

Inside

Messages from:

2 - 3

- Rabbi's Column
- President's Column

4 - 5

- Cantor's Column
- Young Families
- Playschool

6 - 7

- Hebrew School
- SHS Events on FaceBook

8 - 9

- SHS Website
- Membership Engagement

10 - 11

- Contributions

12 - 13

- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- PIC

14 - 15

- Quadruple Bat Mitzvah
- 1997 B'nai Mitzvah
- Hot & Healthy

16 - 17 - 18

June-July-August Calendars

418 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215.922.6590 Phone
215.922.6599 Fax



Welcome to Our Newest Board Members!

Walter Ferst

As Chair of the 2013 Nominating Committee, I am delighted to announce the names of our three nominated and newly elected members of the SHS Board of Directors:

Brian Mono
Jonathan Prokup
Mark Steinberger

All nominees were unanimously elected at the Annual Congregation Meeting on Wednesday, May 22. Mazel Tov!

Thank You For Your Service

Jonathan Weiss and Walter Ferst

Three SHS Board members have completed their terms and stepped down at the end of May. On behalf of the 2013 Nominating Committee, the Board of Directors, and the entire congregation, we'd like to thank them for their commitment and dedicated service:

Alan Casnoff
Dan Feinberg
David Paskin

Thank You to the 2013 Nominating Committee

Walter Ferst

As Chair of the 2013 Nominating Committee, I would like to thank the following committee members for their time and help in nominating, vetting, and recruiting three excellent new candidates to fill our open Board seats for the coming year. It is through their dedication that we maintain the highest quality of layleadership at SHS:

Andrea Appel
Fran Gallun
Laurel Landau
Jeremey Newberg
Staci Schwartz



Rabbi's Column

Just Be

Avi Winokur

Summer time and the livin' is easy, or at least, easier.

There is more time for the things that matter, more time to catch our breath, to look around—whether we are looking at the ocean or the green of a park or wilderness. There is more time to take leisurely strolls in the evening while taking advantage of the extended daylight. There is more time to spend with the people that matter—our family and friends. Generally, there is more time to just *be*, and that seems so difficult for Americans. Part of the reason for this is reflected in our country's approach to the value of free time and leisure.

In preparing this column, I did a little research and found what I suspect many of us already know: The United States is the only advanced country that does not require all employers to give employees paid vacation (usually two weeks). In fact, as of 2008, 137 countries mandated paid vacation. And it is not only the mandate (or lack thereof) that sets us apart. It's also the length. The average paid vacation time for Americans is 14 days, for British, 26 days, and for the French, 37 days.

Furthermore, it is not simply about the relative value that American society puts on work as opposed to free time and downtime. Long before the social sciences began reporting that Americans are overworked, others had observed what appears to be our inability to relax, a restlessness that can almost be described as an allergy to quiet. Over a half century ago, Chinese expatriate Lin Yutang wrote in his 1950 book, *On the Wisdom of America*:

"What does humanity want in life? Do we want to change the universe? Time flows forever; the past cannot be recaptured and the future is uncertain; only the day, the present hour, is a solid good. Perhaps the best way to thank God is to appreciate the present hour, to sit quietly and hear your own breathing and look out on the universe and be content. One can see time flow sometimes; one does not have to do something to pass the time; time can pass by itself. And there is infinite pleasure in watching the color of the day change from hour to hour and being able to say to oneself, 'I have passed a leisurely afternoon'...The world goes by; it is enough. How rarely one dares to steal such a perfect day and snatch freedom from time itself!"

Yutang's observation poses quite a challenge. I suspect that for many Americans—and for me—it is almost a frightening prospect to "sit quietly and hear your own breathing and look out at the universe and be content." The closest I have come to meeting his challenge was years ago when I took up white water rafting. In addition to a number of brief trips to the Sierra Nevadas, I also took one or two week rafting trips on the Rogue, the Salmon, and the Colorado Rivers. Isolated from all means of communication (long before there was an internet or cell phones) and all distractions, I camped in the middle of the wilderness—nowhere near cabins or any signs of human habitation. My world was comprised only of my companions and the river. Though very few people have ever accused me of being the silent, reserved type—even I, was reduced to stillness. There was no need to speak. The only thing that spoke was the flowing, leaping, singing river; it spoke hour after hour after hour, soothing, calming. Navigating Western Class Four rapids certainly produced adrenalin rushes and excitement, but within moments of clearing the rapids, the river's speech was dominant once again. It was magical.

Now when I go "down the shore" to relax during the summer, I get a little of that magical feeling again, but almost always I remember that I have with me a book that I "should" read. As much as I love to sit on the beach and do nothing (I'm still a true Californian), it is rare that I make a commitment to spend the time to do so.

There is a wonderful midrash, or biblical interpretation, that I shared with the congregation at my very first service when I was "auditioning" to become Society Hill Synagogue's Rabbi. In Exodus 24, God says to Moses, "Come up the mountain (Sinai) and be there." The early Hasidic master, the Kotsker Rebbe (1787-1859) wonders, "If God told Moses to come up the mountain, why would God add, 'And be there'?" The Kotsker answers, "The goal, you see, is not merely to ascend, but also to be there, to be actually present there, and nowhere else—and not to be going up and down at the same time."

In the words of the Li Yutang, and the Kotsker Rebbe, this summer I hope that each of can carve out time to "sit quietly and hear your own breathing and look out at the universe, 'to be there, to be actually present there and nowhere else' and be content."

Have a wonderful summer. I hope to see you when you are in town.



President's Column

Join Us for Two Exciting Summer Events

Jonathan Weiss

There are many exciting things going on at Society Hill Synagogue! We have just wrapped up our spring activities, and I wanted to mention a few of the highlights.

