

JULY -AUGUST, 2016

SIVAN-TAMUZ-AV, 5776



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

Friday, July 22, 6:30 pm, 'Sustainable Shabbat' at the home of Amy Wachspress and Ron Reed in honor of her mother's *yahrzeit*. Please bring organic food for a potluck dinner, preferably featuring homegrown produce, locally grown produce, and/or food items purchased at the Farmers Market. Plunder your garden and share your bounty. Surprise and delight us. 1281 Sequoia Plaza, Ukiah, 462-2057.

Tuesday, August 7, 7:00 Chevra Kadisha meeting, at the Shul. See page 4

Saturday, Aug 6, 10 a.m., Shabbat morning service featuring the Bar Mitzvah of Sam Joseph at the Barra Winery 7051 N State St, Redwood Valley

Thursday, Aug 11-Sunday Aug 14- Annual Jewish Women's Retreat sponsored by the Coastal Jewish Community of Mendocino County.
e-mail bysawyer@mcn.org for information

Friday, Aug 19 - Tu B'Av/Shabbat celebration outdoors under the full moon at Shul - bring your musical instruments, the songs you want to sing, and your good cheer for this 'Love-In' holiday. This is your opportunity to honor Shoshanah's completion of 13 year's as KHE rabbi and to say farewell . . . see insert

*Please Join Us to Celebrate
the Bar Mitzvah of our son*

Samuel Louis Joseph

*August 6, at 10 A.M.
at
The Barra Winery*

7051 N. State St,
Redwood Valley

RSVP

Jay & Jennifer Joseph

<jayjenjo@pacific.net>

*Come and see our Memorial Board!
It is now on the entrance wall as you
enter the shul.*

*If you would like to purchase a leaf to
commemorate an event or a person,
e-mail Carol Rosenberg with the
wording.*

*Small leaves \$250 (2-3 lines);
larger leaves \$500 (2-4lines)*

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

Call: David Koppel, 485-8910

send checks to:

Kol HaEmek, P.O. Box 416, Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Portion of the Week and Holidays

July 2 - Sh'lack Lecha

July 4 - U.S. Independence Day

July 9 - Korach

July 16 - Chukat

July 23 - Balak

July 30 - Pinchas

August 6 - Matot-Masei

August 13 - Devarim, Erev Tish ' B' Av

August 14 - Tish ' B' Av

August 20 - Vaechanan

August 27 - Eikev

Congratulations to Isa Posner on the publication of her new book, a literary memoir, written under the pen name E. Hale.

There are ten copies of *Birthing Orgasms, Time and Money* at the Ukiah library, and Mendocino Book Company is also carrying it. In addition it's available on Amazon in print and digital.

Congratulations:

Nathan Joseph, who performed the lead role in the SPACE production of "The Golden Goose."

Ari Sunbeam, who received a Mendocino College Dance Department annual award which includes a scholarship.

Ari Sunbeam, Amanda Katz, and Melanie Katz who performed in the Mendocino College Spring Dance Festival. Melanie choreographed and danced the lead in the 3-part GRASP, for which Amanda wrote lyrics.

And to Robert Joseph for his improvisation in SPACE's "Theatre Sports."

Congratulations to Ethan Ira Duval on graduation from Ukiah High School. Ira is the son of Sara Esserman-Melville and Anthony Esserman-Melville.

Congratulations to Maya Segal on her graduation from U. C. Berkeley with a degree in Chemical Biology. She has accepted a 6-7 year Ph.D. program at UCLA for the fall.

Maya is the daughter of Divora Stern and Eyal Segal.

Mazel Tov on Carmel Sara Segal's promotion to crowd-funding manager of her team.

In Memory

Audrey Ferrell - July
Solomon Elberg - July
Frances Smith - July 2
Esther Andich- July 3
Alan Sapoznick - July 9
Daris Feig - July 10
Miriam Bleicher - July 10
Henry Lowenheim July 15-Tammuz 15
Corrine Dewar - July 16
Harold T. Simmons - July 20
Michael Kisslinger - July 20- Av 4
Ann Katz - July 21
Agnes Scott-Kinney - July 21
Brian Staber-Baumoel - July 26
Meda Newline - August 1
Gertrude Sussman - August 1
Bunny Bookbinder - August 5
Edwin Lockhart - August 8
Emily Schaffner - August 8
Elena Castaneda - August 9
Donald R. Pierce - August 9
Frances Suffel - August 11
Norman Sher - August 12
Selig Bookbinder - August 15
Norman F. Feldheim - August 15
Doug Rosoff- August 24
Hannah Igar - August 24
Irving Teplitsky - August 28
Gladys Breit - August 30
Abram Goldberg - August 30
Blanche Wolff - August 31
Bernice Fleiss - Tammuz 27
Reuven King - Av 15
Herman Greenwood - Av 23

