## WORSHIP SERVICES

MONDAY, April 1, 10:00 a.m.
Passover Yiそkor Service in loving memory of those loved by members of our congregation who died since the past Yom Kippur

## FRIDAY, April 5, 7:30 p.m.

"First-Friday" erev Sbabbat Service with birthday and anniversary blessings and the voices of our Adult Choir

SATURDAY, April 6, 10:00 a.m. Bat Mitrvab of Jessica Sender (see page 9)

## FRIDAY, April 12

6:00 p.m. - "Show \& Qvell" erev Shabbat Service for grades K-2 and their families plus the voices of our Student Choir; in honor of Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) bring something to show about Israel or from Israel: a photograph, a flag, a tallit, etc.
7:30 p.m. - I.M. Wise Graduates erev Sbabbat Service

## SATURDAY, April 13

10:00 a.m. - Shabbat Service and
Torah Dialogue
9:00 a.m. - Lox and bagel breakfast
SUNDAY, April 14, 1:00 p.m.
Healing Service

## REJOICE WITH OUR 12TH-GRADE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AT OUR I. M. WISE GRADUATE SERVICE EREV SHABBAT, FRIDAY, APRIL 12, AT 7:30 P.M.



Please join us at this special service to honor our 12th-grade graduates of the twoyear Gratz College Isaac Mayer Wise Reform Teaching Certificate Jewish Studies program and to congratulate them for their devotion to continued Jewish study and as student teachers in our religious school:

Jake Boise . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Barry and Allison Boise
Matthew Fleck . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Paul and Amy Fleck
Kyle N. Meranus. . . . . . . . . . . . . Steve and Carol Meranus
Katherine Rose Streitwieser. . . . Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser ■

## CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING

## WORSHIP SERVICES

(continued from page 1)
FRIDAY, April 19, 7:30 p.m. erev Sbabbat Service

SATURDAY, April 20, 10:00 a.m. Sbabbat Service and Torab Dialogue; Natalie Dyen will chant from the Torah and Bill Shapiro will give the dvar Torah

FRIDAY, April 26, 7:30 p.m.
"Honoring Our Volunteers" erev Sbabbat Service; we thank all of you who devote time to the well-being of our congregation by inviting you to collectively bless the Shabbat candles and lead us in the Kiddush

SATURDAY, April 27
10:00 a.m. - Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 5:30 p.m. - Adult-Only Martini Havdalab (see page 11)

## TORAH \& HAFTARAH

April 6 - Shemini
Leviticus 9:1-11:47
Second Samuel 6:1-7:17
April 13-Tazria-Metzora
Leviticus 12:1-15:33
Second Kings 7:3-20
April 20 - Acharei Mote-Kedoshim
Leviticus 16:1-20:27
Amos 9:7-15
April 27 - Emor
Leviticus 21:1-24:23
Ezekiel 44:15-31 ■

## MAZAL TOV

Congratulations to Dan and Linda George on the occasion of the birth of their grandson, Angelo Frank George, son of Andrew George and Stephanie Materese, on February 12.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

On how many occasions have I described a Kol Ami ceremony as one of our all-time great moments? Well here I go again.
On March 9, we celebrated the Adult Bnai Mitzvab of Julie Cohen, Janet Felgoise, Victor Friesen, Linda George, Phyllis Harrison, Ilene Schafer, Kara Schmid, and Elaine Stevens, joined by Janine Pratt. What a joyous occasion for these members, their families, friends, and for our entire Congregation. HaKvode to each of our students and their outstanding teachers: Rabbi Holin and Roz Holzman.

Hundreds packed our sanctuary to witness a powerful morning of prayer and sharing. Our Bnai Mittvalh's personal journeys touched every heart and soul. Beyond the powerful feelings, the students' performance communicated a powerful message to each and every one of us.

Too frequently in today's synagogue, world education is viewed as children's activity. So sad. Nothing could be more inconsistent with Jewish values. According to Maimonides, a parent must not ignore his own study of Torah for just as it is a commandment to educate a child, so too is the parent commanded to be educated. When Maimonides was asked until what period of life one is obligated to study, the response was until the day of one's death.

Judaism perceives study as more important than even action. Our religion understands that without study, our conduct will be based on nothing more than personal preferences, without the benefit of Jewish wisdom. Study leads to ethical conduct.

What a profound statement to the children of Kol Ami to know that their parents, friends' parents, and adult members of our community have committed themselves to two years of rigorous Jewish studies. What an important value statement about our Jewish values.
continued page 6



## Trips to Israel in 2014 with Rabbi Holin: <br> "Let Israel Capture Your Heart!"

If you are interested in joining Rabbi Holin on a 10-day Family Trip to Israel—children must be at least 8 years old-please let him know if one or more of the following times of year are of interest to you:

- Spring Break
- Summer
- Winter Break

If you are interested in traveling with Rabbi Holin on an innovative and exciting Adult Trip to Israel for first-time and return travelers, please let him know if one or more of the following times of year are of interest to you:

- April or May
- Summer
- October
- December

This is a preliminary planning stage to determine interest and desire to experience Israel for yourself, your family, and friends, and for us to create lasting memories of time there together!
Please call our Rabbi at 215-635-4132 to learn more! $\quad$ -

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP
Rabbi Elliot J. Holin
215-635-4182
David Hyman, President
215-496-7224
Barry Boise, Vice President 215-635-9042

Jeff Cohen, Vice President
215-635-3232
Ellen Asam, Secretary
215-635-5598
Bart Weiner, Treasurer
215-233-4712
PROFESSIONAL STAFF
IN RESPECT OF SHABBAT, THE OFFICE CLOSES AT 3:00 P.M. ON FRIDAYS.

