Join us for TGIShabbat Services at SHS

Friday, November 21
Friday, December 19

Looking for some Jewish Music, Spirit, Food and Community...All in One Night? We’ve Got It!

Our November TGIShabbat service will feature Charles Salinger. Charles is well known in local music circles as a versatile clarinetist. He is principal clarinetist with the Delaware Symphony Orchestra, the Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra, Opera Delaware Orchestra, and the New Jersey Opera Theater Orchestra. He also free-lances with several Jazz, Pop, and Klezmer bands.

Our December TGIShabbat service will feature Bob Blacksberg. Bob is our very own in-house clarinetist, who will draw again on our heritage of Yiddishkeit. Bob seeks to make his clarinet’s voice inherit and inhabit compositions of the great Hazzanim from the Golden Age, to let its sound draw our spirits to the full height of our magnificent place of worship!

Hanukkah Happening!

Playschool Open House

Sunday, December 14
11 AM to 1 PM
Recent changes in thinking about Jewish communal life reminded me of a commercial for Certs from my childhood. A says: “Certs is a breath mint.” B: “No, Certs is a candy mint.” A: “Breath mint.” B: “Candy mint.” Omniscient announcer, usually with deep baritone authoritative voice, says: “Certs is two, two, two mints in one, a breath mint and a candy mint.”

For much of Jewish history, Judaism was, well, just Judaism. It was un-self-conscious. That is, the vast majority of Jews didn’t puzzle over questions of whether Judaism was primarily a religion or a people or an ethnicity. It just was the way Jews lived. Then with the European Enlightenment, things changed. The more modern Jews thought of Judaism as a religion just as Christianity was a religion. At the same time, Jews’ experience of Judaism was not always religious. Jews lived often as a people or a community or a culture. Some of them were also religious (in which I include Reform and Conservative, rejecting the idea that religious means only Orthodox) and some were not. Some were socialist and some were not. Some spoke Yiddish and some did not. My father’s father was such an amalgam: a Yiddish-speaking Talmud teacher at a Brooklyn yeshiva, an early Zionist, an admirer of the often heretical Hebrew and Yiddish writings of Jewish Enlightenment thinkers, and also the president of a Hasidic shul.

Around the same time that my grandfather was active in the early and mid-twentieth century, Mordecai Kaplan, the founder of Reconstructionist Judaism, gave voice and pen to the reality that Jews lived often as a people or a community or a culture. Some of them were also religious (in which I include Reform and Conservative, rejecting the idea that religious means only Orthodox) and some were not. Some were socialist and some were not. Some spoke Yiddish and some did not. My father’s father was such an amalgam: a Yiddish-speaking Talmud teacher at a Brooklyn yeshiva, an early Zionist, an admirer of the often heretical Hebrew and Yiddish writings of Jewish Enlightenment thinkers, and also the president of a Hasidic shul.

SHS certainly aims to raise up both. TGIShabbat, the upcoming adult education classes exploring the intersection of Buddhism and Judaism, Heschel’s The Sabbath, and Buber’s I and Thou, and all our services raise up the religious/spiritual. Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas, the communal synagogue meals, the cultural activities such as the sorties to plays and art exhibits, and our Sunday Nosh ‘n’ Schmooze raise up the communal/cultural. If you peek behind many of these offerings, you will find a mix of religious/spiritual and communal/cultural, in which each of you can take from it that aspect of our shared Jewishness that works for you. One person’s TGIShabbat is a spiritual and/or religious experience. The person sitting next to her may experience it as a community-building event, and the person sitting next to him may experience it as a little of both.

I am reminded of a wonderful scene from Rodger Kamenetz’s The Jew in the Lotus (a book I heartily recommend) in which Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi is conducting a service up in Dharamsala while visiting the Dalai Lama with a number of Jewish leaders at the Dalai Lama’s invitation.

Continued on page 6
President’s Column
There is So Much to Look Forward to in the New Year
Debra Stewart

It was such a delight to have a packed Sanctuary and Social Hall during our High Holy Day services. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year, with meaningful services, the hope that our names will be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life, and a strong sense of community. I especially enjoyed our multi-generational service on the second day of Rosh Hashanah. What a delight it was to see Board member Susan Eizen on the bimah with her children, while her mother-in-law, Lisa Eizen, performed a reading; we witnessed the special traditions of our faith passing from one generation to the next, l’Dor v’Dor.

We have so much for which to be thankful and many exciting times ahead.

