will purchase challah, wine, coffee/  
tea/soft drinks. Desserts may be provided by Sisterhood or by  
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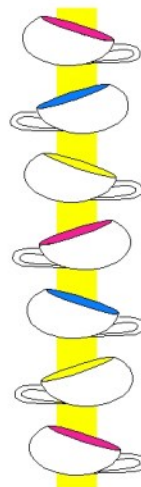
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# Birthright Journey Underwater

*Helping  
Connect  
Jewish Youth  
to Israel and  
Tikkun HaYam*

*by Shayna Cohen  
Scubi Jew Program Coordinator*

**To go on Israel Underwater Birthright is to constantly be so full of life that you physically cannot keep it inside yourself.**

Excitement will bubble out of you (no, it isn't just exhaled air) as you sink into the crystal waters of Eilat, on the Gulf of Aqaba at Israel's southern tip.

Sweat will pool on your forehead as you explore the mountainous desert ruins of Masada. Drool might roll down your chin as you sleep with your head against the bus window. Tears may seep from your eyes as you gaze upon a tombstone of a



soldier your age, and pride will radiate from every limb as you learn a little bit more of what it truly means to be Jewish. I like to think of these physical acts as a representation of giving part of yourself to Israel, or signs of losing a previous version of yourself in the Holy Land. Without a doubt, Israel will give back on this ten-day adventure, but it's an unfair exchange, as you are given so much more.

I thought, as a participant in this once-in-a-lifetime trip in the summer of 2017, that perhaps my experience was unique, that it was probably my longing to feel connected to a place and a people, derived from constantly being uprooted and moving as a child, that caused me to have such a life-altering experience. But as a staff member in the summer of 2018, it was evident to me

that my transformation was just one of many. I could see my participants shifting in front of my very eyes, becoming stronger, more confident, happier, and connected to the world around them in ways that were not possible for them before. ◇



**In the photo above, Shayna with Rabbi Ed Rosenthal (center) and their Israeli guide. Below, all who went on the Underwater Birthright trip.**

# KJCC High Holiday Service Schedule

5779 (2018)

*Rabbi Richard Agler and Cantor Michael Dzubin*

## **Saturday, September 1st**

Pizza/Movies/S'lichot service 6:00 p.m.

## **Sunday, September 9th**

Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner – RSVP required 5:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh HaShanah service 7:30 p.m.

## **Monday, September 10th**

Rosh HaShanah, Day 1.

*Shacharit* (morning service) 9:30 a.m.

Break after shofar sounding 12:00 noon

*Musaf* service 12:15 -- 1:30 p.m.

Oneg 1:30 p.m.

*Taschlich* at Ocean Pointe (bring bread) 4:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, September 11th**

Rosh HaShanah, Day 2

*Shacharit* (morning service) 9:30 a.m.

Break after shofar sounding 12:00 noon

*Musaf* service 12:15 – 1:30 p.m.

Oneg 1:30 p.m.

## **Friday, September 14th**

Erev Shabbat service and oneg 7:30 p.m.

## **Saturday, September 15th**

Shabbat Tshuvah

(led by Beth Hayden) 10:00 a.m.

Followed by Kiddush 12:00 noon

Havdalah service  
at Linda Pollack's home 7:45 p.m.

## **Tuesday, September 18th**

Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre service 7:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, September 19th**

Yom Kippur morning service 9:30 a.m.

Yizkor (memorial service) 11:30 a.m.

Children's service 11:30 a.m.

Break after morning service 12:15 p.m.

*Musaf* 12:30 p.m.

*Afternoon activity times are approximate:*

Informal "Fast" Talk with Rabbi Agler 2:30 p.m.

Jewish Meditation with Rabbi Agler 4:00 p.m.

*Neillah* (Story of Jonah)  
and *Maariv* service 5:45 p.m.

Havdalah 7:15 p.m.

Break-the-Fast 7:30 p.m.

## **Sunday, September 23rd**

Sukkah decoration at KJCC 10:00 a.m.

## **Friday, September 28th**

(start of Sukkot: evening of September 23rd-30th)

Family Sukkot service (oneg in Sukkah)  
7:30 p.m.

