

KOL קול עמי AMI

Jewish Center & Federation
of the Twin Tiers
Congregation Kol Ami
Jewish Community School

Relearn the holidays in 2018

For many of us who grew up Jewish, what we know about the Jewish holidays is what we learned before we reached age 13, the Age of Mitzvah.

There's more! Starting in January, I'll offer a series of classes on Sunday mornings that revisit the holidays in more depth, including mystical lore, the actual sources that tell us what to do, and new forms of observance.

These sessions will focus on the so-called minor holidays: the *chagim* (pilgrimage festivals) specified in the Torah, other holidays added by the ancient rabbis, and those that have come into existence recently. The structure will be based on a teaching by the Sfat Emet that each holiday has a partner in another holiday to which it is somehow related. The schedule:

- January 7—Sukkot
- January 28—Hanukkah
- February 11—Shavuot
- March 4—Purim
- March 11—Passover
- March 25—Yom Ha-Atzma'ut, Yom Hashoah, Tisha b'Av.

Classes will meet at 10:30 a.m.. Everyone is welcome.

—Paul Solyn

Etkind scholarship established

With a bequest from Jeff Etkind, a veteran teacher in the Jewish Community School and before that the Talmud Torah of Congregation Shomray Hadath, the Jewish Center & Federation has established the Jeffrey W. Etkind Scholarship Fund.

Scholarships will be available for Jewish summer camp, high-school or college study in Israel, peer-group programs in Israel, and college study in the U.S. that includes Hebrew or Judaic studies. Additional requirements apply. Information about the application procedure will be available from the JCF.

January 2018

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Sisterhood Shabbat

CONGREGATION KOL AMI

Join us on
Friday, January 19,
At 7:30 p.m.
as members of Sisterhood
will take part in the service.

Special Oneg to follow.



כל עמי–Kol Ami Congregation



from President Mike Lenzner

For those of you who remember last month's article, you will recall that I predicted a very triumphant Sparkle with more than 150 people coming to the booth. I don't have the exact numbers, but if I didn't lose 150 dreidel games to kids, I came close. I did go 3 and 1 versus the adults. I am writing this before the Hanukkah dinner, and based on the band rehearsal I just listened to, this too will be a huge success, especially with me as the emcee. (Editor's Note: I heard his material at the rehearsal and can say with little fear of being wrong that the music will be a much bigger hit than Mr. Lenzner's jokes.)

Thus I am pleased to say that Part One of this administration's goal to come up with new ways to increase membership has successfully begun.

Part Two is to come up with additional income streams. I have an idea and shared it with my friend Ron Friedman, as it involves the Cocktails and Knosh Fundraiser and I value his opinion.

Ron puts on the best parties a Temple can hope for, and from what I can see, everyone has a great time. From a financial perspective, however, we have fallen a bit short of our 300 ticket sales goal the last couple of years. While I hope that none of you think less of me, I must admit that I do like to invest in the prognostication of equine velocity (try and figure that one out) and know a thing or two about gambling.

A few years back, the Elks Club of Horseheads started a fundraiser called the Queen of Hearts (which is a little too involved to describe in this article) and the results exceeded

their wildest dreams. People were flocking to their club every week for a drawing to the point that the 50-50 drawing was over \$5,000! Overall, I am sure they made a couple hundred thousand dollars – net – on the game.

We can't do what they did, because we would have to do our fundraiser in a single night vs. a weekly drawing. *But* if things went right and we had at least the same number of people attend as last year, we could easily double our earnings! Another advantage of doing this would be that we could use this as a Spring fundraiser and be able to move our main fundraiser to the Fall so that: a) it is not too close to the Food Festival; and b) it does not negatively impact our budget in the 2017 fiscal year.

I'd like to give you the basics of where our brainstorming is now:

Consider this as a "mini fundraiser" even though we'd be expecting to make more money

Charge people \$60/couple vs. \$100 to further encourage attendance

- Have the top floor of the Synagogue be just as Cocktails and Knosh events have always been before with food, drink, music, etc...
- Have the downstairs be where the Queen of Hearts game is held
- Use \$1,000 (instead of \$10,000) to fund a "Cocktails and Knosh drawing" upstairs
- Use \$5,000 to guarantee at least a \$5,000 payout to the winners of the Queen of Hearts
- Hold Queen of Hearts drawings

every 20 minutes and continue until someone wins the grand prize

- Take 10% of our net earnings and give it to a charity that can be selected on the night of the event
- Advertise the date for the fall fundraiser and perhaps even sell tickets to it

If this a huge success, we can repeat this event design in the Fall - if not, we can go back to Cocktails and Knosh still ahead of the game because now it is in the fall instead of the Spring.

Some people may express concern about using a gambling game for a religious organization. Many area religious organizations hold Monte Carlo nights and Bingo nights, but that does not mean we have to do it. Before we take the time to embark on this effort, we thought it would be best to see how the Congregation felt about this plan before moving forward.

I am asking all of you for a favor: If you feel strongly that this is a good idea and good way to try and double our fundraiser event earnings, please let me know via e-mail.

If you feel strongly that this is not a direction you think we should go, please let me know via e-mail.