While honoring Michael Coran as our Hatan Torah, and Leslie Hafter as our Kallat B’reishit at a special luncheon on October 18, we had an opportunity to learn about his and her individual journeys of faith and involvement in our Synagogue community. Again, I want to recognize these members for their truly exceptional dedication and service. We hope this honor makes this year, and all those to come, very sweet.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Harry Oxman, a Board member who has demonstrated significant commitment, on his new appointment as Recording Secretary. Harry will now be responsible for preparing the minutes from all Board meetings, thereby preserving in a written record our important decisions, discussions, motions, and action plans.

The impressive turnout of veteran members, new members, and guests during the High Holy Days and recent TGIShabbat services has energized our drive to increase our membership. We have initiated an active campaign to attract new members by word-of-mouth, ads in local newspapers and neighborhood newsletters, and flyers. To know us is to feel the warmth of this community. It is hard to visit this shul and not feel the positive energy—it is palpable. A number of recent visitors have shared these feelings with me. We give off a wonderful vibe and are on our way to becoming “the place to be.” Please keep up the good work!

Our new mantra: Be Engaged & Reach out (BeER)! I invite each of you to engage in those aspects of synagogue life that you enjoy. Build relationships with others in our community. Reach out and welcome friends, colleagues, and family members into our shul. Guess what? If you bring a potential new member to services or you invite him or her to participate in an SHS activity, let me know and I will buy you a beer!

“Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas?”™ is an SHS tradition we have initiated that occurs twice each year! During this event, we come together in homes, or at SHS, to share a Shabbat or Havdalah meal. The positive response to this program has been overwhelming. If you are hosting this season, we thank you for your hospitality and generosity. If you are a guest, we thank you for participating and contributing to the meal. We hope that everyone will enjoy these special meals and build bonds with one another. These gatherings will enhance your sense of belonging to our community—a community that sustains us in good times and in times of need.

Did you know that we have 12 B’not Mitzvahs scheduled for this year? Please join us for these very special celebrations, and recognize—along with a very proud group of parents—the wonderful achievements of these Hebrew School students. Let’s demonstrate to all of the family and friends of these members how much we value this life-cycle event at SHS. Join our clergy in singing the prayers with our unique melodies.

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Many of you have heard me say that I believe Jewish education is, to a great extent, about creating Jewish memories. As Jonathan Safran Foer notes, “Jews have six senses: touch, taste, sight, smell, hearing… memory.” At our Hebrew School, we strive to build a community of learners in which our students can experience Judaism through a multi-sensory approach, one which impacts them positively with both immediate and long-term consequences.

And indeed, these next two months present a variety of opportunities for students and parents to come together as we create, honor, and celebrate Jewish memories. On Sunday, November 9, we will hold our annual ceremony in memory of the victims of Kristallnacht. This program is designed for students in grades 3 to 11—our entire Hebrew School and Hebrew High—and will take place from 12:20 to 1:00 PM. Parents are welcome to join us.

The following Saturday, November 15, our Kitah Aleph (first grade) students will help to lead the Shabbat family service at 10:30 AM, with a delicious lunch to follow. This buoyant service is perfect for all ages! School enrollment fees cover every family’s meal, but Betty needs your RSVP along with any dietary requests or allergy information by Thursday, November 13, contact her at bettyv@societyhillsynagogue.org.

The next day, on Sunday, November 16, students from grades 6–11 will travel to the Jewish Relief Agency (JRA) warehouse in Northeast Philadelphia and join hundreds of other volunteers from Greater Philadelphia as everyone packs and then delivers food packages to Jewish neighbors in need of assistance. We have secured a bus to bring our delegation to the JRA and then take us on the delivery route.

Parents are encouraged to join us, and everyone going from our school can either drive on their own to

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Playschool

Hanukkah Happening and Playschool Open House: Sunday, December 14!

Gloria Parris

In early September, Betty van de Rijn arranged for the Playschool staff and the SHS staff to take part in a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) class with instruction on the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). The class taught us to recognize and respond to emergency situations where CPR and the use of an AED might be indicated. Our CPR Certification will be in effect for two years and we thank Betty for scheduling this class for the Playschool teachers.

The children in the Playschool have had a fantastic start to the school year. They are excited to see what each day’s activities will be and they are enthusiastic to interact and socialize with their classmates. The boys and girls in the 2-year-old Puppy class are eager in participate in the preschool experience. The children in the 3–4-year-old class are excited when they learn a letter of the alphabet each week. The Pre-Kindergarten children have begun learning to write, using a workbook, and they have taken a walking trip to the local fire station for community helpers week. All of the children have learned about the holidays, made art projects, listened to story books, and have celebrated Shabbat together.