We had a wonderful end to the school year with a meaningful Confirmation ceremony for Jamie Schwartz and Gary Love, two graduates who also work as teacher's aides in our Sunday School. Also, for the first time in years, the Ann Spak Thal School participated in the citywide Israel Day celebration parade on the Parkway. Educational Director Sahar Oz enthusiastically helped our students and teachers build a large float celebrating Israel's diversity. The float included Styrofoam models of the Bahai Gardens, Masada, and the Western Wall. Nearly 70 SHS-ers came and marched in the (drizzly) parade that ended at the Convention Center, which featured an impressive display of different Israeli activities, crafts, and food.

As I write this article, we're preparing for our last TGIShabbat service of the year; it is going to be another potluck dinner, as a bookend to the one we held last September. I am not certain exactly how I will survive the summer without TGIShabbats, but fortunately, we are planning two wonderful summer events during which we can all get together. On **Saturday, August 3**, Walter and Margie Ferst, along with several other SHS members, will be hosting a "Havdalah Down the Shore." The preliminary plans include cocktails and dinner at the Fersts' home, starting at about 6:30 PM.



301 Bainbridge Street • Philadelphia, PA 19147
Ph: 215-925-7330 • Fax: 215-925-7331
WWW.QUEENVILLAGEFAMILYDENTISTRY.COM

Then everyone will walk to the beach for a Havdalah service led by Rabbi Winokur, followed by dessert at a location to be determined. For those who spend their weekends at the shore, attending this event will involve a short drive to do something fun, while for others of us, it will provide a rare opportunity to end Shabbat on the beach. If you are unable to join us at the shore, we are also planning a Friday Night Potluck Shabbat Dinner for those of us who stay in the city during the summer. Please check your email and the SHS Website and Facebook page for more information about both of these events (remember, this is the last Keshet issue until September!) and to reserve your spot.

Many of you joined us last month for our Annual Congregation Meeting on May 22. As you know, this meeting serves many purposes. As required by our bylaws, this meeting serves as a mechanism to allow for open discussions about our leadership, financial status, and congregational plans for the coming year.

During last year's Annual Meeting, we presented and discussed the results of the congregational survey that was sent to each household as part of our Membership Engagement Initiative. I am proud to report that we have already implemented many of the ideas for community-building activities that were suggested by members who filled out the survey.

This year, we discussed several topics that relate to our plans for the coming year. First, Harry Oxman presented a concise and clear description of a multi-denominational, faith-based organization, POWER (Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower, and Rebuild), with whom we have recently joined forces. Many of you attended the weekend Lunch & Learn a few months ago when we had a presentation from some of the founding members of POWER; these leaders explained that the group, now almost 40 congregations strong, meets to help advance ideas about equality and social justice in Philadelphia. After several follow-up discussions with this group, about 15 SHS members enthusiastically attended a citywide rally in April and were quite impressed with POWER's agenda. (Please see Debbie Stewart's article on page 8 of the April Keshet for details.) Last month, the Board of Directors approved the Social Action Committee's recommendation for SHS to join forces with this organization.

Continued on page 5



Cantor's Column

Becoming a Member of the Mitzvah Tribe as an Adult

Bob Freedman

I'm looking forward to Saturday, June 8 when Debra Stewart, Carmen Hayman, Phyllis Denbo, and Dana Feinberg will be called to the Torah as B'not Mitzvah.

Bat Mitzvah brings up the image of a not-yet-woman, excited and beautifully dressed, eager for the approval of her parents, friends, and community. She's right on the cusp of realizing that she can do anything; the world is her playground. During the year of her Bat Mitzvah, she may also play sports, join school projects, play an instrument, perform in the school play, do tons of homework, and somehow she still finds time to learn to chant a text and study Torah. Judaism, and the responsibility of being a Jew, is beginning to be real to her.

"Adult Bat Mitzvah" is the same, and oh so different. Like the not-yet-woman, the celebrant is a multi-tasker – working, tending to family, being involved in the community, and somehow still finding time to learn to chant a text and study Torah. On the day of the celebration she is excited, beautifully dressed, and nervous. And there, the similarities start to fade.

An adult Bat Mitzvah is a woman. She's been dedicated to Judaism for a long time, accustomed to making her Jewish responsibility to her family and her community a priority. Life has given her the wisdom to understand the deep meaning of this "Bat Mitzvah experience," how it confirms what she has done until now and stirs her to continue to deepen her connection to Judaism.

A central act in the celebration of a Bat Mitzvah, whether youth or adult, is chanting from the Torah. I've written in this column before about its profound effect. Like Jacob's ladder, the Torah is the Jewish symbol of the highest realm of the spirit. From there it reaches through all the lower realms, down to the physical earth where we touch, hear, see, and speak. (Torah scrolls even have their own peculiar

fragrance!) To chant from a scroll with the words of Torah written on it, turning that script into sound formed by breath, lips, and tongue, is to set foot on the first rung of that ladder. The chanter's inner eyes open and she can see far up the stairway. It's thrilling, a little terrifying, and has the magical quality of focusing her entire Jewish life into that moment.

These women are truly *b'not mitzvah*. *B'not* is the plural of *bat*, which literally means "daughter." But here it is an idiom that means "belonging to the tribe of." They are members of the tribe of mitzvah, determinedly and proudly recognizing and re-affirming their commitment to the responsibilities of being Jews. Mazel Tov!

By the way, Rabbi Winokur and I hope that this will not be an infrequent event. If you are interested in following the example of Debra, Carmen, Phyllis, and Dana, and others who have achieved this goal in the past, let us know. Women and men who never had the opportunity to celebrate being a member of the mitzvah tribe, or who went through the celebration with an unseeing mind when they were young, or who had such a good time they want to do it again, are welcome. Contact us!

Young Families Group

Stay Tuned for Summer Events!

Laurel Landau

As a reminder, the Young Families Group includes families with a child aged 5 and under (and of course older siblings are welcome), and the Baby & Me Group is for babies and toddlers aged 2 and under and their parents or caretakers. The members of the Young Families Group go on excursions around town and attend age-appropriate happenings at SHS, including Tot Shabbats, Family Services, or other special events.

