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## Rabbi's Column

### Constructing a Plan to Ward Off Life's Difficulties and Pain

Avi Winokur

“Life is difficult.” This is how F. Scott Peck begins his *Road Less Traveled*, reminding us that the first of Buddhism’s Four Noble Truths is “Life is suffering.” His book spent 694 weeks, or roughly 13 years, on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Scott noted that the most common theme from readers who contacted him was not that he was saying something new and profound. Rather, his readers told him that the book illuminated issues they themselves had been thinking about but had not really articulated or talked about.

Whether one uses Peck’s formulation that life is difficult or the Buddha’s, we look around the world and even our own lives, and experience bears out these statements. From the Israel-Gaza conflict, the barbaric Islamic State jihadi violence in Iraq and Syria, the Ebola outbreak in Africa, the Ukrainian-Russian conflict, the racial tension in Ferguson, Missouri, to the myriad of hurts, disappointments, fears, losses, reversals, anxieties, and instances of sadness and depression that punctuate our own lives, the wisdom of the Buddha’s observation is evident, if not today then yesterday or tomorrow. Suffering and difficulty are inevitable.

In order to keep going day to day, we have two primary defenses. The first is what I call dulling out and going more or less on automatic pilot—my own preferred pain-avoidance technique. I’ll put one foot in front of the other, and, of course, like any relatively healthy person, I’m able to spice the dullness with enough meaning and pleasure to get by. The second defense—a staple of Jewish life—is constructing a plan to ward off life’s difficulties and pain: get a first-class education so you can get a good job and meet the right life mate, so you can have healthy kids and give them a good first-class education, so they can get good jobs, meet the right life mates, and start families of their own. While not all of us construct this particular life plan, the idea is that if we take the necessary steps and precautions, we can keep the shadows at bay.

But our well-constructed defenses and strategies will be of little help in defending against an abusive

parent, a life-mate choice that turns out to be a disaster, a crippling illness or condition, a child’s, sibling’s, or life mate’s nervous breakdown or drug addiction, an inexplicable early death, or the job loss from the bankruptcy or downsizing of the company for which we worked for years.

It is this reality that is behind one of the most difficult and moving prayers, recited both on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the *Unetaneh Tokef*: “who shall live and who shall die,” but also “who shall be raised up and who brought low,” “who shall celebrate and who shall grieve,” “who shall be stricken like Robin Williams with terrible depression,” “whose outwardly successful business, like Wolf, Block, shall go under,” “who shall have resilience and who shall break under the pressure.” These are the real questions of our lives and behind them all is “who shall shore up his or her defenses to no avail and who shall gain the inner spiritual resources to grapple effectively with life’s difficulties and suffering?”

This is what happens in life. We make plans, we do our best, and things come crashing down. These Days of Awe invite us to examine our lives to see those defenses for what they are, and urge us to get more real. Paradoxically, we are invited to prepare ourselves against life’s inevitable difficulties and sufferings by preparing less, breaking down our defenses, and building up our spiritual resources in order to spend more time living the preciousness of our lives and less time warding off the pain.

The *Unetaneh Tokef* prayer suggests three ways to begin the process of building up our spiritual resources and ease life’s harshness: *t’shuvah* (self-examination and reflection), *t’fillah* (spiritual discovery and discipline), and *tz’dakah* (righteous action or engagement with the world).

I invite you to explore these questions as you prepare for these Days of Awe: (1) *t’shuvah*—what are the defenses against life’s experiences that you have built up that you need to let go of? (2) *t’fillah*—what paths to spiritual discovery do you wish to explore and what discipline are you willing to commit to building up your spiritual resources? (a very difficult question to grapple with unless one has a history of spiritual exploration—I’ll be happy to help); (3) *tz’dakah*—in what ways do you wish to engage the world outside of your everyday life?

Continued on page 6



## President's Column

### Summer Memories and Full Steam Ahead

Debra Stewart

**I**t is time to hold on to those summertime memories that brought you peace and joy. Recall those visions in your mind and perhaps create a new screen saver to help you through your busy year. I have memories of special times with family and friends, and my screensaver is an image of waves crashing to the shore.

We have had additional changes to the Board of Directors. We extend our sincere appreciation to Julie Wilson and Jud Aaron for their outstanding service to SHS. Although they will not be renewing their terms on the Board, both have promised to remain involved in the exciting programs and activities in our community. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome new Board Members Noah Chrismer, Susan Eizen, and Larry Spector. We have one final seat to fill and our Board will be complete. We are so fortunate to have a wonderfully diverse Board composed of committed individuals who possess a wealth of interests, talents and expertise.

The Board of Directors has lofty goals for the New Year; we realize that if we do not try, we will not succeed. In order to avoid significant increases in our membership dues, a number of our goals focus on increasing synagogue membership, Playschool enrollment, and the efficiency and effectiveness of our Annual Giving campaign. We would also like to encourage support for all of the programming that we have come to love such as: TGIShabbat, Shabbat dinners, Kiddush Luncheons, Havdalah Pajama Parties, the Hanukkah Happening and Purim Carnival, "Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?™" weekends, InterNOSHional Night, Lunch and Learn educational sessions, and Adult Education classes.

This year we will be promoting exciting Arts & Cultural opportunities in the city, many of which involve talented members of our SHS community. We will also begin planning a Scholar in Residence/Shabbaton for the fall of 2015! (Let us know if you have topic ideas!)

Rabbi Winokur will introduce our newly designed Family Services in the fall. We will continue to support our meaningful Social Action Committee's work with the Vare-Washington Elementary School, Philabundance, and POWER, as we do our part to "repair the world."

Providing greater support to our professional staff and clergy through performance reviews and implementing strategies to enhance collaboration is also on our agenda.

We are thrilled to have Rabbinical Intern, Nathan Kamesar, working with us this year. Nathan will be involved in teaching, leading services, participating in life cycle events, and supporting our committees and initiatives. Perhaps he will work with two of our new Board Members who plan to focus on membership outreach and creating a Young Professionals Group like the one we had several years ago.

As you know, we have a subcommittee focused on examining options for the use of our adjacent property, 430 Spruce Street. There is much to consider as we explore current and future needs—feasibility of fund raising, possibility of a staged expansion, and maximizing the use of our current space.

As members of this community, we need your support in two key areas: engagement in activities and programs that interest you, and outreach to spread the word about this "Jewel of a Shul."

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### Cantor's Column

## Judaism: Experiences of the Heart, the Psyche, and the Spirit

Bob Freedman

**M**y teacher, Rabbi Zalman Meshullam Schachter, died on July 4. What I've learned from him and from his students has informed much of my thought about being a Jew. He had a great influence on modern Judaism, perhaps as great as Abraham Heschel or Mordechai Kaplan. So there is a lot to say about him. But here I have little room or time. So I will give you just a taste of his teaching: the first thing I remember learning from him. It seems right that I am writing this on Tisha B'Av, the Ninth of Av, a fast day. That first study with him happened on the day before the fast, and he taught about the day and its meaning.

