

CONGREGATION
Kol Ami
VOICE OF MY PEOPLE

WORSHIP SERVICES

FRIDAY, February 4, 7:30 p.m.
First-Friday *erev Shabbat* Service with Birthday and Anniversary Blessings; our Adult Choir will add their voices

SATURDAY, February 5
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue

FRIDAY, February 11, 7:30 p.m.
Grade 3-5 students will make this *erev Shabbat* Service extra special!

SATURDAY, February 12
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue
5:30 p.m. - Martini "Adult-Only" *Havdalah* (see page 8)

SUNDAY, February 13, 1:00 p.m.
Healing Service (see page 8)

FRIDAY, February 18, 7:30 p.m.
erev Shabbat Service; our Student Choir will add their voices

SATURDAY, February 19
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue

FRIDAY, February 25
There will not be a late service this evening due to our Nursery School's Annual Dinner and Silent Auction

SATURDAY, February 26
10:00 a.m. - *Shabbat* Service and *Torah* Dialogue ■

CALL FOR ARTISAN APPLICATIONS

SECOND ANNUAL CRAFT & FINE ARTS SHOW: OCT 29-30, 2011



We are pleased to announce our "Call for Artisan Applications" for our Second Annual Craft & Fine Arts Show scheduled for Saturday, October 29, from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., and Sunday, October 30, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The show is open for applications **ONLY** from regional artisans presenting their original art. There are 40 spaces available indoors, with a limited number available outdoors.

Congregation members, along with their friends, family, and colleagues, are welcome to submit

an application. In addition, if members have artisans to whom they would like us to send an application, please send their name, type of art, and contact information to Ellen Horowitz Matz (ehmmatz@comcast.net) or Elaine Stevens (execdir@kolamielkinspark.org).

Applications are available now. Artisans interested in applying can receive an application by either contacting Elaine Stevens, 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org, or by downloading the application from the synagogue's web site at www.kolamielkinspark.org under the "What's New" heading. The application submission deadline is: Thursday, March 31, 2011. ■

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: TIKUN OLAM AWARD

Each year at Kol Ami, we recognize an organization or key player of an organization who has contributed to *Tikun Olam* (healing the world) and honor the winning organization with a monetary contribution.

Please consider nominating a group or a leader worthy of this recognition. Activities need not be focused on the Jewish community, and nominees need not be Jewish.

Nominations should include the name of the organization or individual and a brief description of relevant activities. Please send your nominations to Karin Kaplan, Chair, Kol Ami *Tikun Olam* Committee 2011 at kaplank@comcast.net. ■

TORAH & HAFTARAH

February 5 – *Terumah*

Exodus 25:1-27:19, Isaiah 66:1-24

February 12 – *Tetzaveh*

Exodus 27:20-30:10, Ezekiel 43:10-27

February 19 – *Kee Tissa*

Exodus 30:11-34:35, I Kings 18:1-39

February 26 – *Vayekhel*

Exodus 35:1-38:20, I Kings 7:40-50 ■

MAZAL TOV

Congratulations to **Adam Fishbein** for being elected President of the Student Council at The Quaker School at Horsham. Adam is in the seventh grade. ■

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Caring Congregants Committee

Sunday, February 6, at 11:00 a.m.

Co-chairs: Elaine Gershenson, 215-887-3994, and Mindy Levy, 215-885-3672

Casino Night Committee

Sunday, February 6, at 10:00 a.m.

Chair: Julie Cohen, 215-635-4716

Finance Committee

Monday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Bart Weiner, 215-233-4712

Interfaith Relationship Dialogue

Tuesday, February 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen, 215-635-4716

Spiritual Growth Group

Thursday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-chairs: Natalie Dyen, 215-635-4336, and Janet Falon, 215-635-1698

Sustainability/Green Committee

Thursday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Mark Kaplan, 215-635-2920 ■

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Today I purchased a ticket for the lottery. The jackpot is over \$300 million. I found myself thinking about that inconceivable amount of money and, in the unlikely event I were to win something of this magnitude (about as likely as me growing a third eye), how it would change my life. Of course, some of the obvious thoughts flitted through my brain—how long would I work, how much would I give to family members, would I move, what would I buy, etc.

In the course of my wild imaginings, I began to think about how much good I could do with that money, not only for loved ones, but also for my greater community and beyond. As I am so intimately involved in Kol Ami's capital campaign, I thought how fantastic it would be to be the impetus to the long-term financial security of our spiritual home. I recollected my speech at High Holy Days about the dream of a free synagogue with services, religious school, and programming open to all who are interested without regard to financial obligation. Ah.... If only it were to be true.

I am assuming as I write this that I do not hold a winning ticket, and I do enjoy the daydream, but I also know that our Kol Ami community is dreaming the dream of a forever Congregation Kol Ami, just as I am. I know this by the stories I hear when I sit down to discuss the capital campaign and the generosity I have witnessed when these same people have been asked to help. In these sit-downs, I usually ask people to give from the heart, and one of our congregants recently said to me, "If I gave from my heart to Kol Ami, I wouldn't have anything left for me as I would give it all." What a wonderful sentiment! It is because of people like her and people like all of you that our campaign is going so well. We may not win the lottery and solve all our problems in one fell swoop, but we have hit the jackpot in life by supporting and embracing the world that is our congregation.

