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Knotted Grotto

Staci Schwartz

Mazel Tov to SHS member Meg Saligman, the renowned artist behind Project Home's commissioned work, "Mary, Undoer of Knots Grotto," which was installed near the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Logan Square before the Papal

visit to Philadelphia!

Inspired by one of Pope Francis's favorite paintings, "Mary, Undoer of Knots," the 20-foot round dome held over 100,000 strips of cloth upon which were written individual's personal challenges and hardships. Visitors were invited to tie their own strips to the grotto, or untie the knots of others' strips to symbolically relieve their suffering. Pope Francis actually made a stop to bless the installation.

SHS friend and musician Betsy Alexander wrote the words and music for a song entitled "Help Us Mary," that was performed and incorporated into the exhibit in the form of a video, created by Betsy's husband Burnell Yow!

In a thank you note to all participants, Meg wrote:

"Through Knotted Grotto, Meg Saligman Studios has experienced a generosity of spirit, appreciation of beauty and a sublime level of energy. If this was not enough, a dear and loving man, Pope Francis, visited our grotto and gave a silent prayer for all our struggles, hopes and wishes. It is amazing to know his blessing touched so many people."

SHS Young Friends

Beer & a Blessing

Natalie Lesser

Join the SHS Young Friends on Saturday, November 14, 7 PM, at the Raven Lounge (1718 Sansom Street), for the second Beer & a Blessing event. We will gather to celebrate the end of Shabbat with engaging conversations, drinks, and snacks, followed by a Havdalah service led by SHS Rabbinic Intern Nathan Kamesar.

For further questions or to RSVP (by November 11), please contact me (SHS Young Friends Co-Chair) at lesser.natalie@gmail.com.



Rabbi's Column

May You Live in Interesting Times!

Avi Winokur

A meditation Shabbat morning service. What is your response? (1) Maybe you think, “Great! Finally I can link up my interest in meditation to Jewish tradition.” (2) Maybe you will think like others in our community: “Meditation?!? A meditation Shabbat service?!? A Shabbat service is a Shabbat service. A little bit of tinkering is to be expected, but to turn it into a meditation service? I just don’t see it. A thoughtful Shabbat service meets my spiritual needs just fine.” (3) Or maybe you think like a third group: “My spiritual home is meditation and yoga. I’m not looking to integrate my practice into Judaism. Don’t get me wrong: I’m a loyal Jew; I belong to the synagogue. But I look to satisfy my spiritual needs elsewhere.” (4) Finally, there is the group that says, “To be honest, religion and spirituality are equally unimportant to me. My real connection is to the Jewish people, Jewish community, the emphasis on study, connection to Israel, Jewish literature, and Jewish music, but since I know that religion is the glue that brings it all together, I’m glad to be part of a synagogue.”

There are as many approaches to Judaism as there are Jews and, likewise, the same is true if the field is narrowed to Jewish meditation services.

So what made this meditation service work for those who attended? What worked was that meditation and Jewish worship were put together so that each could illumine the other, as some of the comments from participants indicate: “fantastically informative and inspiring at the same time”; “a remarkable service—moving, illuminating, freeing . . . connect [ing] my long-standing yoga and meditation practice with the traditional Jewish service”; “Your explanations of the prayers unlocked them for me . . . permitting me to see meaning in them.”

Fine, but is such a service legitimate? Yes. A basic truth about Judaism is that it has changed dramatically over the centuries.

Even though the Israelite religion was undergoing internal revolutions even during biblical times, the destruction of the Temple in 70 C.E. was the equivalent of a spiritual tsunami. The Temple was essential to the religious life of our Israelite ancestors and it was destroyed. Out of its ashes arose a Judaism (and, I might add, a Christianity) utterly unlike the Temple-centered Israelite religion. If a Jew who lived in 300 B.C.E. were to suddenly be resurrected in 300 C.E., she would not recognize the 300 C.E. Judaism as Judaism at all. At best, she would view it as a heresy, if she were to recognize it even slightly.

Fast-forward to the cataclysm of modernity. For Judaism, modernity was and remains another spiritual tsunami. As the late great Yogi Berra said, “It’s déjà vu all over again.”

While we think of the Enlightenment and Emancipation of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as unalloyed blessings, for the traditional Jewish community these new approaches to what it means to be human—with their emphasis on individual freedom, liberty, and conscience—were terrifying, undercutting the very foundations of Judaism.

Continued on page 18

Center City Kehillah

Hanukkah Candle Lighting in Rittenhouse Square

Deborah Shapiro

In vite friends, families, colleagues, and neighbors for Hanukkah candle lighting, singing, and holiday treats in Rittenhouse Square on Tuesday, December 8, at 5:15 PM! You'll be celebrating with the members of 20 other Jewish communities—our Kehillah—representing the diversity of Jewish life in Philadelphia. For more information contact centercitykehillah@gmail.com, or visit facebook.com/centercitykehillah.



President's Column

At SHS, There's Something for Everyone

Debra Stewart

Even though the leaves are turning, there is a chill in the air, and we can anticipate snow in our near future, it certainly continues to feel warm and inviting at Society Hill Synagogue.

I was especially touched by our lay-led Shabbat service on Saturday, October 17. Because Rabbi Winokur was leading the first of our new Meditation Services in the Beit Midrash and Cantor Bob was out of state attending a memorial service—Religion Committee Co-Chair Terry Novick volunteered to lead the regular service in the Sanctuary. Terry did a beautiful job and incorporated many traditional prayers. Carole LeFaivre-Rochester delivered a meaningful D'var Torah. Neil Cohen and Len Weinberg leyned Torah, Fran Gallun chanted the Haftarah, and Barbara Spector led Musaf. We have an amazing community. To see our members stepping up to give their time and talent to a Shabbat service was a truly special experience.

Please remember that our lay-led, brief, 7:15 AM Tuesday morning minyan is a special way to begin the day and support those in our community who are in mourning.

In addition to beautiful Sh'mini Atzeret, Sukkot, and regular Shabbat services, we have had some wonderful events this fall. Our Simḥat Torah celebration included the unrolling visual exploration of a Torah scroll and a Kiddush luncheon in honor of our Ḥatan Torah and Kallat B'reishit, Jerry Rosenberg and Carole LeFaivre-Rochester. Our first TGIShabbat of the year, featuring the musical talents of Jud Aaron and Joe Oxman, was spectacular. Our first Lunch & Learn with Michael Yudell was fascinating. Nathaniel Popkin, another of our talented authors, will speak on Saturday, November 21, and Judy Gelles, renowned photographer, will give a presentation on Saturday, December 12.

Our first monthly Speaker's Corner featured an engaging discussion about urban education led by Steve Greenberg. Mark your calendars for the next discussion on Friday, November 6, when Dan Rottenberg will speak about his book, *The Outsider: Albert M. Greenfield and the Fall of the Protestant Establishment*. Please come out to support our members and remember to invite friends!

