

# CONNECTIONS

MAY/JUNE 2024 Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5784

www.kolaminj.org



## THE RABBI TEACHES

### The Spring High Holy Days

By Rabbi Jennifer L. Frenkel

By the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox, we will be sitting just a week or two away from what has been called the “High Holy Day Season of Israeli Life.” A special time on our Jewish calendar, we mark the Israeli holidays of Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom HaZikaron (Israel’s official Memorial Day), and Yom Ha’Atzma’ut (Independence Day in Israel).

As we move into this designated time on our calendar, it feels different this year. So much has felt different this year. It is, somehow, hard to believe that seven months have passed since October 7, when Hamas terrorists waged the deadliest attack on Jews since the Holocaust and took hundreds of innocent civilians hostage. Seven months of hoping and praying and working for the release of the hostages and the healing of the thousands brutally injured and traumatized, and the tens of thousands more who have been affected in the months since by the ongoing violence, terrorism, and growing humanitarian crisis.

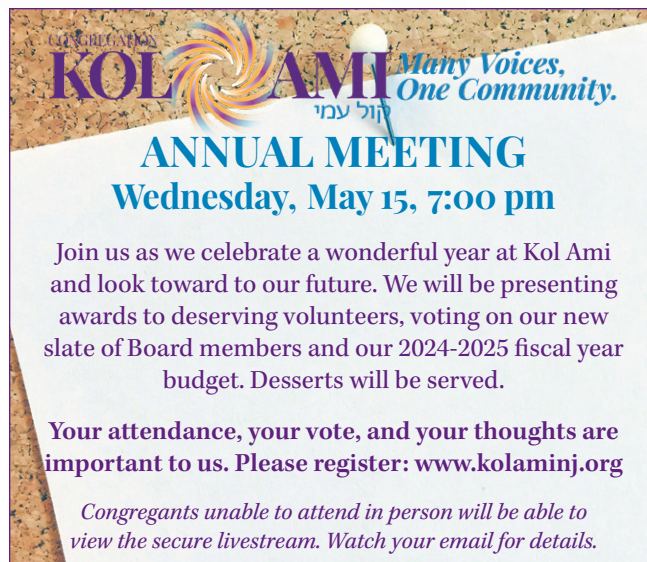
Many of us have struggled with how to best express our care and compassion for the innocent people in both Israel and Gaza, how to stand for the values we hold sacred as a Jewish community while also acknowledging that we may not all always agree on political policies or political decisions, and how we continue to struggle most acutely with the current situation in Israel and Gaza, yet also recognizing that the conflict has a long, painful, and complicated history.

How ironic it is, then, that the very name “Israel” (*Yisrael*), has, at its very root, the notion of “wrestling” and the notion of how sacred that can be.

At times when I wrestle with conflicting thoughts and emotions – when I find myself struggling with the cognitive dissonance that comes from holding seemingly contradictory beliefs at the same time – it is often the words of poetry that I connect with most powerfully. It is in looking at the poetry written by both Israeli and Palestinian poets where I often find powerful expression of that which most deeply connects us and impacts us as human beings.

Yehuda Amichai, recognized as one of Israel’s most famous poets, has had his Hebrew poems translated into over forty languages. One of his well-known poems, filled with stark contrasts and irony, is titled “Jerusalem:”

*(continued; See “Rabbi Teaches” on page 3)*



**KOL AMI** *Many Voices. One Community.*  
קול עמי

## ANNUAL MEETING

### Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 pm

Join us as we celebrate a wonderful year at Kol Ami and look toward to our future. We will be presenting awards to deserving volunteers, voting on our new slate of Board members and our 2024-2025 fiscal year budget. Desserts will be served.

**Your attendance, your vote, and your thoughts are important to us. Please register: [www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)**

*Congregants unable to attend in person will be able to view the secure livestream. Watch your email for details.*





## It's That Time

ANNUAL COMMITMENT FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON.

Kindly complete your Membership and Religious School Renewals by June 30 so we may plan accordingly for another fabulous year ahead at Kol Ami. If you have questions, please contact Ruth Scott in the synagogue office at 856-489-0029.

## MARK THESE MOMENTS!

**Hebrew High School Graduation** – May 3, 7:00 pm  
**Annual Meeting** – May 15, 7:00 pm – Information above.  
**Installation Shabbat** – June 6, 7:00 pm  
**Shavuot/Confirmation** – June 12, 10:00 am  
**Cool Off with Clergy** – *All Summer!* Information page 16.



## FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

### Eric Hurwitz, President

The theme of this edition of *Connections* is a look back on our past year, and as I reflect on that topic, we have many reasons for Kol Ami pride. The unification of our two legacy synagogues has proven to be a catalyst for growth and transformation,

touching every aspect of our community. I could write more words than our editor will allow, so allow me to comment on just a few.

We welcomed a new clergy partner in Rabbi Milan-Polisar, who has quickly become an integral part of our spiritual leadership team. In our full Religious School and Early Childhood Center, we have witnessed tremendous energy and growth. These spaces have become nurturing environments where our children can grow, learn, and thrive. The dedication of our educators and the engagement of our families have contributed to the success and vibrancy of our educational programs.

Our calendar has been bustling with events that cater to diverse backgrounds and interests. From engaging study sessions to thought-provoking discussion groups, *tikkun olam* activities, and social gatherings, Kol Ami has become a place where everyone can find something that resonates with them. These events have fostered a sense of belonging and community among our members.

Through careful planning and sound financial management, we have been able to establish a \$5 million endowment to help secure our future. This milestone ensures that our congregation will continue to thrive and serve future generations.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the tireless efforts of all our dedicated volunteers, committee chairs, executive committee, and board members. Their commitment and hard work have been instrumental in driving our success. Additionally, our dynamic team of clergy partners has provided spiritual guidance and support, helping us navigate our individual and collective journeys.

While we acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of all those involved in our community, I wanted to offer my deepest appreciation to our fabulous staff. Their behind-the-scenes work is the driving force behind our success. I encourage each of you to take a moment to personally thank our staff members when you see them. Their contributions often go unnoticed, but their impact on our community is immeasurable.

Looking ahead, we have even more improvements planned in the months to come. These enhancements will further elevate our facilities, creating an environment that fosters connection, growth, and spiritual nourishment. We are committed to ensuring that our physical space reflects the vibrancy and warmth of our community.

Together, we have achieved so much in the past year, including what I believe is a culture of positivity and growth. I am proud to be part of this journey with each of you. Let us continue to support one another, celebrate our accomplishments, and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead.

## SHALOM FROM SISTERHOOD

Kol Ami Sisterhood experienced an amazing year of growth in 2023-2024 filled with meaningful, enjoyable programs. Together we were able to celebrate holidays and events. We shared learning and new ideas at our educational programs. We also made connections with women of all ages, backgrounds, occupations and interests. Sisterhood brings us together to share concerns about world issues and the current war in Israel. We were proud to unite to make a difference through our caring support and a donation to Jewish Federations of North America's Israel emergency campaign.

We feel fortunate to be Congregation Kol Ami's Sisterhood as we reflect on the success of this year, grow stronger, and look forward to our upcoming year together.