Ilene Schafer

215-663-0228, president@kolamielkinspark.org ■



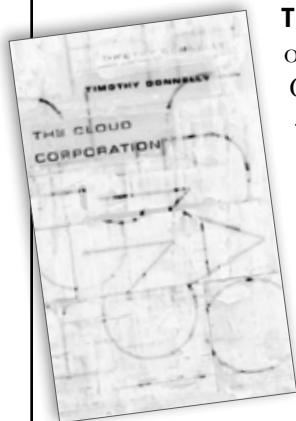
Thanks to the Kol Ami gang who helped with the January 16 "Cook for a Friend" efforts by making lasagna for 75 people. The "Cook for a Friend" program is run by the Klein JCC to support home-bound Philadelphia seniors.

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin

The fifth book of the *Torah* is *Devarim*. In Hebrew, *dvar* means “word” or “thing,” depending on the context in which it is used. *Devarim* commences in this manner: “These are the words that Moses addressed to all Israel...” We entered the Promised Land with words. It is with good reason that we are called “The People of the Book.”

Every once in a while, I read something that is so startling that it literally stops me in my tracks. I immediately read it again to fully understand why the words resonated so deeply in me. In the space of four days last month, it happened twice.

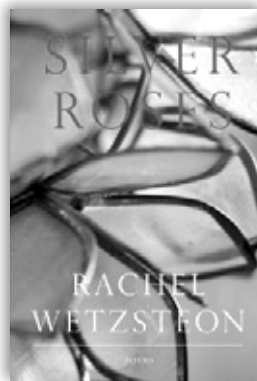


TIMOTHY DONNELLY is the Director of Undergraduate Creative Writing at Columbia University. At the age of 41, he has just published his second book of poems, “The Cloud Corporation.” He reminds me of Yehuda Amichai, not for his style of writing, but for his willingness to constantly mix the mundane aspects of life with startling insights. In “The Cloud Corporation”—from the Latin *corpus*, body—he suggests

that corporate bodies have aspects associated with people, and he hammers home the message that corporations have drives and desires, a sentinel way of protecting their interests, as “a congregation of bodies/ around whom the air is blurred with money.” Money is everything, a god unto itself. Contracts supersede covenant. In “Advice to Baboons of the New Kingdom” he writes:

“As you rest between ceremonies, watch
the outlines
of your votaries interrupt the faint light
at the mouth
of the corridor that leads from the
temple’s entrance down
to your holy chamber. In this manner, you
will pass
months, whole seasons, possibly years,
until you are
possessed of a god at last, and this one
means business.”

It took my breath away. Read it again. How does the juxtaposition of “ceremonies, temple’s entrance, holy chamber, a god that means business” speak to you? How does “god’s business” in the poem differ from our “business” in the synagogue? What is “your holy chamber”?



Then, just two days later, I came upon **RACHEL WETZSTEON**—pronounced “whetstone”—and her posthumous poetic collection, “Silver Roses.” She committed suicide a year ago at the age of 42, and her poetry shows the struggle to maintain balance amidst suffering the despair of a failed relationship. She is honest about her emotions and yearns to affirm life while acknowledg-

ing that “the smallest tender gesture would be more than you could bear.” For some, life is indeed fragile or melancholy, something she alludes to by asking, “What do we do now, now that we are happy?” In her collection “Sakura Park,” she wrote this haiku:

“Lovers holding hands
a sign of sharpened senses
or stupefaction?”

Her poetry is the search for definition. That is particularly true in these words:

“Looking down at the city below,
I am almost grateful that when I said
I have met my soul my soul said no;
it was a verdict that nearly bled
the hope from my veins, but it got me thinking.”

Devarim: words. How marvelous and powerful they are when they get us thinking. In my vernacular:

Torah-talk. *B’raysheet*
In the beginning, *Devarim*
words.

Shalom u’vrachah,
Rabbi Elliot J. Holin ■

SYNAGOGUE LEADERSHIP

Main Office
215-635-3110

Rabbi Elliot J. Holin
215-635-4182

Ilene Schafer, President
215-663-0228

Guy Appel, Vice President
215-938-9330

Barry Boise, Vice President
215-635-9042

Ellen Asam, Secretary
215-635-5598

Bart Weiner, Treasurer
215-233-4712

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Elaine Stevens, Executive Director
215-635-3110

Rabbi Selilah Kalev
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:
www.facebook.com/kolamielkinspark

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles by the 5th of the previous month (e.g., by February 5 for the March issue) to Debra Share, copy editor, at debra_share@merck.com. Articles may be edited as needed. Photographs/images to be included should be at least 2x3" in size and 300 DPI resolution to ensure good reproduction. ■

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

It's going to be another amazing and packed month here at Kol Ami Religious School! Don't miss a minute:

February 6..... Grades 4 & 5: Trip to Abramson Center
February 9..... Grades 3 - 7: Color War Holiday Challenge
February 11..... Grades 3-5: *erev Shabbat* Dinner and Service
February 13..... Camp Harlam Visit to Meet with Grade 2-5 Parents
February 16..... Grades 4 & 5: *Derech Eretz* Workshop
February 27..... Grades 6 & 7: Family Education Day
Unbelievable! I can't wait to see you there!

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Selilah Kalev ■

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP & KOL AMI TEMPLE YOUTH

by Allison Savett, Youth Group Director

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP (GRADES 6-8)

After a very successful skiing trip in which a few KATY kids joined us, the Senior Youth Group (SYG) is relaxing this month with a pizza dinner after Hebrew School on February 9. Pictured below are some of the participants of the day-long ski trip that took place on Martin Luther King, Jr. day. After two successful larger events, SYG board members figured a tame, chill-out event was in order, after which we will begin to plan for our end of the year hurrah!