Thanks to Bonny Hohenberger's efforts and our generous hosts and guests, "Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?™" was once again a hit with our community. It is a very special experience to enjoy a home-based Shabbat or Havdalah meal with other members in our congregation.

We are off and running with winter Adult Education classes and Arts & Culture events. As this Keshet edition goes to print, we are eagerly anticipating "Society Hill Synagogue Day" on Sunday, November 1, at the *Visions of Place: Complex Geographies in Contemporary Israeli Art* exhibition, curated by Marty Rosenberg.

There is so much going on for all ages and interests. KinderBat services, led by Hebrew School teacher Rachel Moran, occur each month. Our Playschool is looking forward to its fall Shabbat dinner. Also on the calendar are Hebrew High's "Noshes with Nathan," Young Friends of Society Hill Synagogue events, and Hebrew School class-led Shabbat services. And don't miss the annual Ḥanukkah Happening on Sunday, December 13, 11 AM–1PM. This year, for the first time, the Arts & Culture Committee is also planning an adult Ḥanukkah celebration on Saturday, December 5.

Back by popular demand, the SHS Concert Band are performing another musical concert for SHS on Sunday, November 22.

Continued on page 4



Cantor's Column

Why Write Another One?

Bob Freedman

It took about a year for me to finish my second setting of Hashkivenu, the prayer that follows Mi Khamokha in the evening service. I'm really not a composer. So the melody played in my head for a long time until I was ready to commit to it. What finally persuaded me is my favorite part in it: a melisma, a melodic fragment that expresses for me the word *v'hoshi-enu*, "and give us salvation." I'm not sure how I would tell you in words what salvation means in Judaism. That short bit, reminding me of a gently falling leaf on a calm day in autumn, would be my nonverbal answer.

The first setting, which I wrote years ago, is in 3/4 time, like a waltz. Now I wanted something different, something more deliberate and regular. 4/4 time, half-way between slow and fast, gave me that feeling.

"Why write another one?" asked my wife when I played it for her. "The first one is wonderful." "Because it's my favorite prayer," I answered. It was the first prayer that I memorized, thirty years ago, when I was in Jerusalem for the summer. I was staying in Rehavia, across the valley from the K'nesset building. In the evening I would go down into the valley and recite the Ma-ariv prayer as the stars came out and the evening breeze cooled the air. That was also when I got into the habit of reciting Sh'ma and Hashkivenu before going to sleep, and I still do it, although I admit that often I drift off before I finish.

I needed to put chords to the melody and to create a harmonic structure for the recitative section. The text asks for protection while we sleep. One phrase reminds me of snuggling beneath covers; another requests informative, nonthreatening dreams, and a third prays that I not be afflicted with anxiety. So I used jazz chords, with added sixths, major sevenths, and ninths that would float under the text and let the music settle gently rather than be forced into cadences.

I succeeded in making Hashkivenu #2 different from #1 in rhythm, melody, and harmonic structure. But without my trying, #2 emerged with the same structure as #1: melody, recitative, melody. I'm not going to worry about that, since it gives you a chance to sing the melody part with me. Listen for it on Friday nights. I won't sing it every Shabbat eve, but often.

What's my next project? I have an idea for Ahavat Olam, the text that precedes the *Sh'ma* in the evening. Stay tuned.

President's Column

Continued from page 3

Consult your calendars and weekly E-News frequently so you won't miss any of these exciting events.

By now you have received my letter announcing Cantor Bob Freedman's decision to leave SHS. Clearly, he and Sally cherish the relationships they developed here and plan to maintain their connection with us. Bob will be exploring a new life-direction through expansion of his work in chaplaincy. We are grateful for having had Cantor Bob's service and scholarship over the years and will enjoy his talents and teachings throughout the rest of the academic year. The formation of a Cantor Search Committee, composed of members who represent all cohorts in our community, is underway, and steps have been taken to reach out to those organizations from which we may recruit candidates.

As promised, we are initiating our Society Hill Synagogue Google Group, "SHS Connect." If we have your current email address, you will be invited to join the group so that you will be able to directly connect with one another. Do you need a ride somewhere or help with an errand? Do you have an extra ticket to a cultural or sports event that you would like to offer? Perhaps you need to borrow a food processor or are seeking a tried and true recipe for the Israeli dish, Shakshuka? Do you want to connect with others for a SHS-related event? "SHS Connect" can be another tool through which we can build relationships within our community. Just today I received a request from a member who needed help picking up her spouse from the hospital. Unfortunately, I am out of town so I was unable to help.

Continued on page 6



Ann Spak Thal Hebrew School An “Enlightening” Time of the Year Sahar Oz

As the days grow shorter, the sun sets earlier, and the weather gets colder, I find the experience of coming together for Jewish learning even more meaningful than it may be at other times of the year. It is exciting and inspiring to be with our students and teachers as they discover, dissect, and discuss the Hebrew that we use to pray and the Hebrew we use for conversing day-to-day; as they probe essential stories of the Tanakh and episodes of more modern Jewish history—connecting Jewish values and ethics across centuries and national borders.

We truly “let in the light” at our school, and these next two months present a number of unique opportunities for enlightening ourselves within and beyond the classroom. On **Saturday, November 7, at 10 AM**, our Kitah Vav (grade 6) students will help to lead Shabbat services, followed by a delicious lunch. Simultaneously, our faculty member and High Holy Day vocalist, Rachel Moran, will lead the KinderBat service for children ages 7 and younger, starting at 11 AM. The “KinderBat Krew” will come upstairs to the Sanctuary to celebrate the conclusion of both services together. School enrollment fees cover every Family Service Kiddush lunch, so Betty just needs your RSVP (bettyv@societyhillssynagogue.org) for the meal **by Thursday, November 5**.

The next day, **Sunday, November 8, 12:20-1:00 PM**, we will hold our observance in memory of the victims of Kristallnacht. This program is designed for students in grades 3-11—our entire Hebrew School and Hebrew High. Parents are welcome and encouraged to join us. Our special guests this year will be German volunteers ages 18-20 from Action Reconciliation Service for Peace (ARSP). The ARSP fellows will also spend time with our Hebrew High class prior to the school-wide ceremony.

ARSP was founded in Germany in 1958 to seek forgiveness and to practice reconciliation following the dark days of Nazism and the Holocaust. Over the years, many thousands of young German men and women committed to a more just and peaceful world have volunteered throughout Europe, Israel, and the U.S.

in pursuit of understanding between generations, cultures, religions, and peoples based on living historical memory. We are delighted to welcome some of this year’s Philadelphia-based ARSP fellows.

On **Sunday, November 15**, our Hebrew High students will meet at a local café for “Nosh with Nathan,” when Rabbinic Intern Nathan Kamesar will lead them in highly engaging and eternally relevant text study. The following Sunday, November 22, starts off with Purim Cantata auditions for grades 3-6 at 10 AM and wraps up with some of the biggest pop hits of the 50s, 60s, and 70s!