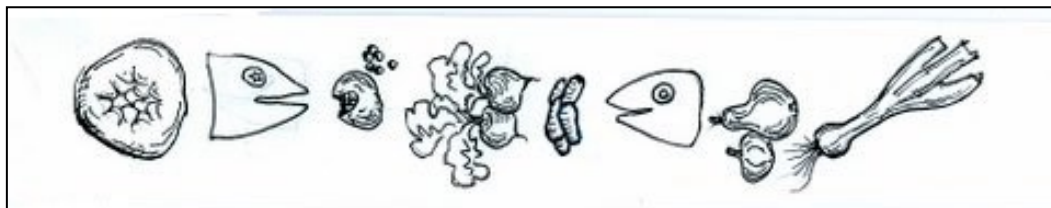
## **Saturday, September 29th**

Sukkot potluck at Rabbi and Mindy Agler's  
7:00 p.m.

## **Monday, October 1st**

Yizkor service and Simchat Torah celebration  
7:30 p.m.

# High Holidays 5779



*From the Rabbi's Study  
Keys Jewish Community Center  
High Holydays 2018-5779*

Here they come again, the *Yamim Noraim*, the Days of Awe, the High Holydays, the days that mark the most powerful season of the Jewish year. They give us our collective opportunity to focus on eternal matters: life and death, love and loss, meaning and existence. Were that not enough, they are also the time to contemplate our personal purpose and place in the grand drama that is Creation. It is hard to imagine a series of days with greater potential for spiritual impact.

My teacher, Rabbi Dr. Lawrence Hoffman, offers that "religion is the attempt to speak in a register that does justice to the human condition." That is no small task and we know that religion has both met and failed to meet that standard over the course of history. Still, our never-ending focus on what matters most manages to sustain us. Even when we hit false notes, we continue to pursue the deepest and truest in human life.

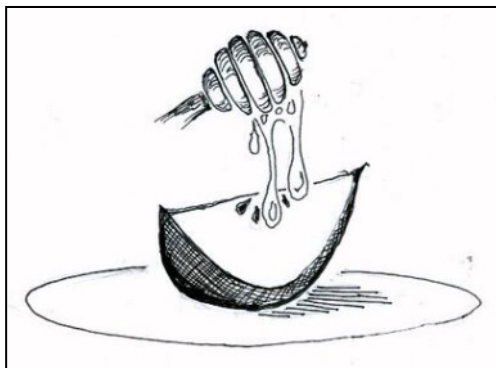
Dr. Hoffman also notes that "it is the human condition to be in search of a core identity." There is certainly sufficient wisdom in Judaism for such a search. But how do we distill and digest it? How do we make

the Jewish conversation more compelling? How can we get more of us to take an active part in it? And can those of us who are already committed to this conversation find a way to elevate it in the year ahead?

Merely contemplating these questions is Awe-some enough. Attempting to answer them is even more so. It requires that special Jewish combination of thoughtfulness-prayer, learning and energy. We will endeavor to bring all of these to life as we enter 5779.

Mindy joins me in wishing a year of fulfillment, blessing and health to all the members of our KJCC family. *L'shana tovah!*

—Rabbi Richard Agler, DD



*All line drawings courtesy of Gloria Avner.*

# A Careful Look at High Holiday Amidah Prayers

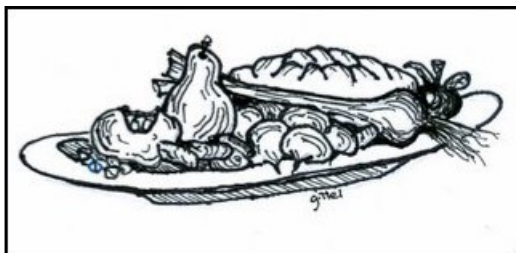
## *The Middle Section is the Key to the Message*

by Cantor Michael Dzubin

**T**he *Amidah*, the central prayer of any synagogue service, always begins and ends with the same paragraphs – *Avot* (ancestors/patriarchs), *G'vurah* (might), and *K'dushah* (holiness) in the beginning, then *Avodah* (service, asking God to accept our prayers), *Hoda-ah* (gratitude, thanking God for our lives and the miracles He bestows on us), and *Shalom* (peace, for the community at large, and peace, goodness, blessing and compassion on every individual) at its end.

The middle section, however, the most important part of the prayer, changes to suit the occasion. On weekdays, the middle section of the *Amidah* consists of 13 blessings that are individual and communal requests to God. Originally consisting of only 12 petitions, the total number of blessings recited was 18; hence, an early and casual nickname for the *Amidah* was the *Shemonah Esrei*, or the Eighteen. However, in rabbinic times another blessing was added, resulting in a total of 19, yet the original name of the *Shemonah Esrei* was retained. (Popular acceptance is a powerful and often irrevocable thing.)

