

KOL קול עמי AMI

Purim comes to Elmira!

Jewish Center & Federation
of the Twin Tiers
Congregation Kol Ami

Joint Fundraiser bringing Purim cheer

Congregation Kol Ami and the Jewish Center and Federation are coming together to organize a new fundraiser for members and their guests to enjoy before heading upstairs for the annual Purim Spiel.

The merriment on March 24 begins in the downstairs at 2 p.m. in Braunstein Social Hall with a tasting of kosher and/or kosher for Passover wine from Lighthouse Liquors and Wines, and beer, from Iron Flamingo Brewery in Corning. The beverages will be accompanied by a selection of cheeses, fruit, chocolate and other goodies to nosh on.

Tickets are \$18 per person for either the wine tasting or the beer tasting. A nonalcoholic "Designated Driver" package, which will include the food and a selection of sodas and other beverages, is \$8 per person.

RSVPs are due to the JCF office by March 8th.

Each alcohol package will come with four tickets for drinks. The wines will include a selection of two whites and two reds, selected for their great taste and variety. Iron Flamingo is a craft brewery, which "uses local farmers for their hops and malt," according to their website. The four tickets are for four of the chosen beverage type.

Each attendee will also receive a commemorative shot glass as part of their paid ticket package.

March 2024

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A Purim Spectacle Like Never Before!



Get ready for a Purim Spiel that's not just a 'L'ittle bit lovely', but downright hilarious! Introducing "My Fair Esther" – a dazzling Purim parody on My Fair Lady that promises more laughs than Hamantaschen crumbs!

But wait, there's a musical twist! Brace yourselves for an intermission like never before, featuring a dynamic baritone saxophone and piano duet, with Landen Robertshaw and Katie Replogle.

Grab your groggers and hold onto your crowns as we unveil the stellar cast of "My Fair Esther": Debra Chesman, Hannah Doerksen-Goldwater, Len and Marianne Hirshman, Marcus Kantz, Marcia Kesten, Vickie Mike, Sharon Sitrin-Moore, Nathan Shedd, Karey Solomon, and Stuart Trock will bring these clever lyrics and rousing songs to the stage. Your Purim Spiel Production team includes: Director, Beth Herbst; Pianist, Katie Replogle; Technical Support/ Musician, Landen Robertshaw; and Videographer/ Stage manager, Ashley Gillan.

Turn Your Laughter into L'chaim: Support My Fair Esther! No admission fee to attend, but donations are encouraged, and very much appreciated!

This LIVE performance will be in-person at the shul. Can't make it in person? Don't worry, the Spiel will be broadcast on Zoom at <http://tinyurl.com/JCFPurim2024>.

The festivities will wrap up in the social hall with Hamantaschen, sweets, drinks, and a sing-along led by Rabbi Tom.

Join us for an afternoon of joy, costumes, and fantastic tunes! Thank you for helping us make Purim 2024/5784 the most fabulous and laughter-filled celebration yet!



Save the Date

For a rollicking good time at this year's Wine and Beer tasting and Purimspiel, fill out the RSVP form on Page 8, and return it to the JCF office by March 8th!



Congregation Kol Ami—כל עמי



from President John Goldman

Liz and I recently took a trip to New Hampshire. I was fortunate enough to be able to spend three days downhill skiing with my daughter Susan and her husband Quinn. After a long hiatus, both Susan and I started skiing again 3 years ago. We are trying to make it an annual event.

Until a certain point in both in our lives, I would zoom down the mountain and wait for Susan patiently mid-trail or at the bottom. When we both started skiing again, I discovered that had changed. Now she is ahead and waits patiently for me at the stopping point.

I was trailing her down the slope and passed a father (I assumed) guiding a small child of about three down the slope. This brought back memories of me doing the same for Susan when she was that age. I yelled to the assumed father "Watch out they grow up. I did the same with my daughter 31 years ago and now I can't keep up with her. She's ahead of me as usual." He laughed. Our son Michael, who also started skiing the same way was unable to be with us because of conflicting priorities at home including a 22-month-old son. We all agreed, including grandson Maxwell, that he would start skiing next year. As we talked about this during our weekly family Zoom meeting, I thought what a nice tradition to have. My parents started me skiing when I was three back in the days of rope tows and it will continue. My mother, may her memory be a blessing, would periodically remind me I was the cause of any back pain she might have due to how we would have to go up the rope tow together when I was three and unable to do it by myself. Fortunately, rope tows were gone before our children were born.