If you don't feel strongly, you can still e-mail me and I can tell you what I meant by saying I like to invest in prognosticating equine velocity. I look forward to hearing from you. My e-mail is mike@lenznerhr.com.



from Rabbi Oren Steinitz



The first time I heard of Rabbi Mike Moskowitz was last summer, when he was scheduled to teach an intensive Talmud class at a retreat aimed at Jewish Renewal rabbis. Even though I could not attend the event, I was curious when I saw that his biography stated that he is an Orthodox rabbi, who previously worked for the ultra-Orthodox outreach organization Aish. While I consider it to be a sad state of affairs that any Orthodox rabbi who is willing to teach in a liberal Jewish environment in an anomaly, it is still the all-too-common reality, and I assumed that there was a story behind the photo of the bearded young man in a black suit, white shirt and a black hat.

A Times of Israel interview with Rabbi Moskowitz published last week revealed that indeed, there definitely is a story. One year ago, at his synagogue's Chanukah party, he gave a tearful speech telling the story of a student he encountered during his outreach work at Columbia University. Several days before the party, the student texted Rabbi Moskowitz saying that they are very thankful for his help and compassion, as they are in a very difficult situation right now. The student, in

addition to dealing with the pressures of final exams and papers, was also struggling to find their space in the Orthodox Jewish community, while being a closeted transgender. Rabbi Moskowitz pleaded his congregants to treat marginalized members of the Jewish community with kindness, and find room in their hearts to accept them.

The speech was not well received. A stream of angry emails and letters flooded the synagogue office, and earlier this year the Rabbi was forced to resign. He also lost his job as an Orthodox outreach director at Columbia, and many of his friends and community members distanced

themselves from him. Despite the heavy price he paid for remaining true to his values, the rabbi has no plans on giving up. While he keeps on living in the Lakewood Orthodox community, he became a vocal advocate for Trans acceptance, saying that the frighteningly high suicide rates among this community (approximately 45% attempted suicide) make it an issue of *pikuach nefesh* – saving lives – which Jewish Law considers an ultimate value. “God doesn’t put extra people in the world,” Moskowitz told the Times of Israel. “We have a responsibility to God to take care of those people who are most marginalized.”

CKA Book Club 2017–2018

All meetings are in the Jerome & Etkind Library on
the second Wednesday of each month at noon.

January 10, 2018
House of Spies
Daniel Silva

February 14, 2018
We Were the Lucky Ones
Georgia Hunter

March 14, 2018
All the Rivers
Dorit Rabinyan

April 11, 2018
What to Do About the Solomons
Bethany Ball

May 9, 2018
The Weight of Ink
Rachel Kadish

Ask for these at the public library,
or purchase them, join us, and don't forget to
bring your lunch!

CKA Cookbook:

The new *Simply Delicious* cookbook is available in the CKA office during regular office hours! More than 350 tried and true recipes gathered by our CKA community members. Cost \$12.00 per book. After purchasing two books any additional books are \$10.00 each! These make excellent gifts.



Share the memories on January 21

Please join Sisterhood for an Archive Identification and Greeting Card Sale on Sunday January 21, at 10:00 a.m. Breakfast will be available for your enjoyment.

Archive Identification: Linda Kaufman, Arts Council folklorist Maria Kennedy, and Chemung County Historical Society archivist Rachel Dworkin have been hard at work searching for interesting photographs and objects in Kol Ami's archive room. But some of these things remain a mystery, and we need your help! We invite you to come view a selection of these items and share what you know about them. Do you recognize people in the photographs? Can you share stories about particular events? Do you know what mysterious objects are? For example, what was happening in photo of this large banquet at the Mark Twain Hotel? (photo attached)



Maria and Rachel will be on hand

to record your information, which may contribute to our upcoming exhibit at the Chemung County Historical Society in April. In addition, if you have any interesting photographs and objects relating to Jewish heritage from your own collection, please bring them to share! We are particularly interested in old family

photos and objects related to: family recipes, immigrant stories, holiday traditions (such as Passover and Purim) and Jewish businesses of Elmira.

Greeting Card "One Day Only 50% Off Sale": Browse, shop, and nosh at this event and take advantage of this one-day-only sale.

Weekly Torah/Haftarah Portions & Candle Lighting

January 5–6 4:32 PM <i>Shemot</i> Torah Exodus 1:1–6:1 Pr. Isaiah 27:6–28:13, 29:22–23	January 12–13 4:39 PM <i>Vaera</i> Torah Exodus 6:2–9:35 Pr. Ezekiel 28:25–29:21	January 19–20 4:48 PM <i>Bo</i> Torah Exodus 10:1–13:16 Pr. Jeremiah 46:13–28	January 26–27 4:56 PM <i>Beshalach</i> Torah Exodus 13:17–17:16 Pr. Judges 4:4–5:31
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Shabbat Services

except as noted below

Shabbat Evening Service	7:30 PM	
Shabbat Morning Service	8:00 AM	
Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM	<i>with Torah reading</i>

Noteworthy Upcoming Religious Observances

Friday, January 12		Saturday, January 20	
Shabbat Evening Service	7:30 PM	Shabbat Morning Service	8:00 AM
		Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM
Saturday, January 13		Friday, January 26	
Torah Yoga	9:00 AM	Musical Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Shabbat Ruach	10:00 AM	In memory of Dr. Edward Grandt	
Friday, January 19		Saturday, January 27	
Sisterhood Shabbat Service	7:30 PM	Shabbat Morning Service	8:00 AM
		Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM

PRAYER FOR THE ILL OR ILL AT HEART

Adonai, You who blessed our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Rachel, and Leah, send Your blessing to those who are ill of body and ill of spirit. Grant them Refuah Sh'lema, a complete recovery, and may healing come speedily. Amen.

