



The Newsletter of Kol HaEmek (Voice of the Valley)

Physical address 8591 West Road -Mailing address P.O.Box 416, Redwood Valley, 95470 Phone: 707-468-4536

Please note: All submissions sent by the 20th of each month to Carol Rosenberg (carolrosenberg@pacific.net)

COMING EVENTS

Monday, Feb 2 -6:30 KHE monthly Board meeting at the Koppel home in Redwood Valley.

Saturday, Feb 5 -10 a.m. Tu B'Shvat/Shabbat walk in the woods, weather permitting. For all Shul School families and folks of all ages. Park inside at the RVOEP (Redwood Valley Outdoor Education Project). If rain, we meet at the Shul for an indoor celebration. Directions to RVOEP: Take Highway 101 north to West Road/Redwood Valley Exit. Exit there. Turn right at the stop sign onto West Road. Turn right at 4-way stop sign onto School Way. When you are directly opposite the old Redwood Valley Elementary School, turn right onto Pinecrest Dr. Look for RVOEP sign on the left just before Pinecrest makes a right angle turn. Stay on Pinecrest Drive (about .3 miles). The RVOEP is about 1/4 mile up Pinecrest on the left (8301 Pinecrest Dr.)

Friday, February 13, 6:30 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat/potluck at the home of Vergilia Dakin with Shoshanah. 345 N. Spring St. (east side with wooden gate entrance), between Smith and Willow, Ukiah. Tel. 463-2567.

Friday, Feb. 27, 4:30 pm Shul School Purim Party - Come in costume.

Friday, Feb. 27 6:30 pm - Round-the-Table Shabbat

Saturday, Feb. 28, 7:18-10:36 - KHE Adult Purim Party

Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 pm- Megillah Reading at our Shul (actual eve of Purim)

Friday, March 13, 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Shoshanah and veggie/dairy potluck - contact Shoshanah if you would like to host

Friday, March 20, 4:30 pm - Shul School

Friday, March 20, 6:30 pm Round-the-Shabbat Table

Purim Activities

February 28, Purim/Dada Play, Costume Party and auction. Call Carol if you have auction items or services to donate !see pg. 5

March 4, Reading the Megillah with Rabbi Shoshanah at 7:00 pm

Friday, Feb 27, 4:30 pm Shul School Purim Party - come in costume

Theater Party

Ukiah Players Theatre is putting on a new production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, in which Reid Edelman will play Otto Frank, Anne's father; Ariella Heise-Merenlander will play Anne; and Harvey Baumoeel will play Mr. Van Daan. This is the classic play plus new material that was excluded from the original version. KHE is planning a Sunday Matinee theater party for March 15, see page 5 for the details.

Save the dates: KHE CAMPOUT--Friday-Sunday, June 5-7. returning to our happy group camping spot at Clear Lake State Park.

Opportunities for Tzedakah

Kol HaEmek (the Voice of the Valley) is funded by your member dues as well as your generous contributions to a **number** of funds including

- 1) Building Fund
- 2) Religious School Fund
- 3) Scholarship Fund
- 4) General Fund
- 5) Memorial Board Fund
- 6) Tzedekah Fund
- 7) Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- 8) The Marion and Sanford Frank Fund for feeding the hungry in Ukiah and Willits
- 9) Mazon -a Jewish Answer to Hunger

Questions? Please call:

David Koppel, 485-8910

**To make donations send checks to:
Kol HaEmek, P.O. Box 416,
Redwood Valley, CA 95470**

Portion of the Week and Holidays

February 7- Yithro
February 14 - Mishpatim Shekalim
February 21 - Terumah
February 28 - Tetzaveh
March 5 - Purim
March 6 - Shushan Purim
March 7 - Ki Tissa
March 14 - Vayakhel-Pekude
March 21 - Vayikra
March 28 - Tzav
April 3 - Erev Pesach, 1st Seder
April 4 - Pesach 2nd Seder

We Remember:

Robert Krause - February
Louis H. Klayman - February
Murray Cohen - Shevat 2
Nathan Zorkowitz - Shevat 3
Sudharma Kumari - February -Shevat 23
Lola Sher - February 4
Hattie Glickman - February 4
Carrie Hamburg - February 5
Rachel Faigin Bleicher - February 12
Lucie Stern - February 15
Lewis S. Rapport - February 15
Anita Koppel - February 17
Esther Daniel - February 19
Thomas Brooks-Miller - February 21
Tom Shine-Mapp - February 22
Donald Brooks-Miller - February 28
Jack Glickman - February 29
Bill Roberts - March 14
Glen Starr - March 22
Samuel Orton - March 30
Martha Waldman Kowarski - Adar 11
Samuel Cole - March 22 - Adar 15
Ben Langton - Adar 16
Saul Faber - Adar 17
Rose Cohen - March 6 - Adar 26
Paul Rothschild - March 30 -Adar 29

PESACH 2015 April 3-11

KHE will not be having a community Seder this year.