I started thinking about our congregation, the Jewish community, and the wonderful traditions we have. While skiing is a nice family tradition, it is not particularly critical one in my opinion. In contrast, many of the Jewish traditions we have in total are critical to the future of Judaism. Individual practices may change or ebb and flow

with the times, but certain elements are critical to our continued existence as a community.

As we look to the future, we need to take steps to ensure our future viability. Like the situation of the young skier, we need caring parents who will take the time and energy to make sure their children are educated with basic skills and knowledge and to guide them down the slope until they are able to navigate on their own. We need instructors to provide the training that parents are unable to provide. Many parents understand that children may learn more effectively from the teaching of others in addition to themselves. We need a facility in some form or fashion for this to take place as skiers utilize ski areas or even hills in their own back yards. We utilize our building and people's homes. We need skiers whose numbers and support allow all of this to happen on the ski slope just as we need congregants who support the community with their resources in terms of time, talent, and money.

Increased temperatures and reduced snowfall as our weather patterns continue to change may threaten the existence local ski areas. They have survived thus far through innovations such as snow making and utilizing technology to increase efficiency and safety. More innovation will undoubtedly be required, however.

We survived as a community during the pandemic by using Zoom to bring people together and in the face of a decline in local Jewish population we have a very active and hardworking community. More innovations will undoubtedly be required, however.

I know most people are not skiers just as I know most people, at least in this area, are not part of the Jewish community. Our traditions are important to us though and critical to the continued existence of Judaism.

What do we need to be doing now and in the next couple of years to help ensure today's three-year-old will have a Jewish community for their children to partake in the tra-

ditions we have been blessed with over the years?

We are one congregation with a diversity of viewpoints. It is this diversity which makes us stronger but with the responsibility to keep lines of communication open, so all community members feel connected, welcomed, and valued.

We have had conversations on this topic, but the path forward is not crystal clear by any means. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and working with you towards securing a Jewish future for those whom we may never meet. As I mentioned at High Holidays, we welcome any input or feedback regarding what you think as being good, not so good, different, or just plain confusing. If you have questions or concerns, please bring them directly to the Rabbi, a Trustee, an officer, or me. If we don't know about a something that needs to be examined or changed, we can't even begin to do anything about it.

L'Shalom,
John

CKA Book Club

March 20

Künstlers in Paradise by
Cathleen Schine

April 17

Shmutz by Felicia Berliner

May 15

Signal Fires by Dani Shapiro

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.



from Rabbi Tom Samuels

**Message From Rabbi Tom, CKA
Embracing Our Topsy-Turvy World:
Lessons from Purim**

(From the teachings of Rabbis Irwin Kula, Ed Feinstein, Shai Held and Harold Schulweiss, and Professors Donnie Hartman, Ethan Dor-Shav, Atar Hadari and Noam Zion)

Throughout Jewish scriptures, situation after situation unfold in which human beings are thrust into the messy reality of everyday life. A thread runs through these myths, our stories: an acceptance of, even an embrace of the inherent vulnerability that is life itself. Everything can change overnight.

And so, our Jewish tradition teaches us to savor the sweetness of life, the magic of the everyday. That every minute counts because eventually it is going to end. "That the fleeting joys of life are real, and at that very moment exists all of the meaning of the world."

How then are we able to learn to navigate life's inevitable ebbs and flows? Is it even possible to thrive in an imperfect, unpredictable and topsy-turvy world?

Let us look at the upcoming holiday of Purim in this context.

The very name of the holiday, *Purim* (meaning lottery in Hebrew), "suggests the absurdity and vulnerability of historical events." The

Book of Esther opens in Shushan, the capital city of Ancient Persia, with a celebration of the peace and prosperity of King Ahashverosh's rule. According to the Talmud, the Jewish population ate, drank and caroused along with the non-Jewish inhabitants of the city.

Onto this complacent scene came a new prime minister called Haman. He was glorified by everyone except Mordecai the Jew, who refused to bow down to him. In a fit of fury, Haman determined to kill not only Mordecai, but his entire people. Haman obtained the king's authorization, cast lots to pick a day for the genocide, and set the wheels of destruction in motion.