Yahrzeits

January	Tevet	10 Arthur Kaplan	23	21 Herman Schindler	5
1 Joseph Bimberg	14	11 Eleanor Strumpf	24	21 Louis E. Stern	5
1 Sidney Rubin	14	11 Joseph Spiegel	24	22 Saddy Gutterman	6
1 Leon Markson	14	11 Herman Levy	24	22 Nettie Steinmetz	6
1 Isadore Earle	14	11 Anna Handin	24	22 Abraham Moses	6
1 Chet Fox	14	11 Rose Shulman	24	22 Betsy Rosenbloom	6
1 Morris Liebson	14	11 Nathan Kornfield	24	22 Betsy Rosencrans	6
1 Gertrude Wladis	14	11 William Jalter	24	22 Rachel Rubenstein	6
1 Jacob Baltimore	14	11 Harry Stone	24	23 Mary Berinstein	7
2 Paula Rosenblatt Kaplan	15	12 Minerva Laskow	25	23 Ruth Fidelman	7
2 Leonard Kaplan	15	12 Issac Slohm	25	23 Mina Bloch	7
2 Evelyn Rosencrantz	15	12 Gertrude Adelson	25	23 Phillip Oppenheim	7
2 Edward Small	15	12 Gertrude Rosenwald	25	23 Blanche Rosenblatt	7
3 Gertrude Sacks	16	12 Meta Sorson	25	23 William Sayers	7
4 Howard Greenberg	17	12 Meta Speigler	25	23 Leon Markson	7
4 Ada Kantz	17	13 Florence Glass	26	23 Ethel Halperin Miller	7
4 Fay Levine	17	13 Edna Stone	26	24 Morris B. Seamon	8
4 Mildred Schreiber	17	13 Elizabeth Caplan	26	24 Nathan Granoff	8
4 Dora J. Barcon	17	13 Moses Ginsburg	26	24 Jennie Etkind Kenner	8
4 Frank Harris	17	13 Sarah Kroshinsky	26	24 Rose Tondow	8
4 Silas Henry	17	14 Bertha Radin	27	24 Rachel Rubinstein	8
4 George Nathenson	17	14 Joseph Rockman	27	24 Rose Winnick	8
4 Paula Bank Plaut	17	14 Barbara Shapiro	27	24 Rita Eagen	8
4 Norma Feinstein	17	14 Karen Featherman	27	25 Marian J. Miller	9
4 Esther Rubin	17	14 Tiba Michlosky	27	25 Solon Diamondstone	9
4 Edith Rubin	17	14 Arthur O. Varon	27	25 David Smith	9
4 Abraham Staver	17	14 Rose Kaplan	27	26 Herbert Friedman	10
5 Helen Cohan	18	14 Jane Rosencranz	27	26 Bertha Rosenfield	10
5 Nathan Knispel	18	15 Milton Aronowitz	28	26 Phillip Gutterman	10
5 Minette Salsburg	18	15 Leon Braude	28	26 Lillian Walter	10
5 Rosa Wohl	18	15 Irving Scherr	28	26 Paul Levy	10
5 Joseph B. Solomon	18	15 Irving Goldstein	28	26 Barry Hyman	10
6 Gertrude Rosenwald	19	15 Hattie Siegel	28	26 Alexander Scheps	10
6 Wilhelmina Friedman	19	16 Abe Chernosky	29	26 Irving S. Simon	10
6 Myer A. Miller	19	16 Freda Werner	29	27 Martha W. Spiegel	11
6 Rose Plitt	19	16 Ada Kantz	29	27 Joseph Rosencranz	11
6 Lillian R. Etkind	19			27 Peter Kronenthal	11
6 Rose Kaplan	19	January	Shvat	27 Marvin Wladis	11
6 Meyer Sactor	19	17 Esther Gladke	1	28 Sally Aronowitz	12
6 Sarah Stemerman	19	17 Edith Ornstat	1	28 Samuel Cohen	12
7 Ruth Board	20	17 Abraham Brown	1	28 Laura M. Marlowe	12
7 Inez Peterson	20	17 Esther Ginsburg	1	28 Ida Braveman	12
8 Lillian Soodek	21	17 Oscar Shulman	1	28 Jennie L. Yudkovsky	12
8 Sophia Gell	21	18 Sherry Miller	2	28 Bernard Komer	12
9 Abe W. Winston	22	18 Joseph Solomon	2	28 Joe Kaplan	12
9 Harold Saffer	22	18 Rivka Stemerman	2	28 Keith Miller	12
9 Meta Spiegler	22	19 Barry Hyman	3	29 Fay Robbins	13
9 Ida Fidelman	22	19 Olga Barcus	3	29 Bernard Steinman	13
9 Nathan H. Rubin	22	19 Rose Robbins	3	29 Joseph Oppenheim	13
10 Samuel M. Salsburg	23	19 Arnold Weinstein	3	29 Kathleen Golby	13
10 Rae Kornfield	23	20 Samuel Allenstein	4	29 Sally Staver	13
10 Bertha Singer Pell	23	20 Blume R. Glass	4	30 Albert Kaplan	14
10 Pauline Silverman	23	20 Sylvia Levinson	4	30 J. Ralph Paltrowitz	14
10 Joseph Weiss	23	21 David Snowiss	5	30 Abraham H. Rubin	14
10 Pauline Shulman	23	21 Morris Braude	5		

continued

CKA Donations

Flowers for the Bimah

- ✧ January 5: In memory of Manford Rosenbloom by Judy & Stu Komer
- ✧ January 19: In memory of Bernard Komer & Ruth Fidelman by Judy & Stu Komer
- ✧ January 26: In honor of Shabbat by John & Joanne Travers