Our most recent fun-filled event was a group dinner celebrating the end of Passover at Pietro's!

We don't have any events scheduled for the summer just yet, but stayed tuned for emails. For more information, or if you have any suggestions for activities, please contact me at laurelsiegel@yahoo.com. Prospective members are always welcome at these events, so if you know anybody who may be interested, please pass on the information.



Playschool

Summer Camp Begins on Monday, June 3!

Gloria Parris

Playschool graduations marked the end of another fantastic school year. The children in each of our five classes sang songs, received their preschool diplomas, and celebrated their graduations with class luncheons. Throughout the school year, the children interacted with friends, listened to stories, created unique art projects, learned about all sorts of age-appropriate concepts, visited local museums and theaters on class trips, celebrated Shabbat each week, and so much more. Our teaching staff has always been dedicated to making classroom experiences creative and fun for our students.

Many of our graduating Pre-Kindergarten boys and girls have been in the Playschool since they were two years old. It has been so wonderful for us to be part of their preschool education. We send our best wishes with all of these children when they attend their new schools.

A special thank you goes to all of the Playschool parents for their devoted participation in our parent cooperative program. Our co-op structure has always been successful because our parents are eager to experience the activities that take place in our school on a daily basis—including meeting and interacting with all of the children in their child's class, accompanying the children on school trips, sharing special “parent skills or talents” into our classrooms, and attending Shabbat Dinners, holiday celebrations, and parent-teacher conferences.

There are still a few spots available in the Playschool for the upcoming school year (beginning in September). We have limited spaces available in our two-year-old, 3-4-year-old, and PM Pre-Kindergarten classes. Spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so if you are interested in enrolling your child for fall classes, please contact me as soon as possible at 215.922.6590, ext. 28. or gparris@societyhillssynagogue.org.

Summer camp will begin on Monday, June 3, and will continue for eight weeks until Thursday, July 25. The camp hours are 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM each day, Monday through Thursday. Children, ages two to four years old, will have the opportunity to play in our classroom, create themed arts and crafts projects, listen to stories, sing songs, participate in movement and dance activities, play outdoors, ride bikes, and have water fun in our wading pools. Each day, a snack will be provided by one of our families, and the children bring their own dairy lunches. Children can be enrolled for the entire camp season, or they can attend camp on a shorter schedule. Summer is almost here and camp is so much fun at the Playschool! Feel free to contact me for more information.

Our new academic school year will begin on Tuesday, September 3, with a Parent Meeting at 7 PM. Welcome parties for each of the classes will be held on Monday, September 9. The first day of Playschool for the children will be on Tuesday, September 10.

Have a wonderful summer.

President's Column

Continued from page 3

Another meeting highlight involved a demonstration of the newly redesigned SHS Website. Staci Schwartz, Chair of the Communications Committee, with help from Ric Hayman and Betty van de Rijn, presented a brief description of the Website's newest features. Please see page 8 for a summary of these exciting new functional characteristics.

One of the most important parts of the Annual Congregation Meeting was, and always will be, welcoming new Board members and thanking those members who have completed their Board terms. First, I would like to thank the members of this year's Nominating Committee: Andrea Appel, Fran Gallun, Laurel Landau, Jeremy Newberg, and Staci Schwartz, and Chair Walter Ferst, for their hard work in finding three wonderful candidates to fill our open Board seats for the coming year. I am delighted to report that all members who attended the meeting voted unanimously to elect the three nominees to the Board. Congratulations to Brian Mono, Jonathan Prokup, and Mark Steinberger! I'm looking forward to introducing these new Board members into the

Continued on page 6

President's Column

Continued from page 5

energetic community that is our current board and watching them take on the various responsibilities involved in the lay leadership of our shul. All Board members will elect their officers during the first Board meeting of the new fiscal year.

The three individuals who have completed their Board terms include Alan Casnoff, David Paskin, and Dan Feinberg, and I am very grateful for their contributions and the great impact they had on our community during their years of service to the Congregation.

As I begin my second year as President of SHS, I look forward to seeing you at many of our upcoming engaging events. I hope that each of you has a joyful and relaxing summer!

Would You Like to Get Messages About SHS Events on Facebook?

Hannah Myers



Apparently there has been some **c o n f u s i o n** regarding our SHS Facebook (FB) page. Years ago, a page was started that can no longer be accessed. So, if you are **i n t e r e s t e d** in receiving information about SHS through FB, type Society Hill Synagogue in the Search box and open the page that has the picture of the outside of our building with a horse-drawn carriage on the street in front of it. "Like" this page and from then on, you will receive posted information about upcoming SHS events and programs on your newsfeed. If you have any difficulty joining the group, or getting the



Ann Spak Thal School So Many Exciting Plans for Next Year!

Sahar Oz

Hebrew School students' "make-your-own" s'mores for Lag B'Omer, a giant Goliath drawn by our second graders to literally illustrate the story of David's heroism, and a model of an entire kibbutz built by our seventh graders from a variety of food items; these are just some of the vivid images of Jewish learning from our last month of school.

And what a way to conclude a wonderful year of Jewish living and learning, as 75 parents and children across all ages, represented the Synagogue at the citywide Israel 65 parade on May 19! Our Synagogue had one of the largest delegations at the parade, and we showcased our float, waved Israeli flags, and sang a variety of songs along the route from 22nd Street and Franklin Parkway to the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

Our float proclaimed, "Society Hill Synagogue Celebrates Israel's Diversity," and our display featured a variety of ancient and modern structures from all over Israel designed and built by our Hebrew School students, in addition to a beautiful array of smiling Israelis: a Druze elder, a young secular Ashkenazi woman, a Haredi Jew, an Ethiopian female IDF officer, a young Arab in his 20s, and a Yemenite bride. It was a joyous experience that created infectious enthusiasm and great participation from our families and Hebrew School faculty.

