

# KOL קול עמי AMI

May 5

## Shabbat Ruach will feature storytelling

“Pray as if everything depends on God, act as if everything depends on you” will be the theme of the Shabbat Ruach service on Saturday, May 5. The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Huling Hummel and Maggid Paul Solyn will tell stories on this theme during the service and at a kiddush lunch following it.

Cynthia attends many JCF and CKA events and spoke at Shabbat Ruach in December 2016. She received her B.S. degree from Rutgers College, M.Div. from New Brunswick Theological Seminary and D.Min. from McCormick Seminary. She was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1996 and served as a pastor for 15 years.



She also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Jamaica, worked for Dun and Bradstreet for fifteen years, and sings in a band called “Country Magic.” Paul has been executive director of the Jewish center and Federation of the Twin Tiers since 2007 and received an M.J.Ed. degree from Hebrew College, Boston. In 2017 he was ordained as a Maggid-Educator—a teacher who provides spiritual education through storytelling.

The Shabbat Ruach service is at 10:00 a.m., preceded by Torah Yoga. Please note that it’s on the first Saturday of May because of the Cocktails & Knosh Affair the following weekend.

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

May 2018

### *In this issue:*

JCF Film Series	3
Mazal Tov	4
In Memoriam	4
JCF Donations	4
Anniversaries	4
Birthdays	4
Adult Education	5
Service Schedule	6
Torah/Haftarah & Candle Lighting	6
CKA Donations	7
Yahrzeits	8

## Tikkun to begin Shavuot

Shavuot is probably the least-celebrated of the three festivals (the others are Passover and Sukkot), for two reasons. One is that it began as an agricultural festival when farmers brought offerings of the early grain harvest to the Temple in Jerusalem. Because most of us are not farmers and there is no Temple to which to bring offerings, this form of celebration is no longer possible.

The second is that there’s less to do at Shavuot, particularly at home. Passover is celebrated primarily at home, and in families that build a sukkah, so is Sukkot. There is no home observance for Shavuot, except perhaps special dairy foods such as blintzes or cheesecake—only services in the synagogue.

Some congregations hold Confirmation on Shavuot, and a few hold adult b’nai mitzvah celebrations.

In addition to the Shavuot morning service, which includes Yizkor, there is one communal Shavuot celebration that is growing in popularity: the *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*. Building on the understanding that Shavuot is the anniversary of receiving the Torah, and that the Israelites overslept that morning, congregations hold late-night (theoretically all-night, but few make it that far) study sessions to honor the Torah and be ready to receive it.

Congregation Kol Ami’s *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* will be on Saturday, May 19, starting at 8:30 p.m. Join Rabbi Oren Steinitz, Maggid Paul Solyn and other teachers for a night of Jewish learning and blintzes in honor of Shavuot! We promise that it will end before midnight. The Shavuot morning service, with Yizkor, is Sunday, May 20, at 10:00 a.m.

# Jewish Center and Federation



*from President Marcus Kantz*

They say that April showers bring May flowers. But it's snowing, again. Still. It seems that it's been snowing every day since Thanksgiving. Yes, I'm thankful that not much of it has stuck, but still. How am I supposed to write a cheery, upbeat article for the May issue of the Kol Ami when it's snowing? Not only is it snowing, but the preparations for the Jewish Food Festival are also going on. Still, and seemingly since Thanksgiving. Yes I'm thankful that the JFF will actually happen this Sunday and that all of the work will have been worthwhile and it will be the enormous success that it always is. But, still...

As you receive and read this, the crowds will have enjoyed the JFF, the Spiegler Lecture will have been delivered, and you all will be getting ready to see if you've won the 10 grand at the Cocktails and Knosh Affair. But will it have stopped snowing? Will the April showers have come and gone only to be followed by the emergence of the May flowers? I can only hope and pray for that.

I understand that unusual weather is becoming the norm. No matter what the deniers believe or say, the climate *is* changing, and the resulting weather is becoming more and more variable and, in the middle term, less predictable and less like we have come to think of as normal. Thus, it would be easy to say "Get used to not being able to get used to it," and be done with it. But there's more to the story than just getting used to the unpredictability. We all need to pay much more attention to the fact that we actually *can* do

something about it. We can do a lot about it.