One can imagine the Jews' confusion: One minute they were highly integrated, loyal citizens of Persia, and the next they were being hunted down by their gentile neighbors. "And the city of Shushan was bewildered," says the Megillah. Our great sages describe a Jewish ethos which tends to believe in the inherent goodness of human nature. Who would willfully decide to kill an entire people, an innocent people - men, women, and children?

(Almost two millennia later, Alexander Donat explained in his chronicle of the Warsaw ghetto why the Jews did not resort to armed re-

sistance initially: "We could not now believe that the Third Reich was a government of gangsters embarked on a program of genocide 'to solve the Jewish problem in Europe.' We fell victim to our faith in mankind.")

Rabbi Kula teaches that rather than teach absolute truths, Judaism invites us to "dance with dualities and contradictions: Life and Death; Hate and Love; Right and Wrong; Sorrow and Joy. There is no perfect balance: no end to the highs and lows, to the darkness and the light."

We read in the Book of Ecclesiastes (1: 1-5): "*Hevel Havalim*, says the Preacher. All is *Hevel*. What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun? A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises..."

All of life is *Hevel Havalim*, fleeting transience, oft mistranslated as 'vanity.' All life is temporary. Like a short breath. With this in mind, let us commit to embracing every moment of our ever so precarious and thus precious lives.

Chag Purim Someyach. Wishing you all a healthy and joyful Purim.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Tom, CKA

Service Schedule

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

Shabbat Evening Service
7:30 PM

Shabbat Morning Service
9:30 AM

Weekly Torah/Haftarah Portions & Candle Lighting

<p>March 1-2 5:40 p.m. <i>Ki Tisa</i> Exodus 30:11-34:35 I Kings 18:1-39</p>	<p>March 8-9 5:48 p.m. <i>Vayak'hel</i> Exodus: 35:1-38:20 Exodus 30:11-16 II Kings 12:1-17</p>	<p>March 15-16 6:57 p.m. <i>Pekudei</i> Exodus 38:21-40:38 I Kings:7:51-8:21</p>	<p>March 22-23 7:04 p.m. <i>Vayikra</i> Leviticus 1:1-5:26 Deuteronomy 25:17-19 I Samuel 15:2-34</p>	<p>March 29-30 7:12 p.m. <i>Tzav</i> Leviticus 6:1-8:36 Numbers: 19:1-22 Ezekiel 36:16-38</p>
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CKA Donations

General Donations

- ✧ In Memory of Seymour Nusbaum by Jeffrey & Ann Sigel
- ✧ In Memory of Joseph and Gertrude Sacks by James & Faith Gray
- ✧ In Memory of Lionel Sacks by James & Faith Gray
- ✧ In Memory of Ethel Halperin Miller by Cheryl, Pam, Max & Shayne
- ✧ In Memory of Keith Saul Miller by Cheryl, Pam, Max & Shayne
- ✧ In Memory of Samuel Allenstein, Myra's Grandfather by Jerry & Myra Stemerman
- ✧ In Memory of David Snowiss, Myra's Father by Jerry & Myra Stemerman
- ✧ In Memory of Fannie Snowiss, Myra's Grandmother by Jerry & Myra Stemerman
- ✧ In Memory of Philip Snowiss, Myra's Grandfather by Jerry & Myra Stemerman
- ✧ In Memory of Sue Messing by Mindy & Joe Gaieski
- ✧ In Memory of Sue Braunstein by Mindy & Joe Gaieski

Technology Donation

- ✧ In Memory of Ann Hoffman by Carole Hoffman
- ✧ Congratulations to Beth Herbst on the Anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah by Andra Frank

- ✧ Thank you to Stewart, Vickie and Beth for a beautiful Service by Andra Frank

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

- ✧ Donation By Susan Messing
- ✧ In Memory of Lillian Gerard by Richard & Gail Gerard
- ✧ In Memory of William Passmore by Karey Solomon
- ✧ In Memory of Susan Messing by Eileen, Robin & Lynn

Building Fund

- ✧ Donation to Building Fund by Hannah & Nicholas Martelli
- ✧ Donation to Building Fund by Marcia Kesten & Alice Moyer

Religious Offerings abound at CKA

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved with religious life at Congregation Kol Ami, including at new adult education class, led by Rabbi Tom. "All Things Jewish with Rabbi Tom," will be held Thursdays, beginning March 7, at 7 p.m. on Zoom only.