Of these 13 requests recited during the weekday *Amidah*, the first five are essentially personal, or individual requests to God to improve the situation of each person. Despite the individual nature of these re-

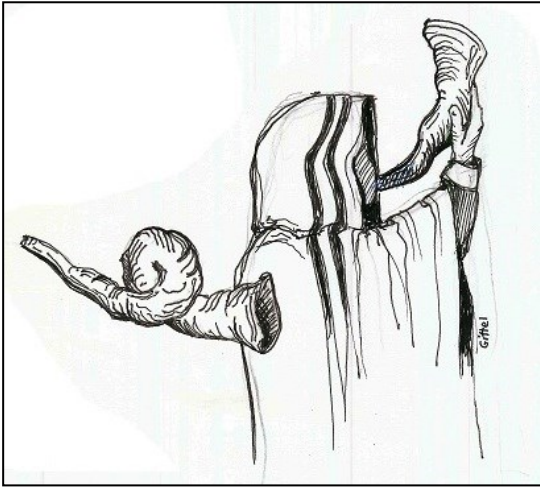


quests, the language of each prayer is in the plural, emphasizing the communal nature of even singular Jewish identity. The eight blessings that follow are focused more explicitly on the communal and national needs of the Jewish people as a whole.

On *Shabbat* and holidays, instead of requests that might distract us by reminding us of our physical and national wants and needs, the rabbis established the middle section as an opportunity to celebrate the special holiness of the Sabbath day and/or the festival. Despite the absence of explicit requests, the holiday prayers of the *Amidah* do in fact ask that God enable us to enjoy and celebrate the holiday with gladness of heart; they conclude with a blessing thanking God for sanctifying the people of Israel and the holiday.

In the case of the *Rosh HaShanah Musaf Amidah*, there are three blessings in this middle section: *Malkhuyot*, which address the sovereignty of God; *Zikhronot*, which presents God as the one who remembers past deeds, while we ask Him to remember the merits of our ancestors; and *Shofarot*, in which we stand in nervous anticipation of the future.

The blowing of the *Shofar*, as we all know (right?), has always been the main ritual performed on *Rosh Hashanah* and the only one specifically mandated by the *Torah* for this day. We have all heard that the purpose of blowing the *Shofar* is to create a spiritual "wake-up call" of sorts, to remind us of our impending judgment, our lives (spiritually, if not literally) hanging in the balance. It is interesting to learn, however, that there are many Biblical and Rabbinic



sources teaching that the sound of the *Shofar* was also meant to comfort and reassure the people of Israel. During the Second Temple period, the sounding of the *Shofar* was introduced by a series of biblical verses that conveyed the purpose and intent of the act. (Most Judeans were not then literate, so hearing a reminder was the only means of reinforcement.)

While the *Mishnah* (compiled around 200 CE) does not describe a fixed list of verses to be recited, it does specify that at least ten verses in each category (Kingship, Remembrance, and *Shofar*) be recited, that they begin with verses from *Torah*, conclude with a prophetic verse, and that any verses read on this day contain the proper theme and be positive in nature. Even after the *Malkhuyot*, *Zikhronot*, and *Shofarot* sections were incorporated into the *Amidah*, it remained the prerogative of the individual to choose the verses to be recited. Eventually, specific verses were chosen and became a fixed part of the service. These blessings represent the basic themes of the day. They were, at one time, part of the morning service and were only later transferred to *Musaf* (only to be moved back again to the *Shacharit Amidah* by the Reform Movement, which does not follow the practice of having an additional *Amidah*). The inclusion of

these sets of ten verses each results in an increase in the number of blessings in the *Musaf Amidah* to nine. The particular choice of verses draws on all parts of the Bible – *Torah* (law or teaching), *N'vi'im* (prophets), and *K'tuvim* (writings) – and specifically includes passages that are drawn from the particular *Torah* and *Haftarah* (prophetic) readings for the holiday, and from the Psalms.

Why these three themes of kingship, remembrance, and *Shofar*? In the case of *Zikhronot* and *Shofarot*, the origin may be traced to two biblical verses, "...a sacred occasion commemorated [*Zikhron*] with loud blasts [*Teruah*]" (Leviticus 23:23) and "You shall observe it as a day when the horn is sounded [*Teruah*]" (Numbers 29:1). The third theme, Kingship, is not explicitly mentioned in connection with the first of *Tishrei*. Rabbinic interpretations, however, have seen it in various verses. "And on your joyous occasions, your fixed festivals and new moon days, you shall sound the trumpets over your burnt offerings and your sacrifices of well-being. They shall be a reminder of you before the Lord your God: I the Lord am your God" (Numbers 10:10).