Main Office<br>Elaine Stevens, Executive Director<br>215-635-3110

David Monblatt
Director of Education
215-635-7106
Sheri Cutler
Nursery School Director
215-635-4180
Rebecca Schwartz, Cantorial Soloist 215-572-6094

Please send correspondence to:
Congregation Kol Ami
8201 High School Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
Web site: www.kolamielkinspark.org Facebook: https://www.facebook. com/kolamielkinspark

## BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the fifth of the previous month (for example, by April 5 for the May issue) to Janet Falon at jfalon@english.upenn.edu. Articles may be edited as needed. Photographs/images to be included should be at least $2 \times 3$ " in size and 300 DPI resolution to ensure good reproduction.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Caring Congregants Committee Wednesday, April 17, at 6:00 p.m. Co-chairs: Linda George, 215-782-1413, and Elaine Gershenson, 215-887-3994

## Finance Committee

Thursday, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. Co-chairs: Marshall Schafer, 215-6630228, and Bart Weiner, 215-233-4712

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue Tuesday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen, co-chairs, 215-635-4716

## Religious School PTO Committee

Sunday, April 14, at 10:00 a.m. Co-chairs: Kenny Moss, 215-277-5335, and Heather Pelletier, 215-885-3216

## Spiritual Growth Group

Monday, April 22, at 7:00 p.m.
Co-chairs: Natalie Dyen, 215-657-4124, and Janet Falon, 215-635-1698

Worship Enhancement Committee
Sunday, April 14, at 11:00 a.m.
Co-chairs: Mindy Levy, 215-885-3672, and Bill Shapiro, 215-517-8666

## FACILITY ACCESS

There are many entrances to our building. For security reasons and the safety of our children, family, and guests, a facility access policy was created in years past and distributed to our members. Please adhere to the following entrance and exit plans for our building:
For Sunday (10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) and Wednesday (4:00 to 8:00 p.m.), all access to the building is through the religious school entrance only. The lobby and executive office doors are not open during those hours. This includes members who are attending meetings.

At all other times, access to the building is through the main lobby doors.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Elaine Stevens.

## Continuing Adult Jewish Education at Kol Ami

Boker Tov Torah: Agnon and Other Storytellers

Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

April 4, 11, 18 \& 25 (4 Sessions)

Instructor: Professor Howard I. Bogot, Rabbi



Stories provide us with staged landscapes for living our lives. Jewish stories reflect the same literary motifs as found in any culture. Every day, we Jews journey on the ark with Noah, cross the Reed Sea with Moses, embarrass the idolaters with Elijah, ride inside the whale with Jonah, and applaud Mordechai as he is led by Haman through the streets of Shushan.

At this seminar, we will read, hear, and discuss the stories that define Jewishness. We might even write some stories for each other.

## The Wisdom of "Pebbles of Wisdom" by Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz

Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
April 4, 11 \& 25 (3 Sessions)

## Instructor: Rabbi Elliot J. Holin



Born in Jerusalem in 1937, Steinsaltz studied mathematics, physics, and chemistry at Hebrew University in addition to rabbinic studies. An Orthodox rabbi, renowned as a teacher, philosopher, and spiritual guide, he has devoted his life to making the Talmud accessible to all Jews. This book is a collection of his "pebbles of wisdom" from more than 30 years of his lectures and writings about life, awareness, and faith.

How might his insights open up the possibility for greater awareness and wholeness in our lives and a greater appreciation of what Jewish teachings offer?


## A HEARTFELT NURSERY SCHOOL CONGRATULATIONS...

PHOTO LEFT: The nursery school children and their teachers surprised executive director and Bnai Mitzvab celebrant Elaine Stevens with a voluminous greeting of "Mazal Tov" and a colorful poster that they created especially for her achievement. Elaine proudly shared that: "It was so cute!"

PHOTO BELOW: Bnai Mitzvah celebrants (from left-right): Linda George, Kara Schilder, Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz, Phyllis Harrison, Ilene Schafer, Rabbi Holin, Elaine Stevens, Julie Cohen, teacher Rosalind Holtzman, Victor Friesen, Janine Pratt, and Janet Felgoise.

## BNAI MITZVAH CELEBRANTS

If you would like a copy of the words spoken by our Bnai Mitvvah celebrants about why they commenced the journey of study that led them to their special day in the midst of our congregation, and why their Torab verses were so meaningful to them, call Rabbi Holin (215-635-4182), and he will be glad to send them to you!


## FROM THE PRESIDENT

(continued from page 2)
At Kol Ami the opportunities for learning are plentiful. Every month, our Bulletin lists exciting course offerings ranging from Jewish Text, History, and Literature. Among those who have taught here are Rabbis Holin, Bogot, and Heller; Dr. Simcha Raphael; and David Monblatt.

Let us honor our Bnai Mitzvah class by enrolling in at least one Jewish studies course in 2013.

David Hyman
215-496-7224
President@KolAmiElkinsPark.org ■


## CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolences in loving memory of:

## Salene Frishberg

cousin of Lucille (Herb) Barrett

## Solomon Joseph

uncle of Orly (Gabriel) Maravankin

Florence Posner<br>sister of Lucille (Herb) Barrett

## Ellis Simons

father of Michelle (David) Lipshutz. grandfather of Marina

May their memories forever be blessings among our People.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: THE TRAINORS

Let's offer a hearty welcome to new members Lauren and Mike Trainor and their 2-yearold son, Riley. They just joined Kol Ami last month, with an eye toward bonding with other interfaith couples and raising Riley in the Jewish faith. In fact, Lauren states that one of the main reasons they joined our synagogue was the "warm, welcoming vibes" for
 interfaith families, as well as wanting a closer connection to the Jewish traditions and customs in which she was raised. The Trainors also look forward to taking part in some of the many and interesting social, educational, and community groups that comprise Kol Ami.