The class will address anything and everything you've always wanted to know about Judaism, such as: Are tattoos really prohibited in Judaism? Do Jews believe in Heaven? In Hell? What about Jewish saints? Who was Shabbtai Tzvi? Which came first, Christianity or Judaism?

For Purim, there will be a special Havdala and Megillah reading service March 23 at 5 p.m. in person at CKA and on Zoom. After a brief Havdalah, we will honor the holiday of Purim by reading the entire Book of Esther. If you would like the honor of reading a section of the Megillah in Hebrew or in English, please contact Rabbi Tom at the CKA office at office@kolamielmira.org or (607) 732-7410.

The revival of the Shopkeeper's Shabbat continues this month with a service March 9 at 8:30 a.m., in person only. Upcoming dates include April 13, May 11, and June 8.

For more information on any of these events, please contact the CKA office at office@kolamielmira.org or (607) 732-7410.

Birthdays

Lee Adelsberg
 Brielle Berman
 Diane Berman
 Beverly Braunstein
 Linda Chernosky
 Richard Gerard
 Susan German
 Noah Goldwyn

Marjorie Hamilton
 Matthew Hesselson
 Edith Korn
 Jonathan Kravitz
 Lindsay Lax
 Theodore Lax
 Jerry Lindsay
 Richard Poes

Sheila Rachlin
 Jeffrey Rosenheck
 Jack Rubin
 Alan Sactor
 Ronnie Schenkein
 Adam Sigel
 Elizabeth Walton

Anniversaries

Robert & Carla Cohen
 Ron & Kathy Herman

Mazal Tov

Harriett Hesselson will have a very special birthday on March 7, 2024. She will be 100 years old. She is a mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother and is loved by all of her family.

Adult Education

Open to the entire community

Bagels & Torah

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

March 3, 10, 17

with Rabbi Tom Samuels

In person & Zoom

<https://tinyurl.com/bagelsandtorah>

Hebrew Scriptures

Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

March 5, 12, 19

with Maggid Paul Solyn

Contact Paul for class information

Zoom Only

All Things Jewish

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

March 7, 14, 21, 28

With Rabbi Tom Samuels

Zoom Only

<http://tinyurl.com/ckaadultedu>



Ritual Committee

Why I Attend Saturday Morning Services

It all started when I was a girl. My family was secular and after my grandmother died when I was 5, lighting candles on Shabbat ended and so did most Jewish ritual. Holidays were a time to visit family. For Passover, we did change out plates for fancy ones and ate matza and gefilte fish.... But there was never a seder. Despite this secular Jewish lifestyle, my parents sent me to Hebrew school. Where I lived in the Catskills, it was 4 days/week after school... not Sunday school.

I attended services every Saturday morning, sitting upstairs at the back of the sanctuary behind a curtain with the rest of the women who mostly chatted. The synagogue was a couple of blocks away from where I lived so I could easily walk. I never attended Friday night services, (assuming they had them), as I would have to walk alone at night.

I was mesmerized by the Shabbat morning service. Although I had no idea what was being said, (all Hebrew), I Loved listening to it, and I Absolutely Loved the melodies of the

prayers! And then... the Torah was taken out of the Ark! I didn't get to get near it, but I knew it was special. Everyone wanted to touch it. Some of my most favorite prayers were those when the Torah was removed from the Ark.... And returned to the Ark.

Of course when after 3 ½ years of Hebrew school, I learned that after completing 5 years, I would receive a certificate of completion, I left... and I left Judaism. I did return as an adult and was a Bat Mitzvah at 49 years old. I lead the entire Saturday morning service!

Fast forward to 2019 when I joined CKA. I naturally was drawn to come to the Shabbat morning service. I knew the Friday night service as I belonged to a Reform synagogue in Philadelphia, and we only had Friday night services... BUT THERE WAS NO TORAH! For me, without the Torah, there is no Judaism. When I am near it, I feel like I am close to something sacred!

I asked Rabbi Oren if I could lead the Torah service. At the time we had our wonderful Miriam with her beautiful voice doing it. I didn't know all of

the prayers and he gave me music for what I didn't know. When Miriam wasn't there one Shabbat, he asked me. I was excited and scared. What if I screwed up? I learned quickly that our congregation is very forgiving. At this point, Rabbi Tom offers the Honor of leading the Torah Services most Shabbats, and it is an Honor!

