KOL " AMI

Upcoming Celebration & Learning opportunities at CKA

Beginning Saturday, January 13 there will be a **Monthly Shopkeepers' Shabbat Service & Breakfast** on the second Saturday of the month from 8 to 9 a.m. A short Shabbat morning service followed by breakfast and of course, Schmoozing. This service will be in person only. Further scheduled dates include February 10, March 9, April 13 and May 11.

Join us for a Special Tu B'Shevat Friday Night Shabbat Service & Oneg on January 26 at on 7:30 p.m. Welcome in Shabbat with a special Kabbalat Shabbat service in honor of Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish Arbor Day, the New Year for trees. A wonderful Oneg after services will include the traditional Tu B'Shevat foods including dates, apricots, figs and more. Available in person and on Zoom.

A **Monthly Havdalah Dinner & Service Program** is also beginning this month, on Saturday, January 27 at 5 p.m. The CKA community will mark the end of Shabbat with *Seuda'at Shelisheet*, the third and final meal (a light fare) on Shabbat, followed by welcoming in the new week with the Havdalah ceremony. Available in person and on Zoom. The scheduled dates are February 24, March 16, April 20, and May 25.

All Zoom activities will be in the regular Zoom meeting room, https://zoom.us/j/234349277 For more information on any of these events, please contact Rabbi Tom at the CKA office, office@kolamielmira.org or (607) 732-7410.

Jewish Noshes

Once upon a time there was 100 pounds of flour, 100 pounds of sugar, 60 pounds of potatoes, 58 dozen eggs, 6 gallons of olive oil, 30 pounds of cream cheese, 25 pounds of chocolate chips, 9 chickens, etc., etc., etc., waiting to be turned into 129 challah, 675 knishes, 257 babka, 412 blintzes, 88 quarts of matzo ball soup, 556 boureka, and 1,116 macaroons. And it didn't happen through magic. It took 1500 people hours to do the planning, cooking and shopping that was necessary.

But if you happened to walk into the Synagogue almost any day during the month of November, along with the delicious aromas you smelled, you heard the sounds of the cooks laughing, sharing stories and having a good time even while peeling potatoes or waiting for the dough to rise.

The result was our first "Jewish Noshes," which had evolved from the "Nosh of the Month," which had evolved from the "Jewish Food Festival." And it was a great success by every standard. Our customers who came on December 3 to pick up their purchases were delighted with the organization and how beautifully the room was set up. We even had a tchotchke booth, gift cards and cookbooks for those who wanted to do some additional shopping.

Tentative plans are to do a slightly expanded "Jewish Noshes" in the future. Watch for the date, and if you haven't been involved, consider joining in.

A giant THANK YOU to those who worked those 1500 hours:

Anita Adelsberg Mindy Gaieski Lisa Goldberg Suzanne Hesselson Sheila Katz Marilyn Rabinowitz Harriet Sweet Tina Wise Sharon Birdsall
Ashley Gillan
Faith Gray
Sara Holtzman
Sue King
Susan Seltzer
Liz Walton

Terri Dobbs
Denise Glowaski
Beth Herbst
Charlotte Kantz
Cynthia Massey
Gil Sweet
Annie Werner

Jewish Center & Federation of the Twin Tiers Congregation Kol Ami

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Kol Ami Calendar Updates

All information in the printed edition of the Kol Ami is accurate as of publishing but changes may occur, for up to date information please check our on line calendar or Facebook page.



To celebrate the simcha of the anniversary of Beth Herbst's Bat Mitzvah! Saturday, January 13 @ 9:30 a.m.

A delightful spread of noshes will be provided following services with Kiddush to sweeten the celebration!



בל עמי–Congregation Kol Ami



from President John Goldman

What is your why?

We are fortunate to be able to be in Aruba this Chanukah as this article is being written. There was a very nice menorah lighting at the beach this evening. A giant menorah travels around the island with a different location every night. How did we stumble upon this?