SENIOR YOUTH GROUP & KOL AMI TEMPLE YOUTH

(continued from previous page)

KATY (GRADES 9-12)

Our high schoolers in KATY are hoping to join Bethdy for a game of Broomball! We are also looking ahead to meet up with Keneseth Israel's youth group, KIFTY, for a yet-to-be-determined activity. In the meantime, one of our members headed in late January to WINSTY, the NFTY leadership winter convention in Pittsburgh, so we are looking forward to our next meeting to hear all about her experience! ■

IM WISE STUDENT PROFILE: BECCA LEIFER



My name is Becca Leifer, and I am a first-year Isaac Mayer Wise student. I have attended Kol Ami religious school since third grade, and I now teach with Miriam Pshetzisky in the first-grade class.

I am a junior at Germantown Friends School (GFS), which I have attended since fourth grade. At GFS, I play varsity field hockey and manage the girls' varsity lacrosse team. I am also involved in a group called

Divorce Support, in which students in unconventional homes have a safe place to talk; the peer-tutoring program; the tour-guiding program; and *Chaverim*, the Jewish club.

During the month of January, GFS offers juniors an opportunity to intern for the month instead of attending school. For my internship, I worked at World Cafe Live, where I was the concert-booking and marketing intern. It was truly incredible, and I was so lucky to be able to have that opportunity.

Outside of school, I am a member of NFTY-PAR and am president of Kol Ami's Temple Youth Group (KATY). In my free time, I love to snowboard, play ping-pong, listen to music, and hang out with friends. I am so thankful to be part of Kol Ami's community and am excited for the rest of my time with my first-graders and to teach with another teacher in another class next year! ■

SAVE THESE DATES FOR OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

All of these events are open to EVERYONE in the congregation.

- **FAMILY GAME NIGHT** (open to all ages): February 5; see page 14 for order form
- **HOAGIE SALE:** February 6 on Superbowl Sunday; see page 15 for order form.
- **BAKE SALE:** February 27
- **PASSOVER CANDY SALE:** Order forms will be available in early March

Contact Kenny Moss (215-277-5335) or Heather Pelletier (215-855-3216), co-chairs of the Religious School Activities Working Group.



WE'LL GET YOU THERE!

Is transportation keeping you home-bound? Would you like to attend services, an event, or a committee meeting at Kol Ami, but don't have a means of getting there?

The Worship Enhancement Committee has developed a system for connecting riders with potential drivers. Just e-mail or call Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110 no later than the Thursday before the event you'd like to attend. Provide your name and phone number or e-mail address and the desired event's date and time. She'll send an "in-search-of" e-mail to Kol Ami congregants regarding your need and hopefully a congregant who plans to attend that event will call or e-mail you directly. We'd love to see you at the wonderful programs our synagogue has to offer and are happy to help you get there! ■

OPERATION PAPERBACK

Many of our troops are serving far from home and living in facilities that provide few of the comforts of home. At the end of the duty day, the opportunity to escape into a good book is welcomed. We are collecting gently used paperback books to send to our troops stationed overseas. Children's books are also welcomed, since they are used by soldiers to read to their children via Webcam.

Please drop your donations off at the synagogue. There is no deadline, as we will continue to ship the books as we collect them. Any questions, please contact Ronit at 215-635-0390. ■

Enlightening sessions at Kol Ami

Continuing Jewish Education

"MENU FOR THE FUTURE"

Monday Nights, beginning February 7, at 7:00 p.m.

Hazon CSA at Kol Ami and Creekside Co-op will be co-sponsoring "Menu for the Future," a six-week discussion course which is part of the Northwest Earth Institute Discussion series. The goals of this course are to explore food systems and their impacts on culture, society, and ecology; to gain insight into agricultural and individual practices that promote personal and ecological well-being, and to consider each individual's role in creating or supporting sustainable food systems.

Registration is required. The fee is \$23, which covers the cost of the discussion guides. To register, contact Rebecca Condict at rcondict@hotmail.com or 215-635-0128. A full description of this course can be found at http://nwei.org/discussion_courses. To learn more about Creekside Coop, go to <http://www.creekside.coop>.



BIBLICAL WISDOM: PROVERBS, ECCLESIASTES AND JOB

Instructor: Rabbi Howard Bogot

Thursdays, March 3, 10, 17 & 24 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Psalms 19 declares: "The *Torah* of Adonai is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of Adonai is sure, making wise the simple..." Participants in this seminar will sample treasures of biblical wisdom literature, striving to construct profiles of Jewishness personified. Topics will include: The Pursuit of Knowledge, Evil as the Result of Wickedness, and Human Freedom and Divine Power.

RSVP by February 25 to 215-635-3110. Free to members; non-member registration is \$50.

JEWISH CONVERTS AND THE PRINTING OF THE HEBREW BIBLE DURING THE RENAISSANCE

Wednesday, March 23

from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Synagogue

2011 Penn Lectures in Judaic Studies

Theodor Dunkelgrun, University of Chicago

Our speaker studied history and philosophy at the Universities of Leiden and Chicago. He is completing a dissertation with the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago regarding the Antwerp Polyglot Bible. His research interests are the history of ideas; the history of scholarship; the history of the book; and intellectual collaboration between Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the early modern period.



JOIN RABBI HOLIN AT THE 2011 AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE

Sunday, May 22 - Tuesday, May 24 in Washington, DC

In the months ahead, Iran will most likely continue to develop its nuclear program. The Islamic Republic will continue its efforts to smuggle weapons to its proxies, Hizballah and Hamas, adding to the weapons that already threaten Israel on two of its borders. At the same time, new members of Congress will be casting their first votes on issues that directly affect the U.S.-Israel relationship.