The Torah Service prayers really move me! Then, since I know some Hebrew, I began occasionally pointing. What a thrill to see those letters and be able to follow along!... especially when Sharon reads. She reads so sweetly and slowly enough that I can follow. I have read some, but don't have a lot of confidence. I am currently enrolled in a Biblical Hebrew class. If I know what I am saying, it will be easier to consider reading.

So... that's why I attend Shabbat morning services. Won't you join me some Shabbat?

Marcia Kesten aka
Miriam Sholamit Bat Chiam Hersh Ha
Levi V' Rachael

In Memoriam

Our heartfelt condolences to Tom and Suzanne Hesselson, and the Hesselson family on the passing of Suzanne and Tom's Brother-in-Law David Ginsburg. Zichrono Liv'rachah - May his memory be a blessing

Our heartfelt condolences to the Rabinowitz family on the passing of Husband of Marilyn, Father of Jeffery and Andrew, Father-in-law of Marie and Susana, Grandfather of Samantha, Joseph and Lily on the passing of Alex Rabinowitz. Zichrono Liv'rachah - May his memory be a blessing

Our sincere condolences to Doris Siksins and Family on the death of her Cousin, Carol Hokavar. Zichronah Liv'rachah, May her memory be a blessing



Kol Ami 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 at <https://www.jewishelmira.org/calendar> or visit us on Facebook at Jewish Center and Federation of the Twin Tiers.

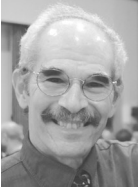
All information for the April issue of *Kol Ami* must be submitted to one of the organizations offices by March 10. Please be sure that all dates are on the Jewish Community calendar.

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.

Jewish Center and Federation



from Past President Marcus Kantz

Shalom Everyone!

My previous article was all about snow, and, as any prognosticator worth his salt would expect, we got very little snow. That's fine with me and all those who would have been charged with the shoveling. And now we have to decide whether to move on to Spring or expect Winter to linger, or, just maybe to ponder the parts of our lives OTHER than the weather. That sounds like a pretty good idea.

And speaking of good ideas, our fearless leader has come up with a doozy, and you will have enjoyed it by the time you read THIS article, namely the Purim Play. One advantage of The Play is that it brings out of the woodwork a few folks who don't otherwise participate in Jewish community activities. I love having

them join us. Our rehearsals have been hilarious, and I'm sure the final result was even better. I'm hoping lots and lots of you had a chance to attend in person or on Zoom.

The Purim Play is just one example of what makes our Jewish community so wonderful. It is the job, of course, of the JCF to bring all of the members of our Twin Tiers Jewish Community to do things together. Almost everything that we of the JCF do, we do as a group.

A prime example, of course, is the Jazzy Junque Sale. Not only is it a prominent fund raiser for us, but, in my mind, it is the prominent bringer-together of all of us JCF-ers to do good stuff together, to have fun together, and, frankly, simply to BE together. And there's the bonus, and an

important one, that Jazzy Junque is the best advertisement we have for the JCF, showing the greater community that we are here, AND that we are working as a group to better that greater community (I know it's a little early, but it never hurts to plug Jazzy Junque.)

I'm especially comforted to have the opportunity to lead y'all in this adventure. Of course, I invite you all to continue to participate in our activities. I also invite you to offer us any suggestions you might have for future activities that we might pursue. In the meantime, I hope that we all will continue to enjoy our not-too-snowy winter weather.

Peace and Good Health to All,
Marcus

Join us April 7th and 14th from 7 - 9 p.m.

FOR A 2-PART ZOOM ART LECTURE

THE JEWISH ART PRIMER

Featuring guest lecturer
Richard McBee

Presented by the Jewish Center and Federation of the Twin Tiers

RSVP on Zoom at: <http://tinyurl.com/JCFMcBee>



Richard McBee, studied painting at the Art Students League of New York. His website, richardmcbec.com, has much more information on his work.

His first lecture will cover "Dura Europos, Synagogue Mosaics, Manuscripts: 250 CE - 18th Century." His second session is a brand new presentation, being unveiled at this series, titled "The Haggadah - A Passover Primer; 14th Century - 21st Century."

Don't miss this exciting program!

This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes.

from Executive Director Ashley Gillan



It's the most wonderful time of the year – for me at least!