Because someone we knew from previous years, who reminds me so much of Loda Golos, invited us when she saws us a couple of days ago. We knew Faye and one other person we had met while out and about but had no idea he was Jewish. Through them, we were introduced to others. It felt almost like being home.

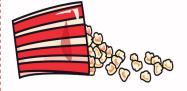
Why did we actually show up on the beach this evening? Obviously to celebrate Chanukah as part of a community but we also felt a connection to Faye and we told her we'd be there.

What does this have to do with you?

Why are you here as part of our Jewish community? What is your connection? What would you like your connection to be in an ideal world? Have you helped others feel connected like Faye has done with us?

Something to think about. L'Shalom,

John





CKA SISTERHOOD'S ANNUAL





JANUARY 20TH

6:00 P.M. @ CKA \$12 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE, \$15 AT THE DOOR

Join us for a Finger Lakes-themed Trivia Night filled with challenging questions, laughs, and prizes! Pizza, soda, and wine will be served for dinner, and popcorn and nuts will be provided during the game. There will also be a 50/50 raffle! It's six people to a team, we can help you find a team if needed! Emcees for the game will be our own John Goldman and Cheryl Miller! RSVP to the CKA Office by Jan. 15 to receive the discounted price. Make checks payable to CKA Sisterhood.

CKA Book Club

January 17

The Thread Collectors by Shaunna Edwards and Alyson Richman

February 21

Thistlefoot by GennaRose Nethercott

All meetings are at noon, at https://tinyurl.com/CKABOOKCLUB.

Books are available online, at the public library,& in the Jerome & Etkind Library at CKA.



For a rollicking good time at this year's Purim Spiel and a "Bissel Wine Tasting" event!
Coming March 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. at CKA, brought to you by the joint JCF and CKA communities!



2 Kol Ami

from Rabbi Tom Samuels



Message From Rabbi Tom, CKA **Creating a Sacred Congregation**

"You stand this day, all of you, before the Lord your God: your tribal heads. your elders and your officials, your children, your wives, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to water drawer, to enter into the covenant of the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 29: 9-10)

We are all standing before God. Each and every one of us. Each and every day of our lives. Across the generations, past and future. And in each generation, teaches Rabbi Donnie Hartman, in each expression of the Torah, we must ask ourselves: What do we do with this heritage? This wisdom? This pedagogy for pursing a life of meaning and of purpose? How will we use it to inform our own lives? The lives of our children? Of their children?

A major theme in American religion over the past three decades has been the rise of meaning-seeking on the part of Americans of all faiths. An evolution beyond the paradigm of a function community based on a passive consumer-client relationship Jews in the Pews), to that of an actively involved membership of a sacred community.

As such, we are challenged now more than ever to provide environments where meaning-making can happen. To produce experiences and opportunities that can enrich our lives, expand our connection to this world, and that speak to our very souls.

Perhaps this process starts with asking ourselves that core, fundamental, and consequently most difficult question: Why be Jewish? Why remain Jewish? What is our answer

that can inspire a life-long commitment to the Jewish People and to Judaism itself? That can help to foster a Jewish life that revives our spirit, rekindles our passion for living, and infuses our lives with joy and with meaning? That satisfies our basic human need to, in the words of Rabbi Jay Michaelson, touch the transcendent in this world? To express our humanity?

The ultimate question then, is, how important is a Jewish future to us? How seriously do we want ourselves, and our children to take Judaism? I leave us all with more questions than answers. After all, this is the Jewish Wav.

B'Shalom, Rabbi Tom, CKA

Service Schedule

Shabbat and festival services are both in-person, and online at https://zoom.us/i/234349277.

Shabbat Evening Service 7:30 PM

Shabbat Morning Service 9:30 AM

Friday, Jan. 12

MLK Shabbat with Michael Weisser 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Jan. 13

Simcha Bat Mitzvah Anniversary with Beth Herbst special Kiddish

9:30 a.m.