The Co-Presidents of Sisterhood (Lisa Weiser, Tracy Goldberg, and Amy Bodofsky) would like to sincerely thank everyone that volunteered, helped with planning, and attended events.

Here are just some of the many events we enjoyed this year:

- Summer Sangria Social
- Holiday Gift Bazaar with a cafe and gift table
- Latkes, Babkas and Vodkas Chanukah party
- Sisterhood's Women & Spirituality Attitude of Gratitude program
- Braid. Spice. Cook! A Jewish food series presented by the Sisterhoods of South Jersey. The first of three events, "Challah Prince" Idan Chabasov, was hosted at Kol Ami with over 250 people in attendance (pictured below and on page 8).
- Women's Seder was a pre-Passover celebration that featured the beautiful music of Rabbi Milan-Polisar

### Upcoming Events:

**May 8: Braid. Spice. Cook!** will feature a "Busy in Brooklyn" live cooking demonstration at Temple Beth Sholom.

**May 13: Cooking with Rosie Hymerling** will be an evening of demonstrations and tasting by our own Sisterhood member

**May 17: Sisterhood Shabbat**

**June 17: Closing Dinner** at Elena Wu in Voorhees

**June 26: Sisterhood's Women and Spirituality Aging Program**

**July 16: Sisterhood Summer Social** (July 17 rain date)

What a wonderful year! Many Thanks! If you are not currently a Sisterhood member and want to be involved, please contact [SisterhoodPresident@kolaminj.org](mailto:SisterhoodPresident@kolaminj.org).



photo by Alexander Stross

## THE RABBI TEACHES (continued from page 1)

*On a roof in the Old City  
Laundry hanging in the late afternoon sunlight:  
The white sheet of a woman who is my enemy,  
The towel of a man who is my enemy,  
To wipe off the sweat of his brow.*

*In the sky of the Old City  
A kite.  
At the other end of the string,  
A child  
I can't see  
Because of the wall.*

*We have put up many flags,  
They have put up many flags.  
To make us think that they're happy.  
To make them think that we're happy.*

As one literary commentator wrote, the setting is the Old City of Jerusalem, a place of historical and religious significance that is also a place of conflict and division. While the poem focuses on mundane objects, symbols of the everyday lives of the people who live there, each is also a reminder of the deep divide that exists between the two people, as well as the reminder of the human cost of conflict, and the hope and innocence that is constantly threatened by violence and seeing one another as enemies. While Amichai's poem is a powerful piece drawing our attention to the division and ongoing conflict, it also serves as a reminder of the power of human connection, of our inherent humanness (and, thus, holiness, if we believe we are each created in the image of God), of how not-so-different we are.

Ghassan Kanafani, who was a prominent Palestinian writer, considered to be a leading novelist of this generation also wrote a poem about the innocence of children, the desire to protect those who are tragically caught in the middle of war, and the very real cost of ongoing conflict and violence – a poem that could have easily been written by a poet of any background (Israeli, Palestinian, etc.). He wrote:

*I wish children didn't die.  
I wish they would be temporarily elevated  
to the skies until the war ends.  
Then they would return home safe,  
and when their parents would ask them:  
"where were you?"  
they would say:  
"we were playing in the clouds."*

During this sacred season – of holidays that call upon us to remember, to celebrate, to look at our past and hope for the future – may we continue to have the courage and strength to never stop praying and working and striving for a more lasting peace for Israel and her neighbors.

As Amichai also wrote:

*Don't stop after beating the swords  
into plowshares, don't stop! Go on beating  
and make musical instruments out of them.  
Whoever wants to make war again  
will have to turn them into plowshares first.*

## MEN'S CLUB

*By Michael Feist*

One of the most important things you can do in life is press the proverbial pause button and reflect. As I approach the end of my first year as Men's Club President, it's appropriate to look back at the year that was. I came into this role with certain goals and aspirations. Most of our events exceeded any expectations I had. Each event and interaction taught me a lesson.

As we approach summer, our event schedule slows down a little bit. I'll miss 'the guys,' but it does present me with an opportunity to think back on the year that was and learn what worked versus where there may be room for improvement.

Looking back at the installation speech I delivered last summer, I challenged myself with a few goals as Men's Club President. First, I wanted to build on the tradition of *tikkun olam* that has always been a cornerstone of Men's Club. I also wanted to ensure that Men's Club would grow in numbers – specifically reaching out to the younger synagogue population to ensure the longer-term viability of Men's Club. While our membership numbers have gone up, there is always room to grow as we continue to expand our community.

As a first-time synagogue cohort leader, one of the biggest lessons I have learned is that going it alone is never a recipe for success. Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric, once said, "Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others." This is a consistent challenge for me as a leader – asking for help. I am fortunate and grateful to have an amazing Board that is always there when I need them, along with countless others who consistently chip in to help at our various events. In the coming year, it will be a mission of mine to continue to grow this sense of volunteerism that exists within Men's Club and to cultivate the next group of leaders. I appreciate everyone coming on this journey with me and can't wait for what's next.



Men's Club's Chrain Gang made it's legendary Passover horseradish once again this spring. It's been "serious" business for over 30 years!



## ARE YOU CURIOUS?

Do You Enjoy Sharing Stories with Others?  
Are You Looking for a Welcoming Community?



Look no further than the offerings of the Adult Education Committee of Congregation Kol Ami. From Shabbat mornings through the week, in person, on Zoom, and hybrid (both in-person and on Zoom); led by our fabulous clergy, or led by talented fellow congregants and sometimes led by rabbis and other experts from around the globe, there is bound to be something (or more than one something) for everyone.

All adults of any age are welcome to participate. You can come and go as you wish and are able – picking topics of interest or teachers from whom you want to learn. Many of our weekday classes are recorded and available on the Kol Ami website, so you can access them on your schedule.

There are **no prerequisites!** Just come with an open mind and you will become a valued member of our community within the Kol Ami community.

Look through the offerings listed in this edition of *Connections* to see what's happening now. Mark your calendar for **September 7, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm**, as we kick off the new year with an all-day program for adults.

Any questions? Contact Gail Donner, Ira Miller, or Mark Pinzur at [AdultEd@kolaminj.org](mailto:AdultEd@kolaminj.org).

## SOCIAL ACTION

Our Social Action Committee is hard at work (as always!), offering various Mitzvah opportunities. Recently, volunteers cooked an Easter brunch for residents of Gift of Life Howie's House, and others raised funds for their Donor Dash. Gift of Life has led the way for organ and tissue donation and transplantation in the U.S. and made a great impact worldwide.

On **May 7** (6:45-8:30 pm), Beth Hurwitz will spearhead a group making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to contribute to Cathedral Kitchen. Sign up soon, space in our prep kitchen is limited. Similarly, Estherose Heyman is looking into assisting Manna on Main Street with food pantry and soup kitchen preparations.

Our Environmental Awareness & Sustainability sub-committee, led by Sharon Parnes, Rachelle Lampert, Bill Fisher, and Pam Barroway, is planning an educational program for next year, exploring and prioritizing actions to pursue, and even making suggestions for efforts within Kol Ami's walls.