Congregation Education Fund

- ✧ In Memory of Ruth Olszowy by Charlotte & Marcus Kantz

General Fund

- ✧ In appreciation of the High Holy Day services by Phil & Cindy Goldman

Memorial/Honor Fund

- ✧ In memory of Harold Berman by Marcia & Terry Lenhardt

Jerome & Etkind Library Fund

- ✧ In memory of Lena Horwitz by Leon Horwitz
- ✧ In memory of Phyllis K. Horwitz by Leon Horwitz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In memory of William Sitrin by Sharon & Scott More and Family
- ✧ In memory of Esther Granoff by Clay Granoff
- ✧ In appreciation by Michael & Michelle Halperin

Synagogue Endowment Fund

Blue Chai Card

- ✧ In memory of Vivian Graubard by Honorable Sidney S. Graubard

Yahrzeits

30	Virginia Friedman	14
30	Abraham Rubenstein	14
30	Abraham H. Rubin	14
30	Abe Silverman	14
31	Max Bloch	15
31	Meyer Frucht	15
31	Jacob Locks	15
31	Harry Stemerman	15

Names of Confederate soldiers buried in Woodlawn Cemetery are included above.

In Memoriam

Congregation Kol Ami extends its heartfelt condolences to Margo Golos and family on the death of Margo's cousin, Donald Phillip Golos, of Tucson, Arizona, on Monday, December 4, 2017. *Zich'rono liv'racha*, may his memory be a blessing.

Hospital Visits & Mi-shebeirach List

Due to HIPPA, no hospital can divulge names of patients unless a release is signed. Upon hospitalization, please complete necessary paperwork so that the CKA office and Rabbi Oren Steinitz will be notified, or call the CKA office.

The CKA office would appreciate being notified when one of your loved ones no longer needs our special prayers for them. This enables us to keep the Mi-shebeirach list up to date.

FLOWERS FOR THE BIMAH

It is our congregation's long-standing tradition to adorn the bimah with flowers for the Sabbath:

in memory of

in honor of

in celebration of

Please call Sue King, evenings 607-734-8468, for cost, information and to reserve a date.

Thank you.

Purim Greetings

Your Purim greetings listing and check are due in the CKA office by Friday, January 26.

Please provide addresses for college students (no charge)

Extra Boxes \$10.00 each

Names \$1.00 each

Whole congregation \$100.00

Please indicate if you do not want a Purim bag but just a card with greetings.

If you could help, please call the CKA office, 607-732-7410.

Jewish Center and Federation



from President Marcus Kantz

Throughout this year, I've been thinking a lot about college-age Jews, starting, of course with those in our community who have so greatly enhanced our Jewish life here. Inevitably, I have also been thinking about the kids in nearby colleges who apparently constituted the target community that the Brooklyn Yeshiva hoped to attract to the institution that the Yeshiva was trying to set up if they were able to purchase the former Dominican Monastery on Church Street. I, along with some others, could not imagine that there would be enough orthodox kids at colleges close enough, to make the plan viable. I did some very casual and informal research that showed, that yes, there are quite a few Jewish kids in nearby colleges. However they are likely already well-served by their on-campus organizations and activities.

Now that the project has been rejected by the Town of Elmira Zoning, I have sort of forgotten about local

college students. Then along came Kaskeset, the Jewish a cappella singing group from Binghamton University that JCF Director Paul Solyn had invited to come and sing for us. They had driven themselves from Binghamton to Elmira, with no "adult supervision." In fact, they never really have adult supervision. While remaining under the university Hillel umbrella, they are completely self-run, self-directed, self-motivated, self-promoted, and simply marvelous. They sang a mixture of Hebrew, English, Yiddish, and probably something else too, by themselves, with pseudo-percussion accompaniment provided by a couple of the bass voices.

After the concert they hung around for quite a while, in part to sell a few of their CDs, but mostly, it seemed, just to schmooze with us. They were totally comfortable with us, and enormously fun to hang out with. In light of the recent Yeshiva experience, I asked how many Jew-

ish kids there are at BU, how many are observant, etc., and was totally astounded by the answers. They said that about a third of the BU enrollment is Jewish (meaning well over 3000), with about 500 in Chabad, the ultra-orthodox group. So, sure enough, there are a lot of kids nearby who might have been interested in participating in an orthodox experience in Elmira.

It makes me wonder, is there any way that we can find to become involved with them, all of those nearby bright-eyed and outgoing Jewish kids in our back yard? Certainly, we can welcome Kaskeset back for future performances. They practically begged us to do so. Perhaps we could also organize trips to Binghamton to see Jewish-oriented concerts and other productions there. Paul and I have their web site and email information. All we have to do is reach out.