Saturday Jan. 13

Shop-Keepers Shabbat

8:00 a.m. Friday, Jan. 26

With breakfast (In person only)

Tu B'shevat Shabbat with Oneg

7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah/Haftarah Portions & Candle Lighting

January 5-6 4:32 p.m. Shemot Exodus 1:1-6:1 Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23

January 12-13 4:39 p.m. Va'era Exodus 6:2-9:35

Ezekel 28:25-29:21

4:47 p.m. Во Exodus 10:1-13:16 Jeremiah 46:13-28

January 19-20

January 26-27 4:56 p.m. Beshallah Exodus 13:17-17:16 Judges 4:4-5:31

Adult Education

Open to the entire community All at https://zoom.us/j/234349277

Bagels & Torah

10:00 a.m. Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28 (Jan. 7 is Zoom only) With Rabbi Tom Samuels

Office Hours

Congregation Kol Ami:

Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Jewish Center & Federation:

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

All information for the February issue of Kol Ami must be submitted to one of the organization offices by January 10.

Please be sure that all dates are on the Jewish communities calendar.

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January 2024

Yahrzeits

January	Tevet	Ja	nuary	Shevat	20	Lewis Wolosky	10
1 Marquerite Champion	20	11	Ida Braveman	1	21	Constantia Brownfield	11
1 John Lane	20	11	Joseph Oppenheim	1	21	Albert Epstein	11
1 Morris Liebson	20	11	lda Öppenheimer	1	21	Esther Featherman	11
1 Inez Peterson	20	11	Nathan H. Rubin	1	21	Julius Fenster	11
1 Rivka Stemerman	20	11	Pauline Schulman	1	21	Marvin Wladis	11
1 Abe W. Winston	20	12	Gertrude Adelson	2	22	Eliner Greenberg	12
2 Mollie Barth	21	12	Marlene J. Condon	2	22	Joe Kaplan	12
2 Abraham Cooperman	21	12	Minerva Laskow	2	22	Bernard M. Komer	12
3 Evelyn Guss [·]	22	12	Bernard Steinman	2	22	Laura M. Marlowe	12
3 Anna Handin	22	12	Louis E. Stern	2	22	Lionel Sacks	12
3 Nathan Knispel	22	13	Wilhelmina Friedman	3	23	Milton Aronowitz	13
3 Leon Markson	22	13	Philip Gutterman	3	23	Eva Cohen	13
3 Gertrude Sacks	22	13	Sadie Gutterman	3	23	Loda Golos	13
3 Harold Saffer	22	13	Barry Hyman	3	23	Irving Karl	13
3 Oscar Shulman	22	13	Sarah Kroshinsky	3	23	Ethel Halperin Miller	13
3 Meta Speigler	22	13	Lilian Medalie	3	23	Blanche Rosenblatt	13
4 Dora Barcon	23	13	Louis Newmark	3	23	Morris B. Seamon	13
4 Marion F. Glaser	23	13	Fay Robbins	3	23	Sally Staver	13
4 Howard Greenberg	23	13	Nathan Usdane	3	23	Meier Weinrauch	13
4 Frank Harris	23	14	Jules Baim	4	24	Meyer Frucht	14
4 Rae Kornfeld	23	14	Irving Goldstein	4	24	Albert Kaplan	14
4 Pauline Silverman	23	14	Nathan Hoppe	4	24	J. Ralph Paltrowitz	14
4 William Sitrin	23	14	Irving Newman	4	24	Sadie S. Schindler	14
4 Frima Zonis	23	14	Philip Oppenheim	4	24	Shirley Sherman Silver	14
5 Jacob Baltimore	24	14	David Snowiss	4	24	Jerold Usdane	14
5 Mina Bloch	24	15	lda Muckler	5	25	Bertha Winkelstein	15
5 Moses Ginsburg	24	15	Bertha Singer Prell	5	26	Alexander Scheps	16
5 Jacob Locks	24	15	Rose Winnick	5	26	Edith Treinin	16
5 Minette Salsburg	24	16	William Alter	6	26	Augusta Ulrich	16
5 Abraham Staver	24	16	Abe Chernosky	6	27	Mary Berinstein	17
5 Eleanor Strumpf	24	16	Irma Loeb	6	27	Rita Eagen	17