My two favorite holidays are Purim and Passover, both nestled neatly in spring, as the world breaks out of the terrible grip of winter, telling the story of how we broke out of the terrible grips of, well, yet more people who wanted to hold us down. Go figure, right?

As we've been cleaning out the JCS classrooms, Sharon Moore and I have stumbled across an old video series that I used to watch as a child featuring old Biblical stories. The story of Esther was always my favorite. I think I watched that one until I wore the

video out. Something about her just enchanted me.

Maybe that's why I like Purim so much. Or maybe I like the wonderful little family that Beth Herbst and the rest of the Purim Spiel group has created that reunites every February and March to put on "the greatest show on Earth!" (I'm claiming that as ours!) I highly recommend purchasing tickets to the CKA and JCF Wine and Beer tasting on March 24, then heading up to the Purimspiel performance, this year live and in-person, which will by then be rehearsed to perfection; better than a Broadway performance, and all for free!

Then comes Passover – when we celebrate freedom in all its forms, starting with that first exodus that freed us from the Egyptians, and continuing with the Exodus ship, which brought the fight for a Jewish state to a boiling point.

Today, we still have our fights for freedom, our own "Exoduses." And we must continue to fight for them. It's a spirit I love about Judaism, the will to never give up, the Hatikvah. Or as Rabbi Tom puts it, "Our 2,000 year heritage, the will to hope."

So this spring, join us as we celebrate and bring joy into these walls, my favorite time of year, by far.



"Breath, Body, Mind" class with Sheila Katz Sunday, April 14 at 11:30 a.m. at CKA

This hour and a half class will teach simple techniques to reduce stress and anxiety, enhance concentration, and balance your emotions.

Please RSVP to the JCF office at
office@jewishelmira.org or call 607-734-8122

JOIN US

Community Kitchen



Volunteers from CKA and JCF prepare and serve lunch at the Elmira Community Kitchen on the first Thursday of every month.

The next dates are

March 7 and April 4.

If you can help, please contact Gil Sweet.
Cooks, food-preparers, shoppers, servers...
you name it, we need you!
Cash donations may be made through the JCF.

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 9–12 years

<http://www.pjourway.org>

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



JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS

Purim celebrations for one and all!

Sunday March 24th



Please join us for an afternoon of Purim fun at a joint fundraiser hosted by CKA and the JCF for members and their guests. Costumes would be “lovely” - bring your groggers or use one of ours, and join us in an afternoon of merriment! All events take place at CKA.

2:00-3:00 P.M. (Please use Kitchen door entrance)

- Join us for a Wine and Beer tasting accompanied by assorted cheeses, crudités, specialty chocolates, with nondairy and gluten free options. ‘**IRON FLAMINGO BREWERY**’ from Corning will be offering samples of several of their local brews while ‘**Lighthouse Liquors & Wines**’ will share several kosher and/or kosher for Passover wines. Attendees have the option to purchase tickets for \$18.00 for four samples of either the wine or beer, or the \$8.00 non-alcoholic “designated driver” option. Every attendee will receive a commemorative shot glass as part of their paid ticket package!

Event Tickets need to be prepaid by Friday, March 8th

3:00-4:30 P.M. (Please use the Ramp door entrance for Spiel-only attendees)

- The celebration will transition to the CKA sanctuary with Rabbi Tom. Then “Get yourself to the Shul on Time” for this year’s Purim Spiel: “My Fair Esther.” Directed by Beth Herbst, live and in person and on Zoom! The Purim Spiel is free for all to attend, RSVPs are optional but appreciated. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the event or on the RSVP form below. Festivities will conclude in the social hall with Hamantaschen, sweets, drinks, and Rabbi Tom leading a sing-along.

PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS FOR THE TASTING ARE DUE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 8th 2024
To the JCF office, 1008 West Water Street, Elmira, NY 14905

Optional – Number of folks just attending in person Purim Spiel _____
_____ # attendees for wine tasting at \$18.00 \$ _____
_____ # attendees for beer tasters at \$18.00 \$ _____
_____ # of Designated Driver attendees at \$8.00 \$ _____
Optional – donation for the Purim Spiel enclosed \$ _____
Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____ Date _____

Total Amount \$ enclosed _____ Check # _____

Please make checks payable to “JCF”

Please list the names of other adults attending either in person event for planning and security:

Save the Date Meta & John Spiegler Holocaust Remembrance Lecture

April 17, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the
Corning Museum of Glass Auditorium.