Refugee Assistance, led by Steve Janove & Jaimee Friedman, continues its essential support of relocated families needing a helping hand in the form of job searches, furniture and clothing, transportation, and more.

Our Social Justice Advocacy sub-committee, led by Michele Zeldner and Gail Donner, will once again be participating in the "Every Voice/Every Vote" postcard campaign. Watch for opportunities to help spread the word about the importance of voting.

If anyone – present committee members or those interested in joining – have new ideas, projects to explore, interest in helping to set direction, please contact Rachelle Lampert at [rachelle.lampert@verizon.net](mailto:rachelle.lampert@verizon.net).

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### Sheri Greenblatt

Director of Education



As the Religious School winds down for the year, we have had a moment to reflect on what an amazing year it has been. The students have made new friends and strengthened existing connections. Each classroom has been buzzing with active learning and inquisitiveness. The enthusiasm throughout the school during special programs, *T'filah*, and even just down the hallways has been amazing to see.

Registration for the Religious School is coming out soon. We have a lot of new and exciting things planned for next year. Be on the lookout for it so you can register your kids for the 2024-2025 school year.



### Hebrew High School Graduates

*Grade 12 Graduate*

**Eva Fields**  
**Elena Fromkin**  
**Evan Garber**  
**Brandon Lyons**  
**Sydney Sonstein**  
**Bela Goldberg**

*Child of*

Lisa Fields & Ian Sirota  
Stephanie & Bryan Fromkin  
Andrea & Samuel Garber  
Wendi & Jaret Lyons  
Amy & Jason Sonstein  
Rajita & David Goldberg

### Confirmation Class

*Grade 10 Confirmand*

**Kieran Barasch**  
**Eli Birnbaum**  
**Cary Bloom**  
**Henry Capizzi**  
**Ethan Coffina**  
**Edward Firstenberg**  
**Abigail Frey**  
**Benjamin Goldberg**  
**Joshua Hammer**

*Child of*

Patricia Barasch & Paul Furtaw  
Julia & Lloyd Birnbaum  
Jayne Feld & Craig Bloom  
Rebecca Capizzi  
Kim & Scott Coffina  
Melissa Firstenberg  
Deborah & Steven Frey  
Ruby Tan & Matthew Goldberg  
Ginene Raechel Hammer & Michael Perry

**Madeline Harris**  
**Joey Lieberson**  
**Boris Pasternack**  
**Jacob Rexon**  
**Owen Romm**  
**Benjamin Sautter**  
**Micah Schwartz**

Melissa & Kevin Harris  
Caryn & Larry Lieberson  
Sherryl & William Pasternack  
Meryl & Matthew Rexon  
Carrie & Kenneth Romm  
Jessica & Todd Sautter  
Julie & Joel Schwartz

# Upcoming Events

To register, or for more information on these and other programs, visit:  
[www.kolaminj.org/events](http://www.kolaminj.org/events)

## MAY

### Men's Club Lunch

Wednesdays, May 1 & 15 12:30 pm  
(Off-site; contact [allanpep@yahoo.com](mailto:allanpep@yahoo.com).)

### Caring for Our Aging Parents As We Care for Ourselves

Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 pm  
Support Group facilitated by Rabbi Ariel Milan-Polisar & Eileen Winter, MSW, LSW

### LGBTQIA+ Torah Study

Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 pm

### Kol Ami Networking Group

Thursday, May 2, 8:30-10:00 am

### Shop to Donate: Mixellaneous

Thursday, May 2, 10:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Friday, May 3, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm  
(Off-site) Enjoy a private wine, cheese, and shopping reception May 2, 6:00-8:00 pm.

### Yiddish Shmooze Group

Thursdays, May 2 & 16, 10:30 am (Zoom)

### First Thursdays: Chevra Kadisha

*Presented by Dr. Sarit Wishnevski*  
Thursday, May 2, 7:30 pm (Zoom)

### First Friday

Friday, May 3, 6:15 pm  
Enjoy pre-service refreshments.

### Shabbat Evening Service: Grade 12 Graduation

Friday, May 3, 7:00 pm  
We celebrate our Hebrew High School graduates as well as May anniversaries.

### Torah Study

Saturdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25,  
9:00 am (Hybrid; May 25 is Zoom only.)

### Spice Up Your Judaism

Saturdays, May 4, 11 & 18,  
10:15 am (Hybrid)

### Last Sunday of Religious school

Sunday, May 5, 9:15 am

### Caring Community Blankets of Hope

Sunday, May 5, 11:30 am

### Yom HaShoah

Monday, May 6  
Holocaust Remembrance Day

### Talmud Talks

*Led by Rabbi Lewis John Eron, Ph.D.*  
Tuesdays, May, 7, 14, 21 & 28,  
11:30 am (Zoom)

### Last Tuesday of Religious School

Tuesday, May 7, 4:15 pm/6:30 pm

### Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Making

Wednesday, May 7, 6:45-8:30 pm

### Adult Education: Jewish Theology in Our Time

*Led by Rabbi Jennifer Frenkel*  
Three Wednesdays, May 8, 15 & 22,  
10:30-11:45 am (Hybrid)

### Pajama Storytime

Wednesday, May 8, 6:00 pm

### Braid. Spice. Cook! Busy in Brooklyn

*A Jewish Food Series presented by the Sisterhoods of Kol Ami, Beth El, and TBS.*  
Wednesday, May 8, 7:00 pm (TBS)  
Get "Totally Kosher" with cookbook author/food blogger Chanie Apfelbaum.

### Shabbat Evening Service: Shabbat Morim

Friday, May 10, 7:00 pm  
We celebrate our remarkable teachers.

### Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, May 11, 10:30 am  
Bat Mitzvah of Dylan Coffina

### Shabbat Havdalah Service

Saturday, May 11, 5:45 pm  
Bat Mitzvah of Avery Brown

### Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12

### Yom HaZikaron

Monday, May 13  
Israel Memorial Day

### Monthly Mussar Moments

*Led by Rabbi Ariel Milan-Polisar*  
Monday, May 13, 12:00 pm (Zoom)

### Sisterhood Cooking Event

Monday, May 13, 7:00 pm (Off-site)

### Yom Ha'atzma'ut

Tuesday, May 14  
Israel Independence Day

### Congregational Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 pm

### Caring Caps:

**Bagels, a Shmear & Shmooze**  
Friday, May 17, 10:00 am (Off-site)

### Tot Shabbat Dinner & Service

Friday, May 17  
5:15 pm Family Dinner  
6:00 pm Shabbat Service

### Shabbat Evening Service:

**Sisterhood Shabbat**  
Friday, May 17, 7:00 pm  
*Sisterhood Members are invited to join us for Wine & Cheese at 6:15 pm.*

### Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, May 18, 10:30 am  
Bat Mitzvah of Samara Feist

### Boomers Hike at Rancocas Cranberry Farm

Sunday, May 19, 10:30 am

### ECC Preschool Prom

Sunday, May 19, 4:00 pm

### Boomers Lunch at Kol Ami

Tuesday, May 21, 1:00 pm

### Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 22, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

### Shabbat Evening Service

Friday, May 24, 7:00 pm  
We celebrate May birthdays.