5 Harry W. Theisen	24	16	Ann Rubinsky	6	27	Lillian Gerard	17
6 Rosa Platt	25	16	Freda Werner	6	27	Edith Ornstat	17
6 Jack Rosenthal	25	17	Karen Featherman	7	28	Samuel Allenstein	18
6 Minnie Stein	25	17	Abraham Moses	7	28	Barbara Bacon	18
7 Ruth Board	26	17	Harry Sandler	7	28	Max Berman	18
7 Morris Braude	26	17	William Sayers	7	28	Samuel Cohen	18
7 Jennifer Cohen	26	17	Barbara Shapiro	7	28	Jay H. Featherman	18
7 Herbert Friedman	26	17	Irving I. Sternberg	7	28	Keith Miller	18
7 Blume R. Glass	26	17	Arthur O. Varon	7	28	Irving Sandler	18
7 Marion J. Miller	26	17	George Wladis	7	28	Ella Spiegler	18
7 Sam Rothstein	26	17	Peggy Zaparzynski	7	29	Gertrude Baim	19
7 Edward Small	26	18	Leon Braude	8	29	Morris Berger	19
7 Robert Usdane	26	18	Solon Diamondstone	8	29	George Buchsbaum	19
8 Joseph Bimberg	27	18	Louis Levey	8	29	Kathleen Golby	19
8 Lillian R. Etkind	27	18	Sherry Miller	8	29	Ann Hoffman	19
8 Rose Kaplan	27	18	Haya Parker	8	29	Jennie Etkind Kenner	19
8 Lillian Soodek	27	18	Joseph Rosencrans	8	29	William Passmore	19
8 Rose Weinrauch	27	18	Rachel Rubenstein	8	29	Samuel A. Rabinowitz	19
9 Olga Barkus	28	18	Sarah Schecter Stemerma		29	Betsy Rosencrans	19
9 Ruth Fidelman	28	18	Pearl Weiss	8	29	Ernest Rosenwald	19
9 Jennifer Mauer	28	18	Jennie L. Yudkovsky	8	30	Sally Aronowitz	20
9 Myer A. Miller	28	19	Abraham Brown	9	30	Kaufmann David	20
Bertha Rosenfield Irving Scherr	28	19	Elizabeth Caplan	9	30 30	Samuel Koch	20
- 3	28	19	Anthony Rondinaro	9		Seymour Nusbaum	20
10 Silas Henry	29 29	19 19	Paul I. Shore Irving Simon	9 9	30 31	Samuel Zatcoff Ida Fidelman	20 21
10 Tiba Michlosky	29 29	19			31		21
10 Jane Rosencrans	29 29		Nettie Steinmetz	9 10	31	Etna Kushnir Julius Pollak	21
10 Samuel M. Salsburg10 Abe Silverman	29 29	20 20	Paul Levy Herman S. Schindler	10	31	Maude M. Pollak	21
10 Joseph Weiss	29 29	20	Rose Tondow	10	JI		
in ansehii weiss	29	20	1.036 TOTIOOM	10		Continue	ed pg.6

Kol Ami

CKA Donations

General fund

- In Memory of Sarah Lewis by Sue Jacobson
- In Memory of Sylvia Andell by James & Michelle Pavillard Freeman
- In Memory of our beloved Grandfather, Abraham Golos by Margo L. Golos

- ☼ In Memory of our beloved Brother, Eddie Sam Golos by Margo L. Golos
- In Memory of our beloved Cousin, Don Golos by Margo L. Golos

Technology Donation

- In Memory of Morris Dolkart by Larry & Maddy Dolkart

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

- In support of CKA by Dr. Ronnie Schenkein

Jewish Center and Federation



from Past President Marcus Kantz

Shalom Everyone,

First and foremost, I must apologize. I wanted to offer a Gigundo Chanukah Celebration Article, but I hadn't realized that Chanukah would be over by the time you read this. So, I guess we're going to get a more philosophical Chanukah, probably spilling over to other things. But we'll just go with the flow. First though, I have to acknowledge that as I write this, the BGM (come on, you remember it's the Big Giant Menorah) is alive and well on the shul's front lawn, serving both the purpose of the evening group candle lighting, and as a demonstration that we, the Jewish Community, are proud to show that we are alive and well and happy proud to be here in Elmira.

