

KOL קול עמי AMI

Yachad set for November 16

Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky, the Appleman Professor of Midrash and Interreligious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, will give the Yachad lecture for 2017. His topic will be "The Offering of Hagar's and Sarah's Sons in Jewish, Muslim, and Christian Traditions."

Ordained in 1977, he also serves as the Louis Stein Director of the Finkelstein Institute for Religious and Social Studies at JTS, charged with programs on public policy, and as director of the Milstein Center for Interreligious Dialogue at JTS.

Rabbi Visotzky became known to national television audiences in the 1990s when he was a major participant in *Genesis: A Living Conversation* with other scholars, hosted by Bill Moyers. He also wrote a study guide for it that many synagogues and churches used in discussion groups.

His writing is published in America, Europe, and Israel. He is the author of eleven books, including *The Genesis of Ethics*, and over 120 articles and reviews. His most recent book, *Aphrodite and the Rabbis: How the Jews Adapted Roman Culture to Create Judaism as We Know It*, was published in 2016. He is also co-editing a three-volume compendium, *Judaism*, which will be published in English in the prestigious series, "The Religions of Humanity," due out in 2019 by Kohlhammer Publishing of Stuttgart.

The lecture will take place on Thursday, November 16, at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Kol Ami. A reception and book signing will follow.



Linda Lovitch to speak at Shabbat Ruach

Elmira native Linda Lovitch will speak at Shabbat Ruach at Congregation Kol Ami on Saturday, November 11. She now lives in Israel and is a consultant to its government, high-tech businesses, and other organizations.

Her topic will be "Israel's Untold Stories." In her work as a media consultant to diplomats in the Foreign Ministry, she strives to imbue the narrative about Israel with the personal stories and stories of success in innovation that the world rarely hears. For example, few know that more than 3,000 Syrians have been treated in Israeli hospitals. Few know about Israel's achievements in high tech, cyber security, and water sustainability. These are the stories that shape the image of Israel in the world's eyes.

Her clients include ambassadors, spokespeople from the Israeli Foreign Ministry, high-tech executives, and non-profit organizations such as the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, Birthright, and the New Israel Fund.

She'll speak briefly during the morning service and in more depth after lunch. Her presentations and the lunch are sponsored by the Jewish Center & Federation. The service begins at 10:00 a.m.



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

November 2017

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Jewish Center and Federation



from President Marcus Kantz

I'm writing this the morning after the Las Vegas shootings. It seems like every day it's something. But what's the something? Hate, terrorism, prejudice, sectarianism, persecution, racism, religious prejudice, ageism, sexism, sectism, cronyism, classism? Of course, I don't know what prompted the shooter. In this case it could have been mental illness, but even then, it seems that there must have been something about the differentness the shooter felt between himself and all of those potential targets. In other words, I'm feeling that the something that's really going on these days, as it has for as long as there are records, is hatred of "others."

People just seem to have an ingrained aversion to those whom are different, sometimes manifesting in fear, anger and even violence. We Jews are acutely aware of this from the receiving end, throughout our history, from biblical times through the holocaust, even these days here in America. But we, like all of the others, are sometimes Anti-Semitic as well. We mostly believe we feel it as a defense mechanism, but, after all, we're human. Unfortunately, we need look no further than the feelings that existed, and to some extent still exist, between the members of the various synagogues in our local Jewish community over the years.

When I was growing up here in Shomray, I never even knew there were any Jewish kids my age in B'nai. Of course, the other Shomray kids knew all of the Jewish kids in town. Why "of course"? "Of course" because they all went to activities at the JCC where all of the Elmira Jewish kids went. Once, at a Bar Mitzvah party in what is now the Snowiss room, I met a girl from B'nai whom the kid had met at the JCC. Of course, I fell immediately in love with her, and never saw her again, to this day. I and the other Corning kids didn't go to the JCC because our parents were schlepping us to Talmud Torah and to services, and that was enough.

The JCC was intended to be a melting pot for the multi-faceted Jewish community in the area—though it failed a little in its mission by not figuring out some way to get the Jewish parents from Corning and elsewhere to bring their kids, and themselves as well.

In these days, of course, the JCC has become the JCF, but its mission is still the same, (roughly) to provide a secular context for Jewish people in the area to (in alphabetical order) construct, contribute, cook, distribute, donate, enjoy, etc., learn, meet, play, sell, study, teach. I haven't looked at our mission statement lately, but I think it should include

something about getting us Jews to look at ourselves and at our own fears and hatreds, prejudices and wariness of "others," even other Jews. Many of us here, including myself, have been full of those feelings lately about other Jews.

It has troubled me a lot. Of course I've rationalized it, manipulated it, justified it, and repressed it, but I've not been able to ignore it. I've tried hard to contain it within, in order not to be seen as Anti-Semitic. Today I'm wondering if maybe this isn't an opportunity for the JCF to take a leadership role in facilitating an inward-looking investigation of our local Jewish community's psyche on this, or maybe even the community at large. I'm just thinking out loud, on paper.

If you think it might be worthwhile for the JCF to organize some sort of a Teach-In, like we used to have in colleges in the 60s and 70s, to look at our own knowledge, understanding, and attitudes on our prejudices within our family of Jews, please contact the JCF office. Depending on the response, we'll see what we can do. Thanks.

On the other hand, I might be the only one worrying about this, in which case, you can all talk among yourselves about how Marcus is losing it.

Now on Tuesdays! **Game days resume**

Do you play well with others? Specifically, do you play board games? Card games? Charades?