Adult Education

Open to the entire community

Saturdays at 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast and discussion—topic determined by the participants. Attend the brief Shabbat morning service at 8:00 a.m. and stay for breakfast, or come for breakfast and stay for the full Shabbat service at 9:00 a.m.

Sundays, January 7 and 28, at 10:30 a.m.: "Relearning the Jewish Holidays" with Paul Solyn. Also Feb. 11, March 4, 11, 25.

Game days continue

Game tables and refreshments will be waiting at Kol Ami every Tuesday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Bring some warmth of companionship and laughter to yourself and another Scrabble, Rummikub, any other board game you choose, or the card game of your choice.

Anniversaries

Sandra & Robert Ashendorf
Mindy & Joe Gaieski
Debra & Jonathan Kravitz

Eva & John Kadar
Cynthia & John Massey

Birthdays

Debra Chesman
Carla Cohen
Richard Frank
Gail Gerard
Dian Gerstel
Reuven Gifeisman
Theodore Goldwyn
Michelle Halperin
Samuel Morgan Halperin
Beth Herbst
Lenard Hirshman
Carole Hoffman
Stephen Koob
Kasey Lee Lenzner
Michael Lenzner

Shayna Miller
Ellen Moore
Jacob Samuel Peffer
Kristine Perle
Judith Prentice
Rick Rosenberg
Suzanne Savin
Courtney Seltzer
Doris Siskin
Svetlana Short
Robert White

For birthday and anniversary dates please call the CKA office, 607-732-7410.

from Executive Director Paul Solyn



In December there was a report that the staff of the Centers for Disease Control, and perhaps of other Federal agencies, had been instructed not to use certain words in this year's budget materials.

I worked full-time in fund raising for many years, and up to a point this makes sense. In requesting a donation, you naturally try to use language that the donor can identify with and to avoid language that would trigger a negative reaction.

This can work when the trigger word is not essential to your request. It doesn't work so well when it's central to your mission. For example, it would not work to describe the Jewish Center & Federation as a nonprofit organization that does general good works for no specific reasons. We do what we do *because* we are a Jewish organization.

The controversy led me to wonder: what are the forbidden words in

the Jewish community? What topics are we afraid to discuss?

In the 1950s, it was the Holocaust. For those who experienced it or who knew the most about it, it was too raw, and parents wanted to insulate children from all of it. That changed in the 1960s, but as recently as 2006 I directed a Hebrew school where teaching about the Holocaust was prohibited, even in the upper grades.

Today, Israel might be the topic that, if not forbidden, is almost too hot to handle. Many of us are distressed by the Israeli government's policies, and in more than one way. It doesn't help that we hear criticism of Israel in the public media, or that we encounter people who try to hold us personally responsible for government policies with which we disagree.

This is an abrupt change from the past several decades, when support

for Israel seemed to be the central feature of Jewish life in America. It was the focus of Federation fund raising everywhere, and often the predominant element in Jewish education.

Its dominance in education seemed to stem from a fundamental misunderstanding. While it is true that time spent in Israel powerfully affects an individual's Jewish identity, there has never been any evidence that studying Israel in a classroom in America had a similar effect. My colleague Harvey Leven, now with the Detroit Federation, once said, "If a student doesn't already have Jewish identity, studying Israel in class is just social studies."

Now we know that Israel is not a magic bullet to make people feel Jewish. Yet it is an undeniable part of our identity as Jews, no matter how strongly we might disagree with its government.

Community Kitchen



Generous volunteers from CKA and JCF prepare and serve lunch at the Elmira Community Kitchen on the first Thursday of every month. Our next dates are January 4 and February 1. If you can help, please contact Gil Sweet. Cooks, food-preparers, food-buyers, table-setters, servers... you name it, we need you! Cash donations may be made through the JCF.

CPR class planned



A class in first aid and CPR will take place at Congregation Kol Ami on Sunday, January 28, at 12:30 p.m. The class leads to American Heart Association certification. It's open to all; to register, please call the JCF office, 607-734-8122, or Jeff Rosenheck, 607-731-4217. There's a fee of \$60 per person, payable at the class.

HELP US HELP YOU!



Do you know anyone who needs a ride? Who needs a friendly visitor? Who wants someone to contact them about help? Call or send an email to Gil Sweet (607) 742-8017, the JCF office at (607) 734-8122, or the CKA office at (607) 732-7410.



JCF Donations

UJA Campaign

Donor

- ☆ Loda Golos
- ☆ Marianne & Lenard Hirshman
- ☆ Harriette Y. Lindsay

Friend

- ☆ Ronald & Kathy Herman
- ☆ Douglas & Phyllis Holtgrewe
- ☆ Robert & Janet Rochlin
- ☆ Lev Shugol
- ☆ David & Doris Siskin

Sponsor

- ☆ Alan Angell & Beth Dollinger
- ☆ Miriam Biatch
- ☆ Malachi & Erin Doane
- ☆ Maddy & Larry Dolkart
- ☆ Rosalyn & Richard DuBois
- ☆ Richard Gerard
- ☆ John & Elizabeth Goldman
- ☆ Carole Hoffman
- ☆ Penn-York Jewish Community
- ☆ Alex & Marilyn Rabinowitz
- ☆ Linda Sichel Ralph
- ☆ Jeffrey Rosenheck

Supporter

- ☆ Marc Hample,
- ☆ Charlotte & Marcus Kantz

Patron

- ☆ James E. Perle
- ☆ Richard & Felica Poes
- ☆ Marc Stemerman
- ☆ Jerald & Myra Stemerman

Benefactor

- ☆ Baker Memorial Fund

February 10, 2018
10:00 AM

SHABBAT RUACH EVOLUTION SHABBAT



Guest Speaker:
Rabbi Geoffrey Mitelman
Founding Director
Sinai and Synapses

Rabbi Mitelman will speak during the service and after lunch.