Speaking of our fabulous faculty, four of our teachers are moving on to pursue other endeavors, and we will miss them. We wish be'hatzlaḥa (good luck) to Jon Panofsky at University of Richmond's law school; Karmi Oxman at Hebrew University's Department of Agriculture in Rehovot, Israel; Becka Lefkoe, who just graduated from the University of Pennsylvania; and Phil Ross, who will conclude his B.A. studies at Temple.

Continued on next page

Our other seven teachers and I have started to plan for the fall. Please look for more information soon about a few more teachers who will be joining our faculty. In addition to new staff members, we have a couple of other exciting changes for next year.

First, the Hebrew names for all of our grade levels are changing in a way that will make the Hebrew-English equivalence much clearer for everyone. Going forward, the new grade names in Hebrew School will be as follows in parentheses: Pre-Kindergarten (Ganon, literal translation of "Pre-Kindergarten"), Kindergarten (Gan, literal translation of "Kindergarten"), 1st (Aleph), 2nd (Bet), 3rd (Gimel), 4th (Dalet), 5th (Hay), 6th (Vav), 7th (Zayin), 8th (Het), 9th (Tet), 10th (Yud), 11th (Yud Aleph), and 12th (Yud Bet).

Another change for next year will involve the introduction of a new curriculum for our Hebrew High, which will be based on the award-winning service-learning programs of PANIM: The Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values. "Panim" means "face" in Hebrew, and over the past 26 years, this pluralistic institution has brought tens of thousands of Jewish teens from across the US to Washington, DC, for two-day and four-day seminars that explore the intersection between core Jewish values and American values through face-to-face service, advocacy, debates, leadership training, and lobbying on Capitol Hill.

Our year-long curriculum will blend multidimensional study of local, national, and global concerns with practical approaches to creating positive change. Guest speakers and local service projects outside of the classroom will enhance the experience for our students. Having directed the PANIM curricula at Jewish community high schools in Rochester, Pittsburgh, and the Philadelphia suburbs, I have witnessed the remarkable impact this experience has had on students. We are very excited to bring this to our Hebrew High!

School registration forms for all grades will be sent to everyone in mid-June. We are not asking for any payments before then, but we are looking for an enrollment head count as we plan for the fall. If your child/children is/are continuing next year, which we certainly hope is true, then you do not need to do anything yet, and a registration packet(s) will be sent to you.

If, however, you need to change your child/children's enrollment status for any reason, please contact Betty van de Rijn (215.922.6590, ext. 23) or me (215.922.6590, ext. 29) by June 7.

For our last day of Hebrew School, one of our third graders drew a mask with a sad face and tears running down, then put it on and said to her classmates and me, "I don't want the year to end." Call it a healthy mix of emotions: sadness that the school year has ended, and gladness that our children so enjoy and look forward to the Jewish learning, creativity, and friendships that bloom at our school.

Spread the word and invite your friends to join us for this dynamic journey of Jewish learning! I wish you all "kayitz mehane" – have a wonderful summer!

See some wonderful photos from Hebrew School on page 16.

MARC L. SCHWARTZ, MD, FACP, FACC, FAHA
STEVEN W. BREECKER, MD, FACC

CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE
PERSONALIZED CARE

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
1015 CHESTNUT STREET
SUITE 1518
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107

(215) 955-8706

FAX (215) 955-8509



Debbie Zak Cohen PHOTOGRAPHY

dkzak.com

SOCIETY HILL RESIDENT. MOTHER. MITZVAH PHOTOGRAPHER.

Have You Seen the New and Improved SHS Website?

Staci Schwartz

At the Annual Congregation meeting on Wednesday, May 22, as Chair of Communications, I had the privilege of announcing that we have launched a new and improved version of the SHS Website (www.societyhillsynagogue.org)! Many of you know that we had to shut down our former site because it was hacked for the second time, and it was flooded with...shall we say... very inappropriate material. Ric Hayman recruited a wonderful new Web designer and we have upgraded our software and installed many new security features that should prevent future problems of this nature.

I am also delighted to report that, along with the improved security, the upgraded software offers many new perks for our users. We are not quite finished with the tweaking process, but I think that you will find the new site to be attractive, functional, and exciting.

- The new site is much more user friendly. With the previous version of our software, adding new information to the site was quite tedious, in some cases, impossible for our office staff to do. Consequently, we employed the services of a very nice gentleman in India to update our site and change features as required. Both the time difference and working with someone who was not familiar with Hebrew terminology provided significant challenges. Now, most updates and troubleshooting will be able to be managed in-house.
- On the new site, when you enter the password-protected "Members Only" section, you can edit and update your own profile! That means that you don't have to fill out the paperwork we send you each year asking for household member names, Hebrew names, children's birth dates, yahrzeit information, emails, and phone numbers. You can fill in this information on your computer profile, and all of this information will be directly transferred to our Rakefet database. The information can be updated as often as you'd like. **SHS staff can serve you the best when they have your complete profile of information!**
- When you enter the site, you will see a Member Login spot on the left hand side of your Home Page screen. Your previous user name and password may work- but if not, please contact the office at office@societyhillsynagogue.org or 215.922.6590 and if you give your email address, the office will assign a temporary password. You can log in using that password and then change it to a password of your choosing. Once in the password-protected area, you will have access to the Membership Directory, Member News and Forums, the Greeter Schedule, Member Messages, and Profile Update. *When you update your profile, please remember to check the box indicating that you agree to have your contact information included in our password-protected Membership Directory.
- On the new site, anyone who is interested in joining our shul can go to the "Contact" screen (far upper right corner of Home Page), click on Member Sign up, where they can request a membership application by sending an immediate message to the office, instead of trying to find time during the day to call the office in person. New members can also send requests for password access when they send their email address to the office. New members should also check the box indicating their contact information can be included in our password-protected Membership Directory.
- On the new site, when you click on "News" in the upper right hand corner of the Home Page, not only will you have access to current Synagogue news and old Keshet editions...now, you can also click on World News events with Jewish content (find World News in right lower corner of the News page).
- On the new site, members can click on "Contact" (upper right hand of Home Page) and then click on "Payments or Donations" to make direct payments to the Synagogue through PayPal or a credit card (please note: there will be a 3% processing fee for all payments involving credit cards). In the Description Box, members can specifically state toward which balance they would like their payments to be applied, e.g., to tuition, to Membership Dues, or to an event fee. Donations can also be made through this screen by following the same directions as above.