JCF game afternoons resume in November, this year on Tuesdays.

They're a chance to get together with others, during daylight hours, during the fall and winter to play Scrabble, Rummikub, any other board game you choose (and can provide), or the card game of your choice (no strip poker).

Game tables and refreshments will be waiting at Kol Ami on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. starting November 7. Bring some warmth of companionship and laughter to yourself and another during the dark and dreary days of winter.



Jewish Center and Federation



from Executive Director Paul Solyn

The current political situation in the United States has a strange parallel in the relationship between American Jews and Israel. In both cases, factions essentially talk past one another, and the outrage on each side seems to grow day by day.

Some Israelis have no use for the opinions of Jews in America. The founders of the modern State of Israel used a phrase that translates as “negation of the Diaspora,” meaning both that the Diaspora would cease to exist, because all Jews would move to Israel, and also that attitudes formed outside Israel would have no value in Israel.

They were operating from a post-war European point of view. European Jews had experienced a thousand years of discrimination, culminating in the Nazi genocide. As they saw it, Jewish attitudes formed by persecution had to be overcome.

They didn’t allow for the experience of Jews in North America. Although there was discrimination against Jews in the United States, Jews had been American citizens from the moment the United States achieved independence, and participated much more fully in general society than did Jews anywhere in Europe. Israeli leaders didn’t understand the difference, and many still don’t.

At the same time, most of us have only partial understanding of Israeli

attitudes, and even less understanding of Israeli politics. Israelis tend to complain that we express opinions about what Israel should do without knowing “what it’s like” in Israel. I remember that during the Troubles in Northern Ireland, both Protestants and Catholics there also insisted that Americans didn’t know what it was like for them.

Of course we don’t. Although all Americans have some fear of terrorist attacks, we know that the risk of them is low.

On the other hand, most of us also don’t know what it’s like to live in a country where Jews are not considered “different.” When American teenagers and college students visit Israel for the first time, most are startled to realize that if anything is strange about them, it’s that they’re Americans, not that they’re Jews.

It’s unrealistic to think that Israel should do exactly what we say, even if we could all agree on what that was. Our feeling for Israel isn’t based on getting our way in everything, any more than our loyalty to the United States is based on always getting our way in politics.

Many of us contribute to our local UJA campaign partly because, not in spite of, the fact that it supports charitable work and community development in Israel. A part of our contribution to the Jewish Federations of North America goes to the

Jewish Agency for Israel. It’s a non-governmental organization that helps new *olim* (immigrants), at-risk children, the very poor, and isolated communities.

This year, for the first time, our UJA pledge card will have new options for directing the use of your gift: (1) Israel, (2) internationally outside Israel, and (3) local and United States. You’ll be able to check any combination of them, choose “wherever needed,” or leave the line blank.

Our speaker at Shabbat Ruach in November, Linda Lovitch, has a helpful perspective on this. She grew up in Elmira but lives in Israel, where she’s a communications consultant. Part of her work is teaching Israeli diplomats how to make sure that other countries receive a full picture of life in Israel—that is, including the many positive features.

She says that not many people know these. Hospitals in Israel routinely treat emergency patients from the Palestinian territory, and now from Syria. Israel is responsible for many advances in medicine and science.

Please plan to hear Linda speak during the morning service at 10:00 a.m. on November 11, and again at a lunch after the service.

JCF Donations

JCF Membership

Member

- ✧ Sandra Ashendorf
- ✧ Sara & Ben Baim
- ✧ Mark Banach
- ✧ Richard & Gail Gerard
- ✧ Maggie & Darryl Hoffman
- ✧ Sara Holtzman
- ✧ Rachelle Lerner
- ✧ Andrea & Jeff Rubin
- ✧ Ronnie Schenkein

Benefactor

- ✧ Daniel Hawtof
- ✧ Anonymous
- ✧ Lee S. Kosow
- ✧ Drs. James Freeman & Michelle Pavillard
- ✧ Linda Sichel Ralph
- ✧ Marilyn & Alex Rabinowitz
- ✧ Phyllis & Paul Shore

Bronze Magen David

- ✧ Stuart Komer
- ✧ Jeffrey Gardner

Silver Magen David

- ✧ Felicia & Richard Poes
- ✧ Eileen Semel

Gold Magen David

- ✧ Kristine & James Perle

Community Kitchen

- ✧ In memory of Murray Werner by Cynthia & John Massey

November film is French-Jewish story

Our November film is the story of a young French Jew who deals drugs in Paris. He impulsively decides to make *aliyah*—move to Israel—when he has a chance to join a cousin in a new business.

Obstacles in his path include an older brother who drains him financially and emotionally, a romance with a Frenchwoman, and the challenge of making a new life in Israel.

Pio Marmai plays Alex, the drug dealer. His performance has received wide acclaim for its depth and subtlety. Adèle Haenel plays Jeanne, the Frenchwoman, and



Cédric Kahn plays Isaac, the dead-beat brother.

In addition to Alex's personal situation, the film touches on the uncertainty of Jewish life in France, and explores the many ways in

which circumstances, friendships, and family pressures influence life choices.

Aliyah was an official selection of the Cannes Film Festival and of Jewish film festivals in New York, Philadelphia, Miami, Atlanta, Cleveland, Toronto, and other cities.

The film is in French, with English subtitles. It's only 88 minutes long, so there will also be time to see *On the Road to Tel Aviv*, a short film packaged with it.

We'll see it on Thursday, November 30, at 7:00 p.m.

The Jazzy Junque sale is ready for your help

There's a lot to do, and the Jazzy Junque sale is ready for you to help.