Free and Open to the Public

This year's annual speaker is Maud Dahme. She was born in Amersfoort, Netherlands, to Dutch and French Jewish Parents. In 1942, at the age of 6, the German regime began deportation of Jews, and her parents sent her and her sister to be sheltered with Christian Families in the Resistance, where they sheltered until the Allied Liberation of the Netherlands.

In the 1950's, her family emigrated to the United States, landing in New Jersey, where she now lives. She is an active and passionate advocate for Holocaust Education, and was featured in the documentary "The Hidden Child," which was broadcast on PBS, as well as being shown at the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. Because of her work in Holocaust Education, she was also inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame in 2014.



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE SECOND NIGHT SEDER

APRIL 23RD, 2024
DETAILS TO FOLLOW!

Havdalah & Purim Megillah Reading Service

Saturday, March 23 at
5:00 pm

In Person at CKA & on ZOOM

After a brief Havdalah, we will honor the holiday of Purim by reading the entire Book of Esther. If you would like the honor of reading a section of the Megillah in Hebrew or in English, please contact Rabbi Tom at the

CKA office:

office@kolamielmira.org

Tel: (607) 732-7410



Yahrzeits

March	Adar I					
1 Harriet Luther Connick	21	7 Edna Hirschfeld	27	19 Stephen R. Siegel	9	
1 Ruth Chanee Golos	21	7 Sylvia Josephson	27	20 Joseph J. Cohen	10	
1 Harvey Kaufman	21	7 Rachel Obler	27	20 Adria Rubin Sandler	10	
1 Tom Leyden	21	7 Blanche Appel Seferlis	27	20 Marian Solomon	10	
2 Mollie Glaser Caplan	22	8 Richard M. Gladke	28	21 Jacob Botnick	11	
2 Muriel Elzufon	22	8 Robert L. Gladke	28	21 Stewart Eilenberg	11	
2 Sadie Givertzman	22	8 Eva Gordon	28	21 Hyman Goldstein	11	
2 Ruth Golos	22	8 Benjamin L. Heyman	28	21 Charles Tompkins	11	
2 Hyman Josephson	22	8 Samuel Schwartz	28	21 Alan T. Walton	11	
2 Cecil Kaye	22	9 Zebulun Barcon	29	22 Sophie Ewanuff	12	
2 Froim Kushnir	22	9 Mollie Brown	29	22 Abraham Mark Goodman	12	
2 Francine Lovitch	22	9 Sarah Etkind	29	22 Albert Charles Kosow	12	
2 Jacqueline N. Naron	22	9 Minnie C. Hample	29	22 Rose Obler	12	
2 Montefiore Pollak	22	9 David Horwitz	29	22 Marian Siskin	12	
3 Abel Cooperman	23	9 Fannie Jacobson	29	23 Mildred Winston	13	
3 Helen Etkind	23	9 Rose G. Medaille	29	24 James Lindsay	14	
3 Bertha Freudenheim	23	9 Betty Ann Schooler	29	25 Murray Kaufman	15	
3 Beatrice Kenner	23	9 Lawrence Schooler	29	25 Stephen Savin	15	
3 Sam Lebowitz	23	10 Morris Braveman	30	25 Rosa Spiegel	15	
3 Sidney Linker	23	10 Herman Breskin	30	26 Marilyn Scherr	16	
3 Dr. Abraham Novinsky	23	10 Rita Leveen	30	26 Jake Silverman	16	
3 Saul Paltrowitz	23	10 Dorothy C. Webber	30	26 Shabsai Treinin	16	
3 Joseph Winnick	23			27 Sadie Finesilver	17	
4 Benjamin Barcus	24	March	Adar II	27 Max Pollack	17	
4 Max Berlin	24	11 Phyllis Holtzman	1	27 Bernard Siegan	17	
4 Emory Gelbman	24	11 Anna S. Kaplan	1	27 Sadie Siegel	17	
4 Howard J. Gladke	24	11 Anna Stern	1	27 Molly Faye Webber	17	
4 Franziska Hirschfeld	24	12 Sara Finkelstein	2	28 Lei Kleiner	18	
4 Irving Leibman	24	12 Irving Glass	2	28 Ruth Lloyd	18	
4 Aaron Ugelow	24	12 Moses Jacobs	2	28 Malcolm D. Sherman	18	
4 Aaron Yudkovsky	24	12 Theodora Koob	2	30 Lillian Berman	20	
5 Myer Friendly	25	12 Solange Samter	2	30 Hinda Braveman	20	
5 Jess Goldsmith	25	12 Kate Stein	2	30 Lena Freeman	20	
5 Louis Levy	25	13 Bessie Kaplan	3	30 Karyn Gnaizda	20	
5 Charles Schifrin	25	14 Charles Johnson	4	30 Joseph Levine	20	
5 George D. White	25	14 David Lewis	4	30 Maxine Markson	20	
6 Werner Bloch	26	16 Rose Hoffman	6	30 Louis Rutski	20	
6 Jennie L. Herman	26	17 Joseph Moses	7	30 Marcus N. Wladis	20	
6 Mary Ellen Hunter	26	18 Harris Barth	8	31 Saul Horwitz	21	
6 Jack Weinstock	26	18 Ruth Stemerman	8	31 Neil Lerner	21	
7 Michael Hamilton	27	18 Betty Zuckerman	8	31 Sally Salomon	21	
		19 Isaac Rubin	9	31 Rosa Spiegel	21	

