



Dear John,

On Monday night, April 22, Jews from all over the world will celebrate Passover and commemorate the biblical exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. We retell the story of our freedom from slavery while sitting around the *seder* table with symbols of the holiday, such as a *seder* plate, *matzah*, wine and salt water. The symbols of the *seder* plate include a roasted shank bone representing the sacrifice, an egg symbolizing spring and the circle of life, bitter herbs representing the bitterness of slavery, *charoset* representing the mortar used by Jews in Egypt to build for the Pharaohs and *karpas* (greens) to represent spring.



We add a fifth cup of wine for Elijah the Prophet, who, according to tradition, will bring us redemption as we look with hope toward the future. Many people also add a cup filled with water representing Miriam's well and the important role of women in the exodus from Egypt.

As we strive for a better world, you may also consider adding a new item to your *seder* plate — a test tube. Click [here](#) to read about this symbol of knowledge and power through **Yodeah**, whose mission is to educate the Jewish community about hereditary cancer genetic mutations, like the BRCA gene, and provide access to affordable,

clinical-grade testing.

This year, as we retell the story that has been told for generations, we will also remember those Israeli hostages still held in captivity after six months in Gaza, as we continue to fight for their and our freedom.

Locally, our community has come together for more than 85 years through the collective work of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. Our motto is, "The Strength of a People. The Power of Community." This month's Donor Spotlight story, below, highlights Marcia Simon Kaplan, of blessed memory, who left a lasting legacy and whose story will live on through her philanthropy. Marcia created a Lion of Judah Endowment Fund through a gift of life insurance. This legacy commitment continues to make a gift to the Annual Greater Miami Jewish Federation/UJA Campaign each year in her name, strengthening our Jewish community in Miami, in Israel and around the world.

Although the Passover story dates back thousands of years, it could not be more relevant today with rising antisemitism and the need to remain strong and resilient as a people.

If you would like to discuss the various options of how to create your own lasting legacy for our Jewish community today and for the future, contact Scott Kaplan at skaplan@gmjf.org or 786.866.8623 or Jill Hagler at jhagler@gmjf.org or 305.613.8606.

Wishing you and your loved ones a meaningful Passover!

Sincerely,



Sidney Pertnoy
The Foundation Chair



Scott Kaplan
The Foundation Director



DONOR SPOTLIGHT - MARCIA SIMON KAPLAN

Marcia Simon Kaplan, born April 13, 1926, in New Haven, CT, passed away peacefully from complications due to Parkinson's on May 28, 2019, in Coral Gables.



Her legacy of love, care and generosity will continue to inspire future generations and to make a vital difference in the world.

Marcia, along with her first husband, Seymour, of blessed memory, was a founding member of Temple Judea in Coral Gables and she loved being a Lion of Judah for many decades. She was especially fond of the beautiful music almost every Friday night at *Shabbat* services at Temple Judea and on Sunday afternoons at the New World Symphony.

She married her second husband, Col. Leonard Kaplan, in 1987 and had several good years with him. They traveled the world, including Israel where she became a Bat Mitzvah, before Leonard passed away.

Throughout her life, Marcia was honored by several organizations including Temple Judea, Jacob's Pillow (Becket, MA), Brain and Behavior Research (New York) and the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. Her passion fueled her desire to leave substantial legacy gifts for these organizations so they could continue their fine work.

Marcia celebrated life with her loved ones and friends as often as possible. She was a superb spouse, mother and homemaker. She loved to cook, play the piano, dance, play golf and entertain friends. Her passions were modern dance, boogie-woogie music, her friends and especially her family. She spent many glorious summers at her home, the Lily Pad, in Stockbridge, MA, with both husbands.

She was most generous and loved having family gatherings of her five children, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren in venues around the world, including Stockbridge, Santa Fe, the Dominican Republic, Key Biscayne, Amelia Island and Captiva Island.

Marcia was a proud Lion of Judah for 35 years. Her values and generous gift will forever continue through the Marcia Simon Kaplan Lion of Judah Endowment Fund that she generously established during her lifetime through a gift of life insurance.

Click [here](#) to read Marcia's story in our online Book of Life.

GOLDEN CARE CORNER

The Greater Miami Jewish Federation is forever grateful to those individuals and families who have created their own Jewish legacy. As a token of our gratitude, **Golden Care** is available to our legacy donors (Forever Pacesetters, Forever Lions and members of our Heritage Society) who have established or committed to establish a permanent endowment within The Foundation of \$100,000 or more. Golden Care provides its members with advocacy, referral and support services that offer a level of added security and self-sufficiency as they age.

Mindy Tucker and Miriam Masia have been busy with their roster of Golden Care clients these past few months. As the currently active clients have aged, their needs have increased. The average age of donors currently utilizing Golden Care is 85 years old. There are several clients in their 90s and one client who is 101 years old! For many, it is a time of important decisions, such as whether to stay at home with care or perhaps move to an assisted living facility. Golden Care helps guide our donors through these often-difficult decisions with their knowledge of local resources and referrals to specialists that can help make the transition easier.

Eva Obarzanek and Mort Nashman made their legacy gift in 2019 and have been accessing Golden Care services since that time. Mindy and Miriam have enjoyed working with and getting to know this special couple over the years. Last month, they enjoyed a special lunch to celebrate Eva's birthday!

To learn more about how you can qualify for Golden Care, click [here](#) or contact [Scott Kaplan](#) or [Jill Hagler](#)



Washington News

April 15 - File or Extend?

As the April 15 tax deadline rapidly approaches, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reminded taxpayers that they have multiple filing and payment options. The IRS continues to recommend that taxpayers file returns electronically.

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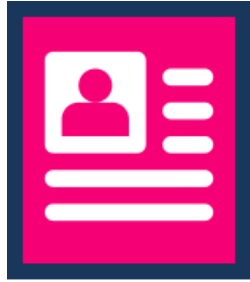


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DISCLAIMER: The Foundation of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation does not provide tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor before taking any action. As with any significant tax and charitable planning, it is advisable to carefully consider potential changes in the context of your complete financial profile.

For questions about making grants from your donor-advised fund, please contact Julian Ospina, Grants Manager, at jospina@gmjf.org or call 786.866.8467.

You may also access your fund online through our donor portal at <https://gmjf.donorfirstx.com/>. To learn more about accessing your fund or creating a new fund or legacy gift, contact Scott Kaplan, Foundation Director, at skaplan@gmjf.org or call 786.866.8623 to learn more.

The Foundation of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, 4200 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL 33137

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