You can help right away by donating items to sell! Some good items to donate are clothing, especially women's and children's; housewares and linens; decorative objects, art, and antiques; books, audio CDs, and video DVDs and Blu-Ray discs; and jewelry.

We can sell electronics, but no television sets with picture tubes, CRT monitors, or older computers. All appliances and electronics need to be in working order, and clothing and linens shouldn't have stains that won't come out.

Bring donations to the Braunstein Community Room at CKA during office hours or on Sunday mornings. If you need to bring a donation at another time or aren't sure whether something is suitable to donate, please call Dian Gerstel or the JCF office.

You can also help with sorting donations and setting up displays. Volunteers work most weekdays—at their convenience—and Sunday mornings.

Don't worry if you're new to this. Check with the JCF office to find out when others will be working, and an



experienced volunteer will help you get started.

Help will especially be needed on the days of the sale: Sunday, November 12, and Monday, November 13. To sign up to help on those days, please go to <http://bit.ly/2yJyejU> (directs to SignUp Genius), or speak with Anita Adelsberg.

Remember these famous words: if it's like new, or just not *you*, it's JAZZY JUNQUE!

Thursday, November 2 "Story Matters" concludes

"Story matters: we have a story, we are a story," adult education with Eileen Pollack, has its last session on Thursday, November 7.

The topic for the last session is "Jacob, Rachel, and Leah, and the birth and beginning of the twelve tribes of Israel."

Although it concludes the series, it's not necessary to have attended the previous classes. The class is at 7:00 p.m. at Congregation Kol Ami.



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 November 2 and December 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.

Kaskeset to sing on December 3

The Jewish Center & Federation will present Kaskeset, the Jewish *a capella* singing group from Binghamton University, on Sunday, December 3.

Founded in 1996, Kaskeset is one of five finalists in Ilu Finu: The Jewish Collegiate A Cappella Songwriting Competition. The winner will be announced in January.

Kaskeset also won third place at Kol Haolam in 2016 and Best Beatboxing at the ICCA in 2010, where it became the first Jewish group ever to advance to the semi-finals

Over the past 20 years, Kaskeset has performed and toured in places across the country, including Florida, California, New York, and Chicago. In the past year they performed for the Israeli Ambassador's United Nations Hanukkah reception and at the State Department in Washington D.C. They have produced six studio albums and are currently recording a seventh. Videos of some of its pieces may be viewed online at kaskeset.strikingly.com/.

With a diverse repertoire consisting of Jewish music as well as Israeli and American pop, Kaskeset's continuing goal is to spread Jewish pride, culture, and music to communities, both locally and internationally.



The performance will be at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free, but a \$5 donation per person is requested.

Coming Events – Save the Dates!

Mondays beginning November 6 – “Talmud for Non-Talmudists” (CKA)

Tuesdays beginning November 7 – Game Afternoons (JCF)

Saturday, December 2 – Shabbat Ruach (CKA)

Saturday, December 9 – Trivia Night (Sisterhood)

Friday, December 15 – Hanukkah Dinner and Shabbat Service (CKA)

Monday, December 25 – Chinese Dinner and a Movie (JCF and CKA)

Saturday, January 13 – Shabbat Ruach (CKA)

Friday, January 19 – Sisterhood Shabbat (CKA)

Saturday, February 10 – Shabbat Ruach (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)

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

Friday, March 30 – First Night of Passover

Saturday, March 31 – Community Passover Seder (CKA)

Saturday, April 14 – Shabbat Ruach (CKA)

Sunday, April 15 – Jewish Food Festival (JCF and Sisterhood)

Saturday, May 5 – Shabbat Ruach (CKA)

Saturday, May 12 – Cocktails & Knosh Affair (CKA)

Congregation Kol Ami—כל עמי



from President Mike Lenzner

Let me explain: A couple of topics to cover this month: I would like to tell you about the plan we have in our quest to grow membership. But first I'd like to start with the ongoing controversy regarding my performance as Board Bimah Representative. Now I am hoping that there is no controversy but based on the uproar and laughter in the Lenzner car on the ride home and the continued laughter once in the Lenzner home, it is my opinion that the fine people of Kol Ami observed the events to be described but are too polite to mention. Since there is a good explanation for each event, I will begin:

It was with great excitement that my daughter, Kasey, and I accepted the honor of sitting on the Bimah for Rosh Hashanah services. But as you can tell by the paragraph above, the honor did not go according to plan.

Not opening the ark when being asked to by the Rabbi: I would gladly have opened the ark had I seen the Rabbi motion me; however I wasn't looking because I assumed the Rabbi would have selected my daughter for the first honor. The confusion I had was caused by the fact we hold the service in both English and Hebrew. I thought honors went right to left like the Hebrew alphabet. Since my daughter was on my right, I thought that she should have been the first to open the ark. Little did I know we were going "the American

way".

Not turning around to look at the ark once it was opened until I saw David Siskin turn (twice): I think this was a little picky. I believe the rule should be if you turn within 15 seconds "no harm, no foul".

Almost running into the Rabbi at his lectern: I know this may have looked funny, but it could have been disastrous. You see, I saw a pencil underneath the lectern and I didn't want anyone to trip on it. I certainly didn't expect him to return to the lectern so fast. In case you didn't see, I was able to get the pencil later in the service.

Not being aware that I needed to make announcements: Having never been President before, how was I expected to remember that the President makes the announcements? I was taken aback when asked. Considering I never pre-reviewed the announcements, I thought I did a halfway decent job with them. Kasey said I could have done better.