Lauren and Mike were both born in Philadelphia, and they currently reside in Northeast Philadelphia (though Lauren previously lived in Churchville as well). Lauren is a Special Education teacher in the School District of Philadelphia, working with eight-grade students. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education from Temple University and earned her Master's degree from Bloomsburg State University in Instructional Technology. Mike works for Philadelphia Gas Works. Prior to that, he was a carpenter who rehabilitated old factories into luxury condos. Lauren happily confirms what we would already surmise-that she "scored a live-in handyman," and that she is very fortunate that Mike is an expert "Mr. Fix-it." He graduated at the top of his class for HVAC.
In her spare time, Lauren is an amateur photographer. She surrounds herself with nature and is a major animal lover. In fact, Mike and she used to foster English bulldogs. Lauren and Mike both love sports, and Mike enjoys cards as well. They describe their little boy as a bundle of joy with a captivating smile and a great personality. Lauren jokes that she "may be biased," but says that when we meet Riley, we will agree that he is super smart and unbelievably handsome! Now they just have to get a dog to which Riley will not be allergic-oh my!
We at Kol Ami are very happy to welcome the Trainors to our congregational family! ■

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## "Membership Drive: Strive for 225"

We officially commenced a new program called "Membership Drive: Strive for 225 " at our erev Shabbat service on November 2, 2012. The program gives each congregant the opportunity to present guest memberships to unaffiliated individuals and families who might be interested in our intimate and dynamic community. Guest members are invited to participate in Congregation Kol Ami services and events now through June 2013.
If you have a neighbor, coworker, friend, or family member who might like to get a "taste" of Kol Ami, please contact Elaine Stevens, executive director, at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110. For every guest member you suggest, you'll get a chance to win an iPad!

For the past three months, we have shared excerpts of speeches of three congregants who spoke that evening about their love for Congregation Kol Ami. This month, we are pleased to share excerpts of Gary Sender, co-chair of "Strive for 225"

## FROM GARY SENDER, CO-CHAIR OF "STRIVE FOR 225"

"It's hard to imagine where our congregation would be today if it wasn't for the tenacity and intelligence of Irene Levy Baker and the Membership Committee. Their sincere and caring efforts to bring in new families have been incredible. I fondly remember Irene's welcoming phone calls, which helped confirm that I had absolutely made the right choice by joining Congregation Kol Ami.
"And what a meaningful seven years it's been for us. My children and I have grown so much, made wonderful friends, and, importantly, we truly feel part of a community of people who share our spiritual values. And when you have something so special, it's incredibly rewarding to share that with others. Think of how good it feels to share a powerful book with someone and have that person respond positively because it had the same effect that it did on you. And now think of how incredible it would be to share Kol Ami with others.
"Bill Hyman and I were asked to think of creative ways to expand the membership-even beyond the Membership

Committee and Irene's terrific efforts. We researched techniques other synagogues used and came up with an idea that I am pleased to introduce this evening.
"Our new membership campaign is called 'Strive for 225.' We currently have about 180 families or individual members and growing that to 225 would bring so many benefits to our special congregation.
"We would like you to give a valuable present to currently unaffiliated friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers. This gift is a six-month guest membership to Congregation Kol Am. This valuable opportunity will allow them to attend Shabbat and High Holy Day services, celebrations, speaker programs, interfaith-relationship gatherings, social events such as casino night and the golf outing-almost everything we have to offer with the exception of religious school. (Editor's Note: It's not too late. You can still award a guest membershipgood today through June 30.)
"Look around you and imagine this sanctuary filled with new congregants who share our beliefs and values and also bring their own unique talents and spirit to Kol Ami. Regardless of their age or family status, there's truly something in Kol Ami for everyone. And every member brings his or her own diverse skills and dedication to us all.
"So how does this work? We ask that you find currently unaffiliated people who would greatly benefit from this guest membership. There's a simple form to complete or the new member can go to Kol Ami's website and click "Join Us." They will be contacted with a warm welcome.
"And once you refer someone for the guest membership, your name will be entered into a drawing for a free Apple iPad. The winner will be announced at our 2013 annual meeting in May. There's no limit to the number of families or individuals you can recommend.
"We ask that you please put aside your bashfulness and ask any unaffiliated person you know to consider a guest membership. There's absolutely nothing for them to lose, and there's an incredible amount for them to spiritually gain.
"Thank you."

# All Things Related to Our Religious School \& Youth Groups 

## UPCOMING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PTO EVENTS

April 2 - Luigi's Dine Around
April 7 - Bake Sale (last one for the school year)
April 14 - Religious School PTO Meeting
April 28 - Pancake Breakfast from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
May 6 - Sprinkles Ice Cream Dine Around
June 9 - Camden Rivershark's Baseball Game ■

## THANKS, ELLEN!

The Religious School PTO would like to thank Ellen Kovnat for arranging and carrying out the successful "DineAround" to U-Swirl and Jules Pizza. The combined effort raised $\$ 140$ for Congregation Kol Ami. Ellen, thank you for your volunteer effort. We appreciate all that you do! ■

## WE'RE TOTING! ARE YOU?



Help support the Congregation Kol Ami Religious School by going green with the purchase of a canvas bag. These blue-and-white bags are large, sturdy, and easily cleaned, and they hold a great deal. The tote bags are available for $\$ 18$ in the lobby of Kol Ami or from the Executive Director each week. What a wonderful way to support our community and keep yourself organized, plus they are environmentally a sound investment. Contact Heather Pelletier (hfppt1@gmail.com) or Kenny Moss (kenny.moss2@comcast.net) of the Religious School PTO with questions.