Also on Sunday, November 22, at 3 PM, please join us for ***The Brill Building: A Jewish Hit Song Factory***—brand new show by the phenomenally talented SHS Concert Band, featuring Rachel Moran (vocals), Joe Oxman (bass), Jud Aaron (saxophone), Josh Nadel (drums), Bob Blacksberg (clarinet), and G Bartell (piano)! Come and enjoy the songs of Burt Bacharach, Hal David, Carole King, Phil Spector, Neil Sedaka, and many more. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues to this special event! Tickets cost \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door, and **all proceeds benefit the Ann Spak Thal Hebrew School**. Now that should be truly “music to your ears!”

Continued on page 14

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President's Column

Continued from page 3

With a functional Google Group, this member we will be able to make this request to our entire community and in all likelihood, someone in her neighborhood with a car would respond and be glad to help out. So please consider joining the "SHS Connect" Google Group.

On Kol Nidre, Rabbi Winokur and I spoke about the value of creating a covenantal community. In order to accomplish this goal, we need to ascertain what the synagogue should provide for our members, and in turn, what the members should provide for the synagogue. How do we as a community meet these expectations? How do we ensure the legacy of SHS for the next 50 years and beyond? I look forward to exploring the answers to these questions with you.

Finally, I extend my apologies to those of you whom I offended in my attempt to initiate a dialogue about covenants during Kol Nidre. I now realize that this was not appropriate on a High Holy Day.

I wish each of you a reflective, joyful, and delicious Thanksgiving holiday.



Family Service Sukkot Parade

Save the Dates

SHS Celebrates 50 Years!

Our Community is the Secret of Our Success.

April 1, 2, & 3, 2016

KinderBat: A Special Service for Children Aged 3-7

Children between the ages of 3 and 7, along with their families, are invited to join Hebrew School teacher Rachel Moran on one Saturday each month for singing, dancing, storytelling, and interactive prayer. This 45-minute service will begin at 11 AM on the following dates: December 5, January 9, February 20, March 12, April 16, and May 7.

God's Unfinished Business

Begin 2016 With a Mitzvah

Julie Wilson

Who would like to begin 2016 with a mitzvah? God's Unfinished Business, affectionately known as GUB, is composed of an important group of volunteers who bring love and kindness to our congregants in times of need. Taking care of fellow congregants is the very essence of what it means to be a caring community; GUB members provide companionship, comfort and assistance when help is needed by one of our congregants.

We need volunteers to visit and bring meals to recuperating congregants, provide rides to doctor's appointments or Shabbat services, call and visit individuals in the hospital, and shop for groceries for those temporarily homebound.

We invite you to be part of this amazing group of volunteers so we can continue to support and comfort each other. One meal, one errand, one ride to services or to a doctor's appointment—one small commitment can make a huge difference in someone's life.

If you would like to volunteer or if you know of someone who could use our help, please call the synagogue office at 215.922.6590 or email me at juliehwilson@yahoo.com.



Lunch & Learn Series

Living in Ruins

Come to the Social Hall on **Saturday, November 21**, following Shabbat services, for the second in a series of exciting monthly Lunch & Learn lectures! Author and SHS member Nathaniel Popkin will discuss the ways we see and imagine the city. How do place, memory, and history intersect on the urban street? Based on his long study of Philadelphia and other cities, Nathaniel will present a short lecture, "Living in Ruins," to be followed, he hopes, by a lively conversation about Philadelphia—past, present, and future.

Nathaniel Popkin is the author of three books, including the 2013 novel *Lion and Leopard*. He is editorial director of Hidden City Philadelphia and senior writer of "Philadelphia: The Great Experiment," an Emmy award-winning documentary series. He is the fiction review editor of *Clever Magazine*. His literary essays and book reviews appear in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Public Books*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Millions*, and *Fanzine*.

Speaker's Corner Series

Dan Rottenberg Will Speak About *The Outsider*

Join us on Friday, November 6, at 6:15 PM, when SHS member Dan Rottenberg will speak about his book, *The Outsider: Albert M. Greenfield and the Fall of the Protestant Establishment*. Learn about the amazing life of Albert M. Greenfield, a Russian Jewish immigrant whose business empire, political vision, and societal expertise helped change Philadelphia.

Dan is the author of eleven books, and he is the founding editor of the *Broad Street Review*, an arts and culture website.

Philadelphia Interfaith Community

A Journey to the Holy Land

Debra Stewart

Bill and I have been invited by the Philadelphia Interfaith Community (PIC) to do a presentation about our Holy Land Journey last spring with National Geographic. We will offer pictures and speak about the many diverse narratives we heard during our journey, and we will discuss the work of our Israeli and Palestinian guides in peace and reconciliation. The focus of our trip was to experience the holy sites of the three Abrahamic faiths and learn, first-hand, about the perspectives that are inherent in the complexities of the conflict. The trip participants actively listened and asked clarifying questions, but did not challenge these narratives. Consistent with this theme, we will preface our presentation by saying that there will not be a dialogue on the conflict itself, but simply sharing and discussing what was learned.

Please join us at Society Hill Synagogue on Tuesday, November 24, at 7 PM. For additional information, contact me at beachethic@gmail.com.

Additional 5776 New Year Greetings

Stephen & Pelley Brown

Debra Stewart

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Bonny Hohenberger & Nathan Farbman

In Memory of Arthur Schneeberg

Gerry Schneeberg

Break-the-Fast

Harry & Eleanor Oxman

Alton & Mona Sutnick

Flora Wolf

In Honor of Rabbi Avi Winokur

Alan & Debbie Casnoff

In Memory of Herb Weissbach & Jules Cohen

Neil Cohen & Debra Weissbach

In Memory of Micha Hohenberger

Bonny Hohenberger & Nathan Farbman

In Memory of Lillian Luken

Harvey & Bonnie Weiner

In Memory of Mark Stanton Zimmerman

Jay Wussow & Emily Zimmerman

Sukkah Decorations

Harry & Eleanor Oxman

Alton & Mona Sutnick

In Honor of Herbert Jacobson's 93rd Birthday

Bonny Hohenberger & Nathan Farbman

In Honor of Rabbi Avi Winokur

Alan & Debbie Casnoff

In Memory of Martin Weinberg

Rosemarie Weinberg

Playschool

Come to the Hanukkah Happening on Sunday, December 13

Gloria Parris & Ali Kaplan

The Playschool is off to a great start this year. All of the children are excited to attend our fun-filled classes, with so many new and exciting things to do. The children in the 2-year-old class are busy learning new songs and creating their first art projects. Kids in the 3 – 4-year-old class are learning a new letter of the alphabet each week and practicing yoga. In the Pre-Kindergarten class, the boys and girls have been working on academic skills and learning about Jewish holiday celebrations and community jobs.