Upcoming Calendar events

March

- Bagels & Torah** with Rabbi Tom,
Sunday mornings 3, 10, 17
- Hebrew Scriptures** with Maggid Paul Solyn,
Tuesday evenings 5, 12, 19 on Zoom Only
- All Things Jewish** with Rabbi Tom,
Thursday evenings 7, 14, 21, 28 on Zoom Only
- 1 6:00 p.m. Shabbat Across America
- 9 8:30 a.m. Shopkeepers Shabbat
- 23 5:00 p.m. Havdalah & Megillah Reading
- 24 2:00 p.m. JCF/CKA Wine/Beer Tasting
3:00 p.m. CKA Purim Spiel

April

- Bagels & Torah** with Rabbi Tom
Sunday mornings 7, 14, 21, 28
- All Things Jewish** with Rabbi Tom
Thursday evenings 4, 11, 18, 25 on Zoom Only
- 7 7:00 p.m. Art Lecture with R. McBee, pt. 1 Zoom Only
- 13 8:30 a.m. Shopkeepers Shabbat
- 14 11:30 a.m. Breath Body Mind with Sheila Katz
7:00 p.m. Art Lecture with R. McBee, pt. 2 Zoom Only
- 16 7:00 p.m. Meta & John Spiegler Holocaust
Remembrance Lecture @ CMOG
- 20 5:00 p.m. Havdalah & Dinner
- 23 6:00 p.m. Second Night Seder

Jewish Community Calendar

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 CKA 6:00 pm Shabbat Across America Dinner CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	2 CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 6:45 pm Havdalah
3 CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom	4	5 CKA 7:30 pm Hebrew Scriptures with Maggid Paul Solyn -Zoom Only	6 CKA 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting	7 Community Kitchen CKA 7:00 pm All Things Jewish with Rabbi Tom -Zoom Only	8 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service RSVP for Wine/Beer/Purim Spiel Due	9 CKA 8:30 am Shop-Keepers Shabbat Service 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 6:45 pm Havdalah
10 Daylight Savings CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom	11 JCF 7:30 pm Board Meeting	12 CKA 7:30 pm Hebrew Scriptures with Maggid Paul Solyn -Zoom Only	13 CKA 7:00 pm Board Meeting	14 CKA 7:00 pm All Things Jewish with Rabbi Tom -Zoom Only	15 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	16 CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 8:00 pm Havdalah
17 CKA 10:00 am Bagels & Torah with Rabbi Tom	18	19 CKA 7:30 pm Hebrew Scriptures with Maggid Paul Solyn -Zoom Only	20 CKA 12:00 pm Book Club	21 CKA 7:00 pm All Things Jewish with Rabbi Tom -Zoom Only	22 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	23 CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 5 pm Havdalah & Megillah Reading
24 JCF/CKA 2:00 pm Wine/Beer Tasting 3:00 pm Purim Spiel followed by songs/treats with Rabbi Tom	25	26 JCF 7:30 pm Board Meeting	27	28 CKA 7:00 pm All Things Jewish with Rabbi Tom -Zoom Only	29 CKA 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	30 CKA 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 8:15 pm Havdalah
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