Continued on page 13

Member Engagement

Dip Your Toes or Dive Right In!

Debbie Stewart

Enrich your SHS experience by building new relationships and strengthening existing ones:

- Join others for holiday meals.
 - Host or attend a Shabbat meal on Friday evening or Saturday afternoon where everyone brings a dish – keep it simple and let us know if you would like help with the rituals. Find out who lives in your neighborhood and get connected!
 - Host or attend a Saturday evening Havdalah Service and meal – let us know if you would like help with the rituals involved in this delightful, family-friendly service.
 - Connect with other families for an early Sunday evening meal – prepare a simple dinner together - kids can hangout and play together while adults socialize.
 - Enjoy musical, arts, and other cultural activities together.
 - Welcome, and help to integrate, new members in our community.
 - Participate in Social Action programs, Adult Education classes, or join an SHS committee.
 - Share your talents, interests, and knowledge with others
 - Start a book club.
 - Organize some of the musicians in our congregation, and plan a musical service or event.
 - Run a hands-on Art workshop.
 - Give a lecture.
 - Host a salon meeting in your home.
- The options are endless! Don't miss out. Check out the new **Member Engagement** section that will appear in each edition of the Keshet to learn of upcoming activities. But remember, *you* are the key to creating and supporting these opportunities!
- Let us know what interests you, and we will help you connect with other members to get started. Contact me at beachethic@gmail.com or 609.713.0828 for more information or to discuss new ideas.

Upcoming Membership Engagement Events

Board-Sponsored Shabbat Dinner—Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for our **Annual Board-Sponsored Shabbat Dinner on Friday, September 20**. Enjoy a spectacular TGIShabbat Service followed by a special congregational dinner. Welcome new members and build relationships!

Matchmaker, Matchmaker, Make Me a Match—For all new SHS members— there is an SHS Shul Guide waiting to be matched with you to provide a warm welcome and support your integration into the SHS community. For more information, please contact me at beachethic@gmail.com or Libby Cone at cone@effectivenglish.com. You will hear from the SHS Matchmaker if she does not hear from you!

Shabbat Afternoon Meal With Friends—Spice up your summer by joining other families for a delicious Saturday afternoon Shabbat meal. A volunteer host family is seeking a few other families to join them for lunch one fine summer day, following services. For more information, please contact me at beachethic@gmail.com.

General Fund**In Appreciation of****Community Support of SHS**

Jessi Roemer

In Honor of**Dana Feinberg on her Bat Mitzvah**

Linda & Paul Katz

Confirmation of Jamie Schwartz, Daughter of Marc & Staci Schwartz

Len Weinberg & Fran Gallun

Mark & Ann Steinberger

Yahrzeit Remembrance**Evelyn Bach, Wife of Harry Bach**

Harry Bach

Mannie & Rose Hechler, Parents of Iris Levine

Iris Levine

Senta King, Sister of Lore Bryan

Lore Bryan

Anna J. Cohen, Grandmother of Judith & Mindy Widman

Judith Widman

Mindy Widman

Jack Paller, Father of Robert Paller

Robert Paller

Annual Giving Fund**Yahrzeit Remembrance****Solomon Altman, Father-in-Law of Rita Altman**

Rita Altman

Kirk & Leah Saltz, Parents of Nathan Saltz

Nathan Saltz

Shirley Kline, Friend of Nathan Saltz

Nathan Saltz

Ada Karp, Sister of Nathan Saltz

Nathan Saltz

Social Action Fund**In Appreciation of****George Washington School Photography Program**

Carl & Caryn Levitsky

Debbie Casnoff

Brian & Juliet Englander

Carl & Caryn Levitsky

Mark Steinberger & Ann Lebowitz Steinberger

In Honor of**Birth of granddaughter to Jay and Phyllis Denbo**

Mark & Ann Steinberger

Confirmation of Jamie Schwartz, Daughter of Marc & Staci Schwartz

Iris Levine

Silver Heit Salkin Fund**In Honor of****Confirmands Gary Love & Jamie Schwartz**

Merle Salkin

Playschool Fund**In Honor of****Confirmation of Jamie Schwartz, Daughter of Marc & Staci Schwartz**

Gloria Parris

Prayerbook Fund**Yahrzeit Remembrance****Arthur Schneeberg, Husband of Gerry Schneeberg**

Gerry Schneeberg

Yahrzeit Remembrance**Sadie Schwartz, Great Aunt of James Orman**

James Orman

Restoration Fund**In Appreciation to****Rabbi Winokur for his help in preparing Jamie for Confirmation****Cantor Freedman for his help in preparing Jamie for Confirmation**

Marc & Staci Schwartz

NATIONAL WATCH & DIAMOND

**Over 400
Rolex in Stock***Rolex Repair,
Service & Refinishing
One Year Warranty***(215) 627-WATCH**

Visit our website..NationalWatch.com

**Selling Pre-Owned
Rolex, Cartier, Breitling
and More for 25 Years***Diamond Dials & Bezels*

N.W.E. Is not an official Rolex jeweler

CORNER OF 8TH & CHESTNUT STREETS • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106

**CAC COINS
NOW IN STOCK!**
CAC

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of
Cantor Freedman's Services
Edward Levenson

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Honor of
Second Bar Mitzvah of Jerry Rosenberg
Don Jurow

Laura & Dan Wheaton, birth of their daughter, Rena
Evelyn Segal

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Samuel Dictor, Father-in-Law of Joel Chernock
Joel Chernock

**An Important Reminder**

Please remember that during the summer, there are no Friday Night Services in July and August. Friday Night Services will resume September 6 at 6:15 PM.