This three-day event gives us the unique opportunity to hear from Middle East scholars, as well as leading analysts and journalists from around the world, and to lobby members of Congress.

To learn more or to register for the conference, visit www.aipac.org/PC2011 or contact Rabbi Holin (215-635-4182) if you are interested in joining him at this important time on behalf of Israel. ■

Yiddish Concert

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, AT 3:00 PM AT THE SYNAGOGUE

This is an exceptional opportunity to hear the original Yiddish music of David Botwinik performed by acclaimed singers Richard Lenatsky, tenor, and Lisa Willson, soprano, accompanied by pianist Elena Berman-Gantard. The concert celebrates David Botwinik's new book "From Holocaust to Life" (*Fun kburbn tsum lebn*). Also performing will be Alexander Botwinik, Dina Malka Botwinik, and Emma Gantard. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

THE COMPOSER



David Botwinik was born in Vilna in 1920. As a young child, he would walk a long distance with his father on *Shabbat* and holidays to hear cantors at the largest synagogue in Vilna, the *shtetshul*. By 11, he had already sung at several local synagogues, and he began composing soon after. At 18, he worked as

a prompter in a Yiddish version of Verdi's "Aida." After the war, he helped transcribe songs that survivors had sung in the ghettos and camps, then went to Rome to study music in the renowned Santa Cecilia conservatory. In 1956, he emigrated to Canada and taught music and directed choirs for many decades in Montreal, where he still lives. In 2010, a collection of David Botwinik's original solo and choral compositions entitled, "From Holocaust to Life" (*Fun kburbn tsum lebn*) was published.

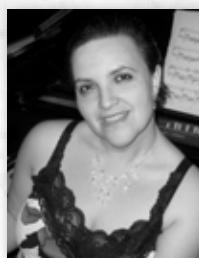
THE ARTISTS



Richard Lenatsky, a tenor who resides in West Chester, PA, has performed Yiddish songs in Philadelphia, New York, and Massachusetts. A friend and admirer of the great tenor Jan Peerce, Lenatsky studied voice with Alex Lorber, vocal coach to Peerce, Robert Merrill, and Roberta Peters.



Lisa Willson, soprano, has won praise for the beauty and purity of her voice. She was featured as soprano soloist in the PBS-televized Verdi's Requiem Mass, performed to commemorate the experience of Jewish concentration camp victims at Terezin. Trained at the Manhattan School of Music, Juilliard, and the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, Willson has performed with the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Concert Opera, and many other national and international groups. Outside of classical music, she has been a lead singer with the Lionel Hampton Orchestra. She teaches voice in Bryn Mawr, PA.



Elena Berman-Gantard is assistant director of the Nelly Berman School of Music in Haverford, PA, where she teaches piano. She heard Yiddish songs as a child in Odessa, when her parents organized a concert, and hung carpets over the doors and windows to prevent

neighbors and the authorities from hearing this "anti-Soviet activity." ■

Kol Ami Events

LOSS AND LEGACY: AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON GRIEF LEADING TO GROWTH

Tuesday, February 1, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.



Cheryl Rice Wohlstetter, a member of our congregation, is a leadership and life coach who has been personally attending to the rich and tumultuous experience of grief since losing her mother in April. She has a strong desire to be in community with

others who are in the midst of this sacred journey.

This evening, she will welcome a gathering of people whose loved ones have died and who find themselves reflecting their journey through grief, loss, legacy, and perhaps discovery of more meaningful things in their lives. Questions such as “Who do I want to be as a result of my grief?” “What’s important now?” and “What, if anything, does grief have to teach me?” will be the focal points of our discussion.

Please RSVP to our executive director Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org.

FIRST-FRIDAY EREV SHABBAT SERVICE

for February Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Friday, February 4, at 7:30 p.m.



If you or someone in your family is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in February, please join us for a special First-Friday *erev Shabbat* service.

Rabbi Holin will bless everyone with an February *simcha* 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*.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Saturday, February 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See page 14 for details and a form to pre-order food.

IT’S BACK! MARTINI “ADULT-ONLY” HAVDALAH

Saturday, February 12, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

We’ll supply the hors d’oeuvres. You supply the mixers, mixing devices, and hard liquor. Beer and wine drinkers are most welcome too.



5:30 p.m. - Martinis and Hors d’oeuvres

7:00 p.m. - Singing & *Havdalah* Service

7:45 p.m. - Continued Celebration

Casual attire is appropriate for this service. Reservations are required. RSVP to Elaine Stevens at execdir@kolamielkinspark.org or 215-635-3110 by February 8.

HEALING SERVICE

Sunday, February 13, at 1:00 p.m.

Our tradition offers moving and powerful prayers for healing. There are times that we feel the urge to be together to say the *Mi'Shebbairach* (“May The Holy One Who blesses...”) prayer for a loved one in a hospital, recovering at home, or in hospice care.

Our Healing Service welcomes everyone who wishes to offer prayers for loved ones and friends, and words of comfort and inspiration for yourself.

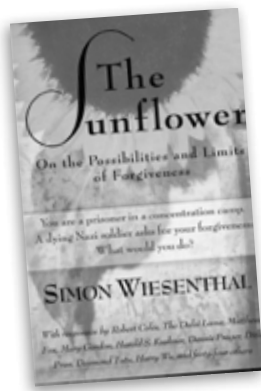
NURSERY SCHOOL ANNUAL EREV SHABBAT DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Friday, February 25, at 6:45 p.m.