If you are having a family Seder on either night and can accommodate additional guests, please call Carol at 463-8526

If you would like to attend a family Seder, you may call Carol and she will try to find a host for you.

Donations to KHE for December 2014
Many, many thanks!

Judith M. Corwin
Jackie Pelner-Frankle
Judith Fuente and David Nelson
Jay Joseph and Jennifer Joseph
David Koppel and Linda Koppel
Nancy Horowitz Moilanen and David and Elisa
Linda Posner
Sam Goldberg and Pat Tysoe
Mary McMillan
Darline Bergere and Josh Bergere
Andy Coren and Yvonne Coren
Carol Orton
Sherrie Ebyam and Carol Orton
Sigrid White and Leila Achtoun
Deborah White

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www.margofrank.com 707.462.1877
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Tony Kushner, Playwright:

My parents taught me lessons. If someone didn't like Jews, it was their problem, not yours. And it has nothing to do with what you've done- it's a limitation on their part. You don't protect yourself by pretending not to be who you are. You protect yourself by proceeding to a position of strength and announcing who you are. You never apologize for it.

Donations and helpers needed for Purim Party!

We are beginning to collect items and services for a silent raffle and auction at our Purim Party, February 28th. If you have an item or service available for this essential fundraiser please contact Carol Rosenberg at 463-8526 or <carolrosenberg@pacific.net.>

Thanks,
Carol

P.S. We also need donations of wine and hamantashen. Elizabeth needs your help decorating, acting, music making as well. Call her at 743-1437. <eray@craybeemosaiics.com>

**KHE PLAYERS
PRESENT**

**DADA-PURIM 2015
AT KOL HA EMEK**

**A ONE OF A KIND PARTY WITH
MUSIC, DADA PURIM
PLAY, FOOD, RAFFLE, AUCTION &
FUN**

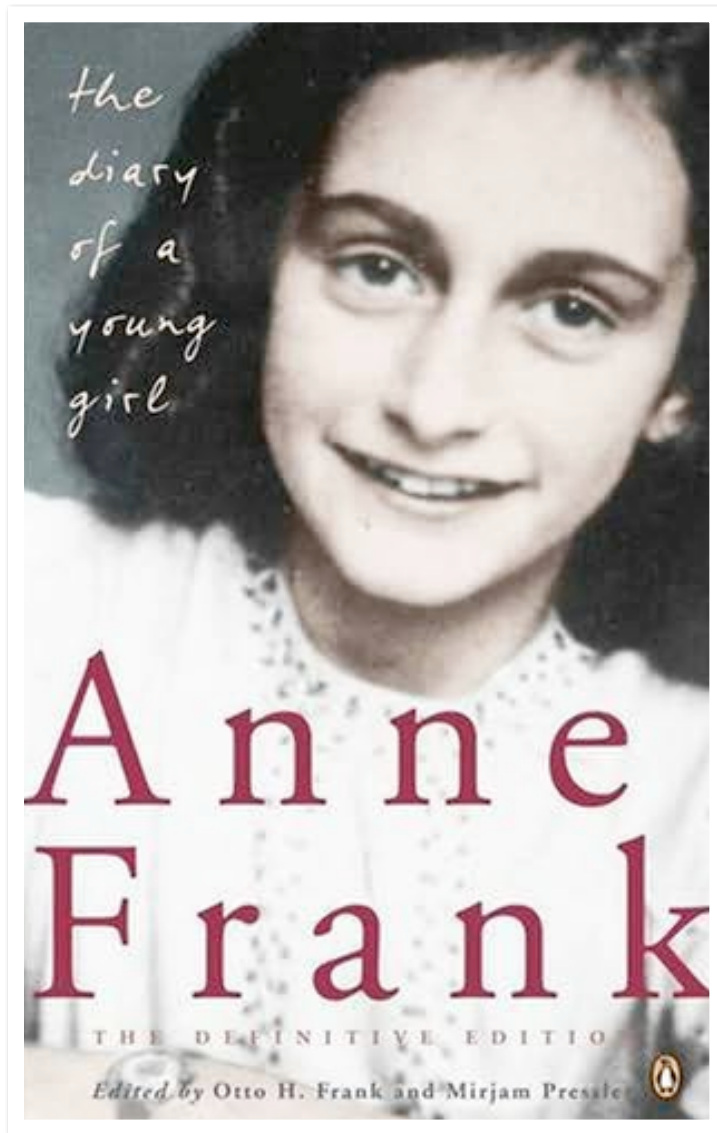
**ON FEBRUARY 28
FROM 7:18- 10:30 AT
8591 WEST ROAD,
REDWOOD VALLEY**



**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THAT SPLENDID PARTY PLANNER
ELIZABETH RAYBEE WITH THE HELP OF HER FRIENDS**