## SENIOR YOUTH GROUP (GRADES 6-8) EVENT

What: Trip to Sahara Sam's Oasis Indoor Water Park West Berlin, New Jersey
When: Sunday, April 14
Details: Depart Kol Ami at 12:15 p.m. Return to Kol Ami at 6:30 p.m. Trip includes pizza meal and beverages.
For more information, please contact David Monblatt.

## JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP (GRADES 4 \& 5) EVENT

What: Family Shabbat Dinner
When: Friday, April 26, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Where: At the home of Ethan Kovnat in Jenkintown
As we head toward the end of the school year, let's get together to welcome Sbabbat and enjoy dinner together. This is for students and families! Save the date and watch for a flyer coming home from religious school -

## SPECIAL KOL AMI SCRIP "DRAWING"

During the month of April and May, anyone who purchases a scrip card from Kol Ami will be entered in a drawing to win a $\$ 10$ Panera gift card. It is the our way of saying thank you for supporting the scrip program.


There are over 600 retailers participating in the scrip program. Here are just a few of the most popular stores and services:

Acme, Amazon.com, Avis, Banana Republic, Barnes \& Noble, Bed Bath \& Beyond, Best Buy, Best Western, Cheesecake Factory, Claire's, Comfort Suites, Dick's Sporting Goods, GameStop, The Gap, Giant Foods, Home Depot, iTunes, Journeys, L.L. Bean, Lowe's, Marshall's, Old Navy, Panera, PetSmart, Regal Entertainment, Sears, T.J. Maxx, Talbots, Target, the Disney store, Toys "R" Us, Visa, and many more!

Each retailer has various valued scrip cards available and allocated a percentage (from 2 to 15 percent), which Kol Ami gets back from each order placed. Forms are available in the Religious School Office or the Executive Office. Questions can be directed to Elaine Stevens (execdir@ kolamielkinspark.org) or Religious School PTO co-chair Kenny Moss (glatter.moss@comcast.net).

## JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP BEACH PARTY

Pictured below are our fourth- and fifthgrade students, who enjoyed a "beach" party at Kol Ami on March 10, where they shook off those winter blues despite the outside temps of $37^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ that day. Inside, they enjoyed some summery treats, played musical beach blankets, and made some beachy crafts! Come on summer! ■


# BAT MITZVAH OF JESSICA SENDER SATURDAY, APRIL 6, AT 10:00 A.M. 



Jessica is in the seventh grade at Germantown Academy. Her favorite subjects are science, English, and health. She likes science because of classroom projects such as testing for E. coli, dissecting a frog, and seeing what fermentation looks like. She enjoys English and health because the teachers are nice and the classes do interesting things like read plays and learn about illegal drugs.

Her extracurricular activities include swimming, baking, playing with her pets, shopping, and seeing camp friends that she hasn't seen in awhile. Her volunteer activities during the school year include donating rice for the Thanksgiving Food Drive. With her family, she donates used clothes to Purple Heart.
"My favorite Jewish holy day is Hanukkeah," she says. "I enjoy it because every year my father's paternal side of the family comes over. We make latkes with applesauce, we give each other presents, light the banukkiah, and say the prayers. This is an important holy day to me because we bond as a family and as a Jewish community."

Another favorite Jewish activity is volunteering here at our congregation and sister congregation, Tiferet Beth Israel, in Bluebell on behalf of the Stop Hunger Now Program. Says Jessica, "I really enjoyed the time I spent doing this because there are millions of families and kids who barely have anything to eat, and so packaging soup was a great bonding experience for the students. This is an important activity because we get to help the community and children in need.
"For my Bat Mitzvah Project, with the help from one of my closest camp friends, Taylor, we removed all the stuffing from stuffed animals and filled them with squeakers so that dogs at the Montgomery County SPCA can play with them. It was there that we met a dog that brought us even closer: Harley. He was found lost. Perhaps his owners did something cruel to him, and that's why he left. From this experience, I learned that I can't take things for granted or else they will haunt me in the future.
"I chose to chant specific verses from my Torab Portion (Leviticus 11:113) because they remind me of something near and dear to my heart: URJ Camp Harlam. For one month during the year at this summer camp, I eat a semi-kosher diet for breakfast, lunch,and dinner. My Torab Portion defines what food is kosher and what food is not kosher. These rules remind me of a very important part of my Jewish life: the spiritual connections that are constantly emphasized at Camp Harlam."

We congratulate Jessica's father, Gary, and her brother, Matthew. ■

## WE HAVE A NEW MEGILLAH

by Mindy Levy

So what's the big megillah?
Our daughter Stephanie [Jacobson] has been on a mission to challenge cancer for many years. Her journey began when her close friend, Nick, passed away from this disease during college; she dedicated her first charitable marathon run to him. Several years later, while preparing for the NYC triathlon with Team In Training, she befriended two special little girls who she met while volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House. Vida and Maja refused to let cancer rule their lives and despite being from Norway and seeking treatment in New York, they quickly became Steph's new best friends (pictured below, bottom right). They never let chemotherapy or surgery interfere with their play dates or their love of life; and shortly before Vida suddenly lost her life to Neuroblastoma, Stephanie was at her side in a Norwegian hospital. She was told by Vida's family that the "joy" of her visit allowed Vida to pass in peace.

You're probably wondering how this connects to Kol Ami and our new Megillah, the scroll containing the biblical narrative of the Book of Esther. Well, the idea for my Megillab mission actually emerged in mid-December following the Newtown, CT, shootings and the loss of 26 lives ( 20 children, 6 adults). The sadness that I experienced by Vida's death was exacerbated by this tragedy, and subsequently compounded by Maja's failing health. Determined to fulfill Maja's dream of having Stephanie visit her in Bodo, Norway, for Christmas, our daughter raised over $\$ 2,400$ in two days and bought her airplane ticket! It was pure joy for Maja and her family, Stephanie, and Vida's family...with whom our daughter remains close.