First, of course, we can be more conscientious about our personal and family recycling, energy use and conservation, and water conservation and protection. We can also all take the second step of paying more attention to the businesses and providers that we use, choosing and patronizing those who are better environmental citizens.

But, I believe and contend, that the most important thing we can do as citizens of the United States and the World is to use our voices and our votes to influence those elected individuals and the institutions (including companies, foundations, state and local governments, authorities, and the like) who have the power to require all of us individually and collectively to ensure the future of our planet.

Remember, I spent 37 years at the Environmental Protection Agency. Thinking and caring about this stuff is a large part of who I am. More and more, I think and worry about how disruptive the weather will become, how high and fast the seas will rise, how soon the fresh water will run out, how soon we won't even remember about April showers and May flowers. Charlotte and I try to do our part. But the bigger, by far the more important part, can only be done collectively.

We must all together pressure our leaders to focus on what's important and to do it. Protect the water and the air. Regulate the efficiency and overall environmental consequences of energy production and use. And, while we're at it, put an end –

yes an end – to the prevalence of gun violence, and all sorts and situations of discrimination based on anything that makes some of us "different," including religion, race, ethnicity, gender, disability, disease, age, color, size, inclination, place of origin, status, neediness, woefulness, helplessness, and all the others I can't think of right now.

And that leads me back to our leaders. The ones we elect locally, more widely, and nationally, to enact laws and to hire and staff agencies and departments and commissions and committees to enforce those laws that actually have the potential to make May flowers keep popping up.

Primaries are coming up, and then general elections in the fall. The kids are leading the way. Thank God for the kids, though most of them are still too young to vote. But we are not too young to vote. We are not too young to sign petitions and go to meetings and shout and scream and say enough is enough and we are not going to take it any more. We are not going to allow the governments to go about business as usual, filling their own coffers and rewarding their own friends. We are not too young to take charge of the well-being of our world by being careful to elect leaders at all levels who demonstrate that they care more about us and the world we live in than they care about being re-elected. If they do their job well, they will get re-elected.

I want May showers this year and every year. If you do too, be careful whom you choose to vote for, and vote. Thanks.

## 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 May 3 and June 7. 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.

from Executive Director Paul Solyn



The thirtieth International March of the Living took place in Poland on April 12, Yom Hashoah, despite new tension between Poland and Jews worldwide.

The March of the Living is a 3.2-kilometer march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, intended to serve both to educate the world about the Holocaust and to demonstrate the survival of the Jewish people. While it is sometimes thought of as a march of Holocaust survivors and their descendants, anyone can participate. This year about 12,000 marchers were expected.

The tension stems from a new Polish law that makes it a crime to accuse Poland or its people of complicity in the Holocaust. Although the government of Israel has objected to this law, the presidents of Israel, Reuven Rivlin, and of Poland, Andrzej Duda, were expected to lead the march together. Duda signed the law in February.

That is just one incongruity. Lucy Davidovitch, who went to Vilna in 1938 to study at YIVO and was there until the outbreak of war in 1939, wrote a vivid description of the anti-Jewish marches and the boycott of Jewish-owned shops that took place

in Lent during her stay. Anti-semitism was deeply engrained in Polish life, yet she found Jewish life thriving in Poland, which had the largest Jewish population in Europe.

It is true that Poland did not initiate the Holocaust; the death camps in Poland were built under German orders. It is also true that Poles did not have to be forced to work in the camps. There was no shortage of willing anti-Jewish Poles.

Poland's attempt at denial of complicity is like the denial by East Germany and all countries of the Soviet bloc during Communist rule. Partly because Nazi Germany also imprisoned and killed Communists, the Soviet-bloc countries portrayed themselves as victims, not perpetrators, of Nazi persecution. In particular, East Germany insisted that it was not a successor state to the Third Reich, leaving West Germany to bear the entire burden.

Thus, while West Germany had some success in re-educating its people, East Germany and the other countries made little effort to eliminate anti-Semitism.

Another incongruity is that, despite massive anti-Semitism in Poland, there were Poles who rescued

Jews. The best known is probably Irena Sendler, a public-health nurse who smuggled children out of the Warsaw ghetto. In all, 6,706 Christian Poles have been awarded the title of Righteous Among the Nations by the State of Israel—more than those of any other nation by far—and thousands of Polish Christians were executed by the Nazis for rescuing Jews. The exact number is unknown because the Soviet occupation government concealed the information.