Well as they say, the least said, the soonest mended, I will not discuss my Bimah experience again and would be most appreciative if you would do same.

[Editor's Note]: Our research has determined that most people did not notice any of these "faux pas" but a few did. The best we can deduce is that all the items written about did occur but that Mr. Lenzner's article was an at-

tempt at humor rather than a true concern of his.]

Now on to the second topic: As I have been discussing, it is important for us to come up with new plans on how we can grow our membership. Thanks to the diligent work of Ted Goldwyn, Zsuzsi Kadar, Brittany Braunstein, Marc Rubin, Chris Seymour and Sue King, I think we have a promising plan.

We plan to run a vendor booth at Sparkle where we will do dreidel games for the kids and give Jewish food tastings to the adults. Most importantly we will be handing out invitations to people to join us for our Chanukah dinner. At the Chanukah dinner we will be working on getting some "in house" entertainment in addition to the meal which will make the event memorable. The more the merrier I always say - so please attend if you are at all able.

If this is successful, there will be events to follow. If it is not successful, then we will go back to the drawing board.

This will be step one in "marketing" our Congregation as we strive to reach out to all of the Jews in the area. Step two to follow in the Spring.

Any ideas or thoughts are always welcome!

Thanks for your support.

Weekly Torah/Haftarah Portions & Candle Lighting

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>November 3-4 5:39 PM Vayera Torah Genesis 18:1-22:24 Pr. II Kings 4:1-37</p> | <p>November 10-11 4:32 PM Chayei Sarah Torah Genesis 23:1-25:18 Pr. I Kings 1:1-31</p> | <p>November 17-18 4:25 PM Toldot Torah Genesis 25:19-28:9 Pr. Malachi 1:1-2:7</p> | <p>November 24-26 4:21 PM Vayetze Torah Genesis 28:10-32:2 Pr. Hosea 12:12-14:10</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.

from Rabbi Oren Steinitz



Happy After-the-Holidays everyone!

Before anything else, I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful High Holidays experience. I cannot possibly thank everyone who helped by name, but I have to say how proud I am of our prayer-leaders and musicians: Hannah Doerksen-Goldwater, Jeremy Koob, David Siskin, Miriam Greene, Chris Seymour, Sharon Moore, Gary Tucker, Mitch Goldwater and Teri Doerksen. Your hard work and dedication made our services absolutely wonderful, and we are all lucky to have you in our community!

You may remember that in my Erev Rosh HaShanah sermon I briefly mentioned the significance of Jewish text study to the formation of a strong meaningful Jewish identity – a view of Judaism that extends

beyond the synagogue into all aspects of our lives. In a new adult education class, *Talmud for Non-Talmudists*, that will start on Monday, November 6, I will try and open a small window into the world of classical Jewish text study, focusing on selected issues from the Talmud.

The Talmud – literally meaning “study” – is a collection of rabbinical writings that were codified around 500 CE. It is written in a form resembling that of minutes of meetings, recording discussions and arguments held by rabbis over a span of several centuries. The Talmud contains over 6200 pages written in a combination of Hebrew and Babylonian Aramaic, and arranged in 63 volumes known as “tractates.” It discusses matters of Jewish Law as well as philosophy, ethics, history, bibli-

cal commentary, and even humor. The Talmud eventually became the most commonly quoted Jewish text in the rabbinic world, and in Orthodox circles it is studied even more often than the Torah!

Despite its importance, the Talmud’s complexity and convoluted style caused many Jews to believe that studying it is too daunting of a task. In this new eight-sessions class, we will learn about the formation of the Talmud, what it contains, how it is studied, and spend some time learning selected issues from it (in English, don’t worry!). I have taught this course before in Calgary, and participants found it so enjoyable that they asked that we add more sessions. Looking forward to seeing many of you there!

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, November 3

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Tot Shabbat | 6:00 PM |
| JCS Dinner | 6:30 PM |
| Family Shabbat Service | 7:00 PM |

Saturday, November 4

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

Friday, November 10

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Shabbat Evening Service | 7:30 PM |
|-------------------------|---------|

Saturday, November 11

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Shabbat Ruach | 10:00 AM |
| Guest Speaker: Linda Lovitch | |
| Kiddush Lunch sponsored by JCF | |

Expanded scrip available—order now

Congregation Kol Ami will have expanded scrip offerings for holiday giving! Gift cards are available for many popular stores and restaurants.

These include national chains with local stores, such as Barnes & Noble, Bon-Ton, Kohl’s, and Lowe’s; internet retailers such as Amazon, The



Container Store, and iTunes; and dozens of restaurants. Some don’t operate in this area, but the cards would make good gifts for family and friends who live near one.

Orders are due in the CKA office by 4:00 p.m. on November 9 and must be prepaid. Gift cards will be here just a few days later.

Mazal Tov

To Cynthia & John Massey on the birth of their grandson, Jay Veer Massey, born on September 26 to Shivani Polasani and Steven Massey. He weighed 7 lb., 10 oz.

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

Covering graffiti is a crime?

Some of you may remember my discovery of and remediation of racist and anti-semitic graffiti on the Lackawanna trail this past February. I found more this July and as one should, I turned it in.

This time I found the graffiti on the concrete wall separating the dike from the old city pumping station. Down Hoffman Street where the Civil War camp was and the current Friends of Elmira Civil War Prison Camp group are in residence.