So the truth is, my Megillah mission was fueled by my desire to bring joy to children, and the "spark" was lit during an erev Shabbat service when Rabbi Holin mentioned that Congregation Kol Ami did not have our own scroll. As he spoke, a voice within me grew louder, and I recalled the joy I felt as a young girl dressing up as Queen Esther; my father making me a special crown each year and my mother sewing unique costumes. The funny thing was, I don't ever recall seeing the Megillab! So as my memories unfolded and the Rabbi spoke of borrowing a Megillah from another synagogue, it happened; my mission was illuminated before me. This was my job and there was no turning back. I was to find Kol Ami's special Megillab and we [Paul and I] were to give this gift to our community this Purim [2013].

I won't bore you with the full "megillab" [slang, a tediously detailed or embroidered account], but surely the higher powers that be helped all the pieces fall into place in about
four weeks when Rabbi Katkovsky of Philadelphia, who is also a Sofer, delivered our beautiful Megillab to us. The case, made of olive wood, was exquisite, and the perfectly detailed Hebrew script and parchment made my heart [and our Rabbi's heart] dance!

So it is with great pleasure, that Paul and I present the Kol Ami community with our very own Megillah in honor of our daughter Stephanie's "gift" of bringing to joy to those around her. We are incredibly proud of her mission to raise research money for curing cancer $[\$ 32,000$ to date, with a half ironman in the wings], as she simultaneously brings joy to terminally ill children through her volunteer work. She is surely loved those whose lives she touches and is a blessing to both Paul and me!

We look forward to many joyous Purim celebrations with our Kol Ami family [children and adults], and many more proud moments with our daughter, Stephanie!


PICTURED TOP: KOL AMI'S NEW MEGILLAH; BOTTOM (L-R): VIDA, MAJA, AND STEPHANIE

# Kol Ami Events 

"FIRST-FRIDAY" EREV SHABBAT SERVICE<br>for April Birthday and Anniversary Blessings<br>Friday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m.



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in April, please join us at our special erev Shabbat service. Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with April simchas under a tallit in front of the ark. Watch for your invitation for this special Shabbat simcha. Rabbi Holin will continue to send personal letters to everyone celebrating a significant birthday or anniversary ending with 0 or 5 (for example, 40,45 ). If you have a special 0 or 5 birthday or anniversary, you will be invited to participate in any Friday service in "your" month by blessing the candles or challah, or reciting the Kiddush, or at any Saturday service that month by carrying or blessing the Torah.

## FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT

Rabbi Holin's Nothing But Nets fast this month—which supports URJ's project to purchase, distribute, and educate about the proper use of insecticide-treated family bed nets to prevent the spread of malaria in Africa-will be on Friday, April 12 and Tuesday, May 14.

His Phast for Philadelphia-which is on behalf of unemployed workers in Philadelphia who are struggling to make ends meet by helping them pay their mortgages, address health care needs, and pay electric bills-will be on Thursday, April 25, and Wednesday, May 22.

Join our rabbi in a fast-or virtual fast-no matter where you are by sending funds that you would have spent on food to help people in need:

## Commission on Social Action

Union for Reform Judaism
633 Third Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10017
(make check payable to the URJ with a memo note
'Nothing But Nets')

## Unemployment Information Center

112 N. Broad Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(make check payable to Unemployment Information Center with a memo note 'Philadelphia Unemployment Office')

## HEALING SERVICE

Sunday, April 14, at 1:00 p.m.
Led by Cantorial Soloist Rebecca Schwartz
Our tradition offers moving and powerful prayers for healing as we gather to say the Mi'Sbebbeirach ("May The Holy One Who blesses...") prayer for a loved one in a hospital, recovering at home, or in hospice care, and for ourselves as well: healers who are in need of healing.

## "HONORING OUR VOLUNTEERS" EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m.
"The Eternal One spoke to Moses, saying, "Tell the people to bring Me gifts. You shall accept gifts for Me from every person whose heart is so moved"' (Exodus 25:1-2). We 'gift' our synagogue with our time, talent, and largesse. Our hearts are moved to do whatever we can to support and nurture our congregation, and on this evening, we want to thank all of you who will allow us to honor you at this special service as our way of thanking you for the gift you are to all of us.


MARTINI "ADULT-ONLY" HAVDALAH SERVICE PLUS CD CELEBRATION SING-ALONG!

Saturday, April 27, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m. - Martinis and Hors d'oeuvres
We'll supply the hors d'oeuvres and you supply the mixing devices, hard liquor, and mixers (beer, wine, etc.)
7:00 p.m. - Singing and Havdalah Service
Rebecca's fifth CD, "Kirvu - Come Near," features more original music from our very own award winning Cantorial Soloist/singer-songwriter. Join us as Rebecca teaches us her newest songs, and purchase the new CD (or any of Rebecca's other CDs or songbooks). For every purchase, Rebecca will be donating a portion back to Kol Ami.

## 7:30 p.m. - Continued Celebration

Casual attire is appropriate for this service. Please RSVP to Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110 by Wednesday, April 24, so that we can ensure enough hors d'oeuvres for everyone.
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417 Township Line Rd, Elkins Park 19027 (215) 758-2440
(Between Holme Ave \& Rolling Hill Rd)
http://www.luigispizzarama2.com
Friends \& Families of Congregation Kol Ami
Celebrate the end of Passover and
Come into Luigi's II anytime between
11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2, 2013
(Delivery is limited to 3 miles)

# Bring a copy of this flyer to the restaurant and 20\% of your "regular menu" order total goes back to Kol Ami. Luigi's II Pizzarama <br> has generously agreed to donate a portion of their revenue to Kol Ami celebrating the end of Passover. 