Across America and around the world, Jewishness is under attack, some very subtlety and some overtly In America and around the world some people (both individually and in groups) are openly expressing Anti-Semitism. It's not widespread and not mainstream, but it does seem to be more open and "accepted" than in recent years. Of course, some of the nasty verbiage and discourse is purveyed by just a few individuals through their personalities and positions in the world. They are able to splash it out in the on-line airways, making it seem like it's just the way it is for everyone.

What it really is, is just plain scary. Fortunately, there are many local and National non-Jewish leaders who

speak out loudly and often on our Jewish behalf. Thank God for them. And, locally, it was very reassuring to be joined by so many non-Jews on this year's Abrahamic Walk, walking and schmoozing, and celebrating together along the way.

So, we've started this article with the BGM and ended with the Abrahamic Walk. Starting with our community way of saying "We're Jews, and we're happy and proud to be here celebrating with our wider community," and ending with the wider community celebrating with us. Not bad.

Shalom to one and all, Marcus

Jazzy Junque



What a pleasure it is to work alongside a dedicated group of

people each year at Jazzy Junque.

We all enjoy our time together where we learn, shop, and make new friends. The big questions after the sale are always "how much did we make?" and "how does this compare to other years?"

From Oct. 1 to Dec. 11, 2023, the total is \$6,591.00. This is less than last year, and about average for the

last 7 or 8 years. Higher proceeds generally come from donations from multiple estates where the donating family leaves us more expensive items.

Our base donations come from all of you who clean closets, digging deep for forgotten treasures. We always need you and are most grateful for your participation.

The workers continue through conflicting schedules, busy lives, and sacrifice their time in anticipation of our super sale. *Yasher Koach* to all of you. Please read this beautiful, unsolicited, anonymous thank you note that was sent in to the JCF office:

Dear Folks,

Wanted to send a note, to thank you for putting on the Jazzy Junque sale. I'm sure it was of concern to you regarding safety. It's always so nicely displayed and the workers are so helpful. I look forward to it every year. I try to remember that there are more good people in the world than evil. It's as shame we have to keep looking over our shoulders! I try to focus on family, friends, sunny days, and living life to sustain inner peace. May all of the Jewish People around the world find peace.

January 2024 5

from Executive Director Ashley Gillan



It's that time of year again. When we're reminded that while we're here living in 5784, the rest of the world is still living in 2024, and it's the time of year we're supposed to make resolutions for this secular New Year, an odd ritual I rarely take part in. But hey, let's try it.

This past year has been a doozy (I know, I know, we're supposed to be looking forward, not back). Who knew I would end up here in the JCF office last January? I certainly would have laughed in your face if you told me that. But now, I love it. It's been the most fulfilled career-wise I've felt in my entire life.

And going into 2024, we're already looking at a good slate of activities to keep the wonderful momentum we built in 2023 going: we're restarting the monthly movies, hoping to play with the schedule and slate of offer-

ings to attract a greater audience (If you have any feedback or want to be part of the planning process, please email me!).

We're also looking ahead and planning a joint Purim event with CKA, which will involve a "Bissel Wine Tasting" and some cheese and fruit – yum! – before the annual Purim Spiel, directed by the talented and visionary Beth Herbst, which will help us wade into the waters of joint-fundraising work, something that's been a long time coming.

Annie Werner is also working on starting up a social crafting group. It would be a time when people could bring in their projects and work on them together while chatting and having a good time. No level of expertise required.