Our After School Arts Clubs are being attended by many of the Playschool students. Each afternoon, an exciting theme is presented. Children cook and prepare simple foods on Mondays, they explore science on Tuesdays, creative and unique art projects are prepared on Wednesdays, the children demonstrate their movement skills on Thursdays, and they sing songs and play instruments on Fridays. Special guests will be teaching during After School Arts, too. Noah Herman, a former Playschool teacher, presented three dramatic acting classes to the children in October. In the upcoming months, a children’s author and a musician will be presenting their talents to the children in After School Arts. Free-play time, story time, the themed activity, snack, and outdoor bike riding fill the afternoon sessions.

Children may be enrolled any number of afternoons each week, and we would love to have everyone join us.

Mark your calendars for Friday, November 14, when the Playschool will host Grandparents'/Special Friends’ Day in the 3–4-year-old class and in the Pre-K Class. Parents, grandparents, and family friends are invited to attend this special event. One of the highlights of the morning will be celebrating Shabbat together with songs, dance, and blessings. In the evening, 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 all of the children in the Playschool, will be on display in the Social Hall. Our artists have worked hard to create their paintings and to make them visually pleasing. Please take a few moments to view the Playschool Art Exhibit when you are in the Synagogue.

On Tuesday, December 9, 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. The theme of the lesson will be “Shapes and More Shapes.” This program is designed for preschool-aged children and it is a fabulous introduction to art. The class makes four visits to the Art Museum during the school year.

On Wednesday, December 10, and Thursday, December 11, school will be closed for Parent Teacher Conferences.

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Rabbi’s Column

Continued from page 2

When Reb Zalman gets to the phrase Adonai elohaikhem emet, “Adonai your God (is a God of) Truth,” he stops and walks up to one person and says, “Your God is a true God” and then to the next person, “Your God is a true God,” and then to the next person and so on, emphasizing that each person’s God or God-understanding is true.

We at SHS are trying in our own way to say to you and all Jews, “This is a big tent. We’ve got plenty of room for multiple expressions and explorations of Judaism. Your Judaism is a true Judaism. Your neighbor’s Judaism is a true Judaism. Come on in. Make yourself at home.” And to your non-Jewish family and friends, we take a page from another old commercial, the one with the African American youngster or the Native American gentleman or the Asian gentleman with a big slice of rye bread in their hands and the caption, “You don’t have to be Jewish to love Levy’s: real Jewish rye.” You don’t have to be Jewish to enjoy Judaism.

Wherever you are in your journey, we’re delighted to do what we can to make your journey engaging, both fun and at the same time challenging in an uplifting way. If you care to look, I think you will find something that will work for you.

Ann Spak Thal School

Continued from page 4

JRA and meet us there at 10 AM or arrive at the synagogue by 9 AM and board the bus. We will return to the Synagogue by 1 PM. Carmen Hayman, Education Committee Chair, will once again proudly lead our JRA delegation.

Following our Thanksgiving break on Sunday, November 30, classes resume, and December brings Hanukkah happiness! On Sunday, December 14, classes for all grades—Pre-K through Hebrew High—will meet from 9 to 11 AM, and then the Hanukkah Happening will feature latkes, laughter, and lots of fun from 11 AM until 1 PM.

President’s Column

Continued from page 3

Mark your calendar for the Hanukkah Happening and Playschool Open House on Sunday, December 14, from 11 AM until 1 PM. Watch for the upcoming Havdalah PJ Parties. Check out the activities planned for our Baby and Me and Young Family Groups. Find out what our young professionals are doing, and join them at the next A Beer and A Blessing event! Be sure not miss our TGIShabbat services. See what is up next on the Arts/Culture menu. And it is never too late to attend an Adult Education class or a Nosh and Schmooze session. Most of all, enjoy SHS, our “Jewel of a Shul.”

Wishing you a joyous Thanksgiving filled with many blessings and wonderful food, to be enjoyed with those near and dear to you and those in your heart.

Cantor’s Column

Continued from page 4

occasional despair will become easier, when new light generated by determination, courage, and miracles will transform our world into a brighter place.

At first Steve and I were put off by the importance that Rabbi Ts’vi Elimelech places on what seemed to us to be coincidence. Now we see the connections he makes as an expression of his belief in the radical unity of all existence. Everything, he seems to be saying, including our conceptions of everything, is related to everything else. The past, present, and future, our actions and the deeds of our ancestors, are all one. Lighting the candles, we bring the ancient courage of the Maccabees into the present and strengthen our resolve to illuminate our way into the future. Happy Hanukkah!

Ann Spak Thal School

Continued from page 4

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On the last Tuesday session of each month, our Hebrew School students in grades 3–7 come together for the Ma’ariv (evening) prayer service, led by Cantor Bob Freedman. Our last such service for the calendar year 2014 will be on December 16, which is also the first night of Hanukkah. Coming together in the Sanctuary with 60 schoolmates, teachers, and the Cantor to light the first candle of Hanukkah – now that’s a Jewish memory!