Kol Ami -- 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 215.635.3110


OUR NURSERY SCHOOL CHILDREN DECKED OUT IN THEIR COLORFUL COSTUMES FOR THEIR PURIM PARTY ON FEBRUARY 22.

## JEVS Career Strategies Presents

## How to Conduct an Effective Job Search:

A Special Series for Those Conducting a Job Search or Considering a Job Change
Sessions are NO COST and open to ALL • Join us for the series - or just one session!

Tuesday, March 19, 2013
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Making Your Strengths Work for You; Setting Realistic Goals
Beth Sholom Congregation
8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA

Tuesday, May 7, 2013
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Social Networking
Congregation Kol Ami
8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA

Tuesday, April 9, 2013
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Creating Resumes and Cover Lefters That Work
Congregation Adath Jeshurun 7763 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA

Tuesday, May 21, 2013
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Interviewing to Land the Job
Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA

Tueday, April 23, 2013
7:00-8:30 p.m.

## Strategic Networking

Old York Road Temple-Beth Am 971 Old York Road, Abington, PA

简 Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

Session Reservations are Required: Call Wendy Rosenfeldt at JEVS Career Strategies 215-854-1874 or email her at wendy.rosenfeldt@jevs.org to reserve your seat


## KOL AMI PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 28, at 9:00 a.m.
8201 High School Road, Elkins Park
Start your day right! Come on out for a hearty breakfast and visit with friends before religious school. We'll be serving pancakes, coffee,tea, fresh fruit, and juice!

In advance: Single \$5 / Family \$20
At the door: Single \$7/Family \$25
RSVP to Elaine Stevens by Friday, October 5, at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS: OPEN TO EVERYONE!


OUR NURSERY SCHOOL CHILDREN LEARNING THE SCIENCE OF BALLS WITH NATURE JACK. THEY ALSO MADE THEIR OWN BOUNDING BALLS.


HOW MANY KISSES IN THE JAR? CO-WINNERS EMILY COHEN (GUESSED 229) AND ELAINE STEVENS (226) SHARED THE GOODIES. THE WERE 227 KISSES IN THE JAR.


It's your family's affair and only the best will do. The celebration must be fun.
The food must be fantastic.

Bar \& Bat Mitzvahs<br>Weddings \& Celebrations Corporate Catering \& Event Planning

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(610)539-8330 www.ProvenceCatering.com

KOL AMI EVENTS
(continued from page 11)

## GOLF AND TENNIS OUTING <br> by Jeff Cohen \& Eric Pelletier, Committee Co-chairs


"There is just nowhere else I'd rather be on May 6 than playing golf or tennis, having cocktails and dinner, and bidding on cool auction items with Congregation Kol Ami."

After last year's success-on Primary Election Day no less-we certainly hope that we can attribute this quote to you.

Monday, May 6, is a big day for our Congregation. The Golf \& Tennis Outing is our primary fund-raiser, and for the second year in a row, we are taking the approach of honoring an esteemed member of the community. This year's honoree is Jonathan H. Spergel, Esq., partner in Manko, Gold, Katcher \& Fox, LLP. As a result, we will have many participants from the Philadelphia legal and business community joining us on the course, courts, and over drinks and fine food. This is a great networking opportunity.

Thanks to useful feedback from our members, we have switched the venue back to a favorite location: The Philmont Country Club in nearby Huntingdon Valley. As before, the day begins with registration at 10:00 a.m. and lunch for golfers at 11:00 a.m. with a tee-off at 12:30 p.m. Tennis begins at 2:30 p.m., followed by a wonderful evening of cocktails and dinner beginning at 5:15 p.m., highlighted by another exciting auction. To get an idea of what is in the auction, to see all the great sponsors already lined up, and to place a bid if you can't be with us, please check out the auction website at www.kolamigolfouting.org.

As always, the Rabbi does his best to put in that special request for great weather. As anyone who has attended past events knows, the day features terrific companionship from the Kol Ami community, with the opportunity to meet new people from Jonathan's world of environmental law.

Elaine Stevens is on point to hear from you. There is still plenty of time to be a sponsor, come play tennis or golf, put a twosome or foursome together, eat, drink and bid with us, and even buy or sell raffle tickets to a rich $50 / 50$. See page 16 and page 17 for the sponsorships levels and the registration form. The RSVP deadline is April 17.
\$1,800 / Cocktail Party Sponsor

## 2

 Four cocktail and dinner guests, sponsor sign and representation on website and on event signage
## PLATINUIM / \$5,000

Two golf foursomes or twelve tennis players
"Sole' Hole Sponsor or "Lead"
Tennis Sponsor, representation on website and on event signage

## GOLD / \$2,500

One golf foursome or six tennis players

Hole Sponsor or Tennis Sponsor, representation on website and on event signage

## SILVER / \$1,000

Two golfers or three tennis players
Representation on website and on event signage

Please circle as many items that apply on the reverse side and complete the registration information below.

## PARTICIPANT

COMPANY
ADDRESS
CITY

Tennis
Cocktails and Dinner only

## 1.

PHONE/EMAIL
2.

PHONE/EMAIL
3.

PHONE/EMAIL
4.

PHONE/EMAIL
5.

PHONE/EMAIL
6.

PHONE/EMAIL
7.

PHONE/EMAIL

## 8

Please send logo and/or the name as you would like it to appear on all materials to Elaine Stevens: execdir@kolami.info • 215-635-3110

Please mail registration card along with your check made payable to Congregation Kol Ami in the enclosed envelope.