JCS students in grades K-1-2, under the direction of Mrs. Rosenheck and Dr. Doerkson, created a stunning Hanukkah bulletin board for the community. Great work!

Office hours

Congregation Kol Ami: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Jewish Center and Federation: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and by appointment.

All information for the **February** issue of the *Kol Ami* must be submitted to one of the organizational offices by **January 10**. Please be sure that all dates are on the JCF calendar.

SAVE THE DATE JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL SUNDAY, APRIL 15

JFF MEETING - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 10:00 AM

Jewish Community School



from Director Jeff Rosenheck

It is hard to believe that we are at the halfway point for the 5778 school year, with the first semester ending on Sunday, January 28th. With that being said, parents of our current students should expect to see report cards coming home in February. Anyone with questions, comments, or concerns regarding the report cards should contact their child's teacher, or myself, to schedule a conference.

December was a great month for the JCS, but one that went by quickly. The highlight, of course, the annual Chanukkah party, which was held on December 17, 2017. A new approach to the festivities this year, students rotated through different activities in a center-based learning environment, participating in food prep, crafts, and music activities, as well as other exciting activities. This

year, the school also sponsored a dreidel decorating contest. We hope to provide photos of this in our next issue of the Kol Ami. A special thanks goes to Maria and Ted Goldwyn for helping to organize the festivities, as well as all the parent volunteers that helped make the day successful.

January 28 will be a busy day for the school. Parents are welcome to join us at 11:15 for our annual Tu Bishvat Seder. The event recognizes the holiday, and allows students to sample a variety of fruits, vegetables and nuts that come from trees. The seder includes eating, of course, prayers and some music. Later that day, staff will be taking part in CPR and First Aid training, an initiative begun six years ago in an attempt to ensure our staff are ready for any emergency that is presented. Parents

and community members are encouraged to join our staff for the course, which will begin at 12:30pm. Those wishing to participate should contact me at 607-731-4217 to reserve a seat.

I would like to congratulate the Kindergarten, First and Second grade students on receiving a thank you note from the Chemung County Nursing Facility after sending in completed crafts for the residents. With the note, they received pictures of their crafts hanging in the facility. Great work!

There will be no school on Sunday, January 14 in observance of Martin Luther King weekend. School will resume on January 21.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

Class News

Kitot Bet & Gimel (2-3): Our curriculum focus during the last month has been learning about Hanukkah. We have also been reading many of the great Hanukkah books, some old favorites like *Sammy Spider's First Hanukkah*, as well as a great new book from PJ Library, *I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel*.

We worked on some craft projects that have displayed on the bulletin board outside the Pre-K room. Our craft project in December for the Chemung County Nursing Facility was snowmen. The activities director there says the residents have been enjoying our efforts and we are hoping to plan a visit there sometime in the coming months.

Kathy Rosenheck

Kitot Hay & Vav (5-6): As December approaches, the students' thoughts happily turn to Chanukah. Although there is always the excite-

ment of gifts, dreidels, latkes, and jelly doughnuts, they also eagerly anticipate the retelling of the story of the Maccabees and their incredible bravery and perseverance. It is a time to remember and discuss an event where good conquers evil and miracles happen. The Hanukkah story is a constant reminder of the idea that anything is possible!

Needless to say, the students love the Hanukkah party and class gift exchange, but more importantly, they always remember the more uplifting and serious aspects of this wonderful holiday. Happy Hanukkah and a healthy and happy New Year!

Donna Rothenberg

Kitot Vav & Zayin (6-7): Shalom! The sixth graders have studied Rabbi Zakkai (Jewish learning), Sandy Koufax (Jewish solidarity), Golda Meir (Zionism) and Abraham Joshua Heschel (Healing the World).

Please stop by and see the January bulletin board which shows these Jewish heroes and Jewish values.

The seventh grade has had some sparse attendance (for very good reasons) but we have still managed to progress. We viewed the film, *Life is Beautiful*, which had a tremendous effect. We studied Jewish birth rituals and baby naming. We also read the story of Judith in connection with Hanukkah. I look forward to continuing our learning.

Eileen Pollack

Tichon (High School): High School learning about Jewish history in the post WW2 years we see the same challenges we face today. How to be actively Jewish while living in the suburbs where the majority of neighbors are of a different faith? How to be moral in a world that does not seem to value individual rights?

Amanda Sharp, M.D.