Our teachers and I wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving and an unforgettable Hanukkah filled with light and love (and latkes!).
Playschool

On Sunday, December 14, from 11 AM until 1 PM, the Hanukkah Happening and Playschool Open House will take place. All synagogue members, Playschool families, friends, and neighbors are welcome to attend our Hanukkah celebration. There will be Hanukkah crafts for the children, festive holiday music, dreidel games, cookie decorating, sweet treats, and delicious homemade latkes made by the Latke Brigade.

The Playschool Open House gives prospective parents the opportunity to meet our teachers and current families and to learn more about the Playschool. Applications for the September 2015-2016 school year will be available. If you are interested in enrolling your child/children and would like to submit an application before the Open House, you can download the application from the SHS website in early December. The Playschool’s enrollment policy offers a common deadline for submitting applications. All applications must be received by Monday, December 15, to be considered for enrollment in the upcoming school year. The Playschool has classes for 2-year-olds, 3–4-year-olds, and a Pre-Kindergarten program with morning and afternoon sessions. The Playschool offers a wonderful “first school experience” for all children. Parents are also involved in the preschool by participating in our Parent Cooperative. If you have any questions about our upcoming enrollment process or if you would like to schedule an appointment to visit the Playschool, please contact the Playschool office at 215.922.6590, ext. 28 or email gparris@societyhillsynagogue.org.

Friday, December 19, is the last day of Playschool before the winter break. The Playschool will re-open on Monday, January 5, 2015.

Baby & Me Group

November 3—Play Date and Happy Hour

Jackie Goldfinger and Joanna Hart

Join the SHS Baby & Me group for a Play Date/ Happy Hour on Monday, November 3, from 5:30 until 6:30 PM in the Society Hill Synagogue Playroom! Families with children age 2 and under will gather to play, while their parents and caretakers chat and relax with a glass of wine.

SHS is a vibrant, egalitarian congregation, welcoming people of all backgrounds and approaches to Judaism. You do not need to be a member of SHS to attend our meetings—you do not even need to be Jewish to join our friendly group.

For further information, or to be included on our Email list, please contact Jackie at jacquelinegoldfinger@yahoo.com. You are also invited to join our Google group at shs-families@googlegroups.com.

KinderBat; A New Service for Children Aged 3-7!

Jessi Roemer

SHS is proud to announce a brand new service for kids called KinderBat! Children between the ages of 3 and 7, along with their families, are invited to join me, Cantorial Candidate Jessi Roemer, on Saturday mornings when we’ll celebrate Shabbat with singing, dancing, storytelling, interactive prayer, and Torah! This 45-minute service will begin at 11 AM and will be held once each month on 11/15, 12/13, 1/17, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11, and 5/9. This new program will adapt the basic elements of the morning service to create a joyful, musical Shabbat experience for families with children in this age group. We look forward to seeing you there!
Adult Education
Don’t Miss This Year’s Interesting Variety of Classes
Marc Schwartz

There is still time to attend the following classes:

**Introduction to Reading Hebrew**
Tuesdays 11/4, 11/11, 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, and 12/9, 7–8:30 PM, in the rear Playschool classroom.

**Bavli & Bagels: A Monthly Taste of Talmud**

**Monthly Shabbat Study–Shalosh Regalim with Rabbi Berman**
2nd Saturday of each month (except for February class on 2/27), 10 AM–Noon, in the Social Hall.

**Rabbi’s Monthly Nosh & Schmooze**
Sundays 11/23, 12/7, 1/4, 2/1, 3/8, 4/12, and 5/3, 11:15 AM–12:45 PM, in the Rabbi’s Study.

**That’s Funny, You Don’t Look Buddhist**
Tuesdays 7–9 PM, 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, and 12/9
Sundays 9:15-11:15 AM, 11/23, 12/14, and 12/21
Remember, the same course is being offered on two different days of the week. Both class groups will meet in the Beit Midrash.

**I and Thou**
Tuesdays 7–9 PM, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, and 2/3
Sundays 9:15–11:15 AM, 1/11, 1/18, 2/8, and 3/1
Remember, the same course is being offered on two different days of the week. Both class groups will meet in the Beit Midrash.

**The Sabbath**
Tuesdays 7–9 PM, 3/10, 3/17, and 3/24
Remember, the same course is being offered on two different days of the week. Both class groups will meet in the Beit Midrash.

**An Introduction to the Book of Psalms**

**Suddenly, a Knock on the Door**
Tuesdays 4/21, 5/5, 5/12, and 5/19, 7–9 PM, in the Beit Midrash.

Continued

See the 5775 Adult Education brochure for faculty and full course descriptions. Copies are available in the Spruce Street lobby or on the website at [www.societyhillsynagogue.org](http://www.societyhillsynagogue.org).