19COMMUNITY EVENT: "JEWISH COMMUNAL ACTION AGAINST HUNGER" Thursday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m.
Beth Sholom Congregation, Elkins Park, Pa.
All are invited to "Jewish Communal Action Against Hunger," an educational program sponsored by synagogues of the Kehillah of Old York Road, Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger, Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger, Elkins Park Hazon CSA, and the Center for Social Responsibility at Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.
Samuel Chu, Director of Advocacy and Organizing for Mazon; Julie Zaebst, Acting Director and Policy Center Manager for Coalition Against Hunger; and Brian Gralnick, Director of Jewish Federation's Center for Social Responsibility will talk about current public policies related to food insecurity on local, state, and federal levels. Local legislators and policy makers have been invited to join in the conversation. Following the presentations, we will discuss how we can come together as a community to become advocates in Pennsylvania in the fight against hunger. Join us to learn and to take action!


## Yom Limmud (Day of Learning): OPENING THE GATES OF TORAH

Join us for the 4th Annual Yom Limmud Dedicated to Including People with Disabilities in the Jewish Community


Registration information to follow.
If you have questions, would like to submit a proposal to be a presenter, or if you would need child care in order to attend, contact Gabrielle Kaplan-Mayer: gkaplan-mayer@jewishlearningventure.org / 215.320.0376


[^1]Jewish Learning Venture*

## Social Action Update

## JRA島

## JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY

Come out and help sort, pack, and deliver food to needy families on Sunday, April 14, and May 5 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Jewish Relief Agency Food Distribution Center

The Jewish Relief Agency is a dynamic, volunteer-driven organization whose goal is to help Jews in need. Since its founding in 2000, JRA has been bringing together individu-
als of all means, ages, and backgrounds each month in a spirit of community and tikun olam. Through the efforts of JRA's community of more than 10,000 volunteers, monthly food relief packages are provided to 2,750 low-income families in the Greater Philadelphia area.

JRA food distributions take place one Sunday each month throughout the year at their warehouse in Northeast Philadelphia. Volunteers work together to package kosher, non-perishable food in boxes. After packing, volunteers load their cars and deliver the food packages to each of the recipient families according to pre-determined delivery routes, complete with driving directions and maps. Most delivery routes take between 30 to 60 minutes to complete.

If you're interested, directions to the JRA Distribution Center can be found at http://www.jewishrelief.org/ directions.asp. See you there! ■


HEY, HEY, THE GANG'S ALL HERE: THE KOL AMI "COOK-FOR-A-FRIEND" CREW MADE 50 MEALS FOR HOMEBOUND SENIORS IN PHILADELPHIA ON MARCH 3.

| $K O L A M$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  | 1 <br> NO NURSERY SCHOOL PASSOVER <br> Passover Yizkor Service 10:00 a.m. | 2 <br> Interfaith Relationship Dialogue 7:30 p.m. Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen | $3$ <br> Religious School 4:00 p.m. \& 6:00 p.m. | 4 <br> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Bogot 10:00 a.m. <br> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Holin 7:30 p.m. | 5 <br> Nursery School erev Shabbat Service with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. <br> "First-Friday" erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m. <br> Adult Choir Participation | 6 <br> Bat Mitzvah of Jessica Sender 10:00 a.m. |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| BAKE SALE |  | NURSERY | CHOOL SCHOLAS | BOOK FAIR |  | Shabbat Service and |
| Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. <br> Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Gr 6-7 to Holocaust Memorial site in Philadelphia 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal <br> Artist Open House Amy Wergelis 2:00 p.m. |  | Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m. | Religious School 4:00 p.m. \& 6:00 p.m. | Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Bogot 10:00 a.m. <br> Nursery School Pajama Party 6:30 p.m. <br> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Holin 7:30 p.m. | Nursery School erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. <br> "Show \& Qvell" erev Shabbat Service for Grades K-2 6:00 p.m. Student Choir Participation erev Shabbat Service Honoring our 12th Grade I.M. Wise Students 7:30 p.m. | Torah Dialogue <br> 10:00 a.m. <br> 9:00 a.m. - Lox and Bagel <br> Breakfast |


| $K O L A M$ |  | APRIL 2013 |  |  | CONTINUED) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 14 <br> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. <br> Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Gr 4-5 Family Education program 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir <br> Religious School PTO Meeting - 10:00 a.m. <br> Worship Enhancement Committee - 11:00 a.m. <br> SYG to Sahara Sam's Water Park - 12:15 p.m. <br> Healing Service 1:00 p.m. | $15$ <br> Nursery School Music 9:30 a.m. | 16 <br> Nursery School <br> Fitness <br> 9:30 a.m. <br> Religious School Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. | 17 <br> Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. <br> Nursery School Guest Reader, David Monblatt 10:30 a.m. <br> Religious School 4:00 p.m. \& 6:00 p.m. <br> Caring Congregants Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. | 18 <br> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Bogot 10:00 a.m. | 19 <br> Nursery School erev Shabbat Service with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. <br> erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m. | 20 <br> Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Natalie Dyen will chant from the Torah and Bill Shapiro will give the dvar Torah |
| 21 <br> Religious School <br> School-wide "Stop Hunger <br> Program" at TBI <br> 10:00 a.m. <br> Hazon CSA Program <br> "Waste Not...Want Not" <br> 6:30 p.m. <br> 6:00 p.m. - Optional Dinner | 22 <br> Spiritual Growth Group with Carol Nemeroff 7:00 p.m. | 23 <br> Nursery School <br> Fitness <br> 9:30 a.m. | 24 <br> Nursery School Jewish Programming 9:30 a.m. <br> Religious School 4:00 p.m. \& 6:00 p.m. | 25 <br> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Bogot - 10:00 a.m. <br> Continuing Adult Jewish Education with Rabbi Holin-7:30 p.m. <br> Finance Committee Meeting - 7:30 p.m. | 26 <br> Nursery School erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. <br> JYG Family Shabbat Dinner - 6:00 p.m. Home of Ethan Kovnat "Volunteer Recognition" erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m. | 27 <br> Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m. <br> "Adult-Only" Martini Havdalah 5:30 p.m. |
| 28 <br> Pancake Breakfast 9:00 a.m. <br> Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. <br> Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 11:00 a.m. - Gr 7 Aliyah Service 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Kol Nidrei Dialogue with Rabbi Holin - 12:00 p.m. | 29 | 30 <br> Nursery School Fitness 9:30 a.m. |  |  |  |  |