### Lag BaOmer

Sunday, May 26

### Memorial Day

Monday, May 27

### Adult Education: Survival of the Fittest? How Judaism Has Managed to Survive

*Led by Rabbi Richard Address*  
Wednesday, May 29, 10:30-11:45 am  
(Hybrid)

# Upcoming Events

To register, or for more information on these and other programs, visit:  
[www.kolaminj.org/events](http://www.kolaminj.org/events)

**Raab/Goodwin Eyewitness Testimony Series: Helen Rieder**  
 Wednesday, May 29, 7:00 pm

**Shabbat Evening Service: Youth Group Shabbat**  
 Friday, May 31, 7:00 pm

## JUNE

**Torah Study**  
 Saturdays, June 1, 8, 15 & 22,  
 9:00 am (Hybrid)

**Spice Up Your Judaism**  
 Saturdays, June 1, 8, 15 & 22,  
 10:15 am (Hybrid)

**Ladies Night Out**  
 Monday, June 3, 6:30 pm

**Boomers Social Group Tours The Kimmel Center**  
 Tuesday, June 4, 10:00 am

**Talmud Talks**  
*Led by Rabbi Lewis John Eron, Ph.D.*  
 Tuesdays, June 4 & 11, 11:30 am (Zoom)

**Yom Yerushalayim**  
 Wednesday, June 5  
 Jerusalem Day

**ECC Graduation**  
 Wednesday, June 5, 9:00 am

**Adult Education: Survival of the Fittest? How Judaism Has Managed to Survive**  
*Led by Rabbi Richard Address*  
 Wednesdays, June 5 & 19,  
 10:30-11:45 am (Hybrid)

**Men's Club Lunch**  
 Wednesdays, June 5 & 19, 12:30 pm  
 (Off-site; contact allanpep@yahoo.com.)

**Kol Ami Networking Group**  
 Thursday, June 6, 8:30-10:00 am

**First Thursdays: Stories of the Southern Jewish Migration**  
 Thursday, June 6, 7:30 pm (Zoom)

**First Friday**  
 Friday, June 7, 6:15 pm  
 Enjoy pre-service refreshments.

**Shabbat Evening Service: Installation & Volunteer Recognition Shabbat**  
 Friday, June 7, 7:00 pm  
 Koleinu Choir joins us as we officially install the 2024-2025 Board of Trustees. and thank our many volunteers. We celebrate June anniversaries. You are invited to WEAR ORANGE in observation of National Gun Violence Awareness Day/Week.

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
 Saturday, June 8, 10:30 am  
 Bar Mitzvah of Seth Davidoff

**Shabbat Havdalah Service**  
 Saturday, June 8, 5:45 pm  
 Bat Mitzvah of Caroline Foster

**Boomers Book Club: The Red Balcony**  
 Sunday, June 9, 7:00 pm

**Monthly Mussar Moments**  
*Led by Rabbi Ariel Milan-Polisar*  
 Monday, June 10, 12:00 pm (Zoom)

**Erev Shavuot Service**  
 Tuesday, June 11, 7:00 pm (Yizkor)

**Shavuot**  
 Wednesday, June 12 (*Offices/Schools closed*)

**Shavuot & Confirmation Service**  
 Wednesday, June 12, 10:00 am (Yizkor)

**Shabbat Evening Service: Pride Shabbat**  
 Friday, June 14, 7:00 pm

**Shabbat Havdalah Service**  
 Saturday, June 15, 5:45 pm  
 Bat Mitzvah of Emily Plevinsky

**Father's Day**  
 Sunday, June 16

**Shabbat Evening Service: Men's Club Shabbat**  
 Friday, June 21, 7:00 pm

**Cool Off with Clergy**  
 Wednesday, June 26, 6:30-7:30 pm  
 Ice cream with Rabbi Milan-Polisar  
 (Off-site, location to be announced.)

**Sisterhood's Women & Spirituality: Women & Aging**  
 Wednesday, June 26, 7:00 pm

**Shabbat Evening Service:**  
 Friday, June 28, 7:00 pm  
 We celebrate June birthdays.

**Summer Torah Study Begins**  
 Saturday, June 29, 10:00 am (Zoom)

**Cool Off with Clergy**  
 Sunday, June 30, 9:30-11:00 am  
 Iced Coffee with Cantor Schnitzer  
 (Off-site, location to be announced.)

## We Mourn...

**Lynda Appell**  
 sister of Roslyn (Robert Purdy) Appell

**Eileen Broder**  
 mother of Fran (Marc) Rosenthal

**Robert Carroll**  
 father of Neill (Tori Manis) Carroll

**Leonard Halpern**  
 husband of Jaye Halpern

**Marcelle Kouser**  
 mother of David (Cheryle) Kouser

**Sherri Krieger**  
 partner of Joel Grantz  
 mother of Beth (Eric) Hurwitz and  
 Sarah Krieger (Julian Hershkovitz)

## CONGREGATION KOL AMI LIFE CYCLE

**Marilyn Ribyat**  
 mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson

**Glorianne Shaeffer**  
 mother of Jeanie (Fred) Wood

**Thelma Spivack**  
 mother of Eileen (Robert) Elias

CONGREGATION  
**KOL AMI**  
קול עמי  
**LIFE CYCLE**  
*Mazal Tov to...*

**Betsy Bocher**

on the NJ Holocaust Commission's recognition of her book "Beware! A Multisensory Approach to the Holocaust"

**Marlene Boonin**

on the birth of her great-grandson, Grayson Matthew Bees

**Elaine & Alan Braslow**

on the marriage of their son, Stephen, to Dawn Satinoff

**Stefanie & Steven Cohen**

on the engagement of their daughter, Maddie to Matt Kaminer

**Erica & Michael Fau**

on the birth of their daughter, Ava Paige Fau

**Phyllis & Paul Fishbein**

on the birth of their granddaughter, Talia Louise Fishbein

**Penny & Robert Jacoby**

on the birth of their granddaughter, Liora Hava Kalmus

**Judy & Steve Lubetkin**

on the birth of their grandson, Thomas Oliver Gosizk III

**Teri & Neal Nover**

on their 40th Anniversary

**Sonni & Dan Rapp**

on the naming of their son, Wyatt Everett Rapp

**Robin Rubin**

on being named the recipient of this year's Jewish Senior Housing & Healthcare Service Sis Levy Award

**Renee & Howard Siegel**

on the birth of their grandson, Simon Lenny Siegel



**BOOMERS SOCIAL GROUP**

Our Boomers Social Group has had a fantastic year. Our wonderful members have had engaging lunches, great book discussions, and a lovely Shabbat on April 5 (pictured above).

As with everything at Kol Ami, it's the people, our community, that give us love, life, and hope. We are a very inclusive group, and everyone at Kol Ami is more than welcome to participate in activities that strike your fancy – no matter when you were born!

**Boomer-led Spice Up:** The **May 18** Spice Up Your Judaism program (10:15 am; hybrid) will be led by our own David Korngruen. David will be talking about the Kindertransport during World War II. He will be relating stories from his father and a family friend, who were two of the children sent to England.