There are currently spots available in the Playschool. If you are looking for a fabulous preschool experience for your child, look no further. We have age-appropriate curricula, creative art projects, special events, outdoor play-time, welcoming classrooms, weekly Shabbat celebrations, yoga and drama classes, and a warm and nurturing staff. Parents are welcome to contact the Playschool office to set up an appointment to visit the classrooms and to find out more about our program.

Our new extended hours are 7:45–8:30 AM and 3–6 PM, Monday through Friday. These new hours allow the children to have the opportunity to play, learn, and interact with their friends for a longer time during the day. To enroll your child, please contact the Playschool office the day before extended hours are needed.



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There are other ways to extend the Playschool day. Children in the 2-year-old class can stay an additional hour for lunch and children in all classes can extend their day by attending After School Arts until 3 PM. Parents can enroll their children on a 5-pack schedule of afternoons or every day.

Each afternoon, the After School Arts program focuses on a fun-filled theme. Children cook and prepare simple foods on Mondays, explore science on Tuesdays, create unique art projects on Wednesdays, demonstrate their movement skills on Thursdays, and sing songs and play musical instruments on Fridays. Free-play time, story time, snack, and outdoor bike riding fill the rest of the afternoon sessions. In addition, special guests are invited to the classroom to lead engaging programs. In October, the National Museum of American Jewish History presented “Lyle, Lyle Crocodile and Friends: The Art of Bernard Waber.” The children heard a reading of one of Waber’s books and created an art project. In November, a children’s librarian from the Free Library of Philadelphia will read books to our students. December’s guest will be one of our Playschool teachers, who will present an introduction to Hebrew. Kids love After School Arts and they don’t have to be SHS students to attend this program.

Please mark your calendars for Friday, November 6, when the Playschool will host Grandparent’s/Special Friend’s Day in the 3–4-year-old and Pre-K classes. Parents, grandparents, and family friends are invited to attend this special event. Students and guests will celebrate Shabbat with songs, dance, and blessings. At 5 PM, the Playschool’s Art Exhibit and Fall Shabbat Dinner will be held for all of our Playschool families. Original works of art created by the children in the Playschool will be on display in the Social Hall. Please take a few moments to view the Playschool Art Exhibit when you are in the Synagogue.

On Tuesday, December 8, the boys and girls in the 3–4-year-old class will be going to the Philadelphia Museum of Art for the *Museum Looks and Picture Books* program.

On Wednesday, December 9, we will have Parent-Teacher Conferences. The Playschool will not have regular classes that day, but we will provide childcare during our regular Playschool hours.

Continued on page 14

November Birthdays

Jim Becker
 Harry Bach
 Alexander Botwick
 Rachel Goldfinger
 Josh Meyer
 Pippa Pasternak
 Andrew Newman
 Lillian Shemtov
 Jacob Wycoff
 Henry Gutstadt
 Susan Levering
 Stephanie Naidoff
 Gabrielle Applebaum
 Jack Little
 Fanny Korman
 David Ladov
 Jacqueline Pack Segal
 Mark Dembert
 Ira Kauderwood
 Arthur Cherry
 Scotty Jordan
 Ronald Kaiser
 Edward Kaplan
 Laura Bottaro
 Sophia Bottaro
 Nancy Burd
 Micah Hart
 Marcie Ziskind
 Deborah Casnoff
 Sara Chrismer
 Brad Pirok
 Maxwell Abrams Nelson
 Evyn Appel
 Teresa Novick
 Pelley Brown
 Rina Mitchell
 Morris Wolff
 Sophia Yudell

**December Birthdays**

Noah Schindler
 Sarah Buse-Morley
 Meranda Love
 Ella Marchant
 Holly Gorsen
 Howard Sedran
 Joel Chernock
 Evelyn Eisenstadt

Myron Bloom
 Ariana Eizen
 Joanna Hart
 Arthur Shapiro
 Chloe Pirok
 Joanna Bottaro
 Harold Jacobs
 Leah Popowich
 Barbara Zalkind
 Max Ladenson
 Phoebe Ladenson
 Robin Schatz
 Steven Eizen
 Judith Lalli
 Roberto Pace
 Barry Slosberg
 Ned Wolf Weiss
 Elyse Pitok
 Aaron Wolson
 Margot Oxman
 Barbara Spector
 Steven Gendler
 Thomas Kline
 Maya Fey
 Hannah Myers
 Daniel Weil
 Alexander Ehrlich
 Debra Auspitz Galler
 Abigail Gendler
 Steven Greenberg
 Clara Landes
 David Paskin
 Stanley Woloff
 Cole Pressman
 Seth Slosberg
 Rebecca Buse-Morley
 Lisa Coran
 Mimi Hunter
 Ellianna Zack
 Isaac Torchinsky-Field
 Barbara Miller
 Lee Casper
 Moshe Mahlab
 Berk Uygur Petersohn
 Lindsay Saligman
 Samuel Datlof
 Stanton Salkin
 Roberta Jacobs Meadway
 Emily Zimmerman
 Sabryna Pasternak

November Anniversaries

Alan Ominsky & Marlene Lachman
 Steven Datlof & Diane Harrison
 Steven & Lisa Eizen

Michael & Holly Gorsen
 Neil Cohen & Debra Weissbach
 James & Julie Wilson
 Jerome & Lois Rosenberg
 Jane Nathanson & Andrew Newman
 Kinney Zalesne & Scott Siff
 Harry & Sheryl Linhardt
 Jeremy & Fran Newberg
 Jay & Phyllis Denbo
 Scott & Terri Akman
 Judson Aaron & Susan Snedden

December Anniversaries

Jerome Kranzel & Rian Berger
 Amy & Adam Shapiro
 Dan Bogen & Erica Ginsburg
 Michael Rochester & Carole LeFavre Rochester
 Jordan Segall & Natalie Lesser
 Len Weinberg & Fran Gallun
 Harvey & Bonnie Weiner
 Alan & Deborah Casnoff
 Jonathan Weiss & Abigail Wolf
 Stephen & Susan Leshnoff
 Craig Sobel & Colby Grossman

What is a Kiddush or Oneg?

Customarily at the end of Shabbat morning and holiday services, the SHS community joins together to bless the wine (make "Kiddush") and the bread (make "Motzi"), and enjoy good food and company! This is what we call "the Kiddush."

Similarly, at the conclusion of Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service, we gather for an Oneg or Shabbat dinner, where we bless the wine & bread and share light refreshments or dinner. Sponsoring this weekly community event is a wonderful way to celebrate a *simha* or joy, mark a special moment in one's life, honor someone, or commemorate a Yahrzeit. Sponsoring a *Kiddush, Oneg, or Shabbat dinner* helps the community to get to know you and share important moments in your life. It is also a way to say thank you to your community.