The Ninth of Av was designated by the rabbis as a day of mourning for the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, when the ritual and spiritual center of Jewish life was effectively annihilated. There were two destructions: by the Babylonians in 586 BCE and by the Romans in 70 CE. The rabbis were only a few generations removed from the second, and we can only begin to imagine the impact it had on their lives.

Two millennia later I was among about forty modern American Jews gathered to learn from Reb Zalman. Recognizing that the memory of the destroyed Temple affected us only distantly, he taught us that the "deep operating system" (his words) of the fast and the lamentation processes any loss of a sacred "place." The lost place might have been a physical location dear and holy to us, a relationship, or a state of mind. And now it's gone. Our anger, greed, or misplaced zeal, our careless neglect, or opposing forces too powerful for us to contend with, or all of them, took it from us. We need to acknowledge both our part in the destruction and the forces beyond our control, then mourn, Reb Zalman explained, so we can move on from the past.

As he taught, I caught a glimpse of a path that I have traveled ever since. I had been taught the observances of Judaism as formal ritual. Reb Zalman revealed to me how to enter them as experiences of the heart, the psyche, and the spirit, not just the body or the intellect.

Continued on page 11



### Ann Spak Thal School

## A Face of Cheer for the New School Year

Sahar Oz

**I**n *Pirkei Avot*, often translated as *The Chapters of the Fathers* or *The Ethics of the Fathers*, we learn that we should "receive every person with the expression of a nice face" (1:15); i.e., with a cheerful countenance. Essentially, we are taught to greet everyone with kindness and warmth.

And what better time to do this than at the beginning of a new school year? Whether in Sunday School, Hebrew School, or Hebrew High, embracing one another—old friends and new schoolmates alike—with a warm smile is the ideal way to start the new academic year. It is also the ideal way to wrap up 5774 as we prepare for Rosh Hashanah.

When classes begin on **Sunday, September 7**, there will be a lot of "newness" for all of us: new friendships to be made, new grades, new books, perhaps even some new schedules—here's looking at you, new Sunday Schoolers, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders!

There will also be some new teachers. Our talented, dedicated faculty members serve as guides for our students' Jewish journeys, so let me tell you a bit about them.

**Melissa Raub**, in her second year at our school, is teaching the joint Pre-K and Kindergarten, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Hebrew, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Bible classes. Melissa graduated with a BFA in Acting from the University of the Arts this past May and brings over six years of Hebrew School teaching and tutoring experience.

**Sarah Spangenberg** was a top substitute teacher for us last year and is excited to teach grades 1 and 4 this year. Sarah is also a University of the Arts alumna, with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Outside of Hebrew School, Sarah is currently in a Media Theatre production of *The Addams Family*.

Continued on page 7



## Playschool

### Looking Forward to a Brand New Year in the Playschool

Gloria Parris

The children in the Playschool Summer Camp had a fantastic time creating arts and crafts projects, singing camp songs, listening to summertime stories, playing in the Social Hall, riding bikes outdoors, and swimming and splashing in our wading pools. Our projects were developed around themes that included the ocean, insects, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, summer fruits, outer space, and our families. Many of our current Playschool students attended camp along with new students who will be starting preschool in the fall.

With the start of school only a few weeks away, the teachers in the Playschool are preparing their classrooms to welcome the children. On Tuesday, September 2, parents are invited to meet their children's teachers at 7 PM. A brief meeting for all parents will be held in the Sanctuary. After the meeting, parents will visit their child's classroom to receive information pertaining to their class.

On Wednesday, September 3, the Puppy Class will have their Welcome Party. All families are invited to attend so that the children will have the opportunity to visit their classrooms and meet their teachers and classmates before the first day of school. The Welcome Party will be held from 9 AM until 10 AM.

On Friday, September 5, there will be two Welcome Parties. The Pre-Kindergarten class will have their party from 10 AM until 11 AM, and the children in the class for 3–4-year-olds will have their party from 11:30 AM until 12:30 PM.

Monday, September 8, is the first day of Playschool and After School Arts Clubs. After School Arts classes are held Monday through Friday from 12:30 PM until 3 PM. Each afternoon, we feature an exciting activity. On Mondays, the children prepare healthy foods, Tuesdays are for science and experimenting, Wednesdays are for arts and crafts, Thursday's theme is movement, and on Fridays, we engage in musical activities. In addition, the children

have time for free play, outdoor bike riding, listening to stories, and snack time. The Playschool will be offering one free ASA trial session to each child on any afternoon in September. Children in the Puppy Class, who may not yet be ready for a full day, may extend their day until 12:30 PM, to include eating their packed dairy lunch. The Playschool will offer one free trial lunch hour on Wednesday, October 22, to all of the children in the Puppy Class. As a new highlight to After School Arts, we will be featuring surprise guests in our afternoon programs. Announcements of these guests will be made in advance, so that all of the children can attend. Children who are not enrolled in the Playschool in the morning are welcome to attend any of our After School Arts Clubs. Please contact me at [gparris@societyhillssynagogue.org](mailto:gparris@societyhillssynagogue.org) or call the Playschool office at 215.922.6590, ext. 28 for more information about After School Arts. We offer a variety of enrollment options for this program.

The Playschool is a parent co-operative whereby parents come into our classes for 2-year-olds and our class for 3–4-year-olds on a scheduled basis to assist the teachers and to interact with the children in their own child's class. This important aspect of our program allows parents to experience first-hand exactly what learning takes place in our classrooms each day.

The students in the Puppy Class attend the Playschool on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. These two-year-olds enjoy free-play, circle-time songs, stories, movement activities, a healthy snack, outdoor bike riding, creative art projects, and a Shabbat celebration on Fridays.

Continued on page 7

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**President's Column**

Continued from page 3

**Our members are our best Ambassadors!** If each member identifies one person to whom they can reach out and then invites that person to participate in SHS activities, we may ignite the spark for growth. We know that, given the opportunity, we can enrich the lives of many more people. Think about why SHS is special to you and share this information with your unaffiliated neighbors, colleagues, family, and friends. Remember our elevator (or beach) speech:

**S** – Sense of Community

**H** – Hamish

**S** – Spirituality

Some of our Board Members suggest the following as conversation starters:

*“What are you looking for in a synagogue or in your Jewish life?”*

*“SHS allows you to build a relationship with Judaism on your own terms.”*

*“SHS is a place to chill – there is no pressure.”*

*“SHS provides an opportunity to unplug, to just be.”*

*“You can be part of a family without relatives.”*

*“You can be the Jew you want to be.”*

*“SHS, like the TV show Cheers, provides a place where everyone will know your name.”*

The Board recently participated in a shared value activity. Below are values they identified that make SHS so uniquely special:

- We value each person's story and we appreciate that many people grapple with issues in our religion
- We are an inclusive community
- We have a “village ethos” and we celebrate life cycle events as a community
- We make connections within and beyond our community
- We are a progressive congregation; we respect differences, and we value each member's contribution to our community
- We encourage lifelong learning and invite curious people to ask questions
- We have a strong sense of social consciousness, and we promote Tikkun Olam
- We are a family when your family is far away

- We are warm and welcoming to each other and to strangers
- We teach our children to appreciate their Jewish identities through Jewish traditions and holidays
- We have a dedicated, transparent layleadership
- We participate in stimulating Shabbat and Holiday services

This activity speaks volumes about how our layleaders view the members of our congregation. We are truly a caring community.

