



Friedman Family Newsletter

Happy Holidays

When we welcomed 2020, we were all making jokes about 20/20 vision, seeing clearly, etc. We would never have imagined what the world was to become. We enjoyed a cruise in December and a trip to Phoenix in February and then the world stopped literally hours after my March 14th Pi Party. So even in the small town of Caton, where the minimum lot size is 3 acres (we have 20), and numbers of cases are measured in 10's, not 10,000's, we wear our masks and actually, I've enjoyed taking my sewing machine out and making masks.

Except for essentials we stay home and minimally socialize, we do Zoom and social distancing wearing a mask even if more than 6' apart. We will eat at an outdoor restaurant and we take drives, usually to nature preserves when Ron is bored.

So – Family Events after March 2020:

- Passover – Zoom Seder. A few good things came of this – Jessica and Jonathan learned how to cook some traditional foods and Aunt Estelle and some of our Elmira friends could join us even if we were still in Florida
- Rosh Hoshana – The last few years Ilene joined us for at least one day in Elmira, so we missed them. But Rabbi Oren and his friends did a wonderful job and with the pre-recorded readings the service was enjoyable. Also Jonathan and Jessica came for the day.
- Summer and Columbus Day Weekends. It was extremely frustrating to not spend time at the Lake House with the family as designed. And we also have planned to spend Columbus Day weekend with Nava and Orli with or without their parents and that didn't happen.
- Thanksgiving – we did manage to see everyone, even if briefly. So since March we've seen Nava for 2 hours and Orli for 1 ½ hrs in person. We are all working on ways to do more on Zoom or Facetime. Two weeks ago, Ilene called to say Shabbos blessings at the exact time we were about to say them.
- Chanukah – we will light candles together on Zoom
- Passover ??