Please call the SHS office at 215.922.6590 or email us at office@societyhillsynagogue for more information.



Mark your
calendars
for the following
TGISHabbat
Services

November 20

Eliezer Gutman

December 25

Eve Friedman

January 22

Charles Salinger

February 26

Born Lau

April 1

Jordan Dodson & Christine Lamprea

May 27

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STEVEN W. BREECKER, MD, FACC

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Community News

Mazel Tov to

Larry Spector and Ann Rosen Spector on the birth of their grandson, Morris Alexander Spector Louden.

Richard Braemer and Amy Finkel on the marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth, to Daniel Isanuk.

Jared Susco and Chris Stearns on the birth of their daughter, Ezra "Ezzie" Susco Stearns.

Condolences to

Alton Sutnick and Family on the death of Mona Sutnick.

Welcome New Members & Families

Scott and Terri Akman

Daniel and Deanne Berkowitz
Max

Justin and Liza Bresson

Ilana Dean-Schmidt
Ruth & Alice

Ronald & Libby Korman

Helen Lang

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In Memory of

Roy Rieder, Father of Joan Roller

Kathy Drew

Elaine Liss Ferst, Mother of Walter Ferst

Stephen & Pelley Brown

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Dora Lizenbaum, Mother-in-Law of Mildred Lizenbaum

Curtis Lizenbaum

Mildred Lizenbaum

William G. Williams, Father of Merrily Williams

Merrily Williams

David Merlin, Father of Marina Merlin

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Len & Gloria Steinberg

Yuriy Rubinov & Marina Merlin

Aleksandr Rubinov & Sara Belkina

Yuriy Rubinov & Marina Merlin

Annual Giving Fund

In Honor of

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Barbara Spector

Jerry Rosenberg 2015 Hatan Torah Recipient

Barbara Spector

Carole LeFavre-Rochester, 2015 Kallat B'reishit Recipient

Barbara Spector

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In Honor of

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Estelle Dembert

Yahrzeit Remembrance

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Social Action Fund

In Memory of

Elaine Liss Ferst, Mother of Walter Ferst

Alan & Deb Casnoff

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Benjamin Levering, Father of Susan Levering

Susan Levering

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of

High Holy Days

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Rabbi Avi Winokur

Michael Gruber

In Honor of

Marriage of Elizabeth Braemer & Dan Isanuk

Richard Braemer & Amy Finkel

In Memory of

Elaine Liss Ferst, Mother of Walter Ferst

Rob Einhorn

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Gloria Berman, Mother of Rabbi Marjorie Berman

Rabbi Marjorie Berman

Leon & Sara Magen, Parents of Myer Magen

Myer & Miriam Magen

Samuel Sablove, Father of Pelley Brown

Stephen & Pelley Brown

Rose Schertz, Grandmother of Pelley Brown

Stephen & Pelley Brown

Adult Education Fund

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In Honor of**Larry & Ann Spector on the birth of their grandson**

Ann & Mark Steinberger

Carole LeFavre-Rochester, 2015 Kallat B'reishit Recipient

Charles Kahn
Betty van de Rijn
Marc, Staci, & Jamie Schwartz

Jerry Rosenberg, 2015 Hatan Torah Recipient

Betty van de Rijn
Marc, Staci, & Jamie Schwartz

Richard & Amy Braemer on the marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth to Daniel Isanuk

Betty van de Rijn

In Memory of**Elaine Liss Ferst, Mother of Walter Ferst**

William Steinberger
Sara Steinberger & Jared Shapiro
Jerry & Joan Roller
Betty van de Rijn
Marc, Staci, & Jamie Schwartz

Jacob Weinberger, Husband of Rita Altman

Curtis Lizenbaum
Betty van de Rijn

Mona Sutnick, Wife of Alton Sutnick

Marc, Staci, & Jamie Schwartz
Betty van de Rijn

Yahrzeit Remembrance**Emanuel & Elizabeth Bell, Parents of Jeanne Bell**

Jeanne Bell

Sigmond Weinberg, Father-in-Law of Rosemarie Weinberg

Rosemarie Weinberg

Anna Weinberg Trust, Mother-in-Law of Rosemarie Weinberg

Rosemarie Weinberg

Henrietta Levine, Mother-in-Law of Iris Levine

Iris Levine

Annual Giving Appeal

Thank you for your contributions to the **SHS Annual Giving Fund** which are vital to the financial health of our Synagogue. Your generosity has enabled us to make up the difference between our income from Membership dues and Playschool tuition and our operating expenses.

Beatrice Acker
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Dan Bogen & Erica Ginsburg
Neil Cohen & Debra Weissbach
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Wayne Spilove
Dennis Stein
Mark Steinberger & Ann Lebowitz Steinberger
Richard Summers & Merrily Williams
Rosemarie Weinberg
Jay Wussow & Emily Zimmerman
Richard & Elizabeth Zack



Playschool

Continued from page 9

Please join us on Sunday, December 13, 11 AM--1 PM, for our annual Hanukkah Happening and Playschool Open House. There will be music, Hanukkah crafts, dreidel games, cookie decorating, photos with "Mr. Latke", and delicious homemade latkes cooked by the Latke Brigade for all to enjoy.

The Playschool invites prospective families to visit our school at the Open House. This is a great opportunity to meet our teachers and to receive an application for the upcoming September 2016-May 2017 school year. Class spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to SHS members and current Playschool families. Applications will be accepted before and at the Open House. Please check the SHS website in mid-November to download an online application or contact one of our Playschool Co-Directors at gparis@societyhillsynagogue.org, abernstein@societyhillsynagogue.org, or 215.922.6590, ext. 28, for further information.

Hebrew School

Continued from page 5

Following our Thanksgiving break on Sunday, November 29, December brings another class Shabbat service and Hanukkah happiness! Kitot Gimel and Dalet (grades 3 and 4) students will help to lead Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday, December 11, at 6:15 PM, followed by a delicious dinner that is covered by school enrollment fees. Please RSVP to Betty (bettyv@societyhillsynagogue.org) for dinner **by Wednesday, December 9.**

On Sunday, December 13, classes for all grades--Pre-K through Hebrew High--will meet from 9-11 AM. The Hanukkah Happening will occur from 11 AM--1 PM, featuring latkes, music, crafts, and lots of fun. The Hebrew School faculty and I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving and a happy Hanukkah filled with light, love, and latkes!

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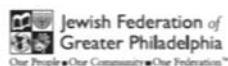
everyone fits. Our kids are baseball players, history buffs, engineers,

athletes, rising stars. And we encourage all of them to choose their own path. There's a place for your family here. Come love where you learn.

VISIT US AT AN OPEN HOUSE OR SCHEDULE A PERSONAL TOUR.