Poland should not try to suppress its own history, however discreditable. What is wrong, however, is the implicit assumption that any mention of that history imputes blame to contemporary Poles and Poland. All Poles old enough by the end of World War II to have participated in Nazi persecution are now elderly, if still alive.

What Poland should be concerned about is not what might be said about the World War II period, but what it is doing now to oppose anti-Semitism. The passage of this law suggests that it's not much.

---

## Off-White Lies

# Film depicts quirky father-daughter reunion

Our May film, *Off-White Lies*, is a quirky story about a daughter who is reunited with her irresponsible father in Israel, set against the background of the Lebanon war.

After years of living apart from her dad, Libi, an introverted yet sharp-witted teenager, is sent to live with him in Israel. Her arrival coincides with the outbreak of the second Lebanon war. Libby quickly discovers that her dad, Shaul, is an infantile eccentric, and that he is "in-between" apartments' (in other words, homeless). Shaul comes up with a creative plan to put a roof over their heads: they pose as refugees from the bombarded northern region of Israel, and are taken in by a well-off family in Jerusalem. Final-

ly in a "normal" household, Shaul and Libby begin to build their relationship, but their false identities can't last forever, especially as Libby unleashes teenage fury at the lies permeating her life—those she must tell now, and those she's been fed since childhood.

It stars Elya Inbar as Libi and Gur Bentwich as her father. The director, Maya Kenig, was born in Israel in 1979. She studied at the London Film School and at the Sam Spiegel Film School in Jerusalem. This was her first full-length film.

JCF films move to weekday evenings this month. We'll see it on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the Braunstein Community Room.



# JCF Donations

## JCF Membership

### Member

- ✧ Gretchen K. Halpert
- ✧ Richard & Linda Lubell
- ✧ Linda Markson Kruger
- ✧ Kristin A. Card

### Bronze Magen David

- ✧ Penn York Jewish Community

# Mazal Tov

To Cynthia and John Massey on the birth of a granddaughter, Katherine Sarah, on March 25. Katie's parents are Liz and Alex Massey. The family lives in Hyattsville, MD.

To Myra and Jerry Stemerman on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Charlie Stemerman. He is the son of David and Gila Stemerman.

# In Memoriam

Our heartfelt condolences to David & Doris Siskin & Family on the death of David's cousin Seth Siskin. *Zich'rono liv'racha*, may his memory be for a blessing.

Our heartfelt condolences to Paul Kaplan and family on the death of his mother, Marian Stemerman Kaplan, on Thursday, April 12, 2018 in Deerfield Beach, Florida. Mrs. Kaplan was aunt to Marsha Stemerman and cousin to Jerry & Myra Stemerman. The burial was in Florida.

### 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 June issue of the *Kol Ami* must be submitted to one of the organizational offices by **May 11**. Please be sure that all dates are on the JCF calendar.

# Anniversaries

Larry & Kathy Cohen

# Birthdays

- Mort Sadinsky
- Suzanne Hesselson
- John Kadar
- Zachary Sporn
- Ilene Friedman Bailey
- Matthew Kartzman
- Eileen Pollack
- Sophie Kartzman
- Lauren Nast
- Marcia Lenhardt
- Becky Cohen
- Jeffrey Dann
- Gloria Baker
- Harriet Sweet
- Martin Hempstead
- Ryan Isaac Hirshman

- Phyllis Shore
- Janice Weisenfeld
- Joshua Kartzman
- Marni Schofield
- Michael Goldman
- Geoffrey Rubin
- Gregory Rubin
- Jacob Douenias
- Peter Thomas Kadar
- Nichole Cohen
- Heidi Savin
- Brandon Herbst
- Jared Katz
- Pam Miller
- Nora Rachlin Viskin

*Come check out Sisterhood's new Card & Judaica Shop located adjacent to CKA's office. Open during regular office hours.*



*Absolutely wonderful greeting cards for all occasions only \$1 per card. Great gifts & CKA cookbooks.*

# כל עמי—Kol Ami Congregation



*from President Mike Lenzner*

Just like death and taxes, my monthly article comes with a plea for two-way communication, as well as a hilarious joke.

First the plea: Last month I talked about all the ideas we are working on with goals of raising membership and locating other fundraising streams other than raising dues. I submitted a list of ideas – some that may have even been controversial – not a single response.