According to Rabbi Nathan, "you shall sound the trumpets" refers to the *Shofar*, "they shall be a reminder of you" refers to Remembrance, and "I the Lord am your God" refers to Kingship. Hence the three components.

The meaning of "Remembrance" in the verse "a sacred occasion commemorated with loud blasts" (Leviticus 23:23) is not entirely clear. The biblical scholar Baruch Levine suggests that it literally means "commemoration by blasting the *Shofar*.... The horn was blasted to announce the forthcoming pilgrimage festival." Leon J. Liebreich argues that "the first day of the seventh month is a day of arousal of God's mindfulness by means of the sounding of the ram's horn." M. M. Kalisch, on the other hand, states that "the loud notes...were meant to rouse God's mercy in [the people's] favor, Who would remember His people and grant them His blessing and protec-



tion in the coming year.”

The notion of Remembrance is also connected with war in the biblical text, “You shall sound short blasts on the trumpets, that you may be remembered before the Lord your God and be delivered from your enemies” (Numbers 10:9). God’s “remembrance” here indicates that God will not abandon His people, but will help them. The text continues, “And on your joyous occasions, your fixed festivals and new moon days, you shall sound the trumpets... they shall be a reminder of you before your God” (Numbers 10: 10). The juxtaposition of these two verses suggests that Israel evokes God’s remembrance to achieve success and to remind God to fulfill His promises to them.

Whatever “remembrance” may have meant in the original biblical context, the Sages interpreted it, along with “Kingship” and “*Shofar*,” in their own way:

First proclaim Him “King” over you, then ask mercy from Him so that you will be remembered by Him. How? By the *Shofar* of freedom. “*Shofar*” always indicates freedom, as it is said, “And on that day, a great ram’s horn shall be sounded; and the strayed who are in the land of Assyria and the expelled who are in the land of Egypt shall come and worship the Lord on the holy mount, in Jerusalem” (Isaiah 27:13).

The order of the three themes, and the relationship between them, are therefore explained as follows: We accept God as our Ruler, we ask to be “Remembered” by God (that is, we ask that God fulfill His promises and help us), and we declare our desire for Redemption – for individual and national freedom – symbolized by the sounding of the *Shofar*.

If we view *Rosh Hashanah* as the first day of a court case (since the rabbis teach us that God is reviewing our deeds, and determining our fates), then we likewise would see *Yom Kippur* as the day on which the verdict is handed down. The tension mounts as we near the Day of Judgment, and this can be seen in the liturgy as well. We begin the High Holidays with trepidation, contri-

tion and awe as we enter the courtroom for our trial, and we end with the acceptance of our verdict, and the knowledge that *Adonai* is our God: Powerful, All-knowing, and (hopefully) comforted and reassured that He is Understanding and Forgiving as well.

—*L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu!* (May you all be inscribed for a Good Year!) ◇

## *Reverse Tashlich*

*A Community-wide  
Program Sponsored by  
Tikkun HaYam and  
Scubi Jew and Created by  
our own Rabbi Ed*

***This year KJCC will observe a different kind of Tashlich in addition to our usual throwing pieces of bread (representing our "sins") into the ocean. Instead, we will be taking refuse out of the ocean and helping make it the cleaner, Godly place it is supposed to be. Rabbi Ed's intention was originally to have it be a community event for the Tampa area. We've been asked to join. It will now be a statewide event on September 16th. Watch Beth's announcements for details of where we will be.***

**O**n the first day of Rosh Hashanah, following the afternoon prayer, we go to a lake, river or sea (preferably a body of water that has fish),

and recite the *Tashlich* prayers. In doing so we symbolically cast our sins into the water and leave our old shortcomings behind us, thus starting the New Year with a clean slate.

Tikkun HaYam would like to invite you and your congregation to take part in an exciting Tashlich program that will bring together the Jewish Community in a show of unity and service. While Jewish environmental organizations speak of their efforts in terms of Tikkun Olam, we at Scubi Jew focus solely on the marine environment, and speak of what we like to call Tikkun HaYam – Repair the Seas. In Psalm 95:5, it says: אשר לוי הים “The Sea is God’s.” As such, our students feel they cannot sit back and watch as God’s oceans and seas are violated through pollution, overfishing and wanton negligence. The mission of Tikkun HaYam is to raise awareness in the Jewish Community about our obligation as Jews to preserve and protect God’s Sea and all of its creatures.