We need your help with this Nursery School-sponsored event. Here’s how: 1) donate items to be auctioned or raffled, for example, gift certificates, museum tickets, art items, etc.; 2) buy and help sell tickets for the raffle portion of the evening; and /or 3) attend the auction and bid on baskets. We would love to see you attend and support our event. Raffle-ticket prizes include tickets to a Phillies game or a Philadelphia Orchestra concert, gift certificates to local businesses, gym memberships, and much more. We will also be auctioning off classroom baskets. Please contact Sheri Cutler at 215-635-4180 to purchase raffle tickets.

THE CONTEMPORARY JEWISH WRITERS BOOK GROUP

Sunday, February 27, at 11:00 a.m.



The group will discuss Simon Wiesenthal's compelling memoir, "The Sunflower." This narrative on an extraordinary encounter during World War II continues to raise questions, as it did for six decades, about identity and responsibility and the moral boundaries of justice, mercy, and forgiveness.

During his imprisonment in a Nazi concentration camp, Simon Wiesenthal was taken to the bedside of a dying member of the SS. Plagued by crimes he committed in the camp, the Nazi officer wanted to confess to a Jew and receive forgiveness. Wiesenthal's report on this personal encounter challenges us about identity and casts fundamental questions about forgiveness. Should we forgive the repentant criminal? Can we?

Decades after the holocaust, gathered in the one volume, we can read the responses of eminent thinkers to Wiesenthal's self-questioning: Christians, Buddhists, politicians, lawyers, psychiatrists, and human rights activists. In the revised edition of "The Sunflower," we also hear from contemporary survivors of attempted genocides in Bosnia, Cambodia, China, and Tibet.

Simon Wiesenthal made his own decision. What would you do? We look forward to a provocative and fruitful gathering.

FASTS THIS MONTH AND NEXT



Rabbi Holin's **Fast for Darfur**—which supports rescue efforts in Darfur—and **Nothing But Nets** fast—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 **Wednesday, February 16,** and **Monday, March 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 **Monday, February 28,** and **Wednesday, March 30.**

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')

Save Darfur Coalition

3246 Solutions Center, Lockbox #773246

Chicago, IL 60677

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')

EVENING ADULT YOGA CLASSES

Mondays from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

For those new to or just starting yoga practices, classes will be held in our social hall. Ben Long, a Kol Ami member and an Anusara-Yoga-influenced teacher at Yoga Evolution in Jenkintown, will teach the classes. The cost per class is \$5.00 for members; \$10 for non-members. Contact Ben at BenL321@comcast.net.

KOL AMI SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

The spring and summer softball season is fast approaching, and the Kol Ami softball team is gearing up for another fun and competitive summer. For anyone interested in joining the team, there remains a few roster spots. The only requirements are a desire to have fun, a willingness to learn, patience, and a sense of humor. Also Kol Ami requires membership in good standing, and the league requires you to be at least 18 years old. Men and women are encouraged to join. Our team represents a mixed skill level (guaranteed to improve!). Please contact team captain Eric Pelletier at 215-855-3216 or esppt@verizon.net if you're interested in playing this year.

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LOCA POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m.

Home of Elaine Gershenson

The Ladies of a Certain Age (LOCAs), always seeking opportunities to eat and *schmooze*, are having a potluck dinner at the home of Elaine Gershenson, 1363 Panther Road, Rydal. All you need to do is provide a dish. Please RSVP no later than February 23 to gershlaw@comcast.net or 215-887-3994 to let Elaine know what you are bringing.

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES

Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Beginning on March 3

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? That's exactly what the Zumba program is all about. It's an easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Since its inception in 2001, Zumba Fitness has grown to become the world's largest—and most successful—dance-fitness program. A Zumba class will be starting at Kol Ami on March 3 and will run for six weeks. It will be taught by a certified-Zumba instructor and fellow member of Kol Ami, Jane Pace. The cost is \$5.00 per class or \$25.00 for six classes. If interested, please respond by February 23 to Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org.

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA

erev Shabbat, March 4, at our 7:30 p.m. Service
Congregation Kol Ami joins in the national celebration! Give your friends a taste of Kol Ami!



Shabbat Across America is a nationally acclaimed program that gives people a positive and joyful *Shabbat* experience. You are encouraged to invite your unaffiliated friends to a *Shabbat* dinner at our congregation to celebrate the defining moment of the Jewish week together. Your

guests will be "our guests" at the catered dinner, and they will be given Rebecca Schwartz's CD, *Shir Shabbat* ("Song of *Shabbat*," which also features the voices of our Adult and Student Choirs. The National Jewish Outreach Program will publicize this evening throughout America.

Please call Elaine Stevens by Monday, February 28, at 215-635-3110 to RSVP for dinner (\$16 per adult and \$10 per child under the age of 8) and "*Shabbat* dessert" on March 4.

SAVE-THE-DATE: WALNUT STREET THEATER TOURING OUTREACH COMPANY

Sunday, March 6, at 1:00 p.m.

"Emperor's New Clothes" – a Hans Christian Anderson Tale



SAVE THE DATE: CASINO NIGHT

Saturday, March 26, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

See page 13 for details and a form to pre-order food. ■

Congregation Kol Ami Supports



YES WE CAN Help Feed the Hungry

It is as easy as going food shopping. Every time you go to the supermarket, add one can of kosher or vegetarian food to your order. Then, drop it off in the marked canisters at Kol Ami. Fifty-two cans a year can make a difference!