On the river side of the wall were a political statement and some small swastikas, inscribed in the concrete. September came and I was back to inspect how it had been cleaned up. What I found was that it had not been cleaned up and in fact it had grown to include a large swastika and the words, "the 3rd reich will rise again." This time, assuming that my first report had fallen on deaf ears, I painted over the inscribed graffiti myself with flat black spray paint. I took some photos as with last time and again turned them in to the friends groups thinking they should know it's been handled. I had been told by The Friends of the Chemung River that I had the city's permission to act in cases such as this; I only need document and then paint.

On October 9 I received a call from a DEC (New York State Depart-

ment of Environmental Conservation) officer telling me I needed to contact the local DEC flood control engineer to talk about removing the paint or face citation. That's correct, I was being treated as a vandal for painting on a DEC managed flood control device after no one else acted. This was 85 days after the initial reporting of the vandalism. When speaking to our local engineer he did not seem to think the graffiti was that bad and had taken a rock and tried to obscure the lettering and swastika. I can assure you it was such a poor job that it never occurred to me that someone else had been there. I was ordered to clean my paint off that wall or face fine as they can not have paint on the concrete, possibly making inspection of these flood control devices more difficult. I learned this October that the DEC cares more about concrete and a rule book than human dignity.

I have been called the swastika hunter by some in our community. The ADL (Anti Defamation League) has seen over a 30% increase in anti-semitic acts in America since last year. This wave of antisemitism must be documented, called out and challenged. I keep a paperweight on my desk that reads Hineni (הינני) which means "Here I am!" because I believe that the hardest part of any calling is in the answering and I

need the reminder.

There were no apologies offered or made by the DEC or me. I went down to the dike and wire-brushed the paint off. I did commit an act of vandalism, because it was required. Had they called me the day I turned it in I would have come right back and worked on it, but they didn't. Had the Friends of the Civil War Camp said, "we're really busy can you work on it?" I would have, but they didn't. Had the Elmira Water Board contacted me I would have answered but they didn't. Dozens of people a day pass by there on the trail. Every time the buck was passed, as the saying goes and no one addressed the problem.

I have had the privilege of literally blotting out Amalek three times in one year now, but it should not have had to happen this way. It should not have to happen at all, and no one should have to be treated as a criminal for acting out to preserve our community when authority fails in their duty. If you'd like to call the DEC and let them know what you think or email them they can be reached locally at this number (607) 732-2214 and at the state level here (518)-402-8044 or by e-mail public@dec.ny.gov.

—Malachi Doane

Jewish Community School

Tot Shabbat November 3 beginning at 6:00 PM

Tot Shabbat is especially for students in grades Pre-K and lower, and is filled with songs and stories.

Everyone is invited to join us.



A delicious dinner of baked spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and beverages at 6:30.

Dinner reservations are required by November 1 to the JCF office at 607-734-8122, or email your reservations to office@jewishelmira.org. Cost for adults is \$5, \$3 for children 6-12, and free for children 5 and under.

Services, led by our 7-9-10 grade students, will begin at 7:00.