Summer Office Hours:

Monday through Wednesday: 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday: 9 AM to 4 PM
Friday: 9 AM to 3:30 PM

During the month of August, the office will be closed on Fridays.



**Memorial Plaque
Dedication Service
Friday,
May 2, 2014**

The SHS Memorial Plaque Dedication service is for all families who have purchased a memorial plaque over the past year in memory of a loved one. Each family will be invited to "unveil" the plaque during a special memorial portion of this Friday night Shabbat service.

The next Memorial Plaque Dedication Service is scheduled for **Friday, May 2 at 6:15 PM**. All are welcome to attend.

Plaques need to have been ordered by January 1, 2014, to be ready in time for this annual dedication service.

June Birthdays

Mark Schoenholtz
 Carol Weil
 Henry Weil
 Bonnie Weiner
 Jonathan Feinman
 Jonathan Hunter
 Rebecca Hafter
 Sharyn Katz
 Nathaniel Stover-Steerman
 Joan Lear
 Jack Aaron
 Judson Aaron
 Daniel Rottenberg
 Eliana Gilbert-Trachtman
 Michael Coran
 Andrew Hohns
 Rita Roy
 Avi Galler
 Catherine Kiefer
 James Orman
 Adina Goldstein
 Maya Salzman
 Noah Kauderwood
 Jesse Flora
 Clayton Whitesell
 Lois Rosenberg
 Gloria Steinberg
 Sophia Yudell
 Don Kaufman
 William Love
 Geoffrey Michaels
 Michael Davidson
 Shira Cohen
 Eve Friedman
 Asa Schneeberg
 Gabriel Cohen
 Benjamin Zack
 Samuel Hamilton
 Marlene Lachman
 Zelda Wolf
 Karen Zur
 Libby Cone
 Stephen Shiekman

July Birthdays

Neil Epstein
 Abigail Shapiro
 Amy Steerman
 Rebecca Greenberg
 Carmen Hayman
 Ruth Schneeberg
 Noah Davidson
 Gabriel Stemmer
 Jacqueline Rick
 Claire Golding
 Molly Kaplan
 Howard Levin
 William Steinberger
 Alton Sutnick
 Richard Gelles

July Birthdays

Joseph Gifford
 Alice Goldenberg
 Carla Krasnick
 Judah Meyer
 Jillan Sackett
 Mitchell Bach
 Matthew Zalesne Siff
 Rachel Fish
 Marc Schwartz
 Laurette Feltoon
 Liza Gendler
 Juliet Englander
 Judith Woloff
 Anna Rubinov
 Gabriel Steerman
 Michael Temin
 Joseph Oxman
 Jordan Segall
 Mary Ann Stover
 Arielle Biron
 Ellie Biron
 Harry Oxman
 Craig Pressman
 James Wilson
 Samantha Chaikin
 Reuben Treatman
 Daniel Greenberg
 Zachary Goldberg
 Abigail Hamilton
 Libby Harwitz Blender
 Gideon Siff
 Manny Porat
 Joshua Smullens
 Juliette Snyder
 Tony Lalli
 Joshua Piven
 Judy Gelles
 Lev Ziskind

August Birthdays

Gabriel Nadel
 Peggy Backal
 Irving Shapiro
 Debbie Stewart
 Fran Newberg
 Lex Meisel
 Claire Englander
 Mark Steinberger
 Jeffrey Braemer
 Zachary Gearhart-Robby
 Myer Magen
 Jerry Roller
 Matthew Salzman
 Jessa Weissman
 Abigail Reed
 Leo Aaron
 Elizabeth Braemer
 Ian Downes

August Birthdays

Cobrin Ballen Stanish
 Maya Porat
 Wendy Rosen
 Julia Dranoff Gutstadt
 Wendy Leebov
 Abigail Bladen
 Nina Saligman
 Marsha Silver Heit
 Isaak Popkin
 Debby Freedman
 Caleb Landau
 Harvey Weiner
 Susan Eizen
 Edwin Krauss
 Kathryn Braemer
 Terry Graboyes
 Nina Feinberg
 Andrew Fish
 Asher Halpern
 Elise Wolf Williams
 Abiona Flora
 Lauren Harel
 Elana Hunter
 Nathaniel Popkin
 Brian Rotter
 Ilyana Snyder
 Karen Edelstein
 Jeffrey Lichtman
 Dan Rosin
 Sally Poulshock
 Bonny Hohenberger
 Michael Naidoff
 Barry Bernstein
 Hannah Prokup
 Claudia Balderston
 Jon Edelstein
 Hillary Ladov
 Marvin Sachs

June Anniversaries

Brian & Juliet Englander
 Michael & Leslie Hafter
 Jonathan & Elana Hunter
 David Gutstadt &
 Julia Dranoff Gutstadt
 Lawrence &
 Jacqueline Goldfinger
 Robert Biron & Karen Zur
 Robert Blacksberg &
 Teresa Novick
 Edwin & Etta Krauss
 Rabbi Avi Winokur &
 Susan Berman
 Brian & Jessica Mono
 Joseph & Sheri Gifford
 Micah & Joanna Hart
 Michael & Lisa Coran
 Michael Stemmer &
 Nan Schiowitz
 Avi & Debra Auspitz Galler
 David Halpern &
 Samantha Chaikin