Donations to KHE -Thank you

Judith M. Corwin
Robbie Gitlin and Karla Gitlin
Jay Joseph and Jennifer Joseph
David Koppel and Linda Koppel
Nancy Horowitz-Moilanen, David and Elisa
Elizabeth Raybee
Barbara Waugh and Ernie Waugh
Divora Stern
Darline Bergere and Josh Bergere--
Homeless Food Fund
Andy Coren and Yvonne Coren
David Vilner
Isa Posner -Rabbi's Fund
Amy Wachspress
Deborah White- Rabbi's Fund
Yvonne Coren & Andy Coren
Judith Fuente & David Nelson--
Feed the Homeless
Nancy Horowitz-Moilanen
Yvonne Coren

Article about Adina Merenlander-- Check it out!

Hi,

I was recently interviewed for a profile article in *California Agriculture*. It's a reasonable synopsis of my work in case you are interested.

Cheers,

Adina

Direct link: <http://ucanr.edu/repositoryfiles/cav7002p57-160949.pdf>

P.S. The magazine is called *California Agriculture* and it's free if you want to subscribe ☺
<http://californiaagriculture.ucanr.edu/index4.cfm>

***Tuesday, Aug 7, 7 pm at the Shul:
Chevra Kadisha/Holy Burial Society*
Meeting for New and Old Participants***

Please come if you have been a member for years, have volunteered one or two times, or if you are curious and think you may be interested in participating. We need to organize for the coming year, so we can continue our sacred task of respectfully preparing the bodies of those who have died, by washing them, giving them their final *mikveh*, and dressing them. Please note that there are important roles you can play in the *Chevra Kadisha* without actually participating in the *tahara* (purification of the body).

We will review what we do and our experiences of this holy work, and clarify the various tasks we need to make sure get done. Shoshanah has usually served as liaison with the bereaved family, the funeral home, and the *Chevra Kadisha*. We need to take over these roles. We need to make sure we have enough people to actually perform the *tahara*. We need to have men and women who can lead the ritual aspects of the *tahara* (Shoshanah usually did this for the women and on occasion for the men as well.) When next of kin (or the person themselves before they died) opt for a *tahara*, we need someone plus a backup who can quickly contact volunteers to round up the needed number of people for the occasion. We need someone to make sure our *tahara* supplies are up to date. The *Chevra Kadisha* also needs to review whether any changes need to happen in our procedures.

Do join us for this meeting! Newcomers: learn what would motivate folks to serve time and again in caring for the dead, and see if you are ready to join in this mitzvah. Veterans: Share your special moments, and offer your suggestions for improving or changing how the *Chevra Kadisha* can best continue to fulfill its functions.

*For more detailed description, see next page

More Congratulations:

To Eli Edelman, son of Deborah and Reid, and Adyson Posner, daughter of Isa and Hillel, on their graduation from Pomolita Middle School.

To Noah Edelman, on his graduation from Grace Hudson Elementary School.

And Mazal Tov to any others, from elementary through college, who have graduated this year, but whose names have not reached us.

Congratulations to Michelle and Andrew Hudson on the birth of their son, Noah Drosco Hudson, born April 20, 2016 (23 Nissan 5776). We celebrated Noah into covenant (brit) and community June 11, Shavuot eve. We wish the family well as they leave Willits and move to the San Diego area.

Chevra kadisha

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A *chevra kadisha* (*Hevra kadishah*) (*Aramaic*: חֲבֵרָה קַדִּישָׁא, *Hebh'ra Qaddisha* "holy society") is an organization of [Jewish](#) men and women who see to it that the bodies of deceased Jews are prepared for [burial](#) according to Jewish tradition and are protected from [desecration](#), willful or not, until burial. Two of the main requirements are the showing of proper respect for a [corpse](#), and the ritual cleansing of the body and subsequent dressing for burial. It is usually referred to as a [burial society](#) in English.

The task of the *chevra kadisha* is considered a laudable one, as tending to the dead is a favor that the recipient cannot return, making it devoid of ulterior motives. Its work is therefore referred to as a *chesed shel emet* (*Hebrew*: חסד של אמת, "a good deed of truth"), paraphrased from [Genesis 47:30](#) (where [Jacob](#) asks his son [Joseph](#), "do me a 'true' favor" and Joseph promises his father to bury him in the burial place of his ancestors).