Yahrzeits

| November | Cheshvan | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|----|
| 1 Herman L. Rockman | 12 | 14 Herbert Pensky | 25 | 25 Adolph "Duff" Johnson | 7 |
| 1 Sol Nathan Karl | 12 | 14 Herman Scheps | 25 | 25 Harry Treinin | 7 |
| 1 Isadore Paltrowitz | 12 | 14 Jacov Ben Zev | 25 | 25 Anthony Ogrinc | 7 |
| 1 Irving Tabb | 12 | 14 Ingeborg Freidman | 25 | 25 Jennie Oppenheim | 7 |
| 2 Sylvester S. Rosenfield | 13 | 15 Rose Seltzer | 26 | 25 Louis Cohn | 7 |
| 2 Lena Karshen | 13 | 15 Sophie Levine | 26 | 25 Sarah Meltzer | 7 |
| 2 Malcolm Rubin | 13 | 15 William Krause | 26 | 26 Edward Hoffman | 8 |
| 2 Meyer Kahn | 13 | 15 Archie Herman | 27 | 26 Fred Loeb | 8 |
| 2 Falk Sherman | 13 | 16 Rose Sadinsky | 27 | 27 Inez R. Goldsmith | 8 |
| 3 Anna Wladis | 14 | 16 Esther Nobel | 27 | 26 Selma (Sally) Shulman | 8 |
| 3 Bella Braunstein | 14 | 16 Lena Fisher | 27 | 26 William "Boots" Delahanty | 8 |
| 4 Edwin Golos | 15 | 16 Jack Strongin | 27 | 27 Fran Hovay | 9 |
| 4 Janet B. Stein | 15 | 16 Samuel Rosenheck | 27 | 27 Gussie Levetan | 9 |
| 4 Maurice Heyman | 15 | 17 Edward Hoffman | 28 | 27 Harry Rubin | 9 |
| 4 Muriel Rubin | 15 | 17 Hannah F. Rubin | 28 | 27 Lillian Sweet | 9 |
| 4 Hyman Wasserman | 15 | 17 Louis Rubin | 28 | 27 Myrtle Dobromil | 9 |
| 5 Edith Glazer | 16 | 17 Louis Shreibman | 28 | 27 Sam Aranow | 9 |
| 5 Herbert Ziff | 16 | 17 Ralph Dibble | 28 | 29 David M. Wladis | 10 |
| 6 Isaac Lande | 17 | 17 Rosa Levy | 28 | 28 Esther Nobel | 10 |
| 6 Pauline Leveen | 17 | 17 Freda Goldstein | 28 | 28 Eugene Erway | 10 |
| 8 Emily Lezama de la Rosa | 19 | 18 Julius C. Kahn | 29 | 28 Harry Platt | 10 |
| 8 Esther Paltrowitz | 19 | 18 Mildred Golos | 29 | 28 Janet Ladue Prentice | 10 |
| 8 Rose C. Rosenthal | 19 | 18 Morton Mack | 29 | 28 Louis Seltzer | 10 |
| 8 Benjamin Shadruff | 19 | 18 Persha Wladis | 29 | 28 Samuel Sadinsky | 10 |
| 8 Samuel Gross | 19 | 18 Selma Shulman | 29 | 29 Donna Robbins | 11 |
| 8 Maxwell Siegel | 19 | 18 Yetta Schwartz | 29 | 29 Julius Lovitch | 11 |
| 9 Alfred Plawsky | 20 | | | 29 Lena Allenstein | 11 |
| 9 Etta Berman | 20 | November | Kislev | 29 Sophia Spiegel | 11 |
| 9 Barbara Rosenbloom | 20 | 19 Abram Ginsberg | 1 | 30 Myrtle Dobormil | 12 |
| 9 Edith Kahn | 20 | 19 Freida Rockman | 1 | | |
| 9 Mendel E. Freudenheim | 20 | 19 Hermina Waxman | 1 | | |
| 9 Paula Rondinaro | 20 | 19 Rose Kaufman | 1 | | |
| 9 Robert Chesman | 20 | 19 Sadie Ginsberg | 1 | | |
| 9 Sarah Cohen | 20 | 20 Bertha Lazarus | 2 | | |
| 10 Ida Oppenheim | 21 | 20 Pauline Freeman | 2 | | |
| 10 Joseph Goldberg | 21 | 20 Jenny Platt Goldberg | 2 | | |
| 10 Joseph Solomon Lande | 21 | 21 Goldie Simon | 3 | | |
| 10 Max Kenner | 21 | 21 Helen Eagle | 3 | | |
| 10 Morris Moszkowitz | 21 | 21 Sarah Schuller | 3 | | |
| 10 Muriel Krause | 21 | 22 Gertrude Bernhardt | 4 | | |
| 11 Benjamin Freeman | 22 | 22 Ida Sigel | 4 | | |
| 12 Abraham Obler | 23 | 22 Israel Etkind | 4 | | |
| 12 Henry J. Radin | 23 | 22 Lore Steinitz | 4 | | |
| 12 Joseph David | 23 | 22 Mendel Braveman | 4 | | |
| 12 Mary Wasserman | 23 | 22 Rebecca Rosenheck | 4 | | |
| 12 Morris Dolkart | 23 | 22 Richard Spiegler | 4 | | |
| 12 Sophie Semel | 23 | 22 Roger H. Leepman | 4 | | |
| 13 Barney Levine | 24 | 23 Henry George Lenhardt | 5 | | |
| 13 Eva Botnick | 24 | 24 Celia Tompkins | 6 | | |
| 13 Frances Golbitz | 24 | 24 Zelda Sadinsky | 6 | | |
| 13 Rachel Mulhoffer | 24 | 25 Lena Allenstein | 6 | | |
| 13 William Schreiber | 24 | 24 Philip Schecter | 6 | | |
| 14 Audrey Gerber | 25 | 24 Max Friedman | 6 | | |
| 14 Esther Granoff | 25 | 24 Rudolph Rosenberg | 6 | | |
| 14 George Kaminsky | 25 | 24 Theodore Lande | 6 | | |
| | | 24 Harry Rinde | 6 | | |

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



CKA Donations

Flowers for the Bimah

- ✧ November 10: In memory of Barbara Rosenbloom by Judy & Stu Komer
- ✧ November 17: In memory of Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi with love by Joanne & John Travers

Congregation Education Fund

- ✧ Linda Fox in memory of Abraham Malinowitz
- ✧ Suzanne & Tom Hesselson in honor of John & Cynthia Massey's new grandson, Jay Veer Massey

Dr. David Wladis-Marc Rubino Memorial Youth Fund

- ✧ Beth Wladis in memory of Anna Wladis

General Fund

- ✧ Lindsay Johnson in appreciation of High Holy Days
- ✧ Robbin Stavers in appreciation of High Holy Days services, Rabbi Steinitz, and the musicians.
- ✧ Denise & Henry Glowaski in memory of Murray Werner
- ✧ Vladimir Ovchinnikov in appreciation of the Synagogue

In Memoriam

Congregation Kol Ami extends its heartfelt condolences to Larry & Miriam Greene and family on the death of Larry's son, Chris Alimonti, and on the death of Miriam's uncle, Harry Theisen.

Zich'ronam liv'racha, may their memories be for blessings.

Congregation Kol Ami extends its heartfelt condolences to Doris & David Siskin on the death of Doris's cousin, Marlene J. Condon.

Zich'rona liv'racha, may her memory be for a blessing.

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.