I announced that all congregants have the opportunity to join our board and help us with our aggressive agenda – not a single response.

There is a relatively large group of people working hard to make things happen and I am so thankful to all of them.

But we need your help too. Please e-mail me at [mike@lenznerhr.com](mailto:mike@lenznerhr.com) for more information.

In terms of the joke – this one kind of tickled my fancy – please note: it is *not* true:

A rabbi stands before his congregation on Rosh Hashanah and reports to them that there is a massive hole in the roof of the synagogue.

He said: "I have good news and bad news for you. The good news is

that we have the money to repair it. The bad news is that the money is in your pockets." [Editor's Note: He seems to be getting better!]

You hear an awful lot about how our President and whether he is shrewd, mean, narcissistic, etc.... Personally, before I took over this job, I just thought he was stupid. But now after experiencing the pressures and stresses, I think I understand the man better now.

Prior to taking on this job, my whole goal in life was that by the time I hit 70 if someone asked me about my life I'd be able to say, "I've lived a good life."

As I said, *that was before*. Now, just like Mr. Trump, all I can think about is my *legacy*.

In the coming years, what will future Kol Ami members say about the "Lenzner Administration"?

Well, the book is still open but there is one accomplishment that no one will ever be able to take away from us.

We signed the Rabbi up for another *five years!!!*

I have waxed poetic about our Rabbi in the past but I would like to do it again.

I don't know how we lucked out in getting this Canadian Israeli (or Israeli Canadian(?)) and his family, but we did. Our congregation is united. We are moving into and through the 21st century and, most importantly, we are a community.

For those of you who go to Shabbat services (at least on Friday night), you've experienced the harmonies and melodies that are added to the Shabbat prayers. You say to yourself, "Wow. I didn't know services could be fun." You think on your way to the service the next week "I hope they play that Simon and Garfunkel 'Sounds of Silence' prayer tonight."

For those of you who haven't gone recently, you should find out what you're missing!

Either way, I just wanted to say that even if the Lenzner Administration doesn't succeed in anything else, I think that getting the Rabbi's contract extension completed will ultimately rank us among the top administrations ever! Special thanks to all who helped make this possible.

(Question: Will Mr. Trump ever be able to find a "Steinitz moment"?)

## Flowers for the Bimah



Let's make our Sanctuary a place of beauty and serenity, and honor or remember those whom we love and cherish. Please phone Susan King for information.

## 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.

**Mondays, May 7, 14, and 21 at 7:00 p.m.:** "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Oren Steinitz. No Hebrew required.

**Thursdays, May 24 and 31, and June 7:** "Pray what you mean, mean what you pray" with Paul Solyn. No Hebrew required.

from Rabbi Oren Steinitz



At the end of the Shabbat Across America service last March, someone walked up to me and said, “if all services here were like this one, you would see me here much more often!” Well, as far as Friday-night services go, I can confidently say that we are quickly approaching that point!

Our Friday-night services are in the process of a major transformation, both in content and the number of people who regularly show up. Our davvening leadership team has significantly expanded, and most weeks I’m happy to share the bimah with our cantorial-soloist-in-training Chana Doerksen-Goldwater, Chris Seymour on guitars and vocals, and – our most recent addition – Malachi Doane on

percussion and accordion. Services include joyous singing as well as quiet, meditative moments, and are our team constantly reviews the music used, aiming to bring the congregation the most meaningful prayer experience we can. We, of course, are continuing our monthly services featuring vocalist Sue Amisano and keyboardist Gary Tucker, for those interested in a more classical, frontal style of service, as well as the periodical Family Service.

Our Saturday morning services are a different story, however. While the early breakfast service attracts a consistent crowd of our regulars and b’nai mitzvah families, the second traditional service has been struggling for some time now. Marcus Kantz, in his capacity of ritual chair,

myself, and several other congregants have been running some ideas about what changes can be made to that service, but at the end of the day, it is up to you – if you feel that our congregation needs to have a traditional minyan every week, it is up to you to make sure it happens! A lot has been written about the presumed reason for requiring ten Jews to be present in order to read from the Torah and say certain prayers, but regardless of what the original reason was, it empowers every person in the community with the responsibility of coming to shul. We just cannot do it without you! If we believe it is important that we read Torah every week – and I certainly think that it is – please, come and help us!