In closing, I want to thank Betty and the maintenance staff for all of the behind-the-scenes work they have done to “spruce up” our Spruce Street home for the upcoming holidays. I also wish to thank our clergy and our Religion Committee for all of their hard work in preparing for our very special High Holy Day services.

We have much to look forward to this year—there will be many B'nai Mitzvah celebrations and other life cycle events. We are looking forward to a stimulating roster of Adult Education courses! Do not miss our first TGIShabbat service and the Board-sponsored potluck dinner for new members, and mark your calendars in advance for our November “Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?™” event.

I look forward to enjoying the year with my extended SHS family and wish you all a sweet, healthy, and peaceful New Year. L' Shanah Tovah.

**Rabbi's Column**

Continued from page 2

To help myself with my own spiritual preparation this year, I am reading a book by the late Zen Buddhist and JTS-ordained Conservative rabbi, Alan Lew provocatively entitled, *This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation*. After all, aside from the technical knowledge of the prayers and traditions, do you think that I am any more spiritually prepared for the Days of Awe than you? I invite you to read Rabbi Lew's book as well. *Shanah Tovah Um'tukah*, may you have a good and sweet year.

## Ann Spak Thal School

Continued from page 4

**Rachel Moran** is in her second year at our school, with over eight years of Hebrew School teaching and tutoring experience. Rachel holds a B.A. in Sociology with a minor in Vocal Performance from Kutztown University and also completed an Ulpan intensive Hebrew program at Tel Aviv University. She is thrilled to teach 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Bible, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Hebrew. Rachel is also a singer and will co-lead our school High Holy Day services this year.

**Adina Goldstein**, a distinguished graduate of our Hebrew High program, is in her second year teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Adina is a sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania and part of its Civic Scholars Program.

For **Mike Roe**, 7<sup>th</sup> grade specialist and lover of history, this will be his third year teaching at our school. Mike took classes at SHS as a teenager and holds an M.S.Ed. in Secondary Education from La Salle University.

Rounding out our faculty are two more creative teachers new to our school.

**Allie Rosenstein** is a reading specialist at Christopher Columbus Charter School and holds an M.S.Ed. in Reading/Writing/Literacy from the University of Pennsylvania. Allie taught Hebrew School in State College as a Penn State undergraduate and is excited to teach 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Meara Lebovitz** is our new Hebrew High teacher for grades 8-11 and brings over seven years experience as a Jewish teen educator with a highly engaging, multidisciplinary approach. This includes work as a branch director and teacher for Gratz College's Jewish Community High School. Before earning her M.A. in Jewish Communal Service from Gratz, Meara was a producer of television news broadcasts in Philadelphia and Reno.

Everyone will get to meet all of our teachers on the first day of classes. In addition, we invite all parents to join us that morning for our annual "Welcome

Back to School" programs at **9:20 AM (Sunday School parents)** and **11:15 AM (Hebrew School and Hebrew High parents)**.

This is a great opportunity to connect with fellow parents, the Education Committee, and the Rabbi and Cantor; to hear about key calendar dates, Shabbat services and class dinners; and to get a preview of the new online Hebrew learning program that will be a complementary component to our Hebrew curricula for grades 2-6. Light refreshments will be served.

Last but certainly not least, please mark your calendars for our **Rosh Hashanah School Services on Thursday, September 25, from 9:30-10:30 AM for Sunday School and 10:45 AM-12:00 PM for Hebrew School.**

I look forward to welcoming all of you and your children to a new year of joyous Jewish learning. Shanah Tovah Um'tukah, M'le'at Ahavah V'shalvah—wishing you a good and sweet year filled with love and serenity.

## Playschool

Continued from page 5

The class for 3–4-year-old children offers enrollment two, three, four, or five mornings each week. The children participate in free-play, circle-time activities, letter of the week recognition, counting, and learning about the calendar and the weather. They eat a healthy snack and bring a dairy lunch to school. Story time and arts and crafts projects are often based on Jewish holidays, seasons, letters of the week, literature, or age-appropriate themes. The boys and girls practice yoga and celebrate Shabbat each week.

In the Pre-Kindergarten class, the curriculum prepares our students to enter Kindergarten. The children learn reading readiness skills, counting and numbers, writing, language arts, community living, science, art, and all about Jewish holidays and themes. The children also participate in a drama class. Parental involvement takes place in the Pre-K, too. Each week, parents celebrate Shabbat with us and they become the "Royal Readers" by reading a book of their choice to the Pre-K children. There are still spots available in the Playschool for the 2014-15 academic year. Please contact the Playschool office for more information. We welcome all of our new and returning families to a school year filled with exciting play and learning experiences!

HIGH HOLY DAY **PARKING**

Because of the anticipated large attendance during High Holy Day services, we have arranged for permission to park on the **EAST** side of **4th** Street, between **LOCUST** and **LOMBARD**, and on the **NORTH** side of **SPRUCE** Street, between **3rd** and **8th** Streets on the following dates only:

Saturday	September 20	8 PM to 12 AM	Seliḥot
Wednesday	September 24	5:30 to 11 PM	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Thursday	September 25	9 AM to 4 PM	Rosh Hashanah I
Friday	September 26	9 AM to 3 PM	Rosh Hashanah II
Friday	October 3	6 to 10 PM	Kol Nidre
Saturday	October 4	9 AM to 10 PM	Yom Kippur

These parking privileges are good only for the days and times indicated.

You must place a SHS Parking Placard in the front window of your car. Placards are available in the Spruce Street Lobby.

**Please note:** Parking is not permitted at **any time** in front of neighbors' driveways, too close to street corners (it hinders buses trying to turn), in Lawrence court, or in the loading zone in front of the building.