## Kol Ami Contributions

We thank the following individuals for their generous donations to Kol Ami funds. If you would like to make a donation, send it to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027, and indicate to which fund it should be applied.

## BAR/BAT MITZVAH CONFIRMATION FUND

In Honor of:
Bat Mitzvah of Janet Felgoise Barbara Levy
Bat Mitzvah of Elaine Stevens
Barbara Levy
In Memory of:
Joanne Gordon
Barbara Levy

## ONEG SHABBAT FUND

In Memory of:
Jennie Perry
Allan Perry

## PRAYER BOOK FUND

In Honor of:
Bat Mitzvah of Janet Felgoise
Albert and Naomi Eichen
Merle Holman
Paula Sork
Janice Spivach
In Memory of:
Joanne Gordon
Gordon and Ann Gelfond

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Carol Baron

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Honor of:
Janine Pratt and her participation
in the Bnai Mitzvah
William, Maya, and Lia Hyman

## SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:
Adult Bnai Mitzvah Class
Barry and Allison Boise
Joel Fisbbein and Rachel Ezeekiel-Fisbbein
William, Maya, and Lia Hyman Elaine Stevens
Karol Appel and the beautiful tallit for my Bat Mitzvah Elaine Stevens

Bnai Mitzvah of Stirling and Finlay Buchanan-Jacobs Elaine Stevens

Bat Mitzvah of Julie Cohen
Joel Fisbbein and Rachel Ereekiel-Fishbein
Elijah's Plate
Jeffrey Abrams and Margaret Barry
Bat Mitzvah of Janet Felgoise
Roslyn Hauser
Bat Mitzvah of Linda George
Eleanor Shaffer
Louis and Geraldine Seltzer
Bat Mitzvah of Phyllis Harrison
Jonathan and Judy Beck.
Alan and Joan Kober
Saul and Shirley Lassoff
Lynne Rosenthal
Rabbi Elliot Holin for his support and assistance during my Bat Mitzvah Elaine Stevens

Rosalind Holtzman for a special teacher during my Bat Mitzvah Elaine Stevens

Janine Pratt and her participation in the Bnai Mitzvah Joel Fisbbein and Rachel Ezekeiel-Fisbbein Special Birthday of Jodi Bloch Schilder Elaine Stevens

Bat Mitzvah of Elaine Stevens
Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ereekiel-Fishbein
Roslyn Hauser
Stanton and Merle Salkin
Mark Tino and Elaine Lotto
In Memory of:
Shifra Davidoff
Elaine Stevens
Salene Frishberg
Herbert and Lucille Barrett
Joanne Gordon
Lawrence M. Butler, DDS
Bruce A. Chernow, DDS
Howard Coff
Bernard and Zoe Friedberg
Barry and Karen Getzoff
Jeanes Hospital OR and Anesthesia Staff
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Maggie Kwartin
Herbert and Lucille Barrett
Martin Leiner
Elaine Stevens
Florence Posner
Herbert and Lucille Barrett
Morris Rosenblatt
Craig and Sharon Myers $■$

## "WASTE NOT ...WANT NOT" <br> Re-think - wasting food and \$\$ <br> Sunday April 21, 2013 , 6:30-8:00* At Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Rd, Elkins Park

- Epidemic: Food Waste in America - Deborah Goldblum, US Environment Protection Agency
- Hands-on Food Waste Workshop
- Manage your refrigerator
- Donating food/food banks
- Composting @home/business

CREEK CO.OP

KOIAmi
*Optional dinner 6 PM: from Creekside Co-op $\$ 10.00$ pp (vegetarian) Order w/ RSVP by April 18,2013 - Lorna Rosenberg - 215-779-1953

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH <br> AMY WERGELIS, M.ED.

Works on display from April 2 through May 20, with an opening reception on Sunday, April 7, at 2:00 p.m.
Amy is a local area artist working with oil sticks for painting and papers, paint, and pastels for mixed-media pictures.
She is presently teaching a Painting Studio and Watercolor class for the Cheltenham Adult School and a Drawing class for the Cheltenham Center for the Arts. She has been the Art Specialist for area day cares for the past 10 years and has been involved with mosaics and mural projects at Beth Sholom Congregation, Myers Elementary School, Elkins Park Middle School, and Jenkintown Day Nursery. This will be her fourth solo art show. The mission of her work is to evoke an emotional response from its viewers through the use of color and movement. $\quad$ -



[^0]:    Questions about Kol Ami membership can be referred to Irene Levy Baker, chair of the Membership Committee, at 215-782-2253 or spotightpr@comcast.net. Membership benefits are many and the friendship and support abundant. Everyone is welcome!

[^1]:    Formerly Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education/Jewish Outreach Partnership 7607 Old York Road / Melrose Park PA 19027 / 215.320 .0360 jewishlearningventure.org Partners with Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