**Hiking Group:** On **May 19** at 11:00 am, our hiking group (co-chairs Bill Fisher, Rachelle Lampert, and Stephanie Welder) will go for a 1.5-mile hike at the Pinelands Preservation Alliance in Vincentown, led by congregant Carlton Montgomery. This hike will include an optional tour of the chemical-free farm. This will be more challenging than our April hike.

**Lunch Group:** On **May 21** at 1:00 pm, we will enjoy a catered lunch (\$20 per person) in the Kol Ami social hall. Ira Miller will be our guest speaker, discussing the music of the '60s and '70s. Please bring your favorite record album covers (if you still have them) so we can share. For more information, contact event chair, Karen Ginsburg at [kareng1@verizon.net](mailto:kareng1@verizon.net). The following lunch, planned by Karen and Bobbie Israelsky, will be at Norma's Middle East Restaurant on **July 23**, at 1:00 pm.

**Tour of Kimmel Center:** On **June 4**, congregant David Olinsky will lead a free tour of the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. We will meet at Woodcrest PATCO station at 10:00 am. We will likely have lunch in Center City after the tour. More details will follow.

**Book Discussion Group:** **June 9** at 7:00 pm will be our hybrid book discussion (off-site in person and via Zoom) on *The Red Balcony* by Jonathan Wilson. Please plan to bring your lawn chair and join us in the backyard. If it rains, we'll fold up our chairs and head inside. Also, start thinking about the books you would like Stephanie Welder to put on our list for next year. We will be voting on book submissions around the end of May.

**Planning Committee:** Our next Zoom planning meeting will be on **May 26** at 11:00 am. Please join us. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas to share, please email Judy Lubetkin ([morahjudyl@aol.com](mailto:morahjudyl@aol.com)) or Lynn Branfman ([tensb@aol.com](mailto:tensb@aol.com)).

Please check your emails and the Kol Ami website for registration and information about all of our activities. Be there or be square!

Lists are inclusive from the last issue of Connections through April 4, 2024.

**PAJAMA STORYTIME**  
6:00 pm  
Wednesday  
May 8  
[www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)

CONGREGATION  
**KOL AMI**  
קול עמי

Sponsored by  
Branfman Family  
Children's Library  
Library

CONGREGATION  
**KOL AMI**  
קול עמי

American Red Cross

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
Wednesday, May 22 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Make an Appointment: [www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)  
Walk-ins welcome – Kol Ami Social Hall

Kindness is in your blood

Congregation Kol Ami  
**Tribute Dinner**  
 honoring *Rabbi Jerome P. David* and *Steve Janove*  
 April 14, 2024



**Paying Tribute...** A memorable Kol Ami Tribute Weekend began on Friday, April 12, with a delightful Erev Shabbat Service and culminated on Sunday, April 14, in an incredibly special and fabulously touching Tribute Dinner (pictured above, courtesy of Ken Romm Photography). Todah rabah, thank you, to all of our sponsors, attendees, supporters, performers, and community for helping us properly honor Rabbi David and Steve Janove for their enduring good works.

**What a Prince...**

On March 20, Kol Ami and the Sisterhoods of South Jersey welcomed Challah Prince Idan Chabasov for a hands-on demonstration of his challah art, as part of its *Braid. Spice. Cook!* cooking series.



**Fun with Food...**

Twenty Adult Education participants got into the kitchen with Rabbi Milan-Polisar for her tasty series, "A Journey into Jewish Food."



**Let Us All Breathe Together...** Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg, our Scholar-in-Residence and teacher for the weekend of March 8-10, led us through engaging sessions and helped us find our spirituality within.





**In Stitches...** A fun time was had by attendees of our March 27 Spring Stitch. Knitters enjoyed a catered dinner and conversation as they made Caring Caps for donation to area hospitals.



**Solar "Flair"...** The synagogue staff was "totally" decked out in their solar eclipse glasses as they stepped outside to see the phenomenon on April 8. Not pictured: Ruth Scott (someone had to take the photo!).



**Purim Fun...** Our March 23 Purimpalooza Retro Dance Party saw revelers in costumes from so many fun decades! The event for the 'over 21' crowd included a megillah reading, line dancing, and libations! We followed it up the next morning, March 24, with our Kelce/Swift-era Religious School Purim celebration, the "Megillah of Oz" Purim Shpiel, and, finally, we followed the yellow brick road to a Purim Carnival for all ages.



**What a Mensch...** On Sunday, March 24, Brandon Lyons (center; pictured with his parents Wendi & Jaret Lyons) was presented with this year's Ravi Bloom Memorial Award, a scholarship given to a high school-aged "mensch," enabling them to pursue a passion.



**Say Cheese...** Just look at these brilliant ECC and Religious School punims!



# May/June B'NAI MITZVAH



## **Dylan Coffina**

**May 11**

*Son of Kim & Scott Coffina  
Brothers: Alex & Ethan*

Hi, I'm Dylan! I have a family of five with Mom and Dad and two older teenage brothers, Alex and Ethan. I love listening to and playing music. I play alto saxophone for instrumental bands inside and outside

of school. I play soccer for Mt. Laurel United as well. Soccer is my favorite sport, but I enjoy other sports as well such as basketball, baseball, and even football. I attend Marlton Middle School and I'm in seventh grade. My mitzvah project is a beach cleanup in Atlantic City to make sure the beaches are clean, and the wildlife is safe. Being a Bar Mitzvah means a lot to me because it shows that I've grown so much, and still have so much more of life to discover.



## **Avery Brown**

**May 11**

*Daughter of Randi & Doug Brown  
Brother: Cooper*

My name is Avery Brown. I am 12 years old and live with my mom, my dad, my brother Cooper, and my dog Murphy. I'm in seventh grade at Voorhees Middle School. I am a soccer player, and I love performing in

theatre productions. I also love singing, art, and spending time with my friends and family. For my mitzvah project, I volunteered as part of the *Ezer* program at Congregation Kol Ami. I was an assistant in the first grade Sunday school class. I love teaching students about Jewish traditions through songs, stories, and art and showing the importance of celebrating being Jewish. Becoming a Bat Mitzvah is an important tradition for the women in my family. My mom-mom, mom, and now me are three generations of women who have taken part in this tradition. I look forward to continuing my Jewish education and continuing to celebrate my Jewish faith with my family.



## **Samara Feist**

**May 18**

*Daughter of Ellen & Michael Feist  
Brother: Ethan*

I am in seventh grade at Rosa International Middle School. I love being on stage whether it's dancing, acting, singing, or playing violin. In my limited free time, I like to draw and color, listen to music, play games, chat with

friends, and play with my dog, Sandy. For my Bat Mitzvah project, I made bracelets for people to show their support for Israel. I charged eighteen dollars because in Jewish symbolism for numbers, eighteen, or *chai*, means life, and this project is about bringing life to those who are suffering in Israel. All the money raised was donated to the Magen David Adom, the Israeli Red Cross. Becoming a Bat Mitzvah means so much to me. I've learned my responsibility as a member of the Jewish community as well as how to manage my time in practicing for this day.