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Time: 9:30am - Noon



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POWER

Education & Justice for All

Harry Oxman

On Thursday, November 12, 5:30–7:30 PM, one of Philadelphia’s most recognizable education advocates will be speaking at POWER’s “Education and Justice for All” Fund-raising Gala event at the Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall, located at 1301 South Christopher Columbus Boulevard. Hors d’oeuvres and beverages will be served.

Helen Gym, co-founder of Parents United for Public Education and The Public School Notebook, and city council candidate-at-large, will be the guest of honor and featured speaker. As an activist, parent, and public agitator, her passion and relentless advocacy for change has forged what *Philly Magazine* describes as an “indomitable personality,” proving that she is a formidable presence dedicated to holding legislative bodies accountable to ensure funding is provided for the city’s struggling schools. POWER will be partnering with Ms. Gym at this event and in the long-term struggle for education justice, fueling the campaign for a Full Fair Funding Formula for Pennsylvania schools.

With regard to the ongoing challenge, Ms. Gym has stated:

“The central question of whether we are going to invest in a public system that educates all of our children with equity and justice—in a city where race and poverty play so heavily into their life experiences—is not just a question about our city’s future, but our standing as a moral society.”

For more than a decade, whenever issues related to public education have been debated in Philadelphia, Helen Gym has been in the middle of the fray. On November 12, she will provide insight into the task of achieving “Education and Justice for All” in Philadelphia.

Because SHS is an affiliate of POWER, it is important that we make every effort to attend this event and/or, at the least, contribute to the success of the fund-raising. To purchase tickets, which cost \$75 per person, please contact me at 215.574.9645 or hjoxman@comcast.net.

Jewish History in 100 Nutshells

The House of Rothschild

Larry Spector

In 16th century Frankfurt, where symbols preceded house numbers, a red shield was painted on the house of a Jewish family. The red shield represented the family’s name in German: Rothschild. This family produced a son, a would-be rabbi who became a merchant, and that man sent his sons to live in the capitals of Europe. The Rothschilds made their initial fortunes during the French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars; they were also known for their courier system, a private communications network. Rothschild’s descendants eventually loaned Great Britain the money to buy the Suez Canal. To learn more about this family, visit the SHS website and click on the November/December link under “Nutshell Excerpts.”

Membership Engagement Initiative

1. Guess Who Came to Shabbas?

Bonny Hohenberger

On Friday, October 16, and Saturday, October 17, seventy-one (71) members or prospective members attended Shabbat meals in six host homes. Each event was unique. Two members hosted more traditional sit-down dinners, one member hosted a meal consisting primarily of Israeli salads, one member hosted a Havdalah “soup dinner,” and the two younger member families hosted large potluck dinners.

Many, many thanks to our gracious hosts: Betty and Bart Kaplan, Judy Lalli, Nancy and Richard Morgenstern, Michael and Holly Gorsen, Gail and Holman Massey, and Ashleigh Reibach and Richard Huggett (with assistance from Natalie Lesser and Jordan Segal, the leaders of the new “Young Friends of SHS” group).

Many thanks also to my publicity team: Debbie Stewart, Betty van de Rijn, Natalie Lesser, Sahar Oz, and Alison Bernstein.

Here are a few of the comments I received from some of the participants:

“It was perfect ... just perfect.”

“It was a really special evening. We so enjoyed our host and the other guests, the communal blessings and songs, the engaging conversation, and the wonderful food. Enjoying a Shabbas meal in a warm and inviting home setting with members of our community is truly special.”

“I love these weekends...you really have a chance to get to know other synagogue members.”

“It was the special people and the spirit of the evening that made it so wonderful, and I was honored to be part of it.”

Our next “Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas?TM” weekend will be held in the spring. We hope we can count on you to be a host or a guest.

2. Arts & Culture

Jonathan Feinman and Betta Kolansky

On Saturday evening, September 19, the extraordinary Israeli art exhibit, *Visions of Place: Complex Geographies in Contemporary Israeli Art*, opened at the Stedman Gallery at Rutgers University-Camden. The exhibit is co-curated by SHS member Marty Rosenberg. It is the largest exhibit of contemporary Israeli art that has been shown in the US in more than 10 years.

Following Marty’s masterful guided tour of the exhibit, 15 SHS members in attendance had the opportunity to hear a concert by Symphony in C. The music was outstanding and inspired many standing ovations. Some of the feedback we received about the concert included:

“Wow! The musicians were awesome!”

“The musicians were graduates of various music schools, including Curtis and Princeton, and they did not even have a chance to rehearse with the pianist, but what incredible harmony!”

Continued on page 17

MEI

Continued from page 16

"I have never heard such a fabulous pianist—even at Kimmel Center! He had no music in front of him and it just flowed flawlessly!"

On Sunday, November 1, SHS members will have special opportunity to view the exhibition, followed by a 3 PM concert featuring Mimi Stillman and Dolce Suono. Marty will lead a private guided tour for SHS members at 1 PM. If you plan to attend and have room to take other members in your car, please contact Jonathan Feinman at jon46feinman@hotmail.com.

Unfortunately, the Hanukkah baking class that was supposed to occur on November 15 had to be canceled due to a scheduling conflict, but look for it again next year.

Please mark you calendars for Saturday, December 5, when we will have our first Adult Hanukkah party at SHS. This event will include dinner at 5:30 PM, a performance by a comedian, musical entertainment by new member G. Bartell, a candle-lighting demonstration, and dancing. Bring your menorah and dancing shoes—it is going to be a fun-filled evening! If you are available to help decorate the Social Hall a few days beforehand, please contact Betta Kolansky at bkolansky@comcast.net.

On Saturday, April 16, Jonathan Leshnoff, noted contemporary composer and son of Susan and Steve Leshnoff, is scheduled to perform the world premier of his clarinet concerto with the Philadelphia Orchestra, featuring Ricardo Morales, at the Kimmel Center. Jonathan is a professor of music at Towson University in Maryland and has recorded several CDs. All ticket holders who attend the event will be invited to a kosher post-concert reception at the Double Tree Hotel on Broad Street in Jonathan's honor. Please RSVP to Susan Leshnoff at susan.leshnoff@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 23, is the second night of Passover. We will be gathering in SHS Social Hall for the Second Night Seder.

Join us on Sunday, May 1, for our SHS trip the to NYC's Lower East Side to visit the Tenement Museum. On arrival at the Tenement Museum, we will split into two groups to take the "Hard Times Tour" or the "Sweatshop Tour." From there, we will walk three blocks to Broome Street where we will enjoy a traditional Greek-Jewish Kosher lunch (Greek salad, yaprakes, bourekas, kourlouia, seasonal fruit, and hot and cold beverages) at the Kehila Kedosha Janina synagogue. After lunch, we will be taken on a tour of the synagogue and its museum. Kehila Kedosha Janina is the only Romaniote rite (Greek Jewish) synagogue remaining in the Western Hemisphere. A band of Jewish immigrants from the Greek village of Janina established the synagogue in 1927. Spots for this trip will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so please contact Betty at SHS to reserve your place now. The \$90 trip fee includes transportation to and from NYC, museum entrance fees, and lunch. We will leave SHS at 7:30 AM, and we will arrive back in Philadelphia at approximately 5 PM.