Cars not conforming to these parking regulations will be subject to ticketing by the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

## HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah</b>	Wednesday, September 24	6:30 PM
<b>Rosh Hashanah I</b>	Thursday, September 25	9 AM
Sunday School Service		9:30 AM
Hebrew School Service		10:45 AM
Honey Tasting Oneg following Services		
<b>Community Tashlikh</b>		2 PM
<b>Rosh Hashanah II</b>	Friday, September 26	10 AM
Shabbat Service		6:15 PM
<b>Kol Nidre</b>	Friday, October 3	6:15 PM
<b>Yom Kippur</b>	Saturday, October 4	9:30 AM
Sunday School Service		9:30 AM
Hebrew School Service		10:45 AM
Recess		3-4 PM
Yizkor Service		4 PM
Minḥah Service		4:15 PM
Ne'ilah Service		6 PM
Sounding of the Shofar		7:20 PM
Break-the-Fast following Services		

## SHS ETROG & LULAV SALE

Please cut out and return completed form and your check to:

SHS Etrog & Lulav Sale  
418 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

I am enclosing \$50 for each set



Deadline: September 18

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# of sets \_\_\_\_\_

### Attention Ushers

Volunteers are needed to serve as ushers. Your participation is essential to maintain the dignity of our services and to ensure appropriate decorum. We would appreciate your help at as many services as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Betty van de Rijn at 215.922.6590 or by email at [bettyv@societyhillsynagogue.org](mailto:bettyv@societyhillsynagogue.org).

## STROLLER PARKING

In order to comply with fire safety regulations, kindly park your child's stroller in the Social Hall along the 5th Street side of the room before joining us for services.



## BABYSITTING

For your convenience babysitting for the High Holy Days is available, at no charge, in the rear Playschool room.



Mitzvah Food Project's High Holiday Food Drive is September 21 through October 20 and we need your help!

**Society Hill Synagogue will be collecting CANNED PROTEIN ITEMS!**

All donations of **CANNED PROTEIN ITEMS** must meet the following criteria: **kosher lower-salt, lower-sugar, lower-fat, properly sealed (cans, etc.) expiration date must be Dec. 2014 or later**

*In addition to being more nutritious for all recipients, this food will best support recipients with medical conditions. Due to the locations of the Mitzvah Food Project's five food pantries, the food must be kosher.*

*Thank you for providing nutritious food to those in need in our community!*

## September Birthdays

Lyn Kirshenbaum  
 Robby Saligman  
 Hanna Aufschauer  
 Neil Cohen  
 David Gutstadt  
 Anya Rosin  
 Madeleine Wilson  
 Edgar Einhorn  
 Riley Dilworth  
 Lindsey Morgan  
 Asher Dubin  
 Valerie Lichtman  
 Martin Rosenberg  
 Jay Denbo  
 Sheri Feinberg  
 Mel Nasielski  
 Stephen Stein  
 Karen Hafter  
 Theodore Schoenfeld  
 Emma Stumm  
 Jacob Kadish  
 Bart Kaplan  
 Miriam Pastor  
 Joann Slosberg  
 Anya Applebaum Licht  
 Brooke Salzman  
 Betta Kolansky  
 Paula Ninerell  
 Ann Rosen Spector  
 Lynne Rubenfeld  
 Matthew Becker  
 Jared Susco  
 Aldo Friedman  
 Fran Gallun  
 Peter Kauderwood  
 Zachary Meisel  
 Michael Rochester  
 Eva Ecker  
 Dana Feinberg  
 Neil Strauss  
 Sari Love  
 Ben Rosin  
 Robert Einhorn  
 Caryn Levitsky  
 Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton  
 Jessica Newberg  
 Jamie Schwartz  
 Jodi Scott  
 Josie Chrismer  
 Lisa Eizen  
 Asher Harwitz  
 Anne Ballen Ladenson  
 Andrew Bottaro  
 Brent Landau  
 Rebecca Stolker

## September Anniversaries

Noah and Sara Chrismer  
 Irwin Balik and Peggy Backal  
 David and Lindsey Morgan



## October Birthdays

Michelle Danoff  
 Lily Hayman  
 David Morgan  
 Charlotte Feinberg  
 Alexander Kranzel  
 Burton Blender  
 Sara Morgenstern  
 Daniel Saligman  
 Skylar Hunter  
 Maxwell Gearhart-Robboy  
 Tal Prystowsky  
 Amy Danoff  
 Noa Halpern  
 Sarah Ferst  
 Lena Popkin  
 Bodin Snyder  
 Jacob Hayman  
 Dorathea Applebaum Licht  
 Libby Taub  
 Paige Taub  
 Hannah Feinberg  
 Jon Jacoby



## October Anniversaries

Daniel & Carol Weil  
 Dan & Alli Taub  
 Joshua Nadel & Lana Noel  
 Nicole & Daniel Perkins  
 Nathaniel Popkin &  
 Rona Buchalter

5775 New Year's Greeting from...

L' Shanah Tovah  
 Have a sweet year!



Libby Cone and Tom Borawski  
 Neil Cohen and  
 Debra Weissbach  
 Murray Dubin and Libby Rosof  
 Steven and Lisa Eizen  
 Terry Graboyes  
 Paula and Larry Ninerell  
 Harry and Eleanor Oxman  
 Jerome and Lois Rosenberg  
 Marty and Betty van de Rijn  
 Rosemarie Weinberg  
 Harvey and Bonnie Weiner  
 Zelda Wolf

## Thank you....

To the following members for their High Holy  
 Day Sponsorships:

## Honey Tasting Oneg

Alan and Debbie Casnoff  
 Theodore Danoff & Diane Siegel Danoff  
 Terry Graboyes  
 Paula and Larry Ninerell  
 Gerry Schneeberg  
 Jared and Christopher Susco



## Break-the-Fast

Alan and Debbie Casnoff  
 Neil Cohen and Debra Weissbach  
 Theodore Danoff and Diane Siegel Danoff  
 Steven and Ruth Greenberg  
 Michael Rochester and Carole LeFavre-Rochester  
 Barry and Joann Slosberg  
 Richard Summers and Merrily Williams  
 Jared and Christopher Susco  
 Alton and Mona Sutnick  
 Harvey and Bonnie Weiner  
 The Einhorn Family and Seafood Unlimited





### Cantor's Column

Continued from page 4

It's a simple and profound concept that seems obvious to me now, but was revelatory then. Tisha B'Av, the High Holy Days, observing Shabbat and keeping kosher, saying the prayers and blessings before I eat—the long list of 613 commandments of which I only do a fraction—are tools, learning aids, that deepen and broaden my appreciation for and participation in God's creation.

If you are interested in learning more about Reb Zalman's thought and teaching, there are many books, videos, and at least one online course available to you. Please ask me about them.

Soon we are going to be immersed in the season of *t'shuvah*, repentance, and its climax, the High Holy Days. The ritual and liturgy associated with this season are wonderfully complex and profound; looked at through Reb Zalman's lens, they offer deep stirring for our lives. My wife Sally and I wish that you experience them, and the year following, in health, satisfaction, and delight.