- ✧ Jane Nelson in memory of Harold Schwalb
- ✧ Richard & Gail Gerard in memory of Dr. Edward Grandt
- In memory of Murray Werner*
- ✧ Marcia Weber & James Flaws
- ✧ Arnot Medical Staff
- ✧ Scott & Sharon Sitrin Moore
- ✧ Richard & Gail Gerard
- ✧ Mindy & Nicholas Misnick
- ✧ Kaye Newbury & Nicholas Borrelli

Kate Stein Music Fund

- ✧ Maddy & Larry Dolkart in memory of Dr. Edward Grandt

Mary Ellen Hunter Fund

- ✧ Carol Hoffman in memory of Chris Alimonti
- ✧ Irv Appel in memory of Brian S. Kilburne, Dr. Murray Werner, and Dr. Edward Grandt
- ✧ Blanche Goldsmith Lane & Reva Stemerman Kerker

Prayer Book Fund

- ✧ Robin Staver in memory of Samuel Staver
- ✧ Stu & Judy Komer in memory of Bernard Michael Komer

- ✧ Shelia & Michael Madden in memory of Norma Earle

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ✧ Richard & Andra Frank in honor of Rabbi Steinitz
- ✧ Ellen Wohl in memory of Murray Werner
- ✧ Myra & Jerry Stemerman in memory of Rena Stemerman Rinde
- ✧ Judy Batlan Clack in memory of Murray Werner
- ✧ Clay Granoff in memory of Eleanor (Jerry) Granoff
- ✧ Jeff & Ann Sigel in memory of Dorothy Sigel
- ✧ Sharon Birdsall in appreciation of Rabbi and the gift of a guitar

Sidney Hersch Building Fund

- ✧ Judy Batlan Clack in memory of Dr. Edward Grandt

Synagogue Endowment Fund Gold Chai

- ✧ Marcus & Charlotte Kantz in memory of Donald W. Berry
- ✧ Marcus & Charlotte Kantz in memory of Arthur Kantz

SHABBAT RUACH

WITH GUEST SPEAKER LINDA LOVITCH

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11
10:00 AM

LUNCH AND ADDITIONAL PRESENTATION AFTER THE SERVICE.



*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
Great gifts & CKA Cookbooks*

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.

Thursdays, November 2, 7:00 p.m.
"Story Matters: We Have a Story, We Are a Story," with Eileen Pollack.

Mondays, November 6, 13, 20, and 27, 7:00 p.m.: "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Oren Steinitz. Also December 4, 11, and 18.

Saturday, November 11, 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Ruach with guest speaker Linda Lovitch. Lunch and additional presentation after the service.

Thursday, November 16, 7:30 p.m.
Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky speaks on "The Offering of Hagar's and Sarah's Sons in Jewish, Muslim, and Christian Traditions." The Yachad program for 2017.

Anniversaries

- 15 Lynnette & Michael Lenzner
- 17 Denise & David Kartzman
- 22 Linda & Harvey Chernosky
- 22 Beverly & Jeffrey Dann

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. 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.

Birthdays

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Mollie Sherman | 11 Benjamin Massey | 17 Edith Lubin |
| 1 Lisa Rosenberg | 11 Lee Herbst | 18 Cynthia Massey |
| 6 Jill White | 12 Molly Poes | 24 Elyse Samantha White |
| 7 Ronald Herman | 12 Marisa Rosenberg | 26 Maria Goldwyn |
| 7 Ellen Wohl | 12 Jody Zacher | 26 Matthew Herman |
| 9 Chloe Stemerman | 13 Irv Appel | 27 Ann Sigel |
| 9 Gordon Cohen | 14 Leone Siskin | 28 Malvina Kushnir |
| 11 Harvey Chernosky | 15 Becca Greenberg | |

Jewish Community School



from Director Jeff Rosenheck

It is hard to believe that we are already entering our third month in the Jewish Community School for the year-and what a great start it has been! Our October highlight featured our annual Pizza in the Sukkah lunch, complete with lulav and etrog shaking! A special thanks goes to our students and teachers for making beautiful Sukkah decorations and to our parent volunteers for serving our lunch!

Friday, November 3, features our first Tot Shabbat event, beginning at 6:00 p.m. This event is for students in grades Pre-K and lower, and is filled with songs and stories. Our ninth- and tenth-grade students will help to design and implement the service. At 6:30, a delicious dinner of baked spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, and beverages will be served. Reservations are required by November 1 to the JCF office. Cost for adults is \$5, \$3 for children 6-12 and free for children 5 and under. Services, led



The Sunday during Sukkot coincided with Columbus Day weekend, so the Jewish Community School held an early Sukkot celebration on October 1.

by our students in grades 7-9, will begin at 7:00. All are invited to join us.

Due to the Veteran's Day holiday and the JCF Jazzy Junque Sale, there will be no school on Sunday, November 12. Due to the Thanksgiving recess, there will be no virtual class on November 23. and no school on November 26.

Please remember to dress students warmly. I understand that



many go to sporting events after, but please ensure they bring a coat or sweater. The building is sometimes cool, and we often have outside projects, or fire drills, requiring students to be exposed to the cool temperatures.

As always, I thank the community for their continued support of the JCS, and I welcome any questions, concerns, visits or comments.

Class News

Gan Yeladim (Pre-K/K): It's been a very exciting month in the K-1 classroom. We have studied the holidays, and the students got to dress the torahs for Rosh Hashanah, touch and listen to a shofar, and decorate the sukkah! They also are starting to learn the Hebrew letters, we have made Hebrew letter *shins* out of modeling dough, and gone on scavenger hunts to find all the things in the sanctuary with the *tet* sound. They each tried on a tallit, and we learned about why and how to wear *tallitot*. We are looking forward to another exciting month to come!

Teri Doerksen

Kitah Alef (1) The month of September seemed to fly by with the holidays coming in quick succession. In October we took a step back and finished the lessons on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot. We

continued our lessons in *The Explorer's Bible*, which included learning about Cain and Abel and Noah.

One of our craft projects for October included decorations for the Sukkah.