June Anniversaries

Samuel & Joan Lear
 Stanley & Judith Woloff
 Marc & Nancy Goldenberg
 Yuri Rubinov & Marina Merlin
 Stephen & Pelley Brown
 Jay Meadway &
 Roberta Jacobs Meadway
 Roberto Pace & Eve Friedman
 Steven & Jessa Weissman
 Thomas Borawski & Libby Cone

July Anniversaries

Daniel & Madeleine Becker
 Richard & Judy Gelles
 Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton &
 Roy Hamilton
 Leah & Brent Jordan
 Harry & Sheri Feinberg
 Steven & Sally Gendler
 Marvin & Ruth Sachs
 Theodore Danoff &
 Diane Siegel Danoff

August Anniversaries

Alan M. Zuckerman &
 Rita Bernstein
 Sidney Jacoby & Stav Tjoumakaris
 Richard Summers &
 Merrily Williams
 Andrew Kadish &
 Vicki Clark-Kadish
 Bruce & Charlene Hirsch
 Raphael Licht &
 Gabrielle Applebaum
 Mark & Tobey Dichter
 Alton & Mona Sutnick
 Julian & Sheila Katz
 Jesse Abrams-Morley &
 Meredith Buse
 Peter & Susan Eizen
 Harry & Eleanor Oxman
 Brian Rotter & Marsha Silver Heit
 Bart & Betty Kaplan
 Jerry & Joan Roller
 Stanton & Merle Salkin
 Dan & Anya Rosin
 Jeffrey & Jodi Scott
 Myron Bloom & Nancy Moses
 David & Cheryle Rosen
 Melody & Michael Goldberg
 Martin Rosenberg &. Ellen Fennick
 William & Sari Love
 David & Sayde Ladov
 Burton Blender &
 Libby Harwitz Blender
 Ronald & Carla Krasnick
 Brent & Laurel Landau

- On the new site you will see all upcoming SHS events listed on the left side of the Home Page screen with calendar dates. If you are interested in attending any of these events, when you click on that event, you will now see a prompt to transfer the date and event information directly to your Google calendar (if you have a gmail address) or to your smart phone (through Outlook)! The same feature is available when you click on events in the Calendar section as well (See Calendar to the left of Contact). The calendar can be viewed in daily, weekly, or monthly formats. We hope to also create sorting capabilities on the calendar so that members may customize which programs and events they would like to have transferred to their own calendars. For example, perhaps all Adult Education courses will be listed in blue and all Tot Shabbats will be listed in yellow. For now, you can do a "Site Search" which is located on the left side of the screen of the Home Page and type in the events or committees in which you are interested, e.g. Social Action, and the entire site will be searched for events involving Social Action.
- On the new site, any member can check the Greeter Schedule when they are logged in to the site with their password. Just click on Greeter Schedule and a Google calendar version will appear. If you see a Shabbat, holiday, or event that needs a greeter on the calendar, and you are available to help, please contact Bonny Hohenberg at bjh711@gmail.com and she will add you to the schedule and provide you with information about greeting. Greeting is a wonderful way to meet other members and welcome new and potential members to our shul. Adults and children are welcome to help with this delightful task.
- Take a few minutes and explore the new site. I think you will be pleased with its appearance and exciting new features. Many thanks to Ric Hayman and Betty van de Rijn for the hours they spent helping to create this new and improved version of our Website! Please feel free to make comments and suggestions at webmaster@societyhillssynagogue.org.



Philadelphia Interfaith Community Death & Afterlife: Beliefs and Practices of the Three Abrahamic Faiths

Debbie Stewart

Please join the Philadelphia Interfaith Community (PIC) on **Wednesday, June 5 at 7 PM** for our continuing discussion on Life Cycle Rituals among the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths. This session will focus on death and afterlife, beliefs and practices of the three Abrahamic faiths.

We will gather at Old St. Joseph's Church located at 321 Willings Alley. Attendees should enter the courtyard and go down the stairs to the Social Hall.

For additional information about this event, please contact me at beachethic@gmail.com or



A Quadruple Bat Mitzvah at SHS on Saturday, June 8 at 9:30 AM!

Staci Schwartz

You are cordially invited to attend a special Shabbat service during which four women will become Bat Mitzvah! On Saturday, June 8 at 9:30 AM, Debra Stewart, Carmen Hayman, Dana Feinberg, and Phyllis Denbo will be called to the Torah as B'not Mitzvah.

All are invited to join them at a Friday night dinner and Oneg Shabbat on Friday, June 7, and a celebratory Kiddush Luncheon that will follow services on June 8.

To commemorate the occasion, Debra, Carmen, Dana, and Phyllis bonded as they baked homemade challot in our very own Synagogue kitchen. They recited the appropriate blessings as they lovingly prepared these delicious loaves for their upcoming celebration. Lucky for Rabbi Winokur that he was in the right place at the right time—he got to do an official taste test!



- Independent Living
- Rehabilitation Services



- Assisted Living
- Secure Memory Care
- Nursing Care

LIONS GATE

Independence ♦ Continuing Care ♦ Jewish Tradition

Phone: 1-856-782-1200 • www.lionsgateccrc.org

**1110 Laurel Oak Road
Voorhees, New Jersey**





Another Group B'nai Mitzvah Took Place at SHS in 1997!

Staci Schwartz

In the May Kesher, I announced that the first quadruple B'not Mitzvah will be taking place on Saturday, June 8, and while that is still true, I have learned that this will not be the first group B'nai Mitzvah at SHS. Harvey Weiner was kind enough to inform me that his wife, Bonnie, along with seven other SHS members, were called to the Torah in 1997 for a group B'nai

Mitzvah with Cantor Alan Cohn. According to Carole LeFaivre Rochester, they each read Torah from Lekh L'kha, and some of them gave commentaries on that parashah.

Above is a photo of these 8 inspiring individuals, who along with this year's group including Dana Feinberg, Carmen Hayman, Phyllis Denbo, and Debra Stewart, had the drive to join the Mitzvah Tribe as adults.