*Come check out Sisterhood's new
Card & Judaica Shop*



*located adjacent to CKA's business office
Open during regular office hours
Absolutely wonderful greeting cards for all
occasions only \$1 per card*

*Musical Shabbat Service
with Sue Amisano
Friday, January 26
7:30 p.m.*

**Save the Date
Feb. 4, 2018!**

**Two events on the same day!
Wow!**



**10:00 AM – Ever wondered
what Jewish prayer had to do
with Chinese medicine? Didn't
think so, but now you are,
right?**

**Join CKA and the JCS for World
Wide Wrap! A worldwide pro-
gram discussing the hows, the
whys, and the spiritual con-
texts of wrapping t'fillin. Wom-
en, men, and children are all
welcome.**



**6:00 PM – Your big screen not
big enough? Join us downstairs
for a Superbowl party!**

**Please check the CKA Website
and Facebook page for details
and updates.**

PJ LIBRARY

FREE BOOKS AND MUSIC FOR JEWISH CHILDREN

AGES 6 MONTHS–8 YEARS

[http://www.pjlibrary.org/communities/
elmira-twin-tiers/317](http://www.pjlibrary.org/communities/elmira-twin-tiers/317)

AGES 9–11 YEARS

<http://www.pjourway.org>

A project of the
Jewish Center & Federation
of the Twin Tiers and the
Harold Grinspoon Foundation



Office hours

Congregation Kol Ami: Monday–
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Jewish Center and Federation:

Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30
p.m., and by appointment.

January 2018

Dear Fellow Congregant,

It's a fundraiser and a Mitzvah, rolled into one!! And our Annual Purim Project involves everyone. What could be better? So, join in on the fun and good will.

In this newsletter you will find a list of congregants. Everyone will receive a Purim greeting card and local members will also receive Shalach Manot - a small gift of food. If you would like your name signed on a congregant's card, simply put a checkmark next to their name. Count up the checkmarks and make a donation equal to \$1.00 for each name or greet the entire Congregation for \$100.00.

You can order additional gifts for local or out-of-town delivery for friends and family (grandchildren). Just provide the mailing address and \$10.00 per bag, and we will do the rest. There is no charge for mailing to your children who attend college.

Please make your check payable to CKA and mail or bring it to the office by Friday, January 26, 2017, along with the list of members and you will have the satisfaction of helping breathe life into an old and honored tradition.

Please join in.

Harriet Sweet

CKA Purim Committee

Coming Events – Save the Dates!

Tuesdays – Game Afternoons (JCF)

Sundays, Jan. 7 and 28, Feb. 11, March 4, 11, and 25 – Relearning the Holidays (JCF)

Saturday, January 13 – Shabbat Ruach (CKA)

Friday, January 19 – Sisterhood Shabbat (CKA)

Friday, January 26 – Musical Shabbat Service (CKA)

Saturday, February 10 – Shabbat Ruach/Evolution Shabbat (CKA & JCF)

Friday, February 16 – Musical Shabbat Service (CKA)

Wednesday, February 28 – Purim Celebration (CKA)

Thursday, March 1 – Purim Service and Megillah Reading (CKA)

Friday, March 9 – Shabbat Across America (CKA)

Saturday, March 10 – Shabbat Ruach (CKA)

Friday, March 23 – Musical Shabbat Service (CKA)

Sunday, March 18 – Community Open House (JCS, CKA, and JCF)

Friday, March 30 – First Night of Passover

Saturday, March 31 – Community Passover Seder (CKA)

PURIM GREETING 2018

Your Name _____

✓				✓		
	Lee & Anita	Adelsberg			Dr. Lee & Beth	Herbst
	Irv	Appel			Floriett	Herman
	Marina	Aptekman			Ronald & Kathy	Herman
	Robert & Sandy	Ashendorf			Harriett	Hesselson
	Benzakina	Babayev			Thomas & Suzanne	Hesselson
	Nanette	Barcus			Lenard & Marianne	Hirshman
	Herman & Michelle	Berliss			Carole	Hoffman
	Ed & Rose	Berman			Dr. & Mrs. Darryl	Hoffman
	Larry & Diane	Berman			Sara	Holtzman
	Miriam	Biatch			Leon	Horwitz
	Brittany	Braunstein			Dorothy	Jacobson
	Edwin & Carol	Braunstein			Miriam	Jacobson
	Sue	Braunstein			John A. & Eva	Kadar
	Jeffrey & Susan	Cadel			Kenneth W. & Zsuzsana	Kadar
	Herbert	Caplan			Peter & Doreen-Oliver	Kadar
	Lea	Champion			Marcus & Charlotte	Kantz
	Harvey & Linda	Chernosky			Rhoda	Kaplan
	Fay	Cohen			David & Denise	Kartzman
	Larry & Kathy	Cohen			Jeffrey & Sheila	Katz
	Dr. Robert & Carla	Cohen			Linda	Kaufman
	Jeffrey & Beverly	Dann			Susan	King
	Sharon	DeHaas			Stuart & Judy	Komer
	Malachi & Erin	Doane			Steven & Lisa	Goldberg-Koob
	Terri	Dobbs			Anders	Korn
	Irene	Dobromil			Lee	Kosow
	Larry & Maddy	Dolkart			Jon & Debbie	Kravitz
	Robert & Caren	Douenias			Linda	Kruger
	Martha	Eden			Michael & Malvina	Kushnir
	Steven	Etkind			Phyllis & Michael	Lares
	Louis & Joan	Featherman			Theodore & JoAnn	Lax
	Andrew & Polly	Filson			Terence & Marcia	Lenhardt
	Richard & Andra	Frank			Michael & Lynnette	Lenzner
	Ronald & Gloria	Friedman			Neil S. & Rachelle	Lerner
	Mindy & Joe	Gaieski			Anana & Roni	Levi
	Richard & Gail	Gerard			Herman & Galina	Liebson
	Michael & Susan	German			Harriette & Jerry	Lindsay
	Dian	Gerstel			Michael & Lynn	Lloyd
	Mark & Nadya	Gifeisman			Norman	Lovitch
	Maureen	Gladke			Richard & Linda	Lubell
	Stephen	Glantz			Edith	Lubin
	John & Elizabeth Walton	Goldman			Barbara	Luther
	Ted & Marie	Goldwyn			Sheila	Madden
	Mitchell & Theresa	Goldwater			John & Cynthia	Massey
	Loda	Golos			Susan	Messing
	Clement	Granoff			Cheryl	Miller
	James & Faith	Gray			Scott & Sharon	Moore
	Lawrence & Miriam	Greene			Nancy	Nicastro
	Steven & Amanda Sharp	Greenberg			Ralph & June	Obler
	Michael & Michelle	Halperin			Irene	Paltrowitz
	Marjorie	Hamilton			Lauren & Lloyd	Peffer
	Marc	Hample			Dr. James	Perle
	Martin & Debra Chesman	Hempstead			Richard & Felicia	Poes