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

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**Carol LeFavre-Rochester's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on her Conversion**

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Barbara Spector

In Memory of

**Gloria Steinberg**

Jerry &amp; Joan Roller

Jackie Pack Segal

**Shirley Spector, Mother of Barbara Spector**

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Michael &amp; Carole Rochester

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Mark &amp; Ann Steinberger

Iris Levine

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Yahrzeit Remembrance

**Mannie & Rose Hechler, Parents of Iris Levine**

Iris Levine

**Bonnie Abramsky, Sister of Iris Levine**

Iris Levine

**Jack Paller, Father of Robert Paller**

Robert Paller

**Joseph Poulshock, Husband of Sally Poulshock**

Sally Poulshock

**Dorothy Weingart, Aunt of Sharon Shapiro**

Irv and Sharon Shapiro

**Marjory Stone, Mother of Katie Levine**

Katie Levine

**Pauline Orman, Grandmother of James Orman**

James Orman

**Benjamin Levering, Father of Sally Poulshock**

Sally Poulshock

**Nancy Ferst**

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**Lore Bryan**

Barbara Spector

Debra Stewart

Rita Altman

**Paul Susco, Father of Jared Susco**

Barbara Spector

**Shirley Spector, Mother of Barbara Spector**

Debra Stewart

Yahrzeit Remembrance

**Rebecca Acker, Mother-in-Law of Beatrice Acker**

Beatrice Acker

**Restoration Fund**

In Memory of

**Lore Bryan**

Len Weinberg &amp; Fran Gallun

**Charlene Hirsch**

Len Weinberg &amp; Fran Gallun

Marc, Staci, &amp; Jaime Schwartz

Yahrzeit Remembrance

**Sophy Curson, Aunt of Susan Schwartz**

William and Susan Schwartz

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In Honor of

**Hannah Myers**

Samuel Ackerman

**Scot & Marcie Ziskind, Lev's Graduation**

Stan &amp; Merle Salkin

In Memory of

**Gloria Steinberg**

Ivy Bryan

Yahrzeit Remembrance

**Al Shreibman, Father-in-Law of Doris Shreibman**

Doris Shreibman

**Prayerbook Fund**

In Memory of

**Gloria Steinberg**

Rabbi Ivan Caine &amp; Deborah Caine

**Social Action Fund**

In Honor of

**George Washington-Vare ES Photo Project**

Alan &amp; Debbie Casnoff

Harry &amp; Eleanor Oxman

In Memory of

**Shirley Spector, Mother of Barbara Spector**

Tony &amp; Judy Lalli

The Hayman Family

**Charlene Hirsch**  
The Hayman Family

**Yahrzeit Remembrance**

**Robert Weissbach, Brother of Debbie Weissbach**  
Debbie Weissbach

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

**In Appreciation of**

**Rabbi Winokur**  
Sharon Shapiro and Family  
Barbara Spector

**In Honor of**

**Marriage of Noah Herman & Ashley Kerns**  
Terry Graboyes

**In Memory of**

**Shirley Spector, Mother of Barbara Spector**  
Iris Levine

**Yahrzeit Remembrance**

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

**Murray Rosof, Father of Libby Rosof**  
Murray Dubin & Libby Rosof

**Cantor's Discretionary Fund**

**Yahrzeit Remembrance**

**Joy Kirshenbaum, Mother of Lyn Kirshenbaum**  
Lyn Kirshenbaum

**Kiddush Fund**

**In Honor of**

**Auf Ruf of Justin Balik-Backal**  
Irwin Balik and Peggy Backal

**Faich-Sugarman Baby Naming**  
Gerald Faich and Bonni Sugarman

**Galler Baby Naming**  
Avi and Debra Galler

**Auf Ruf of Adam Reed**  
B. Fishman

**Carole LeFavre-Rochester 's 25th Anniversary of Conversion**  
Michael Rochester and Family

**Bar Mitzvah of Noah Davidson**  
Michael Davidson and Christine Reardon

**May TGIShabbat Dinner**  
Irv and Sharon Shapiro

**"Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?"™ Weekend**  
Bill and Debra Stewart  
Jonathan Weiss and Abigail Wolf

**Bat Mitzvah of Amalya Weiss**  
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## Membership Engagement Initiative

### MEI Events Are Taking Over the Calendar!

Debra Stewart

#### 1) Holiday Meals for Rosh Hashanah

SHS's Holiday Meals Initiative committee is working to coordinate Rosh Hashanah holiday meals for members who do not have family in the area on Thursday night, September 25.

Are you planning to host a meal for your family and/or friends that evening, and do you have room at your table for 1 to 4 of our congregants to join you?

Are you willing to host a potluck Rosh Hashanah dinner for some of our congregants in your home?

Are you a member who would like to attend a Rosh Hashanah dinner at a congregants' home, or would you like to attend (and contribute a potluck dish for) a potluck dinner at a congregants' home?

Please contact Barbara Spector at [Barbara@familybusinessmagazine.com](mailto:Barbara@familybusinessmagazine.com), if you answered "yes" to any of the above questions. In order to ensure that everyone can be accommodated, the deadline for adding your name to any of the above-mentioned lists is **Monday, September 15**.

#### 2) TGIShabbat

Join us on Friday, September 19 at 6:15 PM, for the first TGIShabbat service of the season, featuring "The Three J's", Josh Nadel, Jud Aaron, and Joe Oxman! Plan to attend our annual Board-sponsored potluck dinner to welcome our new members immediately following services.

The next TGIShabbat service will occur on Friday, October 24 at 6:15 PM, featuring Jessi Roemer A special dinner and Oneg Shabbat will follow services.

#### 3) Arts & Culture

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 25, for an SHS Outing to the Penn's Landing Playhouse to see *Old Jews Telling Jokes*. See Jonathan Feinman's Arts & Culture article on Pg.18 for further details.

#### 4) "Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?<sup>TM</sup>"

During the weekend of November 14 and 15, we will have our next "Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?<sup>TM</sup>" event. Please see Bonny Hohenberger's article on Pg. 15 for details.

## *“Guess Who’s Coming To Shabbas?™”*

Join Us on November 14 and 15!

Bonny Hohenberger

*“This was such a fun program and I can hardly wait for the next one in the fall.”*

**T**wo years ago, SHS began an ambitious program to create a closer community by arranging for people to experience Shabbat celebrations at members’ homes. During the first year, two Friday night dinners were held, and several congregants found new lifelong friends. Then, last fall we adopted the *Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas?™* program created by Debbie Albert for her synagogue in Dresher, PA. During two weekends in November and May, 25 hosts opened their homes for either Friday night dinners, Saturday luncheons, or Havdalah events. Well over 100 families participated, with several attending more than one event!