At the heart of the society's function is the ritual of *tahara*, or purification. The body is first thoroughly cleansed of dirt, body fluids and solids, and anything else that may be on the skin, and then it is ritually purified by immersion in, or a continuous flow of, water from the head over the entire body. *Tahara* may refer to either the entire process, or to the ritual purification. Once the body is purified, the body is dressed in *tachrichim*, or shrouds, of white pure muslin or linen garments made up of ten pieces for a male and twelve for a female, which are identical for each Jew and which symbolically recalls the garments worn by the [Kohen Gadol](#) (High Priest). Once the body is dressed, the [casket](#) is closed. When being buried in [Israel](#), however, a casket is not used.

The society may also provide *shomrim*, or [watchers](#), to guard the body from theft, rodents, or desecration until burial. In some communities this is done by people close to the departed or by paid *shomrim* hired by the [funeral home](#). At one time, the danger of theft of the body was very real; in modern times it has become a way of honoring the deceased.

A specific task for the burial society is tending to the dead who have no immediate next-of-kin. These are termed *ameit mitzvah* (*Hebrew*: מַת מִצְוָה, a [mitzvah](#) corpse), as tending to a *meit mitzvah* overrides virtually any other positive [commandment](#) (*mitzvat aseh*) of [Torah](#) law, an indication of the high premium the Torah puts on the honor of the dead.

When people are hurting they need wise, loving people in their lives to help them feel better.

G-D WORKS THROUGH LOVING PEOPLE.

When people are wise and loving; G-D IS THERE IN THEM.

G-D also makes all the greenery , all growing plants, trees, waters, and all creatures.

G-D IS BEAUTIFUL.

THANK YOU G-D, WITHOUT WHOM , I WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

Leslie Jo Feldman

Dear KHE Chaverim,

13 years ago,
Arriving in Ukiah at the U-Haul
Greeted by the Board with kiddush and cake.
These very same folks then proceed to unload my rental truck
And I know I have come to serve a very special congregation.

How do I sum up 13 years? Starting with
Diverse celebrations in so many different homes
All manifesting the good spirit and willingness that abides here.
Prayer, song, silence, study and counseling lighting up my new abode.
Ark in my living room
Concert in my garden
Hanan, you've aged since then...
Me too. In fact, all of us!

My brother who came for Yom Kippur in Brooktrails,
Discovered the golf course on the way, and kissed me goodbye
In the silence of the sanctuary before services even began.

Judaism under the aura of moonlight
At holiday celebrations at my house
At campout mini-vision quests
And on the deck of our very own Shul.
My surprise and awe when people do show up at dawn on our deck
for a sun ceremony that happens once in a generation.
Sunsets from the front door of the Shul.

Remember that parade down School Street,
The joy in accompanying our Torah to its new home,
The pride in our own building
And the great investment by so many in shaping it to our needs.

How I love our homey little Shul!
I love to feel the embracing, intimate energy so present
When we are gathered as community for prayer
Or pulsing to the live rhythms of Middle Eastern music,
Or delighting in our own KHE minstrels, or Cuban guitar,
voices in song, bodies live instruments of joy.
Or the drama and humor of plays we've put on,
or found in films while eating Chinese takeout.
Or creating art and poetry, learning together,
Kids and adults on the floor painting a grand tree of life,

Then connecting ourselves with these symbols of Godding present in our lives.
Or hearing folks share their personal stories of interfaith marriages
Or recounting the landmarks of their own Jewish journeys.
Or focusing on how to respond to our children's experience of anti-semitism,
Or how to civilly address issues of Israel and Palestine.
Marking our lives with baby namings, b'nei mtzvah ceremonies, and memorial
gatherings for those no longer with us....

All these reverberate within our little Shul, and within me, and so much more.
Don't forget the children! A roomful when I first arrived,
now down to just a lively handful.
But wait, babies have appeared, the children of children of KHE veterans,
Drinking in the KHE vibes along with their mothers' milk.

I drink in the Torah, our Torah, our beloved Pisek Torah.
I teach again and again that we can find living Torah everywhere,
inside and outside of us,
Yet how I love to read the weekly parashah in our treasured scroll.
The very act infuses me, body and soul, strengthens my spirit
and connects me deeply to my core;
No matter that the words themselves may not always be to my liking.