**\$10 ADVANCE
\$15 AT THE DOOR**

**To buy tickets in advance, send money to KHE at
P.O. Box 416 Redwood Valley 95470**



Theater Party

KHE is purchasing a bloc of tickets for the Sunday Matinee, March 15 performance. Instead of getting your own tickets for another date, please join us on this special occasion! This is an opportunity to see the play with your community. Also it is a fundraiser, UPT is discounting the tickets to us. If you would like to be part of this theater party, please send payment of \$20 per adult, \$15 per senior or student over 12 years, \$10 for children to KHE-Theater Party at P.O.Box 416, Redwood Valley 95470. Tickets will be distributed in the order the money for them was received.

We need your money by March 1,

Dear KHE Chaverim,

I'm writing to you from the plane back to San Francisco after attending the annual Ohalah (tent of God) Jewish Renewal rabbis' conference in Colorado. Let me share with you a potpourri of gleanings from our time together.

What guides us in living our lives? Halachah, according to the twentieth century, German-born orthodox rabbi Eliezer Berkowitz, is "the bridge over which Torah moves from written word to living deed." I recall a bar mitzvah student who perceived the Torah as a burdensome body of "do nots" accompanied by oppressive punishments. Traditionally, some 613 commandments have been totaled up from Torah passages. But how about viewing the mitzvot as opportunities for enhancing our lives, giving us meaning and alignment, rather than constricting us? "Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God," advocated by the prophet Micah thousands of years ago, has been suggested as encompassing three basic mitzvot which embrace all of Torah.

Moshe Chaim Luzzato, who lived in the 1700s, tells us our prime purpose in being here is "to delight in God and enjoy the radiance of [God's] divine presence ('The Path of the Just')."

In the yearly Torah cycle, we are currently reading the book of Exodus, in which God reveals a new name to Moshe at the burning bush. Known to the patriarchs as El Shaddai, God is now to be known as Ehyeh. These Hebrew names move us from a God of nourishment to a God of possibilities. Has your own personal name, the name by which others know you, evolved over your lifetime? Do you have a new name for God that seems more apt for your/our experience of being alive today?

Exodus presents us with our great liberation epic. Current-day prophet Arthur Waskow understands the plagues of Exodus to be a consequence of Pharaonic power exercised without conscience. With our current environmental crises in mind, he asks us to focus on 10 healings for the plagues confronting our planet today. Waskow looks even further back, seeing God as having offered Adam and Eve great abundance in the Garden of Eden, but with the perquisite of exercising restraint. When they (and we) don't, the abundance disappears.

Michael Lerner, in addressing the needs of our world today, says it is not enough to complain. We must, like Martin Luther King, have a dream. A vision of what we are for, not complaints, will motivate us to heal our world. Calling on the beautiful dreams of equality for all in the proclamation of Israel's founders, Tirzah Firestone urges us to recognize where Israel has fallen short, and to take action to remedy discrepancies. "Shtikah cahoda'ah," she quotes; "silence is acquiescence." We also heard from Israeli rabbi Uri Regev, discussing issues of who is considered Jewish according to Israeli law today. You may want to check out his advocacy organization, Hiddush: Freedom of Religion for Israel, Inc., at www.hiddush.org.

So many issues of tikkun olam face us in our world today! We don't have the luxury to be overwhelmed, says Ruth Messenger. She heads American Jewish World Service, which works with local groups in many countries to help address their needs in ways they deem best suited to their specific situations. AJWS has also come to recognize the leverage and importance of influencing U.S. policies and programs abroad. "What we do in Washington has huge impact on people around the world," says Messenger. She gives the example of legislation promoted by Barbara Boxer condemning violence against women around the globe. Messenger urges us all to engage in advocacy with our legislators: "people are fighting back and we can help them." She attributes her motivation for working to correct the scales of human

rights in our world to the biblical notion of "b'tzelem Elohim," that we are all made in God's image and thereby worthy of equal dignity.