Here are quotes from two of the participants after our May event:

*“Everyone on my guest list attended! We even had a 7-year-old, two 4-year-olds, and two 15-month-olds—they all had a blast! We started with a Shabbat song session led by my husband on guitar, said all the blessings, and had a fantastic meal together.”*

*“All of us there made new friendships and got to know each other better because of the evening. Conversation flowed among the groups immediately. One of the guests led us in a rousing rendition of Shalom Aleikhem. ... everyone was smiling that evening.”*

Our next *Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas?™* event will occur during the weekend of November 14 and 15. Here’s how it will work. The regular Friday evening service on November 14 will be canceled and synagogue members will be encouraged to attend a dinner at a host family’s home. On that same night, parents of the preschool children will be invited to attend a Playschool Shabbat Dinner/Grandparents and Special Friends celebration at 5 PM at the synagogue. On Saturday, November 15, the Aleph Class will help to lead the Shabbat service, followed by a luncheon. Other members will be able to attend a Shabbat luncheon or Havdalah meal and service at the home of a volunteer congregant.

Save the dates and let us know if you would like to be a host, co-host, or guest.

Keep it simple; invite your guests to bring a dish or bottle of wine. Serve buffet-style or sit down, barbecue or pizza—it all works. The camaraderie is what’s important!!!

All hosts will receive a Shabbat or Havdalah kit including blessings, songs, and conversation cards (which most participants never needed).

To become a host or guest, or for more information, contact Debbie Stewart at [beachethic@gmail.com](mailto:beachethic@gmail.com) or 609.713.0828 or Bonny Hohenberger at [bjh711@gmail.com](mailto:bjh711@gmail.com) or 215.463.4715. Please do not wait! The sooner we accumulate our list of hosts and guests, the better our planning (we try to place members in homes which are geographically convenient and age compatible).

## Social Action

### Volunteers Needed to Assist Teachers at Vare-Washington Elementary School

Phyllis Denbo

Our first year partnering with the newly merged Vare-Washington Elementary School was both rewarding and frustrating. The annual Holiday Mitzvah Project was a record-breaking success. Fifty SHS families donated toys and clothing to 87 of the school's neediest children, in addition to \$2,200 in grocery store gift cards to their families. For the first time, the Photography and Writing Program was funded by a grant from the Picasso Project of Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY), a highly regarded initiative designed to increase arts education opportunities for students in the Philadelphia School District. The goal of this project was community building; the focus was on portraits. Led by Judy Gelles, with able assistance from Susan Levering and the Vare-Washington art teacher, the students produced a body of work that was of high artistic quality and personally moving. The not-to-be-missed photos will be on exhibit in the first floor SHS gallery throughout the High Holy Days.

Our first year as Vare-Washington School's partner was not entirely successful, however. SHS members who volunteered to work directly with the students and teachers in their classrooms never received their anticipated assignments. It was a difficult year for the principal and her staff. Two schools were merged, six teachers were cut on the district's leveling day in October, and additional losses in many areas resulted from the system-wide financial crisis. The principal was apologetic for not acting on our offer. While we were sympathetic, we explained that we had a responsibility to the SHS members who had volunteered and could not begin another year at Vare-Washington without some assurance that the situation would not recur.

I am pleased to report that the organization at the school has already improved. By the end of June, we received a list of teachers, by grade level and subject area, who are interested in working with SHS volunteers.

We were also provided with information on a weekly remedial reading program, coordinated by an outside organization, for which the school will also need volunteers. Finally, we will have greater access to the teachers—both at the beginning of the year for orientation, and as the year progresses, for troubleshooting. So if you are interested in volunteering at the school, please complete the interest questionnaire I created last year. The link is on the home page of the SHS website.

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## POWER

### Gearing Up for the November Election

Carl Levitsky

Volunteers for POWER celebrated after the May primary elections when the proposition to raise minimum wage to \$10.88 per hour for subcontracted city workers passed by a 2:1 margin. Unfortunately, the other issue that we have been facing, the tragedy of lack of funding for public schools, remains unchanged.

Once again, we will need to mobilize our forces in November to encourage voters to support the candidate for governor who backs a fair funding formula for Philadelphia and all Pennsylvania public schools.

We were impressed and gratified by all the SHS members who volunteered in the spring to make phone calls and knock on doors. We are lucky to be members of a synagogue that strongly supports Social Action causes. Joining our committee provides a wonderful and enjoyable way to participate with a group of dedicated people who are working to improve our cities' schools. After Labor Day, we will be contacting SHS members to help us to encourage Philadelphians to vote in the November election so that Pennsylvania will have a fair funding formula for our schools.

Finally, we want to remind everyone that there will be a **POWER fundraiser on Thursday, October 23, from 6 until 8 PM**, at Congregation Rodeph Shalom, located at 615 N. Broad Street. You will hear more about this in the coming weeks, but mark your calendars now!

## Arts & Culture Initiative

### Art Exhibits, Poetry Readings, and Plays

Jonathan Feinman

**T**he new Arts and Culture group (a new division of MEI) has gotten off to a good start. Over the spring and summer, we had several interesting and successful outings.

In late June, artist/photographer Judy Gelles led a private tour of her photographic work entitled, "Trailer Park." This series, which Judy worked on for years, has been exhibited at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and we were able to have a private viewing at the Pentimenti Gallery. Judy explained how the series of photographs of her parents' mobile home in a retirement community in Florida were taken at night. The exposures could last up to five minutes and were only lit by moonlight, which resulted in a dreamy greyish-blue landscape. After viewing the exhibit, our group went off to have a tasty lunch together in the neighborhood so that we could continue discussing Judy's interesting work, while getting to know each other better.

While other artistic events were not exclusively for SHS congregants, these events featured several artists and writers from the congregation who both performed and shared illuminating information about their exhibits, concerts, and readings.

On May 22, a small group of us attended a concert of original Jewish music by the group Ezuz (which means power) led by bandleader, Jessi Roemer. Our own Eve Friedman is the flutist in Ezuz, which plays original eclectic music with Jewish roots.

On May 28, Fran Gallun, Past SHS President and artist/teacher at The Fleisher Art Memorial, presented a slideshow talk on her recent visit to Israel. She showed work that she completed there and discussed the impact the residency had on her work.

On June 22, Liz Abrams-Morley read poems from her soon-to-be published volume of poetry called *Inventory*.