I drink in all of you, each of us with our quirks and grandeur,
Integral components of this unique Mendo mosaic still in the making.
How our garden has flourished! We sweetened last Rosh HaShanah with
apples grown on our own tree, picked by the children, planted several years back.
I bite into the fruit, and the good taste will nourish me the rest of my life.

B'ahavah v'shalom, todah oovrachah/In Love and Peace, Gratitude and Blessing, Shoshanah

P.S. A word about our library. What a gift to have so many wonderful Jewish books at our fingertips--novels, history, biographies, humor, religious texts, kids' books- ours for the reading. Treasures awaiting your discovery.

Lost & Found

After the Shambhala Seder-Are they yours?

Metal serving spoon, 2 metal bowls

large rectangular Japanese basket with straps to carry. Call:

**Helen Sizemore 462-1595. Also missing, a pair of glasses and
somebody by mistake took Stuart's keys!**



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	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 (367-0250)

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

Interfaith Council: Cassie Gibson (468-5351)

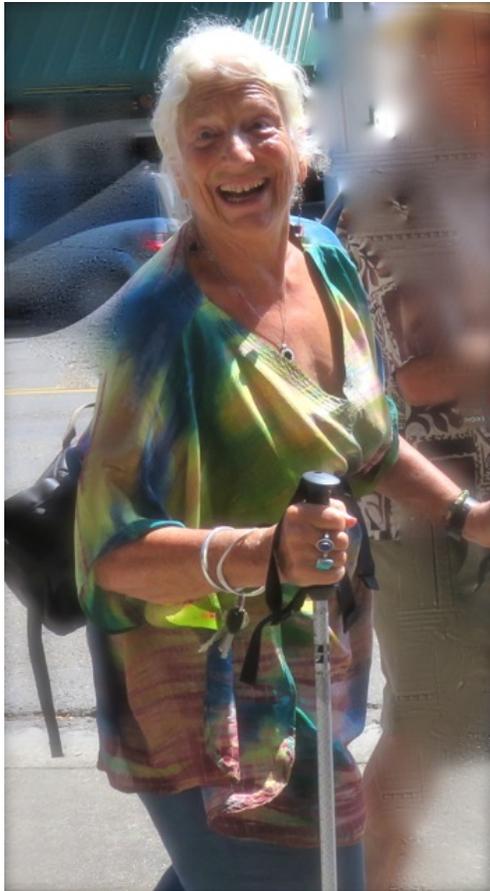
Rabbinical Services/Special Ceremonies: Rabbi Shoshanah Devorah (467-0456) sdevorah@gmail.com

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

Let music fill the air! Let joy be everywhere

Tu B'Av

Everyone Welcome!



August 19, 2016
From 7:00-11:00P.M.

A Retirement Party for Rabbi Shoshanah

A Celebration outdoors, under the
full moon at Kol HaEmek
8591 West Rd. Redwood Valley

Bring your musical instruments, The
songs you want to sing,
Your good cheer for this
"Love-In" holiday

This is our opportunity to honor
Shoshanah's completion of 13 year's
as KHE rabbi and say
farewell.

A light supper will be prepared and served by
The KHE Board

2016-2017

KOL HAEMEK

Jewish Year 5777

Rosh HaShanah - October 2-3

Annual Support and Information

Please return your membership/High Holiday commitments by September 10

Mail to: P.O.Box 416, Redwood Valley 95470

Name _____ and _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Children _____ Birth Date _____

_____ Birth Date _____

Phone# _____ E-Mail _____

Annual Support

- \$1100 Benefactor*
- \$600 Family
- \$300 Individual*
- \$50 Newsletter

Additional Support

- Rabbi's Fund
- Shul Building fund
- Landscape & Playground
- Food program

I would like to receive my Shema Paper & E-mail E-mail only

Please note: * Memberships includes High Holidays and Newsletter.

Payment may be by check or credit card. Card membership may be paid in installments monthly or quarterly.

Name on Card _____

Mailing Address of Card _____

Amount of Charge _____ Today's Date _____

Card # _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature of Card Holder _____ 3-Digit # on back of Card _____

I would like to help with the following activities:

- Jewish education
- Community Food for the Hungry
- Holidays and Events
- Host a Shabbat at Shul or in my home
- I have served on the Board and will serve again
- I'd like to serve on the Board

High Holiday Services only

- Will attend Rosh HaShanah Yom Kippur
- Instead of annual support, We will pay adults@\$225 and Children@\$60