You CAN donate:
Vegetables
Tuna
Soup
Fruit
Pasta
Spaghetti Sauce

Scholarships, Grants & Summer Programs



CONGREGATION KOL AMI JEWISH SUMMER CAMP AND YOUTH-IN-ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIPS

If your son or daughter plans to attend a Jewish summer camp in 2011, our congregation is pleased to award needs-based scholarships through the Youth Fund. Scholarship amounts are based on available funds and the number of requests received.

If your child plans to participate in a trip to Israel through a peer-led organization, we are pleased to offer incentive scholarships depending on the length of the trip. The Discover Israel Fund exists through the generosity of Stewart and Sally Eisenberg.

Application forms are available by contacting our executive director, Elaine Stevens, at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org.



JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia is pleased to announce that it has needs-based scholarships available for families from the Greater Philadelphia region seeking to send their children to non-profit, Jewish-identity day camps and overnight camps during the Summer 2011. Families reporting net incomes of less than \$100,000 on their 2010 IRS tax returns are encouraged to apply for awards generally ranging between 10 and 30 percent of the tuition. Families with higher incomes, but with special circumstances, are also encouraged to apply. Scholarship applications are available through the participating camps and at www.jewishphilly.org/campscholarships.

The Overnight Camp Scholarship application deadline is Friday, February 25, 2011. The Day Camp Scholarship application deadline is Friday, March 25, 2011.

If you have any questions, please contact Drew Martin at dmartin@jfgp.org or 215-832-0530. Visit www.jewishphilly.org/campscholarships for more information and a complete list of camps.



UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM (URJ) 6-POINTS SUMMER SPORTS ACADEMY FOR ATHLETES AGED 10 TO 16 YEARS

This camp commenced last summer in Greensboro, NC, and has received rave reviews from campers and parents alike. Co-ed sports include basketball, soccer, swimming, tennis, baseball, lacrosse, and softball.

Summer sessions are June 21 to July 3, July 5 to 17, and July 19 to 31. Kol Ami parents Adam Hoffman and Lisa Landau will sing the camp's praises to you if you would like to speak with them. For information on how to register and to see their video, please visit www.6pointsacademy.org. ■

THINK SCRIP: Raise Money for Kol Ami with No Selling!

Scrip cards can be used for more than just a gift; they can be purchased in addition to your weekly grocery shopping excursions. Here are just a few of the various gas, auto, travel, or other services available to everyone:

Acme, Amazon.com, American Airlines, Avis, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Best Western, Budget Rental Car, Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Courtyard Marriott, Dick's Sporting Goods, GameStop, Genaurdi Foods, Giant Foods, Home Depot, iTunes, Lowe's, Marshalls, Old Navy, Panera Bread, PetSmart, Regal Entertainment, Sears, T.J. Maxx, Visa

Kol Ami receives a percentage (from 2 to 15 percent) back from each order placed. Each retailer has various valued Scrip cards available and have allocated a percentage we would receive. Kol Ami's Scrip program is for **everyone** in the congregation. There are over 600 additional retailers and services available.

The steps are simple:

Select which retailers from whom you wish to order scrip cards.

Fill out the Kol Ami Scrip form. Order forms will be available either in the religious school office or from Elaine Stevens during the week.

Forms will be collected each week on Sunday in the religious school or may be dropped off to Elaine Stevens during the week.

Orders will be processed and the scrip cards will be made available the following week for pickup.

It's very simple and a GREAT way to help Kol Ami from the convenience of your own shopping cart.

Any questions can be directed to Elaine Stevens or Kenny Moss and Heather Pelletier, co-chairs of the Religious School Activities Working Group. ■

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

BEVAN MCSHEA is an artist and poet who was born and raised in the Overbrook section of Philadelphia. After studying art education at Kutztown University, he spent time between Philadelphia and New York City, working on various design projects, street art, and murals and developing his signature style of urban abstract art called Contour Linearism. In Contour Linearism, the interconnectedness of the Spirit and Nature is celebrated through bold, stylized, continuous lines, usually depicting some sort of cityscape. The results have been compared to a type of primitive, kinetic-stained glass.

This series that he is doing for the Kol Ami Gallery is called "Cities Alight" and is based on cities that have been relevant or important in the history of Judaism. The series is dedicated to the memory of Anna and Max Bluestein.

Bevan's art will be on exhibit in the Kol Ami lobby from February 8 through March 14. Bevan will be hosting an open house on Thursday, February 10, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., which is open to our members and the community. All of the artist's works are for sale and a portion of the proceeds are donated to the synagogue. If you are interested in purchasing a piece of art, the price list is available in the Executive office. The gallery hours are Wednesday, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. If the religious school is closed on those days, the gallery is closed as well. ■





ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 26, 2011
7 pm - 11 pm
Congregation Kol Ami קול עמי



Blackjack

Craps

Poker

**WINNINGS PROVIDED AS RAFFLE TICKETS
 FOR FANTASTIC PRIZES!!**

\$30/person in advance

\$40 at the door

**Tickets include \$25 in gaming chips, open bar,
 light fare and dessert**

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT:

Julie Cohen at 215-635-4716 or julie@juliecohencoaching.com or
 Elaine Stevens at 215-635-3110 or execdir@kolamielkinspark.org
 Send your check to Congregation Kol Ami, 8201 High School Road,
 Elkins Park, PA 19027 with "Casino Night" on the memo line

Come One, Come All!
Congregation Kol Ami
Family Game Night: Saturday, February 5, 2010
5:30 pm -- 7:30pm



\$25.00 per family
1 large Pizza
4 Cookies
4 drinks (juice/soda)
(\$27.00 per family at the door)

\$ 7.00 per single
2 slices of Pizza
1 cookie
1 drink (juice/soda)
(\$8.00 per single at the door)

Your FUN FILLED EVENING also Includes:

2 Tickets for Wii Play (additional tickets for Wii available for purchase)
Various "Game Stations" for kids and adults of all ages & Arts n Crafts
Guess the number of candy in a jar &
Tickets will be available for a raffle and a 50/50 raffle

ALL Kol Ami members & friends are welcome to attend.