### 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, May 4

Tot Shabbat	6:00 PM
JCS Dinner	6:30 PM
Family Service and Consecration	7:00 PM

#### Saturday, May 5

Torah Yoga	9:00 AM
Shabbat Ruach Service	10:00 AM

#### Saturday, May 19

Tikkun Leil Shavuot	8:30 PM
---------------------	---------

#### Sunday, May 20

Shavuot Morning Service & Yizkor	10:00 AM
----------------------------------	----------

#### Friday, May 25

Musical Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
-------------------------	---------

#### Saturday, May 26

Shabbat Morning Service	8:00 AM
Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM

### Weekly Torah/Haftarah Portions & Candle Lighting

<p><b>May 4–5</b> 7:52 PM <i>Emor</i> Torah Leviticus 21:1–24:23 Pr. Ezekiel 44:15–31</p>	<p><b>May 11–12</b> 7:59 PM <i>Behar–Bechukotai</i> Torah Leviticus 25:1–27:34 Pr. Jeremiah 16:9–17:14</p>	<p><b>May 18–19</b> 8:06 PM <i>Bamidbar</i> Torah Numbers 1:1–4:20 Pr. Hosea 2:1–22</p>	<p><b>May 25–26</b> 8:13 PM <i>Naso</i> Torah Numbers 4:21–7:89 Pr. Judges 13:2–25</p>
---	--	---	--

#### 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.

# CKA Donations

## Flowers for the Bimah

- ✧ May 11: In honor of all my grandchildren by Sharon Birdsall
- ✧ May 18: In memory of my father, Alex Olszowy, by Cheryl Miller & family
- ✧ May 25: In celebration of the Sabbath by John & Joanne Travers

## Congregational Education Fund

- ✧ In memory of Louis Levine by Linda Fox
- ✧ In memory of Lillian Levine by Linda Fox
- ✧ In memory of Esther Malinowitz by Linda Fox
- ✧ In memory of Gertrude Webber by Linda Fox

## General Fund

- ✧ In memory of Betty Stemerman by David & Susan Stemerman & Myra Brauth
- ✧ In memory of Barney Stemerman by David & Susan Stemerman & Myra Brauth
- ✧ In memory of Eleanor Berman by Marcia & Terry Lenhardt

- ✧ In memory of beloved Pa, Adolf Lorey, by Hilde & Herb Robbins
- ✧ In honor of new grandbaby of Myra & Jerry Stemerman by Carole Hoffman
- ✧ In memory of Sydell Stern by Paul & Phyllis Shore
- ✧ In memory of Seth Siskin by Myra & Jerry Stemerman & Family
- ✧ In memory of Sydell Stern by Myra & Jerry Stemerman & Family

## Jerome and Etkind Library

- ✧ In memory of Sam Gimble by Leon Horwitz
- ✧ In memory of David Horwitz by Leon Horwitz

## Kate Stein Music Fund

- ✧ In memory of Rebecca Wladis by Beth Wladis
- ✧ In memory of Leah Stryzinski by Beth Wladis

## Prayer Book Fund

- ✧ In memory of beloved father-in-law, Martin Shafer, by Shulamith Shafer

## Sisterhood Kitchen Fund

- ✧ In memory of Sydell Stern by Lee & Anita Adelsberg

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ In memory of Ernest Rosenwald by Len Schreiber
- ✧ Congratulations to Rabbi Steinitz on signed contract by Gil & Harriet Sweet
- ✧ In memory of Seth Siskin by Gil & Harriet Sweet
- ✧ In memory of Albert Charles Kosow by Gil & Harriet Sweet
- ✧ In memory of Benjamin Halperin by the Halperin Family
- ✧ In memory of Ernest Rosenwald by Len Schreiber
- ✧ In appreciation of selling chametz by Carla & Bob Cohen
- ✧ In memory of Sydell Stern by Len & Carol Simons
- ✧ In memory of Sigmund R. Graubard by Sidney & Josephine Graubard