This was the first meeting of Ohalah since Reb Zalman's death, z"l, last July. His beloved memory was present throughout our gathering. I have offered here only a sampling of the words I absorbed - you need to imagine the transmission that occurred via visual art, song, music, meditation and movement, whether in learning or prayer sessions or informal conversations, indoors or out. May you find inspiration in these smatterings and in your own life to dream, imagine, advocate, and express in deed your own transmission of Torah for tikkun olam.

B'todah, b'shalom, oovrachah/In gratefulness,in peace, and in blessing, Shoshanah

More Theater News

Gwen Hardage-Vergeer invites us to the Ukiah United Methodist Church which will be hosting Susan Stein and "Etty" in the social hall **Thursday, March 5th, at 7:00 pm**. Suggested donation will be \$10 adults, \$5 students at the door. She attributes her motivation for working to correct the scales of human rights. Please put this date on your calendar and help spread the word about this not-to-be-missed show. If you have questions please call Gwen at 485-0420.

***"If I should not survive, how I die will show me who I really am."* --Etty Holism**

Etty Hillesum was a young Dutch Jewish diarist living in Amsterdam during WWII. Hillesum chose not to go into hiding even though she understood, as early as 1942, that the Nazis "are out to destroy us completely." This was in part because Etty did not want to have another person take her place in the camp or on the transport train. It was in part because she wanted to be able to write about what she saw happening around her--to be "the thinking heart of the barracks". And it was in part because despite the difficulty and destructiveness around her, Etty still had a sense of wonder, of hope, even of the joy of life, and she responded to her surroundings with these qualities even while acknowledging the horror. Her sense of God's love also deepened over time despite all that she witnessed. Etty's two books, *An Interrupted Life* and *Letters from Westerbork*, were published posthumously after the war.

Several years ago, after reading Etty's writings, New York actress Susan Stein adapted the diaries into a play. "Etty" a one-woman play, using only Hillesum's words, is directed by Austin Pendleton (*Finding Nemo, My Cousin Vinny*). Susan has been touring "Etty" to theaters, universities, schools, prisons and faith-based institutions throughout the United States, Europe, and Jerusalem for the past three years. The second act of the play continues the conversation Etty begins about resiliency, spirituality, social justice, human rights, women and ethical dilemmas. Visit www.ettyplay.org for more information.

Monday, March 16, 7 pm, A post-theatre discussion: How apt that we have two local performances in March featuring the diaries of two young Jewish women living in Holland under the Nazis. The day after our KHE Diary of Anne Frank Theatre performance, we shall gather at our Shul to compare and contrast, and share our responses and thoughts re both Anne's and Etti's journaling..



Kol Ha Emek MCJC-Inland
P.O. Box 416,
Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Our purpose is to create an environment in which Jewish culture, religion and spiritual life can flourish, to perpetuate and renew our Jewish connections with ourselves and our homes, within our community and the world.

- To provide space for religious study and prayer.
- To share life cycle events through meaningful Jewish traditions
- and sponsor Jewish education for all ages
- To be inclusive of all partnerships and family configurations
- To include interfaith families and Jews-by-choice
- To network with other Jewish communities
- To educate and share our culture with other Mendocino County residents
- To be a foundation for *Tikkun olam* (healing the world) as a community through socially just actions and and by Mitzvot)
- To offer to our membership in exchange for financial and other contributions and allow all to participate regardless of the ability to pay

Kol HaEmek Information & Resources

Kol HaEmek

(707) 468-4536

Board Members

David Koppel, Treasurer	485-8910 < davekoppel@yahoo.com >
Nancy Merling,	456-0639 < nancymerling@att.net >
Carol Rosenberg	463-8526 < carolrosenberg@pacific.net >
Sherrie Ebyam	530-414-1104 < ebyam@sbcglobal.net >
Mark Levin-	467-9037 < mlevin@pacific.net >
Bob Mandel-President	696-2712 < bobLXVII@hotmail.com >
Sigrid White	272-1859 < sigridwhite@gmail.com >
Barbara Stanger	234-3261 < aurnaenterprises@gmail.com >

Brit Mila: Doctors willing to do circumcisions in their office or your home; Robert Gitlin D.O. (465-7406), Sam Goldberg (463-8000; Jeremy Mann (463-8000)

Chevra Kadisha (Jewish Burial)) Helen Sizemore (462-1595)

Community support: Willits, Divora Stern (459-9052), Ukiah, Margo Frank (463-1834)

Interfaith Council: Cassie Gibson (468.5351(415)-777-4545, (887)777-5247

Rabbinical Services/Special Ceremonies: Rabbi Shoshanah Devorah (467-0456) sdevorah@gmail.com

Tzdakah: Fund (Financial Assistance) David Koppel (485-8910)