*We are asking for donations of gently used or un-opened board games for our raffle/giveaway.

Please contact Heather Pelletier (215) 518-2912 , hfppt1@gmail.com or Kenny Moss (412) 526-2999
kenny.moss2@comcast.net of the Religous School Activities Working Group with questions

Family Game Night: Saturday, February 5, 2010

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Hm Phone/Cell Phone: _____

Family Packs _____ @ \$25.00 = \$ _____

Single Packs _____ @ \$7.00 = \$ _____

Total Payment/ Check _____ (Checks Payable to Kol Ami)

8201 High School Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027

Congregation Kol Ami Super Bowl Sunday Hoagie Sale



Planning to host a Super Bowl party or just tired of cooking?
We can help!

Members and friends of Kol Ami are invited to order hoagies provided by Heritage Hoagies in Huntingdon Valley. The 10" hoagies can be picked up in the lobby of Kol Ami on Sunday, February 6th at 12:00. All profits from the sale will be used to support the activities of the Kol Ami Religious School.

Questions? Contact Robin Warsaw (215) 635-5839 or rkwarsaw@comcast.net



Please fill out and return the form below by
Sunday, January 31st.



Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

All Hoagies come with Lettuce, Tomato and Onion unless otherwise specified. Please specify mayo or oil, hot or sweet peppers.

	Lettuce/Tomato/Onion	Mayo or Oil	Hot or Sweet
# of Turkey Hoagies:			
# of Tuna Hoagies:			
# of Cheese Hoagies: (American, Provolone & Swiss)			

Total # of hoagies: _____ @ \$6.00 = Total Payment \$ _____

Please Make Checks Payable to Congregation Kol Ami

Be Green this Spring!



“Spring Green” your home and help local children in need at the same time!

Go through your **children’s clothing, toys, books, shoes and more**, and donate what is outgrown or no longer being used to Cradles to Crayons.

Cradles to Crayons will pass your donations on to local children who are in need of the items your family is no longer using.

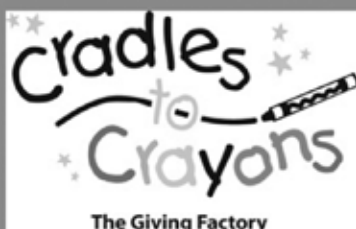
Congregation Kol Ami is collecting donations to help!

★ Please inspect your children’s clothing items — **t-shirts, shorts, pants, PJ’s, baseball caps, shoes and sandals** — to make sure they are good condition with no rips, stains or other damage before donating them.

We will also accept any new or gently-used **toys, books, or baby equipment!**

★ A bin for donations will be placed at Congregation Kol Ami

★ Collection will last from February 1st - 28th



The Giving Factory
30 Clipper Road
W. Conshohocken, PA 19428
www.cradlestocrayons.org

For more information or questions, contact:
Kloe Unruh | 215 836-0958 x213 | kloe@cradlestocrayons.org
Rhonda Feder | 215 836-0958 x207 | rhonda@cradlestocrayons.org

KOL AMI FEBRUARY 2011 AT A GLANCE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Nursery School 9:00 a.m. - Fitness Loss and Legacy with Cheryl Rice Wohlstetter 7:00 p.m.	2 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming Religious School 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	3	4 Nursery School erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 11:00 a.m. First-Friday erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Participation	5 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and <i>Torah</i> Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Family Game Night 5:30 p.m.
6 HOAGIE PICK-UP Trobe Class 9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Grades 4 & 5 to Abramson Center 11:40 a.m. - <i>T'filah</i> 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Casino Night Planning Committee Meeting 10:00 a.m. Caring Congregants Committee Meeting 11:00 a.m.	7 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga Adult Yoga Class 6:45 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	8 Nursery School 9:00 a.m. - Fitness Interfaith Relationship Dialogue 7:30 p.m. Home of Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen	9 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming Religious School 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. Grades 3-7 Color War Holiday Challenge Senior Youth Group Pizza Dinner (following religious school)	10 Artist's Open House Bevan McShea 5:00 p.m. Spiritual Growth Group Meeting 7:30 p.m.	11 Nursery School erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 11:00 a.m. erev <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 p.m. - Grades 3-5 Participation 6:30 p.m. - Dinner	12 <i>Shabbat</i> Service and <i>Torah</i> Dialogue 10:00 a.m. Martini "Adult Only" <i>Havdalah</i> Service 5:30 p.m.