Thanks to Bonnie and Harvey, Carole, and Bob Blacksberg and Terry Novick for providing the names of all who participated in the 1997 service. From left to right, they are: Linda Gross, Bonnie Weiner, Linda Glass, Merrily Williams, Cantor Cohn, Nancy Machinist, Burton Weiss, Carole LeFaivre Rochester, and Lisa Moroz.

Society Hill- Hot & Healthy Series Continues in October

Lisa Unger

On May 13, 2013, the Society Hill- Hot and Healthy! Speaker Series continued with Andrew B. Newberg, M.D., Director of Research, Myrna Brind Center for Integrative Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. Dr. Newberg presented the topic "How To Keep Your Brain Healthy!" The well-attended event featured a lively and informative question and answer session. Following the lecture, delicious refreshments were provided.

Mark your calendars and join us at SHS on Wednesday, October 2 at 7 PM, for a presentation entitled, "Is Alternative Medicine Right For My Aches & Pains?" Our speaker will be Sharon L. Kolasinski, M.D., Head, Division of Rheumatology, Cooper University Hospital.

SHS Potluck Shabbat Dinners

Bonny Hohenberger

Two couples, Steve and Ruth Greenberg and Al and Mona Sutnick, broke bread (challah) with Nate Farbman and Bonny Hohenberger at our second SHS Potluck Shabbat Dinner last Friday night.

Ruth contributed a delicious ratatouille, and Mona brought a gorgeous floral centerpiece. After the Shabbat blessings were recited, the engaging discussions began, and two of the men discovered that they had a topic of interest that might result in a mutually beneficial business arrangement. Conversation only ended when one couple realized that, if they stayed longer, they might not be able to get up early enough for Torah study the next morning!

Everyone in attendance agreed that these evenings are a wonderful way to create a closer SHS community and hope more people will participate in the future.





First Grade students proudly display the hanukiyot they made.



Hebrew School Tu B'Shvat Seder.



Seventh grade students and the edible kibbutz they designed.



Sixth grade students building the Baha'i Gardens for the Israel 65 Parade float.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
						Sh'l _{ah} L'kha 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Building Closed	First Day of Camp 1 PM ELM 7 PM ECM	7:15 AM Minyan	7:30 PM EM		No Camp 6:15 PM Services	Korah 9 AM Torah Study 9:30 AM Quadrupl B'not Mitzvah Service Phyllis Denbo Dana Feinberg Carmen Hayman Debra Stewart
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan			No Camp 6:15 PM Services	Hukkat 9 AM Torah Study 9:30 AM 2 nd Bar Mitzvah Service of Jerome Rosenberg
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Father's Day Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan			No Camp 6:15 PM Services	Balak 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan			No Camp 6:15 PM Service	Pinhas 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
30						
Building Closed						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7 PM ECM	7:15 AM Minyan		4 th of July Building Closed	Building Closed No Services No Camp	Mattot-Masei 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan			No Services No Camp	D'varim/Hazon 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Building Closed	7 PM BDM	Tisha B'Av No Minyan No Camp			No Services No Camp	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan		Last Day of Camp	No Services	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
28	29	30	31			
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					No Services	R'eih 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service "Havdalah Down the Shore"
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Building Closed	7 PM ECM	7:15 AM Minyan			No Services	Shoftim 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan			No Services	Ki Tetzei 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Building Closed	7 PM BDM	7:15 AM Minyan			No Services	Ki Tavo 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Building Closed		7:15 AM Minyan			No Services	Nitzavim Va-yeilekh 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service 9 PM Selihot

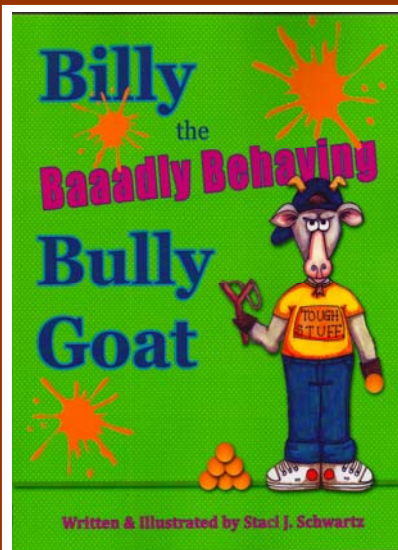
Kesher



Avi Winokur, **Rabbi**
Bob Freedman, **Cantor**
Jonathan Weiss, **President**
Betty van de Rijn, **Executive Director**
Sahar Oz, **Education Director**
Gloria Parris, **Playschool Director**

418 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone 215.922.6590
Fax 215.922.6599
www.societyhillsynagogue.org

SOCIETY HILL SYNAGOGUE'S KESHER



Billy the Baaadly Behaving Bully Goat is a story, written in lighthearted rhyming verse, about a young goat named Billy who constantly picks on the other “kids” in his class. From stealing their lunch money to pulling their hair, Billy is making life miserable for his primary grade peers. When Mr. and Mrs. Goat realize that they have exhausted all of their own strategies to stop their son’s unacceptable behavior, they finally seek help from “The Wise Old Goat Upon the Hill,” a certified Goat Therapist. With a little bit of magic dust, some common sense, and family support—a brilliant plan is initiated to cure Billy of his bullying ways.

By describing the circumstances and feelings associated with bullying, *Billy the Baaadly Behaving Bully Goat* provides children with the opportunity to identify bullying behavior and share their personal experiences with bullying—either as an intimidator, a victim, or a witness. This story should be part of every child’s personal and classroom book collection because it can open the lines of communication between child and parent, or child and teacher, and promote the discussion of strategies for dealing with peer-related verbal or physical aggression.

If you’d like to purchase a copy of *Billy the Baaadly Behaving Bully Goat*, please contact Staci at stacischwartz7@yahoo.com. Soft cover copies are available for \$12.95 a piece.