Now for what is coming up. On Saturday, October 25, at 8 PM, the Arts & Culture Initiative is organizing an outing for SHS congregants who are interested in seeing the play *Old Jews Telling Jokes* at the Penn's Landing Playhouse (located inside the Independence Seaport Museum at 211 South Columbus Boulevard and Walnut Street). We hope you will join us! If you are interested in meeting for dinner before the show on October 25—or if you'd like to meet for drinks afterward—please contact Jonathan Feinman at [jon46feinman@hotmail.com](mailto:jon46feinman@hotmail.com) or Debbie Stewart at [beachethic@gmail.com](mailto:beachethic@gmail.com). Let us know if you have any suggestions for restaurants. If you have any dietary restrictions, we will do our best to accommodate you when we make reservations to dine somewhere near the playhouse. We will send you an email with additional details nearer to the date of the show. Debbie and I are planning to get seats in the rear center portion of the theater, so feel free to join us when you order your tickets at: [http://www.plplayhouse.com/old\\_jews\\_telling\\_jokes/index.shtm](http://www.plplayhouse.com/old_jews_telling_jokes/index.shtm). We are looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones as we enjoy a great night out together!

Other upcoming events include:

Another exhibit by Judy Gelles at the Gershman Y, 400 South Broad Street, from September 18 until December 19. An opening reception is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, from 6–8 PM. A lecture will be given on Wednesday, November 12 at 6 PM. The gallery hours otherwise are Monday–Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM and Sundays, 9 AM to 2 PM.

Continued on page 18

**Arts & Culture Initiative** Continued from page 17

Fran Gallun will be exhibiting her mixed media paintings at the Cosmopolitan Club at 1616 Latimer Street. The exhibit hours are Monday–Friday, 10 AM to 4 PM. There will be an opening reception on Friday, September 12, 5–7 PM, and all are welcome.

If you are an artist in the congregation and would like to share what you are working on with other congregants by leading an exclusive tour, or if you just have a great idea for a congregational outing, please contact me by email at [jon46feinman@hotmail.com](mailto:jon46feinman@hotmail.com).

As we approach the holiday season I want to wish everyone a sweet and meaningful New Year, L' Shanah Tovah!



## A Message From the Religion Committee Co-Chairs

Terry Novick and Marc Schwartz

The members of the SHS Religion Committee would like to thank all of the congregants who have volunteered to participate in this year's High Holy Day services. We would also like to invite anyone interested in leyning Torah or leading Musaf during our regular Shabbat services to contact us at [terry.novick@gmail.com](mailto:terry.novick@gmail.com) or [marcschwartzus@yahoo.com](mailto:marcschwartzus@yahoo.com).

Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year. L'Shanah Tovah!

## Please Send in Your Forms!

Before the summer began, you received your annual Membership Renewal/High Holy Day Information packet in the mail. Please fill out all forms and return them in the enclosed envelope with the required membership dues and holiday related payments. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office at 215.922.6590, or [office@societyhillsynagogue.org](mailto:office@societyhillsynagogue.org). Remember, membership renewal fees and previous balances must be paid in order for you to receive your High Holy Day tickets. The deadline for entries to be included in this year's Yizkor Book was July 15, but, we extended it to September 18.



## Best Wishes to Miss Terri!

Gloria Parris

Terri Saulin Frock, the much-loved Playschool teacher of the 2-year-old classes, will not be returning to teach at SHS in September.

Miss Terri has been an outstanding preschool teacher at SHS for over 14 years! She has provided all of her students with a warm and loving "first school experience." Her dedication, creativity, and passion for teaching our tiniest students will be greatly missed.

For all of those families who know her, I am sure that you, along with the SHS staff, wish her much success in her new position in a suburban private school as an art teacher for middle and high school students.

We are so fortunate that Margaret Stewart, aka Miss Maggie, will be taking over as the senior teacher for the students in the class for 2-year-olds. Miss Maggie has worked at the SHS Playschool in the 2-year-old class, the Afterschool Art program, and the summer camp for the past two years. She is kind, patient, and nurturing, and we are delighted that she will succeed Miss Terri in teaching our tiniest students.

## Baby & Me Group

### A Message From the Group's New Leaders

Jackie Goldfinger and Joanna Hart

**S**ociety Hill Synagogue's Baby & Me Group invites all parents or caretakers with babies and toddlers up to age 2 to join us for fun activities, idea sharing, and support. Please join our new "SHS Families" Google Group (email [joanna.lee.hart@gmail.com](mailto:joanna.lee.hart@gmail.com) for help) so that you can stay up-to-date on events and share your parenting questions and knowledge! Prospective members, expectant parents, and any caretakers are welcome to join! You don't have to be a member of the synagogue to join our group—you don't even have to be Jewish.

We'd like to introduce ourselves as the new leaders of the Baby & Me group. We are so excited to meet the littlest members of the SHS community, and we hope to encourage them to become members of our Playschool family!

I, Jackie Goldfinger, am the mother of twin 18-month-olds and a teenage stepdaughter (who is awesome with the twins). My husband, Larry, and I have been together for 10 years, mainly because I can find stuff that he loses, and he is the only one who can remember to feed the cat. I am a playwright and teaching artist. Larry is a scientist and a musician. You can read about my work online at [www.jacquelinegoldfinger.com](http://www.jacquelinegoldfinger.com).

I, Joanna Hart, am the mother of a music-loving toddler named Toby. I am a physician at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and my husband, Micah, is an administrator at the Mastery Charter School. We moved here from Virginia six years ago and love living in the city!

Our first scheduled event will take place on Sunday, September 7, 11AM. We're calling it *New Year at The Nest!* Come celebrate Rosh Hashanah and chat about what you'd like to do in the upcoming year!

We will ring in the Jewish New Year at The Nest indoor play space (13<sup>th</sup> and Locust Streets, [www.nestphilly.com](http://www.nestphilly.com)). We'll play, share a snack (apples, honey, and challah), and explore your ideas for the group. **There will be free admission for the first 10 families (\$15 per family once our passes run out)!**

For questions or further information, please contact [jacquelinegoldfinger@yahoo.com](mailto:jacquelinegoldfinger@yahoo.com).

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## Young Families Group

### A New Season of Activities

Jessica Downes

**T**he SHS Young Families Group includes families with a child under 5 (and of course, older siblings are welcome). Parents, children, and caregivers go on excursions around town (including our annual Christmas Eve dinner at a local restaurant), and we attend age-appropriate happenings at the Synagogue. If you would like more information about the Young Families Group, or you'd like to be included on the group's email list, please contact Jessica Downes at [jessdownes@yahoo.com](mailto:jessdownes@yahoo.com).



## Tuesday Morning Minyan

Debra Stewart

**A**s you may know, an SHS member leads a brief morning service every Tuesday at 7:15 AM. We need your help to secure a minyan at this service for those in our SHS and local communities who wish to say Kaddish.

In the words of Judy Lalli:

*"As a 'no-longer-a morning-person' who attends the Tuesday morning service, I will tell you that it's hard to get there and always worth it once I do, especially when (rarely, lately, sadly) I'm the 10th person. We have a nice hamish group, and it is really gratifying when someone new shows up who needs the minyan. We recently had a young man join us after losing his mom, and he has been a wonderful addition. We start the day together and are finished in under a half hour, start to finish."*



Please consider attending this brief, important service. You never know when you may be the 10<sup>th</sup> person required to make a minyan for someone who is mourning the loss of a loved one.