Yom Kippur D’var Torah & Sermon
Debra Stewart

Many of you have requested a copy of the wonderful D’var Torah given on Yom Kippur by our talented Rabbinic Intern, Nathan Kamesar.

I thank Nathan again for preparing such meaningful remarks.

Also, many of you have requested a copy of Rabbi Winolkur’s inspiring Yom Kippur sermon about Israel.

Both of these talks are available on the homepage of our website at [www.societyhillsynagogue.org](http://www.societyhillsynagogue.org).
Anyone identifying as being Jewish, even just ethnically if not religiously, should know the history that comes with that identity. Yet in our American culture where even essential American history is not well known, Jewish history can become even more removed from our basic book of knowledge. Future editions of the Kesher and our SHS website will address this problem. In each Kesher, I will share an excerpt from the book entitled, *Jewish History In 100 Nutshells* by Naomi Pasachoff and Robert Littman (J. Aronson Inc., 1995). The authors have graciously given us permission to make use of their book. Each nutshell is short—2 to 4 pages—but provides an excellent quick study of an important chapter in Jewish history. These texts provide much more than a Sunday school lesson tied to a celebration of Jewish holidays. We hope that in some small way, they will educate and make readers more aware of how their current Jewish identity is positioned on the timeline of Jewish experience. The first installment is called “The Dreyfus Affair.”

To view the pdf, please visit the SHS website and click on the November/December link under “Nutshell Excerpts.” Enjoy!

The Dr. Effy Oz Memorial Fund
Sahar Oz

The newest fund established at SHS is the Dr. Effy Oz Memorial Fund, which offers need-based financial aid to families wishing to enroll their children in the Ann Spak Thal School for Sunday School, Hebrew School, or Hebrew High. This fund honors Effy Oz, an internationally renowned scholar and professor in the field of Management Information Systems (MIS), who died of sudden cardiac arrest on July 12, 2008. Effy was the father of our Director of Education, Sahar Oz.

After serving in the Israel Defense Forces and earning an MBA at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Effy embarked upon a career in the defense sector, rising to Deputy Director of Finance at Israel Aerospace Industries. A passionate learner, he decided to leave the private sector for the education arena and earned a doctorate in MIS from Boston University. He also taught at Boston University, and later at Boston College, Wayne State University in Detroit, and Penn State Great Valley from 1996 until he passed away.

Effy won numerous awards for innovative teaching and distinguished research. He also wrote 10 books, including the first six editions of *Management Information Systems*, which continues to be one of the most widely used MIS textbooks in the world.

Effy’s greatest passions were his family, education, Judaism and Israel, and healthy living. He was a voracious reader, with a particular affinity for history, languages, ethics, politics, and religion. Effy was an expressive, sensitive man with a sharp sense of humor who communicated as eagerly, fluently, and attentively with young children as he did with leaders in his academic field. He exuded integrity and always pursued justice.

Effy was also a lifelong athlete. He was always a gentleman who derived the greatest pleasure from time spent with family.
November Birthdays
Jim Becker
Harry Bach
Rachel Goldfinger
Josh Meyer
Andrew Newman
Lillian Shemtov
Jacob Wycoff
Henry Gutstadt
Susan Levering
Stephanie Naidoff
Gabrielle Applebaum
Jack Little
David Ladov
Jacqueline Pack Segal
Mark Dembert
Ira Kauderwood
Sarah Levitsky
Lia Oxman
Arthur Cherry
Scotty Jordan
Edward Kaplan
Stephanie King
Nancy Burd
Micah Hart
Marcie Ziskind
Deborah Casnoff
Sara Chrismer
Brad Pirok
Evyn Appel
Sydney Bladen
Teresa Novick
Pelley Brown
Rina Mitchell
Sophia Yudell

December Birthdays
Sarah Buse-Morley
Howard Sedran
Joel Chernock
Evelyn Eisenstadt
Myron Bloom
Ariana Eizen
Joanna Hart
Chloe Pirok
Joanna Bottaro
Leah Popowich
Barbara Zalkind
Nancy Gellman
Robin Schatz

November Anniversaries
Alan Ominsky & Marlene Lachman
Steven Datlof & Diane Harrison
Steven & Lisa Eizen
Dean Weisgold & Cheri Cutler
Neil Cohen & Debra Weissbach
Matthew Roth & Stephanie King
James & Julie Wilson
Jerome & Lois Rosenberg
Andrew Newman & Jane Nathanson
Scott Siff & Kinney Zalesne
Jeremey & Fran Newberg
Jay & Phyllis Denbo
Jud Aaron & Susan Snedden

December Anniversaries
Jerome Kranzel & Rian Berger
Adam & Amy Shapiro
Dan Bogen & Erica Ginsburg
Michael & Carole 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

Dear Rabbi,
Thank you for making my naming so wonderful. I was especially happy that everyone was able to participate in this most important life cycle event. And by the way I love my SHS onesie!