**Tikkun Leil Shavuot**  
**Saturday, May 19, 8:30 PM**



**Shavuot & Yizkor Service**  
**Sunday, May 20, 10:00 AM**

## 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 and the  
Harold Grinspoon Foundation

# Yahrzeits

<b>May</b>	<b>Iyar</b>	13 Robert Patterson	29	23 Bertha M. Aranow	9
1 Alexander Olszowy Jr	16	14 Albert Zeman	29	23 Carol Albert	9
1 Carrie Bimberg	16	14 Bernard Etkind	29	23 Ira Kingdon-Wolfe	9
1 Gertrude Metz	16	14 Brana Nathenson	29	23 Kate P. Jacobs	9
1 Leo Loeb	16	14 Carl Hobalt	29	23 Sidney Cimmet	9
1 Max Semel	16	14 Evelyn Donner	29	24 Catherine G. Berry	10
1 Robert E. Worth	16	14 Harry Zacher	29	24 Hyman Leon Philips	10
1 Sidney Cimmet	16	14 Les Bowman	29	24 Louis Weinstein	10
2 Ada S. Rosenbloom	17	14 Pauline Rinde	29	25 Anna I. Epstein	11
2 Anne Werner	17	14 Samuel Levine	29	25 Benjamin Frank	11
2 Harry Simons	17			25 Gertrude Eagle	11
3 Bertha D. Wladis	18	<b>May</b>	<b>Sivan</b>	25 Henry M. Rebeck	11
3 Isadore Ugelow	18	15 Dr. Godfrey Hochbaum	1	25 Meredith Moore	11
3 Otila Zacher	18	15 Harry W. Freudenheim	1	25 Mollie Katz	11
3 Shirley Lenhardt	18	15 Lore Finkelstein Hochbaum	1	25 Rezeal T. Kantz	11
4 Ada Kaminsky	19	15 Mamie Slohm	1	25 Susan Adelsberg	11
5 Albert R. Sherman	20	15 Mary Levine	1	26 Irving Werner	12
5 Dora M. Shreibman	20	15 Maurice H. Goodman	1	26 Paul Bucholtz	12
5 Eva Stern	20	15 Milton Hample	1	26 Shirley Halperin	12
5 Max Weisenfeld	20	16 Helen Jerome	2	26 Solomon Sittenfeld	12
6 Harry Meltzer	21	16 Jacob Webber	2	27 Harold Schwalb	13
6 Irving G. Brownstein	21	17 Faye Raskin	3	27 Mary Desky	13
6 Jerome Samuels	21	17 Joseph Turoff	3	28 Leah Bregman	14
6 June Klurman	21	17 Morris Dobromil	3	28 Philip Gerard	14
6 Rebecca Stemerman	21	18 Lena Levine	4	29 Dina Jacobson	15
6 Robert Koob	21	18 Margaret "Peggy" Rubin	4	29 Johanna Lorey	15
6 Sylvia Kaufman	21	18 Sara G. Freindly	4	29 Sarah Broder	15
7 Esther Rosenfield	22	19 Henry Fenbert	5	30 Elsa Bloch	16
7 Irving Froman	22	19 Richard S. Rosen	5	30 Julia Hereng	16
7 Joseph Hoffman	22	20 Frank Sweet	6	30 Rose Winnick	16
8 D. Robert Baker	23	20 Joann C. Walton	6	30 S. Gerald Horwitz	16
8 Fannie Paltrowitz	23	20 Joseph Wiesner	6	30 Sylvia Margolis	16
8 Irene Kahn	23	21 Abraham Siskin	7	31 Benjamin Brown	17
9 Anthony Burtnick	24	21 Alexander Winkelstein	7	31 Esther Kahn Platt	17
9 Benjamin Chaitt	24	21 Bernice Weinstock	7	31 Evelyn Berlin Stein	17
9 Celia Golos	24	21 Bess Rubin	7	31 Henry J. Hample	17
9 Charles J. Shreibman	25	21 Harry Rubenstein	7	31 Joseph L. Radin	17
9 Macey Kantz	25	21 Joseph Etkind	7	31 Marilyn Buchsbaum	17
9 Tina Rubin	25	21 Ralph Etkind	7	31 Vivian Pensky	17
10 Ralph A. Messing	25	22 Evelyn Stein	8	31 Stanley Weisenfeld	17
10 Ruth Winnick	25	23 Alexander G. Grasberg	9		
10 Sylvia Friedman	25				
11 Bryna Etkind	26				
11 Jennie Miller	26				
11 Joseph Aaron Glaser	26				
11 Mollie Burtnick	27				
11 Muriel Appel	27				
12 Fredric A. Weiss	27				
12 Getrude Tatelbloom	27				
12 Maurice Stemerman	27				
12 Samuel Stemerman	28				
13 Edward Chesler	28				
13 Elizabeth H. Robbins	28				
13 Herman Rubin	28				
13 Julius Epstein	29				
13 Norbert Friedman	29				