Kathy Rosenheck

Kitot Bet & Gimel (2-3): The second grade Hebrew students are moving ahead. Currently, they are reviewing the *alef-bet* and syllable formation. The older students are working on reading and understanding prayers for the holidays and Shabbat. Hope everyone has a good month.

Rivka Miran

Kitot Hay & Vav (5-6): In Kitah Hay, we have begun the "journey" of learning about the important milestones in Jewish lives. *Journey of a Lifetime* discusses these significant times in an age-appropriate format, enabling the class to have interest-

ing and meaningful discussions. We have also begun to read and discuss *America: The Jewish Experience*. This book provides an excellent source for explaining the impact of Jewish Americans throughout history. Students really enjoy this book, because it directly relates to what they are studying in their daily social studies classes. In both Kitah Hay and Kitah Vav, we discussed Sukkot and made beautiful decorations for the Sukkah. Everyone really enjoyed our celebration in the sukkah!

Donna Rothenberg

Kitot Vav & Zayin (6-7): Shalom! The 6th grade learned about the value of Jewish solidarity as exemplified by Sandy Koufax. As a Dodger, he was expected to be the starting pitcher for game one of the World Series. Koufax refused to pitch because it was Yom Kippur.

continued

Kol Ami

The 7th grade is continuing in *Min Ha'aretz* and began our studies in the Holocaust. We looked at the official definition of genocide and its eight stages. We are "reading" photographs and exploring the conditions that lead to this horrific event.

Eileen Pollack

Tichon (High School): Looking forward to the slow down of the holidays so we can get together and dive into ethics and history. History tells

us who were as a people and Jewish ethics help to guide us to where we are today. The greatest mitzvah of all is said to be "Talmud Torah." When we learn we are fulfilling a mitzvah and doubly so when we are engaged in Jewish learning.

Amanda Sharp

Hebrew: This month, classes are busy getting ready for Hannukah. Using songs and prayers, students are using the holiday to continue

studying their Hebrew. Classes are continuing using their textbooks, and some grades will likely be starting new books this month. As always, students are encouraged to participate in the Thursday night sessions. Parents should feel free to contact me should they have any questions or concerns.

Sophie Marmor

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FREE BOOKS AND MUSIC FOR JEWISH CHILDREN

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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

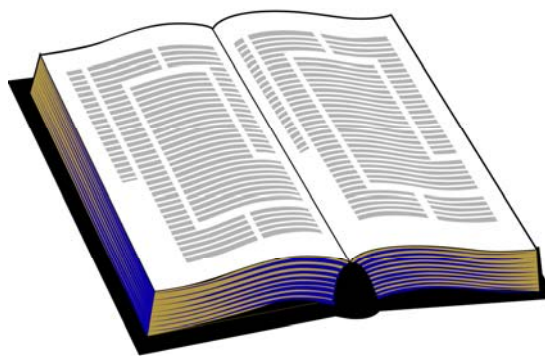
Congregation Kol Ami: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Jewish Center and Federation:

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

ADULT EDUCATION

TALMUD FOR NON-TALMUDISTS



WITH RABBI OREN STEINITZ

MONDAYS AT 7:00 PM BEGINNING NOVEMBER 6

NO HEBREW REQUIRED

CKA Book Club 2017

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

November 8

Sometimes Brilliant
by Larry Brilliant

December 13

Sisters In Law
by Linda Hirshman

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

You are cordially invited to
**SISTERHOOD'S EIGHTH ANNUAL
TRIVIA NIGHT**



Bring your Friends, Bring your brains,
Bring your Trivia Knowledge,
and join us on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:30 PM AT CONGREGATION KOL AMI

Pizza, Beer, Wine, Hot Prizes and
Yummy Desserts

\$9.00 per person or "Chai" for two with your RESERVATION

\$12.00 AT THE DOOR

Call the Kol Ami office at 607-732-7410
Or email: office@kolamielmira.org

Jewish Community Calendar

November 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 Community Kitchen JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class JCF 7:00 pm Eileen Pollack class | 3 CKA 6:00 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30pm Grades 7-9 Dinner 7:00 pm Family Shabbat Service | 4 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service |
| 5 JCS 9:00 am-12:15 pm JCS 12:30 pm Staff Meeting | 6 CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Steinitz | 7 JCF 1:00 pm– 4:00 pm Game day Election Day | 8 CKA 12:00 pm Book Club CKA 6:30 pm Exec. Board 7:30 pm Board Meeting | 9 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class | 10 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Veterans Day Federal Holiday | 11 CKA 10:00 am Shabbat Ruach and Lunch with Linda Lovitch Veterans Day |
| 12 NO JCS Jazzy Junque Sale 9:00 am–3:00 pm | 13 Jazzy Junque Sale 9:00 am-3:00 pm CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Steinitz | 14 JCF 1:00 pm– 4:00 pm Game day | 15 | 16 JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class JCF 7:30 pm Yachad with Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky | 17 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service | 18 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service |
| 19 JCS 9:00 am-12:15 pm | 20 CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Steinitz | 21 JCF 1:00 pm– 4:00 pm Game day JCF 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting | 22 | 23 Offices Closed No JCS Virtual Class Thanksgiving | 24 Offices Closed CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Service | 25 CKA 8:00 am Shabbat Service 9:00 am Shabbat Service |
| 26 No JCS | 27 CKA 7:00 pm "Talmud for Non-Talmudists" with Rabbi Steinitz | 28 JCF 1:00 pm– 4:00 pm Game day | 29 | 30 JCF 7:00 pm Film Series JCS 7:00 pm Virtual Class | | |

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