L'Shanah Tovah,
Reese Madeline Wheeler & Family
Jerry Faich and Bonni Rubin-Sugarman & Family
Dr. Effy Oz Memorial Fund
Continued from page 9

This special time included thousands of racquetball games, long bike rides in Boston and Chester County, kayaking and canoeing, and many other trips together. Effy often referred to his wife, Narda, whom he called “my beloved,” and their four children, in his classes.

Inspired by Effy’s zeal for life and all that he held dear, the Oz family decided shortly after his death to establish the Dr. Effy Oz Memorial Fund. Since 2009, this fund has awarded thousands of dollars in academic scholarships to Chester County students at two synagogues, two public high schools, and Penn State Great Valley. Given the family’s deep involvement in Jewish education, the Directors of the fund have decided to concentrate more of the allocations in this area and is thrilled to include SHS as one of three synagogues whose religious schools will receive funding.

Community News

Mazel Tov to
Larry Spector and Ann Rosen Spector on the marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth Spector, to Nicole Louden.
Jonathan Freitag and Sara Shelley on the birth of their son, Xavi Alexander Freitag.
Bob Blacksberg and Terry Novick on the upcoming marriage of their son, Daniel Blacksberg, to Christiana Kugel.

Condolences to
Jared Susco on the death of his father, Paul Susco.
Ben Field on the death of his father, Michael Field.

Welcome New Members
Jonathan Auerbach
Riva Auerbach
Alexander Botwick and Andrea Lubitz
Shlomo and Doris Cohen
Tova Ztaoui
Allison Esslinger
Cristina Fey
Maya
Josh and Leslie Heller
Charlotte
Alan Mittelman and Barbara Freed
Brad and Maya Pirok
Caleb, Cybele, and Chloe

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STEVEN W. BREECKER, MD, FACC
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Meryl Stein
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Ernest Mukamal
Andrew Lechuk
Maurice & Judy Kaplow

In Honor of
Rick Summers
Cliff Klein

Michael Coran, 2014 Hatan Torah Recipient
Arnold & Susan Coran
Marc, Staci, and Jamie Schwartz

Leslie Hafter, 2014 Kallat B’reishit Recipient
Jim & Linda Rosenstein
Marc, Staci, and Jamie Schwartz