## Jewish Community School

Friday, May 4, 6:00 p.m. – Tot Shabbat

6:30 p.m. – Dinner

*hamburgers, hotdogs, oven fries, pasta salad, corn on the cob, fruit*  
\$5.00 per adult, \$3.00 per child 6 to 12, kids under 6 eat free

**7:00 p.m. – Family Shabbat Service and Consecration Ceremony**  
Kindergarten students will be welcomed to formal Jewish education  
with Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd to help lead services

**Dinner reservations to the JCF office by May 2**  
**607.734.8122 office@jewishelmira.org**

# Jewish Community School



from Director Jeff Rosenheck

It is hard to believe that we are closing in on the final weeks of the 5778 JCF school year, and that planning is already underway for an even more exciting 5779 school year. The final months of the 5778 school year, however, are full of activities. April brought a visiting band to the school, The L'il Galut(e) to the school on April 15. A huge thank you goes to Harriet Sweet and the Jewish Food Festival Committee for organizing the performance. A great experience and enjoyed by all.

May also proves to be a busy month. On Friday evening, May 4, our kindergarten students will be called to the Bimah for their Consecration ceremony, or formal welcoming to the Jewish education process. Students will receive a certificate as well as a mini Torah scroll. This year's recipients will be Sarah Gifeisman, Ben Levi, Calvin Rosenheck, Bjorn Suarez, and Teddy Suarez. These students, as well as students in the 2-3 grade class, will help lead services that night. Ser-

vices begin at 7:00 p.m., and all are welcome. A Tot Shabbat event will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Between the Tot Shabbat and Family Service events on May 4, a school-sponsored dinner will begin at 6:30. The menu will feature a picnic style dinner, including hamburgers, hot dogs, oven fries, fruit, corn on the cob, pasta salad and beverages. All are welcome to attend the dinner, but reservations are required to attend. Please make reservations to the JCF office by calling 607-734-8122. The dinner costs \$5 per adult, \$3 per child between the ages of 6 and 12, and free for children under 6.

Due to the Jewish holiday schedule, the school will be open on Mother's Day, May 13. The school will be holding a breakfast for mothers, grandmothers, and their children at 9:00 a.m. The breakfast will include coffee, tea, juice, bagels and assorted pastries. We hope that each family can participate in the event.

Thanks to funding from the JCS and CKA, the students on grades 7, 8

and 9 will be traveling to Philadelphia and Washington, DC, June 1-3 with Rabbi Steinitz, Dr. Amanda Sharpe, Eileen Pollack, and me. The students will have the opportunity to attend Friday-night services in Philadelphia, as well as visit the National Holocaust Memorial Museum and the National Museum of American Jewish History. The visit will include an opportunity to view interactive exhibits that are associated with their curriculum for the year. A report of the trip will be available in the summer edition of the *Kol Ami*.

School will be closed Sunday, May 20, and Sunday, May 27. There will be no virtual classes on Thursday, May 24. School will resume June 3 for the final two sessions of the year.

I want to thank the community for the continued support of the JCS. I encourage anyone who knows families that may be interested in the school, or who have questions regarding the school, contact me at 607-731-4217.

## Class News

**Kitot Bet & Gimel (2-3):** By the time you are reading this, we will be down to just a few weeks of Sunday School left. We still have a lot of curriculum to cover.

The highlight of March was the model Seder we participated in with the K-1 class and the Rabbi. Although we had already studied about Passover in our Jewish Year textbook, it became a lot more meaningful when we actually read the Haggadah and ate the foods. Mrs. Herbst also brought her ukulele and played it as we sang. *Kathy Rosenheck*

**Kitot Hay & Vav (5-6):** In both classes, we discussed Passover and shared how our families celebrate the holiday. The story of Passover is one that always intrigues your children. Once again, we are reminded of the amazing courage and forti-

tude of the Jewish people. In Kitah Hey, we are reading *The Time Tunnel: The Dreyfus Affair*. It is a story about two friends who find a secret tunnel that takes them back in time to an important event in Jewish history. In *Be Your Best Self*, we are learning about individual dignity and returning to your best self. In Kitah Vav, we are reading *The Man from the Other Side*. This book talks about the Jews living in the Warsaw Ghetto. In *Family Connections*, we have been learning about gratitude and family harmony. We have also begun to discuss Yom Hashoah. All of your children continue to be a constant source of joy, bright, creative, hard-working, and eager to learn! *Donna Rothenberg*