We hope to see you at any or all of the above Arts & Culture events and welcome your questions, suggestions, and—most of all—your help. If you would like to be part of a committee or would like to help with one specific task (decorating for an event, prepping, etc.), please contact one of us!

3. SHS's 5th Annual Inter-**NOSH**-ional Night

Amy Shapiro

It's time for SHS's 5th Annual Inter-**NOSH**-ional Night on Saturday, February 6, 2016, at 7 PM! The attendance fee is \$54 per person, and all proceeds will benefit this year's Annual Giving Fund. If space permits, this event is also open to non-members.

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Rabbi's Column

Continued from page 2

For most of its life, Judaism was a religion of law, with an emphasis on *mitzvah*/obligation. That Judaism has no use whatsoever for our notions of individual rights (freedom in traditional Judaism is about the people as a group, not individuals). The Talmud makes the following value judgment: between the individual who performs a mitzvah from her own unencumbered sense of right and wrong, not because she is commanded by God, and the individual who performs a mitzvah solely because he is commanded, it is the latter who is the more praiseworthy. Utterly unfathomable to us. It is important to remember that individual rights and conscience are less than 300 years old as overriding values of society. All of today's streams of Judaism, then, are an attempt to figure out how to adapt Judaism to a world its architects never envisioned.

Like our ancestors before us, we, too, have the challenge of adapting to radically changed circumstances. Our job is to negotiate a *modus vivendi* between the prevailing zeitgeist(s) of our American society and our contemporary inheritance(s) of Judaism. The plural is critical because modernity, and even more so postmodernity, produce far more zeitgeists and inheritances than has any other previous era—and thus so many varied approaches to Judaism.

One such modern/postmodern effort entails the recognition that the turn to Eastern spirituality is one of these zeitgeists, and the concomitant recognition that a surprising number of those Jews who turn east are also deeply tied to Judaism. The tie may be emotional, intellectual, ethical, religious, or some combination—but even if it is not religious, it is real and it is substantial. Yet traditional Jewish practice alone is lacking in some way for this surprisingly large group, just as the eastward turn alone is also lacking in some ways. Blending this turn-to-the-East zeitgeist and traditional Jewish liturgy does something that each standing alone cannot do. Optimally, the two traditions complement each other or at least enrich each other.

This is the postmodern moment we live in. Indeed, one highly respected Jewish scholar, Shaul Magid,

entitled his 2013 book *American Post-Judaism: Identity and Renewal in a Postethnic Society*. It's the old Chinese curse: "May you live in interesting times!"

Our job, and the job of the next few generations, is to turn that curse into a blessing. Whether it is the Meditation Shabbat Service, our traditional Friday night and Saturday morning services, our musical TGIShabbat services, Rabbi Berman's Shabbat Study, our new Friday night Speaker's Corner, or our new congregant-featured Shabbat Lunch & Learns, join us as we joyfully do our part to fashion a creative and vibrant 21st-century Shabbat, and a creative and vibrant 21st-century Judaism.

Young Families Group

Hanukkah Celebration on Sunday, December 6

Joanna Hart

Members of the Young Families Group made some new friends and created wonderful memories at the "Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?™" event in October.

Join us at the next TGIShabbat service on Friday, October 30, at 6:15 PM! If you have suggestions for how to best accommodate your child's bedtime and dinner schedules while still allowing your family to participate in services, please contact me at joanna.lee.hart@gmail.com or 703.869.4589.

Please remember to check out our Young Families' Library and Baby Corner located to the right of the staircase outside of the Sanctuary. We are in the process of collecting new, gently used (quiet, non-electric) toys and books so please let me know if you have any donations.

Save the Date: Sunday, December 6, for an afternoon Hanukkah celebration for Young Families! Further details will follow.

Continued on next page

Social Action

Take the Survey to Volunteer at the Vare-Washington School

Phyllis Denbo

Society Hill Synagogue is a member of the recently established Vare-Washington Elementary School Community Partners. The group includes about ten other primarily local organizations and agencies, that meet monthly to discuss how to serve the school. Members of this group provide social services to the students and their families, organize after-school programs, engage the community to support the school, and offer activities previously unavailable to the students, such as training for science competitions, fencing, and dance. The principal, Zachary Duberstein, has arranged for the school to be open from 9 AM–6 PM daily, invited the local community association to hold their monthly meetings at the school, and secured grants from Lowes (to build raised gardens that will surround the building) and Ace Hardware (to build shelving for the library and to donate two thousand books). Additional grant proposals are in the works.

Zach Duberstein appears to be an enthusiastic, creative, hard-working principal who is determined to take Vare-Washington in positive new directions. It will be especially exciting to volunteer at the school this year. SHS members can work with students one-on-one or in small groups, assist teachers in the classroom, make a presentation to the students about a topic of interest, or lead after-school programs. Help is also needed with services that don't require regular student interaction.

To volunteer at the school, log on to the SHS website, scroll to the bottom of the home page, click on Vare-Washington Elementary School, and then click on "take the survey." We will work with the principal and teachers to match you with the most appropriate opportunities. Although the deadline for completion of the survey was October 30, we will try to accommodate late respondents whenever possible.

In addition, the Vare-Washington school supply drive will continue through the fall and into the winter. The greatest need is for printer paper. The teachers have also requested the following items: marble composition notebooks, #2 pencils, pencil boxes, erasers, Dry Erase markers, pens, hand sanitizer, chart paper, 3x5 index cards, highlighters, 2-inch 3-ring binders, and tissues.

Monetary donations to the school are also welcome. The money goes into the student activity account to be used for field trips, extracurricular activities, and related programs that benefit the students. Please leave all contributions in the synagogue office. A member of the Social Action Committee will pick them up weekly and deliver them to the school.

We will also conduct another (hopefully, hugely successful) Christmas Drive this year, providing gifts for the school's most disadvantaged children and their families. Watch for further information in the weekly E-News and Shabbat Announcements.

Young Families Group

Continued from page 18

Our Young Families Group brings together all parents/caregivers and babies/young children for activities and support, while enjoying a sense of Jewish community! Join our "SHS Families" Google Group and email list (see my contact information above) to stay up-to-date on events and share your parenting questions and knowledge! Prospective members, nonmembers, and expectant parents are welcome to join!



2015 Summer Adult B'nai Mitzvah Celebration

Beverly Michaels

The six adults who became B'nai Mitzvah on Saturday, August 1, at Society Hill Synagogue were a diverse group—one man and five women, ranging in age from 25 to 63, some Jews by birth and some Jews by choice.