In Memory of
Paul Susco, Father of Jared Susco
Debbie Stewart

Robert Baker, Brother of Barbara Silver
Judy Spiller

Shirley Spector, Mother of Barbara Spector
Bonny Hohenberger & Nate Farbman

Lore Bryan
Adam & Caren Levin
Linda Joy Goldner
Susan & Bill Schwartz

Gloria Steinberg
Marina Merlin & Yuri Rubinov

Yahrzeit Remembrance
Benjamin Levering, Father
Susan Levering

Seymour Schwartz, Father of Susanne Kaplan
Edward & Susanne Kaplan

Ilse Roller, Mother of Jerry Roller
Jerry & Joan Roller

Sigmond Weinberg, Father-in-Law of Rosemarie Weinberg
Rosemarie Weinberg

Anna Paller, Grandmother of Robert Paller
Robert Paller

David Merlin, Father of Marina Merlin
Merlin-Rubinov Family

Alexander Rubinov & Sara Belkina, Parents of Yuri Rubinov
Merlin-Rubinov Family

Lillian Freedman
Joseph Freedman

Maurice Acker, Husband of Beatrice Acker
Beatrice Acker

Annual Giving Fund
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Linda Bach
Mitchell Bach
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Richard & Claudia Balderston
Bob Blackberg & Terry Novick
Elyane Bloom
Myron Bloom & Nancy Moses
Thomas Borawski & Libby Cone
Richard Braemer & Amy Finkel
Neil Cohen & Debra Weissbach
Herbert Cohn
Theodore Danoff & Diane Siegel
Steven Datlof & Diane Harrison
Jay & Phyllis Denbo
Murray Dubin & Libby Rosof
Edgar & Barbara Einhorn
Robert Einhorn
Peter & Susan Eizen
Neil Epstein
Gerald Faich & Bonny Sugarman Rubin
Dan & Dana Feinberg
Mark Dembert & Mary Fish
Joseph Freedman
Avi & Debra Galler
Linda Joy Goldner
David & Julia Gutstadt
Michael & Leslie Hafter
Noah Herman
Nathan Farbman & Bonny Hohenberger
Jonathan & Elana Hunter
Merle Jaffe
Edward & Susanne Kaplan
Don & Karen Kaufman
Jerome Kranzel & Rian Berger
Judith & Tony Lalli
Susan Levering
Carl & Caryn Levitsky
Rafi Licht & Gabrielle Applebaum
Fred & Dinah Lovitch
Myer Magen
Jim Becker & Joan Markman
Joel & Alexis Marmor
Zachary & Courtney Meisel
Geoffrey & Beverly Michauds
Rina Mitchell
Richard & Nancy Morgenstein
Steve Morley & Liz Abrams-Morley
Michael & Stephanie Naidoff
Alan Ominsky & Marlene Lachman
Harry & Eleanor Oxman
Peter Piven
Nathaniel Popkin & Rona Buchalter
Sally Poulschok
Lila Roomerberg
Paul & Wendy Rosen
Jerome & Lois Rosenberg
Dan & Anya Rosin
Daniel & Barbara Rottenberg
Rita Roy
Ira & Lynne Rubenfeld
Gerry Schneeberg
Howard Sedran & Martha Levine
Evelyn Segal
Irving & Sharon Shapiro
Barry & Joann Slosberg
Craig Sobel & Colby Grossman
Barbara Spector
Larry Spector & Ann Rosen Spector
Wane Spilove
Amy Steerman
Mark Steinberger & Ann Lebowitz Steinberger
Debra & Bill Stewart
Abraham Summers & Xing Xing Shang
Richard Summers & Merrily Williams
Jared Susco
Alton & Mona Sutnick
Nuriye Uygur
James & Julie Wilson
Richard & Elizabeth Zack

In Honor of
Jonathan Freitag & Sara Shelley, Birth of Son, Xavi Alexander
Barbara Spector

Yahrzeit Remembrance
Leon & Sara Magen, Parents of Myer Magen
Myer & Miriam Magen

Harry & Rose Greenberg, Parents of Miriam Magen
Myer & Miriam Magen

Restoration Fund
In Honor of
Marc, Staci, and Jamie Schwartz
Lois Vederman

In Memory of
Lore Bryan
Jeffrey Bryan and Family

SHS Silver Heit Salkin Fund
In Honor of
2014 Confirmands Class
Merle Salkin

Leslie Hafter, 2014 Kallat B’reishit
Stanley & Merle Salkin

Playschool Fund
Yahrzeit Remembrance
Marvin Goldsmith, Father of Gloria Parris
Gloria Parris

Cantor’s Discretionary Fund
In Honor of
SHS
Cantor Bob Freedman and Sally Freedman

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
In Appreciation of
Rabbi Winokur’s Torah Study
Rabbi Valerie Joseph

High Holy Day Services
Harris & Renee Hayman
Wendi Univer

Yahrzeit Remembrance
Jean Schertz Sablove, Mother of Pelley Brown
Pelley Brown

Tree of Life Leaves
In Honor of
Mark Steinberger’s 65th Birthday
Walter & Margie Ferst
Bob Blacksberg & Terry Novick

Adult Education
Shabbat Study Class
Johanna Markind

Shop For All Your Holiday Gifts on November 16 and December 14!

Shop at SHS on two dates for all your Hanukkah gifts. Beautiful gift items from Dim Sum (owned and operated by our own Andrea Appel)! As always, a portion of all sales will be donated to SHS. For a sample of the inventory, please visit Dim Sum.
Membershipship Engagement Initiative
1) Holiday Meals: “SHS-niks” Start
5775 By Dining Together
Barbara Spector

About 20 SHS members, plus some prospective members and members’ guests, gathered at three homes to share dinner on the second night of Rosh Hashanah. Debbie and Bill Stewart, Flora Wolf and Laslo Boyd, and Barbara Spector were the hosts. Guests contributed potluck dishes, great conversation, and holiday ruach (spirit).

It was wonderful to bring together so many people to welcome the New Year in the spirit of celebration and community.

The good news is that our Holiday Meals Initiative is meeting a real need for SHS members who would otherwise eat their holiday meals alone. The bad news is that the number of people who would like to be guests is far greater than the number of volunteer hosts. The SHS board will be meeting to consider options that would enable us to keep the program going for other holidays in 5775 and beyond.

Please contact Barbara Spector at Barbara@familybusinessmagazine.com if you would like to be a guest or host for future holiday meals.

2) TGISHabbat
Debra Stewart

Join us on Friday, November 21 featuring Charles Salinger and on Friday, December 19, Bob Blacksberg will perform at our next two TGISHabbat services. These services begin at 6:15 PM, and each service will be followed by a delicious Shabbat meal in the Social Hall.