## **Seth Davidoff**

**June 8**

*Son of Michelle & Craig Davidoff  
Sibling: Alexis*

My name is Seth Davidoff, and I am in seventh grade at Voorhees Middle School. I love to play soccer, basketball, and flag football and I love to watch and cheer on all the Philadelphia sports teams, especially

the Eagles and Sixers. I have a dog named Rusty who I love to spend time with. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I volunteered and raised money with and for an organization called Animal Aid USA. Every 28 days, a team from NJ drives to Georgia to rescue dogs from high kill shelters and brings them back to NJ to be adopted. They provide them with all necessary veterinary treatments to help save these dogs' lives. Becoming a Bar Mitzvah has allowed me to have a better understanding of my Jewish religion and all of our traditions.



## **Caroline Foster**

**June 8**

*Daughter of Leah & Tim Foster  
Sister: Charlotte*

I am in seventh grade at the William A. Mary Middle School in Moorestown. In school, I play on the middle school soccer team, participate in the student council, and run track. I have played soccer for my club team,

Moorestown Soccer Club, since I was five years old. I love to go to the beach in Margate in the summer where I have a lot of cousins and family. For my Bat Mitzvah project, I collected over 100 pairs of sneakers and sent them to GoSneakers.com, an organization that donates the sneakers to kids and adults who want to play sports or be active. Becoming a Bat Mitzvah is important to me because I am carrying on a family tradition that goes back many generations and I will create this memory of becoming a Jewish adult in my congregation.



## **Emily Plevinsky**

**June 15**

*Son of Jen & Marc Plevinsky  
Siblings: Aly & Jake*

My name is Emily Plevinsky but I usually go by Emmy. I live in Cherry Hill with my parents Marc and Jen and my two siblings Aly & Jake. I love playing all types of sports but soccer is my favorite. I've played soccer

since I was three years old and continue to play everyday. I am in seventh grade at Beck Middle School where I play on both the soccer and basketball teams. For my mitzvah project, I am collecting and donating used soccer equipment to the Kensington Soccer Club in Philadelphia. Many of their players can't afford to purchase their own equipment, so the club provides it for them so all kids can have a chance to play. To me, becoming a Bat Mitzvah means that I am becoming a Jewish adult and can take more opportunities to volunteer in my community.



## WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

*In times of happiness or sadness, Congregation Kol Ami offers a variety of ways to share your wishes and thoughts with others. Contributions may be sent to the synagogue office as well as completed online. For a complete list of funds and tzedakah opportunities, visit [www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org).*

### Abraham & Sylvia Angstreich Beautification Fund\*

Linda & Steven Angstreich

*in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff  
in memory of Sherri Kreiger, mother of Beth Hurwitz  
in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King  
in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

### Ahavat Limud (Love of Learning)

Linda & Ross Levitsky

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

### Branfman Children's Library Fund

Lynn Adler *in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*

Karen & Marvin Ginsburg *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Donna Laverdiere & James Katz *in memory of Eileen Broder, mother of Francine Rosenthal*

Rebecca Silver *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Rolane & Steve Sunshine *in memory of Benjamin Perloff, son of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Marsha & Allen Zechow

*in memory of Esther Zechow, mother of Allen Zechow*

### Cantor Anita F. Hochman Choir Fund

Marylee & Stuart Alperin

*in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Toby & Len Berman *in honor of Cantor Anita Hochman*

Koleinu Choir

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Teri Eith *in honor of Teri & Neal Nover's anniversary*

Donna & Stuart Friedman

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Erica & Richard King *in honor of Cantor Anita Hochman*

Robin & Gary Kushner

*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*

Ellen Specter & Butch Melstein

*in memory of Barbara Kerner, mother of Jon Ayes*

*in memory of Barbara Kerner, wife of David Kerner*

*in memory of Norman Mutchnick, brother of Edward Mutchnick*

Sylvia & Michael Miller *in honor of Nadine & Doug Cohen*

Teri & Neal Nover

*in memory of Jack Rizman, grandfather of Teri Nover*

*in memory of Geraldine Reckson, aunt of Teri Nover*

Susan & David Rush

*in honor of Richard Freedman's new grandson, Archer Isaac*

Ellen & Roger Sheinkin

*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*

Sharon Siegel *in honor of Teri and Neal Nover's anniversary*

Lonnie & Stanley Smoller

*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*

Judi & David Weinberg *in honor of Teri & Neal Nover's anniversary*

### Chasen Family Kulanu (LGBTQ+) Fund

Lisa & David Lanter

*in memory of Lillian Lanter, grandmother of David Lanter*

### Clifford R. Levine Adult Education Fund

Jo Anne & Flip Glass

*in memory of Loretta Rochelle Katz, sister of Len Berman*

Liz Levine *in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*

Linda & Ross Levitsky

*in memory of Eileen Broder, mother of Francine Rosenthal*

Deborah Lisker & Edward Chernoff

*in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*

Michele Figures & Ira Miller

*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

Susan & Marc Witte *in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King*

### College Connection Fund

Audrienne Levene *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

### Frisch-Trautenberg Choir Fund

Pam & Tom Austin

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Barbara & Murray Fineman

*in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

*in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Ruth & David Gubernick

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Donna Laverdiere & James Katz

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Michele Figures & Ira Miller

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

Judith Nadell

*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

### Honorable Steven P. Burkett Graduate Fund

Linda Burkett *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Sarah & David Zalcmann *in honor of Lee Bloom*

# WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

## Howard & Rhonda Weinberg Outdoor Chapel Fund

Rolane & Steve Sunshine

*in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King*

## Jeffrey Halper Memorial Fund

Carole & Arthur Halper

*in memory of Hannah Jacobs, mother of Arthur Halper*

*in memory of Sidney Jacobs, father of Arthur Halper*

*in memory of Ted Spivak*

## Jeremy Kane Gift of Israel Fund

Robin Finkelstein *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff;*

*son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Melinda Kane

*in memory of Benjamin Perloff, son of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Rolane & Stephen Sunshine

*in memory of Loretta Rochelle Katz, sister of Len Berman*

## Louis & Helene E. Walker Social Action

### Endowment Fund\*

Janet Berson

*in memory of Harold Berson, father of Janet Berson*

*in memory of Vita Freedman Berson, mother of Janet Berson*

Rickie & Martin Cohen

*in memory of Marcelle Kouser, mother of David Kouser*

Catherine & Joseph Convery

*in memory of Carol Fisher, wife of Bill Fisher*

Meryl & Gerry Greene

*in memory of Samuel Silverman, father of Meryl Greene*

June Seger *in memory of Carol Fisher, wife of Bill Fisher*

Denise & Steve Weinberg *in memory of Benjamin and Christina*

*Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Carmella & Albert Zalcmann *in memory of Leonard Halpern,*