KOL AMI FEBRUARY 2011 AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Thursdays						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:50 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Camp Harlam Representatives to Meet with Grade 2-5 Parents 11:40 a.m. - Gr K-7 <i>T'ilah</i> 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Rehearsal Healing Service 1:00 p.m.	14 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga Adult Yoga Class 6:45 p.m.	15 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Fitness	16 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Program Specialist Religious School 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. – JFCS presentation: "Bullying" for Grades 4 & 5	17 Sustainability/Green Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	18 Nursery School erev Shabbat Service with Cantorial Soloist, Rebecca Schwartz 11:00 a.m. erev Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m. Student Choir Participation	19 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
20 No Religious School - President's Weekend	21 No Nursery School President's Weekend Adult Yoga Class 6:45 p.m.	22 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Fitness	23 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Jewish Programming Religious School 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	24	25 Nursery School erev Shabbat Service 11:00 a.m. Nursery School's Annual Dinner and Silent Auction 6:45 p.m.	26 Shabbat Service and Torah Dialogue 10:00 a.m.
27 BAKE SALE Trope Class - 9:00 a.m. Adult Choir - 9:50 a.m. Religious School 10:00 a.m. to Noon 10:00 a.m. - Gr 6-7 Family Education Day 12:00 p.m. - Student Choir Knit 'n Nosh - 10:00 a.m. The Contemporary Jewish Writers Book Group with Lou Barrett 11:00 a.m.	28 Nursery School 9:30 a.m. - Yoga Adult Yoga Class 6:45 p.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.

"FAITH IN OUR FUTURE" PLEDGES

*Jeffrey Abrams and Margaret Barry
Benjamin Adams and Gail Korostoff
Guy and Karol Appel
Bruce and Ellen Asam
David Baker and Irene Levy Baker
Nigel Blower and Julie Cohen
Barry and Allison Boise
Thomas and Sherry Bowman
Andrew Cassel
David and Shelley Chamberlain
Michael and Sara Chernoff
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
Brad and Julie Copeland
James and Natalie Dyen
Stewart and Sally Eisenberg
William England and Lorie Slass
Joel Fishbein and Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein
Vera Frumin
Ivan and Ruth Gabel
Alan and Elaine Gershenson
Eric Gonzalez and Rosalind Holtzman
Steven and Debra Harris
David and Phyllis Harrison
Rabbi Elliot and Susan Holin
David Hyman and Farah Jimenez
William Hyman and Janine Pratt
Eric and Aden Johnston
Mark Kaplan and Karin Chernoff Kaplan
Ted and Wendy Kapnek
Charles Langman and Laurie Jubelirer
Langman
Michael Levin and Marjorie Backup
Benjamin and Jody Long
Michael Matz and Ellen Horowitz Matz
John Miles and Sheryl Cohen
Craig and Sharon Myers
Vincent and Jane Pace
Eric and Heather Pelletier
Marshall and Ilene Schafer
Russell Schilder and Jodi Bloch Schilder
Robert Schionitz and Ronit Sugar
Gary Sender
William and Betty Shapiro*

*Stanley and Rita Sigel
Michael Silverman and Robin Rifkin
Elaine Stevens
Erik and Jennifer Streitwieser
David and Meryle Twersky
Bart Weiner and Nadine Liez-Weiner*

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

**Rabbi Holin for his kindness and
for leading the Shiva Service**
Steve and Ruth Shaffer

**Adena Johnston's appointment
as President of the Philadelphia
Metro of DeVry University**
Miriam and Coleman Nadler

Special Birthday of Paul Levy
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

**The Marriage of Emily Laura
Petkun and Dr. Michael Paul Ast**
Lisa and David Petkun

In Memory of:

Ernest Alexander
Arthur Alexander

Pearl and Carl Barr
Shirley Ernst

Gadol Barrett
Herbert and Lucille Barrett

Harry Ernst
Shirley Barr

Shirley Ettinger
Alan and Elaine Gershenson

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Memory of:

Lenore Gumpert
Jeremy and Laura Wintroub

SYNAGOGUE FUND

*Jonathan Auerbach and Karoline Adler
David Bell
Jeffrey Cohen and Ellen Friedman
David Hyman
Bart Weiner and Nadine Liez-Weiner*

In Honor of:

**Anniversary of Jeffrey Cohen
and Ellen Friedman**
David Hyman

**Adena Johnston for her promotion
as President of the Philadelphia
Metro of DeVry University**
Jules and Elaine Ellison

In Memory of:

Arthur Havsy
Sue Elkins

Sam Horowitz
Harold and Shirley Horowitz ■

TO:



Be enlightened: 2011 Sustainability Movie Series

The Elkins Park Hazon CSA at Kol Ami is proud to sponsor another Sustainability Movie Series in 2011, in conjunction with Pennypack Farm and Education Center! Enjoy three nights at the movies, followed by discussion groups led by panels of experts. The cost is \$10 each or \$24 for all three films. Tickets also now on sale at www.amblertheater.org/pennypack or at the box office. This series will feature:

FEBRUARY 8: TWO ANGRY MOMS

What happens when fed-up moms try to change school food? Filmmaker Amy Kalafa crosses the country in search of alternatives to the toxic food environment found in many of our nation's schools, and what we, as parents, can do about it. View the trailer at www.angrymoms.org.

MARCH 8: A CHEMICAL REACTION

The story of how one doctor in a small town in Canada convinced the town to ban chemical lawn pesticides. The town was then sued by the chemical companies. This is

extremely relevant to our area as so many people use chemical pesticides on the lawns without realizing the harm done to the watershed. View the trailer at www.safelawns.org/chemical-reaction.

APRIL 12 (TWO MOVIES)

GHANA: DIGITAL DUMPING GROUND & BAG-IT

"Ghana: Digital Dumping Ground" is a documentary that presents the dirty secret of the digital age—the dumping and dangerous recycling of hundreds of millions of pounds of electronic waste. And, "Bag-it" is an entertaining, yet disturbing look at what happens to those ubiquitous plastic bags and the mountains of other single-use plastic containers. Both are sure to open your eyes and mind for solutions. ■