*Coffee and bagels will be provided after this service.*



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## Community News

### Mazel Tov to

Jerry & Joan Roller on the birth of their granddaughter, Josephine Elizabeth Roller

Harvey & Bonnie Weiner on the marriage of their son, Ari, to Hannah Tran

Debra, Avi, and Judah Galler on the birth of their daughter and sister, Lilyan Honey Galler

Debbie & Bill Stewart on the birth of their great-grandson, Broderick Charles De Wolf

### Condolences to

Lori Dafilou on the death of her husband, Steve Dafilou

Barbara Spector on the death of her mother, Shirley Spector

Jeffrey Bryan and Carol Bryan and Family on the death of their mother, Lore Bryan

Bruce and Joel Hirsch, on the death of their wife and mother, Charlene Hirsch

Jared Susco, on the death of his father, Paul Susco

### Welcome New Members

Jerome Kranzel & Rian Berger

*Alexander*

*Jenevieve*

Russ Lichterman and Jessica Berlin

*Elia*

Fred & Dinah Lovitch

William Pasternak

*Boris*

Adam Reed & Alissa Kligerman

Justin Backal-Balik & Larissa Sachs

Zachary Sigel & Winnie Cantor

Barry & Joann Slosberg

Richard Yaskin



## With Love and Gratitude to the Invisible Non-Jews on Our Staff

Betty van de Rijn

Recently, the President of NAASE (North American Association of Synagogue Executive Directors) sent an e-mail through our listserv with the heading “Remembering the Invisible Non-Jews”, stating that we tend to overlook the gentiles who keep our synagogues running.

Well....I wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the MOST VALUED GENTILES on our staff; they most certainly are not INVISIBLE!

Joe Scolaro, who has been with us since 2007. The congregation sees Joe during the High Holy Days, Tuesday Minyan, and during many of the minor Jewish holidays. Playschool families see Mr. Joe, who keeps our classrooms in working order, every morning as he greets each student by name. Joe has only missed one day of work in his seven years with SHS!

Bob Senick, Sr. (our Mr. Congeniality), Rob Senick, Jr. (our in-house intellect), and Dave Driscoll (the quiet one) are our “Shabbas Goys,” and I mean that in the fondest way possible! All have been with us since 2008. There is nothing that they would not do for us! I am very grateful to them for making my job easier!

Leanne Bendetti started with us part-time as Rabbi Winokur’s secretary and became our full-time administrative assistant in 2009. Members and potential members are always greeted with a warm smile, whether in person or transmitted through the phone. Leanne is dedicated to her job, and she has learned so much about Judaism.

Our newest addition is our in-house accountant, Rhonda Bello. Rhonda is a wiz with QuickBooks and numbers! With a smile, she helps keep our budget on track.

*“Day after day, night after night, week after week, we come and go to the synagogue; so do “they” who are separated from us by role, culture, and religion. Our sages refer to the shul as a miniature temple. Couldn’t shul be a place where holy souls meet no matter their creed, their religion, or the roles they play in this life on earth? We should certainly hold this hope.”*

*September 25, 2013 issue of Tablet by Simon Yisrael Feuerman*

At SHS, we are proud of our diverse community. We value all of our members: Jewish and Non-Jewish, Jews who are more observant and Jews who are less observant, Jews by birth and Jews by choice. Let’s remember to show our Non-Jewish staff members how much we value their hard work, dedication, and commitment. No one should ever be invisible in our SHS family.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Labor Day Building Closed	7:15 AM Minyan 8 AM PS Teachers 4:15 AM HS Teachers  7 PM Playschool Parent Meeting	10 AM Staff CPR Training		6:15 PM Services	Ki Tetzei 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services Auf Ruf of Jared Shapiro and Sara Steinberger
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 AM SS 9:15 AM SS Welcome 11 AM HS 11:15 AM HS Welcome	First Day of PS   7 PM ECM	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	6-8 PM Kehillah Wine Event at the Federation Bldg.		6:15 PM Services	Ki Tavo 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services 10 AM Shabbat Study
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi 11 AM HS	7 PM BDM	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS			6:15 PM TGIShabbat Service featuring Jud, Josh, & Joe Potluck dinner following services sponsored by the SHS Board	Nitzavim Va-yeilekh 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services Faich Baby Naming  9 PM Selihot
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 AM SS 11 AM HS		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	12:30 PM PS Closes  Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:30 PM Services	Rosh Hashanah I 9 AM Services 9:30 AM SS Srv 10:45 AM HS Srv Community Tashlikh at Penn's Landing	Rosh Hashanah II 10 AM Services  6:15 PM Services	Ha-azinu Shabbat Shuvah 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
28	29	30				
9 AM SS 11 AM HS	6 PM Hatan Torah Meeting with Rabbi	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	ECM-Ex. Comm. BDM-Board SS-Sunday School HS-Hebrew School PS-Playschool			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
					12:30 PM PS Closed  Kol Nidre 6:15 PM Services	Yom Kippur 9:30 AM Services 9:30 AM SS Srv 10:45 AM HS Srv 4 PM Yizkor Srv 7:20 PM Shofar 7:30 PM Break the Fast
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi 11 AM HS		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	Erev Sukkot	Sukkot I Office/PS Closed 9:30 AM Services	Sukkot II Office/PS Closed 6:15 PM Services	Hol Hamoed Sukkot 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sukkot IV 10:30 AM School Family Sukkot Service	Sukkot V Columbus Day Building Closed	Sukkot VI 7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	Sukkot VII Building Closed	Sukkot VIII 9 AM Sh'mini Atzeret/Yizkor  6:30 PM Simḥat Torah	6:15 PM Vav Class Service & Dinner	B'reishit 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service Ḥatan Torah & Kallat B'reishit Kiddush Lunch
19	20	21		23	24	25
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi 11 AM HS	6 PM ECM 7 PM BDM	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	FREE PS LUNCH		6:15 PM TGIShabbat Service featuring Jessi Roemer Dinner sponsored by Steve & Ruth Greenberg and Deborah Shapiro	Noah 9 AM Torah Study  9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah Service of Lex Meisel  10 AM Shabbat Study
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9 AM SS 11 AM HS		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS			6:15 PM Services	

# Kesher



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Bob Freedman, **Cantor**  
Debra Stewart, **President**  
Betty van de Rijn, **Executive Director**  
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**Come to an Open House or schedule a personal tour:**

October 22, January 13, February 25: 9:30-noon  
November 12: 6:00-8:00 pm

Visit our website for all admission events.



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