All of this and more is coming - so what does this have to do with resolu-

tions? I think all of these new ideas and the ones to come will require that we work together, smooth out bumps, and have patience. After all, we're just trying to enjoy our time here; because as another year coming reminds us, time is fleeting.

About a month ago, I went to a Chinese restaurant, and after lunch, came the fortune cookies. I usually almost instantly forget what the "fortune" says, but mine that day stuck with me. It said: "If you're frustrated, take 10 breaths. If you're still frustrated, take 100 more."

I think this year, that's going to be my resolution. To have patience and take a breath. Because nothing is worth getting that angry about when we're all working toward the same goal.

Mazal Tov

To Hillary Austin, Superintendent of the Elmira City School District, and daughter of Gil and Harriet Sweet. Hillary was honored by the Chemung County Chamber of Commerce with the Athena Leadership Award. The award recognizes someone who demonstrates the highest level of professionalism, excels in their chosen field, devotes time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community, and opens paths so that others may follow.

To Sharon Birdsall, kitchen coordinator for Congregation Kol Ami, was recently honored with a large feature article in the Elmira Star-Gazette for all of the tireless volunteer work she undertakes throughout the area. In addition to her work here at Kol Ami, she volunteers for Catholic Charities of Chemung/Schuyler, Ladies for Charity, His Haven, and other worthy causes. Sharon retired from her job 17 years ago, but as the Star-Gazette said, she has since only "sped up."

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JCF Donations

JFNA Campaign Donations

Donor

- ⇔ Sheila & Jeff Katz
- ☆ Kathy & Larry Cohen
- ☆ Harriette Y. Lindsay

Friend

Sponsor

Supporter

Guardian

☆Marcia Weber

In Memoriam

We extend our sincere condolences to the Braunstein Family on the death of Sue Braunstein. Zichronah Liv'rachah, May her memory be a blessing.

We extend our sincere condolences to former member Heidi Savin & Family on the death of Heidi's Mother, Ann Rosenfield. Zichronah Liv'rachah, May her memory be a blessing.

Yahrzeits ContinuedJanuaryShevat31 Edward Rubenstein2131 Fannie Snowiss2131 Philip Snowiss2131 Marcia Susan Story21

Birthdays

Debra Chesman Carla Cohen Matthias Doerksen-Goldwater Maddy Dolkart Gail Gerard Dian Gerstel Michelle Halperin Samuel Halperin Beth Herbst Lenard Hirshman Carole Hoffman Stephen Koob Shayna Miller Kristine Perle Judith Prentice Richard Rosenberg Courtney Seltzer Svetlana Short Doris Siskin

Anniversaries

Joe and Mindy Gaieski John A. and Eva Kadar John and Cynthia Massey Jonathan and Debra Kravitz

Kol Ami

January 2024

Jewish Community Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Offices Closed	2 JCF 7:30 pm Exec. Board Meeting	က	4 Community Kitchen	5 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service (Zoom Only)	6 CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service (Zoom Only)
	New Years' Day					5:30 pm Havdalah
7 CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom (Zoom Only)	8 JCF 7:30 pm Board Meeting	o	CKA 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting		CKA 7:30 pm MLK Shabbat Evening Service with guest Michael Weisser	CKA 8:00 am - 9:00 am Shop-Keepers Shabbat service & breakfast CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service kiddish 5:45 pm Havdalah
14 CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom	15 Offices Closed Martin Luther King Day	16	CKA 12:00 pm Book Club CKA 7:00 pm Board Meeting	18	CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 5:45 pm Havdalah CKA Sisterhood 6:00 pm Trivia Night
CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom	22	23	24	25	26 CKA 7:30 pm Tu B'Shevat Shabbat Evening Service with Oneg	CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service Kiddish & Discussion CKA 5:00 pm Havdalah with light meal
28 CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom	29	30	31			

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A monthly publication of

Twin Tiers Federation of the Jewish Center &

Kol Ami Congregation

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