**While it is customary on Rosh HaShanah to go to a body of water and symbolically cleanse ourselves by casting our sins into the water, Scubi Jew members felt it would be a meaningful experience to reverse the process of Tashlich and remove our sins from the water.**

So, in 2016 they performed a “Reverse Tashlich” and organized a cleanup project of the waterfront on the Eckerd College Campus. Over the course of two hours, the students removed almost 100 pounds of trash from the mangroves, beach and water around the campus.

It is the desire of our students to take this program to the entire Jewish Community in Florida, and organize a community-wide “Reverse Tashlich.” It is our hope to engage Jewish communities, in the project to heighten awareness of the plight of the

**Members of the Eckerd College Environmental Diving Club (Scubi Jew) were among 30 students to take a summer trip to Israel and dive to clean up the Mediterranean near the ancient port of Caesarea.**



marine environment, create a sense of unity across all divides in the Jewish Community, and promote a large scale, collective service project on behalf of the Jewish Community.

Reverse Tashlich is scheduled for Sunday, September 16th. All of us at Tikkun HaYam and the Suncoast Hillels are excited about the possibility this program holds for the Jewish Community and for all of Tampa Bay.

בתודה ושלום,,

*Rabbi Ed Rosenthal  
Executive Director  
Hillels of the Florida Suncoast*

# Sukkot

## Success, Joy, and Fragility

by Gloria Avner

Sometimes *Sukkot* seems to come too soon. We are wrung out with *Yamim Nora'im*, the final days of prayer, atonement and fasting, ripe with good intentions, and then, just five days after *Yom Kippur*, we are told to get out of our comfort zone: it is time to celebrate again, but in the most humble of ways.

Remember, in our earliest days, Sukkot was known as THE holiday, not just the most joyous but also the most important. The hard work of crop-rearing had literally just paid off.

The harvest was in and for seven days (in Israel) or eight days (outside Israel). The festival of *Sukkot* celebrated success, the time of year when Jews experienced the most abundance and were at their wealthiest – time to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and share the wealth. (As Bernie has pointed out, the Hebrew word for festivals/holidays, *regalim*,

is derived from the word for “feet,” since it was by foot that most Israelites made their way to Jerusalem for the three mandated festivals.) What better way to gain perspective, not get puffed up, and remember our desert-dwelling roots, than to share our produce

with G-d and neighbors while living directly on the earth in a humble hut where the sky shows through chinks in the *schach* (Rabbi Agler’s favorite word), a slatted and impermanent roof made of palm fronds. We not only accept our fragility and dependence on nature. We revel in it. The roof that does not separate us from sky lets in not only light and weather but also divine presence, *Shechina*. (I am reminded of Leonard Cohen lyrics, cited by Rabbi Agler during one Yom Kippur talk: “There is a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.”)

Guests, historical and spiritual as well as friends and neighbors, are invited to eat with us in our rickety but beautifully decorated temporary dwelling places. The historical guests, called by the Aramaic word, *Ushpizim*, are our forefathers, the souls of the seven great leaders of Israel – Abra-

ham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Joseph, and King David. The *Zohar* says they deliberately leave *Gan* (the garden of) *Eden* to partake in the divine light of the earthly Sukkot. Let’s imagine them sharing wisdom with us as we sit together. All of us need to be reminded in



the midst of our over-busy, technologically oriented lives that we are not only connected to nature, her whims and her bounty, but we are also responsible for her continuity of care. As one of our favorite prayers in our *siddur* says, should this earth be destroyed, there is no one to come after us to repair it.

Here in our temporary KJCC “booth” or *sukkah*, we engage all our senses, making the space visually beautiful by decorating colorfully with our children. (Thank you again, Alan and Candy, for the living memorial you created in honor and memory of your parents in our living KJCC Meditation Garden.) The aroma and sight of the *etrog* intensifies our prayers as we bless the “four species” (*lulav* or date palm, *etrog* or citron, willow and myrtle), shake the *lulav* (all the species held together as one) in all sacred directions, listening to its *shh shh shhh*, the symbolic sound of gentle rain we will be praying for once *Sukkot* is over. (Our service leaders will remind us during *Amidah*, in which, between *Shemini Atzeret* and *Pesach*, a seasonal prayer for rain is added.) And we will taste, eating the fruits as we bless them.