Alex & Trudi	Porter		Ellen	Wohl
Judith	Prentice		Esther & Ofir	Yaloz
Alex & Marilyn	Rabinowitz		Andrey & Marietta	Zaborsky
Leslie & Sheila	Rachlin		Jody	Zacher
Margo	Golos-Reines			
Herbert & Hilde	Robbins			
Richard	Rosenberg			
Jeffrey	Rosenheck			
Michael	Rosenthal			
Arleigh	Rothenberg			
Geoffrey	Rubin			
Gregory	Rubin			
Haskell	Rubin			
Jeffrey & Andrea	Rubin			
Marc & Penny	Rubin			
Amy	Ruza			
Alan	Sactor			
Morton	Sadinsky			
Steven & Mindy Elzufon	Salsburg			
Richard & Heidi	Savin			
Chris	Seymour			
Leonard	Schreiber			
Alan & Susan	Seltzer			
Eileen	Semel			
Michael	Semel			
Mollie	Sherman			
Paul & Phyllis	Shore			
Ralph & Svetlana	Short			
Jeffrey & Ann	Sigel			
David & Doris	Siskin			
Leona	Siskin			
Karey & William Passmore	Solomon			
Marion	Solomon			
Paul	Solyn			
Daniel & Sharon	Sporn			
Rabbi & Mrs Oren	Steinitz			
Jerome & Natalie	Steinmetz			
Jerald & Myra	Sterman			
Marc & Shannon	Sterman			
Marsha	Sterman			
Peter	Strumpf			
Gilbert & Harriet	Sweet			
Tobi	Thornton			
Edyth	Tompkins			
John & Joanne	Travers			
Gertrude	Webber			
Marcia	Weber			
Charles & Priscilla	Weinstein			
Janice	Weisenfeld			
Annie	Werner			
Robert & Jill	White			
Rosalyn	Wladis			

- \$1.00 for each name checked on list.
- \$100.00 to greet all members of CKA
- I prefer to pick up my bag rather than have it delivered.
- I won't be home February 25. Please send Purim card only.

College Students – No charge for mailing. We **MUST** have a mailing address by February 20 or no bag will be prepared.

EXTRA BAGS for family, friends or grad students @ \$10.00 each.

Need Name/s. _____

ALL BAGS WILL BE READY FOR PICK UP AT CKA ON SUNDAY, February 25, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Purim Bag delivery between 3/20 and 3/25.

ALL GREETINGS FORMS WITH CHECK MUST BE RETURNED BY Friday, January 26.

**Congregation Kol Ami
1008 W. Water Street
Elmira, NY 14905**

NAME _____

Jewish Community Calendar

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 All Offices Closed New Year's Day	2 JCF 1:00 pm Game day	3	4 Community Kitchen JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	5 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	6 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
7 JCS 9-12:15 JCF 10:30 a.m. Adult Ed. "Relearning the Holidays"		9 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day	10 CKA 12:00 pm Book Club CKA 6:30 pm Exec. Board 7:30 pm Board Meeting	11 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	12 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	13 CKA 9:00 am Torah Yoga 10:00 am Shabbat Ruach
14 No JCS	15 All Offices Closed Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.	16 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day JCF 7:00 pm Exec. Board Meeting 7:30pm Board Meeting	17	18 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	19 CKA Sisterhood 7:30 pm Shabbat Service with Special Oneg	20 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
21 JCS 9-12:15 CKA Sisterhood 10:00 am Breakfast, Archive Meeting, Card Sale	22	23 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day	24	25 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	26 CKA 7:30 pm Musical Shabbat Service	27 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
28 JCS 9-12:15 11:15 am Tu Bishvat Seder JCF 10:30 a.m. Adult Ed. 12:30 p.m. First Aid & CPR Training	29	30 JCF 1:00 pm Game Day	31 Tu Bishvat			

Kol Ami
The Voice of my People
Vol. 22 No. 1
www.twintiersjewishcommunity.com
A monthly publication of

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