*husband of Jaye Halpern*

Sarah & David Zalcmann *in honor of Stephanie & John Riviello and*

*Monica & Vashon Watson*

## Lynne Rednik Early Childhood Center Fund

Sharon Parnes & Brien Brothman

*in memory of Loretta Rochelle Katz, sister of Len Berman*

Susan & David Rush

*in memory of Marcelle Kouser, mother of David Kouser*

Lynne & Norman Rednik

*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

## Margie & Joe Sobel Family Assistance Fund

Carolyn & Veniamin Barshay *in honor of their daughter, Maya*

*Barshay, becoming a Bat Mitzvah*

Judy Franken *in memory of Eleanor Klein, mother of Judy Franken*

Debbie & Scott Jeffreys

*in honor of Robin Rubin receiving the Sis Levy award*

*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

Janine & Mark Sobel

*in memory of Albert Greenbaum, uncle of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Eileen Broder, mother of Fran Rosenthal*

*in memory of Eugene Skir, uncle of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Howard Coleman, husband of Joan Coleman*

*in memory of Irving Fang*

Janine & Mark Sobel

*in memory of Libbie Greenbaum, aunt of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Loretta Rochelle Katz, sister of Len Berman*

*in memory of Max Greenbaum, grandfather of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Milton Sobel, grandfather of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Minnie Sobel, grandmother of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Reba Greenbaum, grandmother of Mark Sobel*

*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

*in memory of Sydney Skir, aunt of Mark Sobel*

Stephanie & Andrew Zinn

*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

## Merle Steinberg Religious School Scholarship Fund

Geraldine & John Carroll

*in memory of Eileen Broder, mother of Fran Rosenthal*

Sue & Dave Fenick *in memory of Shira Sand from Blake Fenick*

## Muss and Feinerman Chesed

Lisa & David Lanter

*in memory of Abraham Schwartz, grandfather of Lisa Lanter*

## Rabbi David Education Fund

Pam & Tom Austin

*in honor of Rabbi David's 50 years in the Rabbinate*

Marion Cohen *in memory of Edna Cohen, mother of Marion Cohen*

Lois & Robert Levine

*in memory of Loretta Katz, sister of Len Berman*

Richard Rosen

*in memory of Norman Rosen, father of Richard Rosen*

## Rabbi David Good Works Fund

Lynn Branfman

*in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*

Myrna & Marshall Fineman

*in honor of Rabbi David's 50 years as Rabbi*

Linda & Steven Gilbert *in memory of Alan Goldboro*

Sheila & Allen Goodman

*in honor of Rabbi David's years of tikkun olam*

Susan & Edward Heffernan

*in memory of Edna Heffernan, mother of Edward Heffernan*

Judi Kaplan *in memory of Jean & John Kaplan, mother and father*

*of Don Kaplan*

Ceil Keim *in honor of Rabbi David's 50 years as Rabbi*

Betsy & Jerome Morgenstern

*in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*

Erin Quirk & Christopher Aker

*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

Roslyn & David Wynne

*in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Shirley Frankel's daughter, Jill Ray*

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Jaimee & Steve Friedman *in memory of Benjamin Perloff, son of*

*Kathy and Michael Perloff*

Deborah Kahn *in memory of Benjamin Perloff, son of Kathy and*

*Michael Perloff*

Shonnie Lebovitz & Max Taytelbaum

*in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King*

Diana & Sid Maletzky *in memory of Carol Fisher, wife of Bill Fisher*

# WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Ira Miller & Shelley Figures *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
Sharon Parnes & Brien Brothman  
*in honor of Michael Levy's 75th birthday*

## Rabbis' Good Works Fund\*

Irene & Yossi Afek *in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King*  
Phyllis Berman  
*in memory of Esther Lutzker, mother of Phyllis Berman*  
Toby & Len Berman *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
Susan Bookman *in memory of Lynda Appell, sister of Roslyn Appell*  
Lynn Branfman  
*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*  
Rhona Paul-Cohen & Sandy Cohen  
*in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King*  
Judy & Steven Dorfman  
*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*  
Eileen & Robert Elias *in honor of Rabbi Frenkel*  
Beth & Scott Freedner  
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Gary Goldberg *in memory of Bernie Goldberg*  
Linda Hershman *in memory of Abraham Schwartz*  
Beth & Eric Hurwitz  
*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*  
Jo Ann Kay  
*in memory of Lewis Kay, husband*  
*in memory of Ruth Feldman, mother*  
David Kouser  
*in honor of Rabbi Jennifer Frenkel*  
*in memory of Marcelle Kouser, mother of David Kouser*  
Tula Kurtz *in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*  
Rose La Kier  
*in memory of Mel Zimmerman, partner of Eleanor Stofman*  
Sheila Lever  
*in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
*in memory of Loretta Rochelle Katz, sister of Len Berman*  
Walter Nickelsberg & Carol Finkel-Nickelsberg  
*in memory of Alfred Silverman*  
Teri & Neal Nover *in appreciation of our 40th anniversary blessing*  
Maxine & Mark Pinzur  
*in honor of the birth of Steve & Judy Lubetkin's grandson, Thomas*  
Marsha & Paul Seader  
*in honor of Abbie Zinn's birthday*  
*in honor of Jolene Seader's birthday*  
Adrienne Seligman *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
Ellen Specter & Harrison Melstein  
*in appreciation of the Rabbis and Cantors for their excellent preparation of Matthew Specter for his Bar Mitzvah*  
Nita & Josh Spielberg *in memory of Carol Fisher, wife of Bill Fisher*  
Lauren & Joel Spivack *in honor of Rabbi Frenkel & Cantor Hochman*  
Wendy & Robert Spivack *in honor of Cantor Hochman*  
Judith & Steve Stern *in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
Michele Zeldner & Ian Wachstein  
*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

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*in memory of Albert & Erna Stern, parents of Fred Stern*  
*in memory of Morris & Mollie Bender, parents of Sheila Stern*

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*in memory of Ravi Bloom, son of Jayne & Craig Bloom*  
Stephanie & Sean Portnoy  
*in memory of Ravi Bloom, son of Jayne & Craig Bloom*  
Sarah & David Zalcman  
*in honor of Brandon Lyons, winner of the Ravi Bloom Mensch Award for 2024*  
*in honor of Cary Bloom and all the Purim Shpielers*  
*in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
*in memory of Ravi Bloom, son of Jayne & Craig Bloom*

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Nancy & David Oberlander  
*in memory of Irwin Browdy, father of Nancy Oberlander*  
Maxine & Mark Pinzur *in honor of Steve Janove*  
Judith & Steve Stern *in honor of the wedding of Elaine & Alan Braslow's son, Stephen, to Dawn Satinoff*  
Michele Zeldner & Ian Wachstein  
*in honor of the wedding of Elaine & Alan Braslow's son, Stephen, to Dawn Satinoff*  
*in memory of Benjamin and Christina Perloff, son and daughter-in-law of Kathy and Michael Perloff*  
*in memory of Marilyn Ribyat, mother of Susan Ribyat-Johnson*

## Starlight Foundation

Richard Freedman *in memory of Sol Gantz, father of Erica King*

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*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*  
Sharon & Craig Altman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*  
Jill & Jesse Arnstein  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*  
Pam & Tom Austin  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*  
Helaine & Joe Banner  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

# WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Sharon Blizzard & Mark Coles  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Jane & Michael Bloom  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Lynne Cushing *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Gail & Dick Donner  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Joan Ellen *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Lori & Glen Freedman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Jaimee & Steven Friedman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Linda & Darryl Gaeman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Sheila & Allen Goodman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Sharon Halperin  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Estherose Heyman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Selma Hochman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Sara & John Honovich  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Beth & Eric Hurwitz  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Nancy Hyatt *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Connie Josephs  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Deborah Kahn *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Tula Kurtz *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Carol Finkelstein Laskin & David Laskin  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Robin Lazarow  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Shonnie Lebovitz & Max Taytelbaum  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Michele & Stephen Leightman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Andrea Levin *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Jackie & Matt Mandel  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Shoshana Melman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Morra Molotsky  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Linda & Eric Newman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Nancy & Manny Pearl  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Mindy & Lawrence Pressel  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Joanne Rosenthal & Ronald Leonard  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Harriet Schulman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Hope Shafer *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Sharon Siegel *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Rebecca Silver *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Karen & Neal Slutsky  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Lonnie & Stanley Smoller  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Janine & Mark Sobel  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Helene & Gerald Sterling  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Rolane & Stephen Sunshine  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Susan & Joel Tabnick  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Jordan Taflin *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Laurie & Russell Waring  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Jackie & Evan Wasserman  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Judi & David Weinberg  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Joan Yesner *in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Sarah & David Zalcmann  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

Stephanie & Andrew Zinn  
*in memory of Carol Fisher, wife of Bill Fisher*  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

## Warren & Doris Elias Special Needs Endowment Fund\*

Eileen & Robert Elias  
*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

Maxine & Mark Pinzur  
*in memory of Thelma Spivack, mother of Eileen Elias*

## Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

Betsy & Gordon Bocher  
*in memory of Jacob Meyer Bocher, father of Gordon Bocher*  
*in memory of Lillian Bocher, mother of Gordon Bocher*  
*in memory of Marilyn Weinstein*

Susan Bookman  
*in memory of Stanley Sobel, father of Susan Bookman*

Marilyn & Michael Breggar  
*in memory of Mollie Shapiro, mother of Marilyn Breggar*

Harriet Cohen  
*in memory of Leonard Halpern, husband of Jaye Halpern*

Irene Kauffman *in memory of Sue Kauffman, mother-in-law*

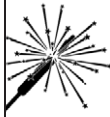
Alla & Alex Khazan  
*in memory of Tsilia Lobik, mother of Alla Khazan*

Marsha & Paul Seader  
*in memory of Barbara Director, mother of Marsha Seader*

Rolane & Stephen Sunshine  
*in memory of Frank Sunshine, father of Stephen Sunshine and*  
*grandfather of Debbi Caine*  
*in memory of Sherri Krieger, mother of Beth Hurwitz*

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Contributions listed are inclusive from the last issue of Connections through April 4, 2024. We apologize for any errors or omissions.



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**Ladies Night Out** at **P.J. WHELIHAN'S**  
 PUB + RESTAURANT  
 CHERRY HILL

CONGREGATION **KOL AMI**  
 קול עמי

**MONDAY June 3**  
 6:30 pm at P.J. Whelihan's  
 1854 E. Marlton Pike, Cherry Hill NJ 08034

Have fun with the *Ladies of Kol Ami!*  
 First drink is on us!  
 RSVP: [www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)

SAVE THE DATE!  
**SUMMER SMASH**  
 Wednesday **JULY 24**

**FUN FOR THE FAMILY**  
 Hot Dogs - Dunk Tank - Water Slide  
 More details to come!  
[www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)

CONGREGATION **KOL AMI**  
 קול עמי  
 Many Voices. One Community.

**ICED COFFEE & TEA MORNINGS**  
 Have a refreshing starter with our clergy 9:30-11:00 am

**SUNDAY JUNE 30**  
 with Cantor Schnitzer

**SUNDAY JULY 28**  
 with Rabbi Frenkel

**SUNDAY AUGUST 11**  
 with Rabbi Milan-Polisar

CONGREGATION **KOL AMI**  
 קול עמי

**COOL OFF** with Clergy

**WATER ICE & ICE CREAM NIGHTS**  
 Indulge in yummy treats with our clergy 6:30-7:30 pm

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 26**  
 with Rabbi Milan-Polisar

**TUESDAY JULY 16**  
 with Rabbi Frenkel

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21**  
 with Cantor Schnitzer

Mark your calendars to join us!  
 Locations to be announced.



# ECC SPOTLIGHT

MAY/JUNE 2024 Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5784

[www.kolaminj.org](http://www.kolaminj.org)



## EARLY CHILDHOOD

**Laura Hoffman**

*Director of Early Childhood Education*

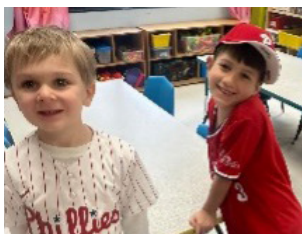
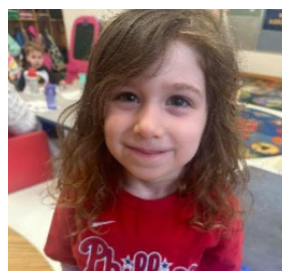
### The End of the School Year: We've Accomplished So Much!

The start of the school year was not long ago, yet so much has been accomplished by our beautiful children here at ECC. Our babies, the Guppies,

entered school not walking or even crawling, now they are moving up to Ducklings and beyond!

Not only our babies, but our preschoolers and pre-kindergarten children have grown by leaps and bounds. They are taller, more confident, becoming more independent and have learned so much. They have made friends, learned about routines, and have explored everywhere in our building.

We have celebrated holidays together, especially Shabbat, enjoyed special programs (Jack and the Beanstalk and Mother Goose), played together during Carton Day and all the Inflatable Days. Every day was filled with fun and learning experiences that children will carry with them forever.



## OUR GRADUATES



### Sunshines

Nathan Barrera  
Annie Berger  
Marley Brotz  
Logan Fau  
Ryan Hunt  
Charlie Matthews  
Emmy Morley

Gemma Pacewic  
Hadleigh Peltzman  
Noa Rivera  
Jacob Weiss  
Theodore Zaum  
Gabriella Zion  
Ofir Zukerman

### Superstars

Parker Bamaca  
Hadley Cooksey  
Joseph DiCamillo  
Shoshana Doyle-Dratch  
Patrick Fournier  
Mikey Fox  
Shai Gabin  
Micah Gardner

Waylon Henkel  
Natalie Hetzell  
Carter Hlywiak  
Jackson Isaac  
Emilia Sartin  
Ellie Sobin  
Maysen Taxin  
Dylan Tegen

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 10** – Mother's Day Shabbat
- May 10** – Shabbat Morim:  
Honoring Our Marvelous Teachers
- May 14** – Yom Ha'atzma'ut: Israel's Birthday
- May 19** – ECC Prom Party
- June 5** – Sunshines and Superstars Graduation
- June 7** – Last Day of the Regular School Year

**CAMP SUNSHINE**  
at Congregation Kol Ami ECC

**June 24 – August 16**

2024 Registration is ongoing.  
Contact the ECC Office: 856-489-0034.