Whether one’s *Sukkah* blows over, as the Aglers’ did during that heavy storm surge a couple of years ago, or remains steadfast throughout *Chag Simchateinu* (*holiday of our great joyousness*), doesn’t matter. The holiday is literally “all good,” full to the brim with lessons and *mitzvot*. Let’s eat our olives, blessing and remembering the produce of the ancient land we are intimately connected to even if we’ve never set foot upon it. Join us in our KJCC *Sukkah* on Friday night, September 28<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrate after Erev Shabbat services. Then join Rabbi and Mindy Agler at their home and *sukkah* for a *Sukkot* celebration, potluck dinner and *Havdalah* service the next evening, on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup>. Happy times for our *mishpocha* continue unabated two days later when we unroll our Torah and begin the ceremonial cycle all over again.

And for those who sometimes question whether the rabbis understood the lives of all Jews or were merely concerned with concept and principle, consider this: If it starts to rain while you’re sitting in your *Sukkah* and your cereal gets soggy, *halacha* (Jewish law) says go indoors. G-d wants us to enjoy. ♦

### **According to Rabbi Shraga Simmons, the Kabbalists say that the four species of the Lulav represent four different types of Jews:**

- 1) The *Etrog* has a good taste and a good fragrance. It represents a person with both wisdom (Torah learning) and good deeds.
- 2) The *Hadas* (myrtle) has a good fragrance, but is inedible. It represents a person who has good deeds, but lacks wisdom.
- 3) The *Lulav* (date palm) is edible, but has no smell. This represents the person with wisdom, but without good deeds.
- 4) The *Aravah* (willow) has neither taste nor smell. It represents a person with neither good deeds nor Torah learning.

Rabbi Simmons also adds a corollary: “there may be people we don’t like, but we still have to deal with. We cannot simply say that certain people are not part of our world, or that they do not belong to us. On the contrary, humanity is one indivisible unit. This recognition is basic to happiness because when we realize that we are all interconnected, we can be more patient and tolerant of others.”





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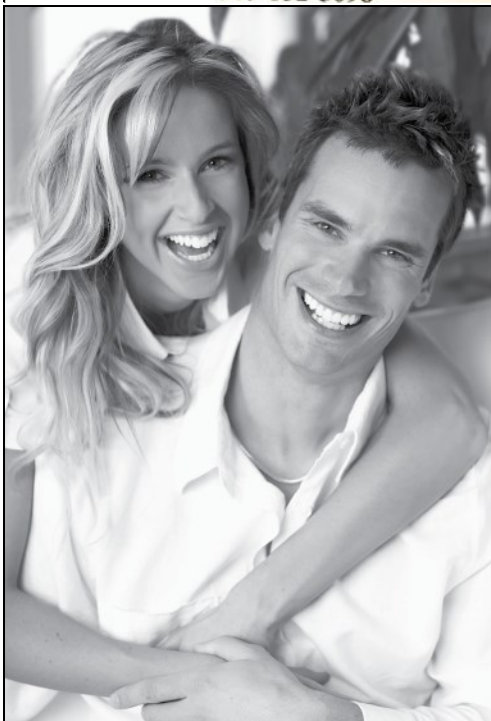
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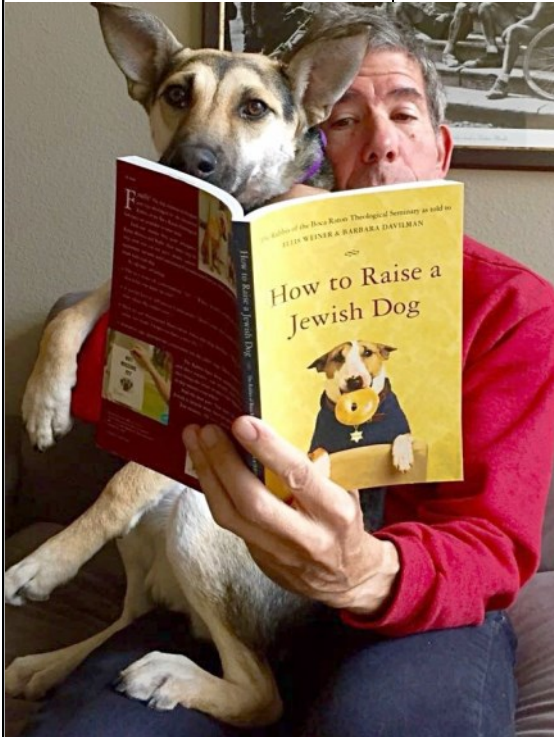
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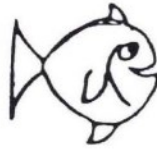
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