There was diversity in their Jewish education as well. The two youngest members of the group, Jared Susco and Carolyn Michaels, had the greatest knowledge of Hebrew. Jared did not grow up Jewish, but he had an extensive Jewish education through his conversion program and completed an eight-month study program in Israel. Carolyn Michaels was raised in an “interfaithless” family until she was in high school, when she attended an SHS “Taste of Judaism” class in 2007. That first taste led to an appetite for more, and when Carolyn went off to college, she spent a semester at Hebrew University.

Julia Michaels-Koenig, Carolyn's sister, had sought out the “Taste of Judaism” class because she wanted her baby son—now just two years away from becoming Bar Mitzvah—to have the religious education she had missed. There were many more classes, some with me and Carolyn, before three members of the Michaels family ended up on the bimah together on August 1.

Mary Fish and Randi Glatzer had spent years practicing Judaism but neither had an extensive Jewish education. Mary only started to learn to read Hebrew, along with basic grammar, about a year before beginning the B'nai Mitzvah class, by studying with a rabbinical student. Randi has two children in SHS's Hebrew school, and as her daughter was beginning her Bat Mitzvah preparation, Randi wanted both to better understand what her daughter was going through and to be in a better position to help her.

What was it like for these adults to read from the Torah in front of their family and friends? Mary reported that she was “*nervous but not as nervous as I would have thought.*” Beverly felt she was “*more Jewish than before, no longer just an imposter.*” Jared felt “*deeply inspired...almost in the presence of the Sh'khinah.*” He added, “*Donning my tallit took on new meaning as a holy, public act.*”

All six of the new B'nai Mitzvah are grateful to Cantor Bob for all the time and patience he invested in preparing them for every aspect of the service and for their new responsibilities as members of the Synagogue community. They are also grateful to Rabbi Avi and the members of the congregation for creating such a welcoming and supportive community, to nurture them and guide them along their different paths to this celebration.

Jared noted that it was the four women who became B'not Mitzvah in 2013 who inspired him to become Bar Mitzvah as an adult, so this year's B'nai Mitzvah hope that they can inspire a new class of adult Bar and Bat mitzvah candidates in 2016.



Getting up close with the Torah.

MEI

Continued from page 17

To volunteer to sponsor, host, or co-host a dinner at your home for six or more congregants featuring an international cuisine of your choice, please contact Amy Shapiro at hasajd@gmail.com or 215.280.3005.

Once we establish the host-chosen cuisine categories and associated menus, we will share the information so that the rest of our members can rush to sign up for a seat at one of our hosts' tables.

Host homes may not be Kosher, however, any chicken or meat served will be from a Kosher manufacturer, no dishes will contain shellfish, and meat will not be mixed with dairy.

Don't miss this opportunity to have a delicious meal and great conversation—all while supporting this community-building and fund-raising event for our shul. Remember, spaces are limited, so be sure to respond quickly to ensure that you will have your choice of cuisine.



Young Sunday Schoolers look up at the Ner Tamid.



Havdalah Blessings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	Hayyei Sarah 7
9 AM SS 11 AM HS 11 AM Breakfast in Babylon 1 PM SHS Day at Rutgers-"Visions in Place" 3 PM SHS Day at Rutgers-Concert	7 PM BDM	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 6 PM Philabundance 7:30 PM Intro to Recon Judaism	12:15 PM ELM		5-6 PM PS Grandparent's Day Shabbat 6:15 PM Speaker's Corner Service with Dan Rottenberg	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Vav Class Service w/ Lunch 11 AM KinderBat
8	9	10	11	12	13	Tol'dot 14
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts and Beyond 11 AM HS		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 7:30 PM Intro to Recon Judaism	Veterans' Day 7 PM Social Action Meeting 7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew		6:15 PM Service	9 AM Torah Study 9:30 AM B'not Mitzvah of Evyn & Andrea Appel 10 AM Shabbat Study
15	16	17	18	19	20	Va-yetzei 21
9 AM SS 11 AM HS 11 AM HH - Nosh with Nathan	7 PM ECM 7:30 PM Ecclesiastes: Our Ancestor's Struggle for Meaning	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew		9-11 AM Playschool Open House 6:15 PM Interfaith TGISHabbat with Eliezer Gutman	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service 10 AM Meditative Service 12 PM Lunch & Learn w/ Nathaniel Popkin
22	23	24	25	26	27	Va-yishlah 28
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts and Beyond 11 AM HS 11:15 AM Nosh & Schmooze 3 PM SHS Benefit Concert	7:30 PM Ecclesiastes: Our Ancestor's Struggle for Meaning	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 7:30 PM Philadelphia Interfaith Community	12:30 PM PS Dismissal 1 PM Office Closes	Thanksgiving Day Building Closed	Office & PS Closed 6:15 PM Service	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service
29	30					
Building Closed						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	Va-yeishev 5
		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 6 PM Philabundance	7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew		6:15 PM Speaker's Corner Service with Ann Rosen Spector	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service 11 AM KinderBat 5 PM Arts & Culture Adult Hanukkah Party
1 st Candle Erev Hanukkah 6	2 nd Candle Hanukkah 7	3 rd Candle Hanukkah 8	4 th Candle Hanukkah 9	5 th Candle Hanukkah 10	6 th Candle Hanukkah 11	7 th Candle Hanukkah – Mi-ketz 12
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts and Beyond 11 AM HS 11 AM Breakfast in Babylon	7 PM BDM 7:30 PM Ecclesiastes: Our Ancestor's Struggle for Meaning	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS	PS Conferences 7 PM Social Action Meeting 7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew		6:15 PM Dalet Class Service & Dinner	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service 10 AM Shabbat Study 12 PM Lunch & Learn w/Judy Gelles
8 th Candle Hanuk- kah 13	14	15	16	17	18	Va-yiggash 19
9-11 AM SS & HS 11 AM Hanukkah Happening	7:30 PM Ecclesiastes: Our Ancestor's Struggle for Meaning	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS – Last Day before Winter Break	HS Winter Break 7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew		Last Day of PS before Winter Break	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Service 10 AM Meditative Service New Member Kiddush Lunch
20	21	22	23	24	25	Va-y'hi 26
HS Winter Break No HS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts and Beyond 11:15 AM Nosh & Schmooze	PS Winter Break 7 PM ECM	7:15 AM Minyan PS Winter Break HS Winter Break	PS Winter Break 7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew	PS Winter Break Building Closed	Christmas PS Winter Break Office Closed 6:15 PM TGIShabbat featuring Eve Friedman	9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
27	28	29	30	31		
Building Closed	PS Winter Break Building Closed	7:15 AM Minyan PS Winter Break HS Winter Break	PS Winter Break 7:30 PM Intro to Hebrew	New Year's Eve PS Winter Break 1 PM Office Closes		

NEWSLETTER—NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE

Kesher



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