**Hebrew:** The Bet students continue to work in *Alef Bet Quest* and the

older students continue to work on prayers. We have begun reviewing the vowels, letters and vocabulary which the students have learned this year. In addition, the students made some progress in learning Hebrew script. Although spring was unusually cold this year; we are all looking forward to summer. Wishing everyone an enjoyable May, *Rivka Miran*

**Tichon (High School):** Moses as a leader: was he an introvert thrust into a leadership role by God? How did he overcome what he believed were personal deficits to become arguably one of the greatest leaders of the Jewish nation? How do we as imperfect humans serve a mighty majestic God? As always we wrestle with the unanswerable questions.

*Amanda Sharp*

3rd Annual  
*Cocktails  
& Knosh*

*Pair*

Saturday,  
May 12th, 2018  
6:30pm to 10pm

Congregation Kol Ami  
1008 W. Water St., Elmira

Fabulous Food  
Delicious Deserts

**\$10,000**

Prize to One \$100 Ticket Holder

**To Purchase Tickets**

Call 607-734-7735  
Visit the Congregation Kol Ami  
(CKA) OFFICE



Live Music & Dancing  
Music by Odysee  
Open Bar

Your presence is not required to win \$10,000 prize,  
but we hope you join the party!

A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold. Multiple  
tickets may be purchased to increase your winning  
chances.

**Ticket Price is still Only \$100  
and admits TWO ADULTS**



CONGREGATION  
**KOL AMI**



# Jewish Community Calendar

# May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class  Lag ba Omer	4 CKA 6:00 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Family Service and Consecration	5 CKA 9:00 am Torah Yoga 10.00 am Shabbat Ruach
6 JCS 9-12:15	7 CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists"	8	9 CKA 12:00 pm Book Club  CKA 6:30 pm Exec. Board 7:30 pm Board Meeting	10 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class	11 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	12 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service 6:30-10:00 pm Cocktails and Knosh Affair
13 JCS 9-12:15 Mother's Day Breakfast  Mother's Day	14 CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists"	15	16	17 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class  JCF 7:00 pm Film <i>Off-White Lies</i>	18 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	19 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service 8:30 pm Tikkun Leil Shavuot <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Shavuot</div>
20 No JCS  CKA 10:00 am Shavuot Service with Yizkor  <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Shavuot</div>	21 CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists"	22 JCF 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting 7:30 pm Board Meeting	23	24 No JCS Virtual Class JCF 7:00 pm Adult Ed. "Pray what you mean, mean what you pray"	25 CKA 7:30 pm Musical Shabbat Service	26 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service
27 No JCS	28 All Offices Closed  Memorial Day	29	30	31 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class  JCF 7:00 pm Adult Ed "Pray what you mean, mean what you pray"		

**Kol Ami**  
**The Voice of my People**  
Vol. 22 No. 5  
www.twintiersjewishcommunity.com  
**A monthly publication of**

**Congregation  
Kol Ami**

(607) 732-7410  
(607) 734-7735  
Fax (607) 398-7310  
Office@KolAmiElmira.org

Rabbi: Oren Steinitz  
oren@orensteinitz.com

President:  
Michael Lenzner

Administrative Assistant:  
Fran Jankowski

**Jewish Center &  
Federation of the  
Twin Tiers**

(607) 734-8122  
Fax (607) 734-8123  
office@JewishElmira.org

Exec. Dir.: Paul Solyn  
exec@JewishElmira.org

President:  
Marcus Kantz  
pres@JewishElmira.org

Administrative Assistant:  
Tina Wise

**Jewish  
Community School**

(607) 734-8122  
Fax (607) 734-8123  
school@JewishElmira.org

Educator: Jeff Rosenheck  
school@JewishElmira.org

President:  
Charlotte Kantz

Administrative Assistant:  
Tina Wise

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Jewish Center and Federation  
1008 W. Water Street  
Elmira, NY 14905

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 78  
Elmira, NY