Continued on next page
3) Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas?™
November 14-15
Bonny Hohenberger

It’s not too late!!! We need guests!!! We now have 10 and possibly 11 hosts for this marvelous event but only 32 people have signed up to be guests. This is a wonderful opportunity to create or strengthen your relationships with other members of the SHS community by sharing meals, rituals, and songs.

How does it 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 night, parents of the preschool children will attend a Preschool Shabbat Dinner/Grandparents’ Day event at 5 PM in the Social Hall.

On Saturday, November 15, the Aleph Class will help to lead the Shabbat service. A luncheon in the Social Hall will follow the service. Other members will be able to attend a Shabbat luncheon afternoon or a Havdalah meal and service on Saturday night at the home of a host congregant.

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).

Please do not wait!!! The sooner we confirm our list of hosts and guests, the better our planning (we try to place members in homes which are geographically convenient and age compatible).

To become a host or guest, or for more information, contact Debbie Stewart at beachethic@gmail.com or 609.713.0828 or Bonny Hohenberger at bjh711@gmail.com or 215.463.4715.

4) Interfaith and Learner’s Service
Debra Stewart

The next Interfaith and Learner’s Service will take place at SHS on Friday, November 7 at 6:15 PM.

5) A Beer and a Blessing
Deborah Shapiro

The first A Beer and A Blessing event for young professionals was held at the Barrel House on October 17. There were many beers and great conversations shared among newcomers and veteran members. Afterwards, many attended Friday night services and dinner at the shul. Find out more about the Young Professionals Committee and what we’re planning next. Contact deborahashapiro@gmail.com!

Continued on page 16
6) Arts & Culture Initiative
Jonathan Feinman

This year is proving to be an exciting year for the Arts and Cultural Initiative. We have something scheduled for each month thanks to your excellent ideas. I would especially like to thank Rina Mitchell for suggesting September’s outing to see Little White Lies at the Gershman Y. Fifteen congregants attended the performance, and about ten people who went to dinner together afterwards. I did not attend the dinner, but I was told that everyone enjoyed the meal. I want to thank Rina for agreeing to co-lead this outing when I thought I would not be able to attend!

On Saturday, October 25, 19 people ate dinner together at Spasso's Italian Grill and then 22 people went to see Old Jews Telling Jokes at the Penn’s Landing Playhouse. All who attended had a great time. See photos.

On November 12, at 5:30 PM, join us on an outing to the Gershman Y to see Judy Gelles’s Fourth Grade Project photo/text exhibition, and hear her speak about the project at 6 PM. Over the past six years, Judy has interviewed and photographed over 200 students from China, India, Korea, England, and many areas of the America. She asked all of the students the same three questions: “Whom do you live with? What do you wish for? What do you worry about?” Come and see some of the moving and insightful answers to these questions. We will meet for dinner at More Than Just Ice Cream at 12th & Locust Streets afterwards for those who would like to continue the discussion.

On Tuesday, December 2, 6–8 PM, we will attend the first of two of Susan Leshnoff’s Adult Education Workshops at the National Museum of American Jewish History. Susan will be teaching “Hebrew Calligraphy and the Gilded Word.” The second workshop will occur on Sunday, December 7, 2–4 PM. SHS members can order tickets before they are made available to the general public! Please contact Director of Education at the NMAJH Katerina Romanenko at kromanenko@nmjah.org. You can sign up for one or both workshop dates.

On Saturday, January 10, 2015 at 8 PM, join us for a trip to the Rutgers-Camden Performing Arts Center to see a production of Symphony in C, featuring the Mendelssohn Piano Concerto No.1 and Tchaikovsky’s Manfred Symphony in B minor (based on Lord Byron’s dramatic metaphysical poem). The soloist will be Roman Rabinovich on piano. Some of you may remember Roman, a very talented young man who used to be a congregant of SHS when he lived in Philadelphia. He performed in our very own Sanctuary.
To learn more about Roman, visit http://www.symphonyinc.org/performances/roman-rabinovich. Take advantage of the special 25% discount for Society Hill Synagogue members! To purchase your tickets, call Symphony in C at 856.963.6683 or visit www.SymphonyinC.org. Use the code Society Hill to receive the discount. Please also feel free to invite non-member friends; they are also eligible to receive the discount.

Can you believe, we already have an outing scheduled for May? Join the group as we attend the 1812 Productions play, An Evening Without the Catskills: A Brief History of Jewish Humor. This play debuted as a one-night-only special event last March, and the response was so positive, they are bringing it back. We are planning to attend the performance on Monday, May 4, at 7:30 PM, at the Christ Church Neighborhood House (located at 20 N. American Street in Old City). When congregants purchase tickets online, they must use the discount code “SHS1812.” If you buy them over the phone mention the discount code or mention that you are a member of Society Hill Synagogue. Please note that these discounted tickets are $20, but there is an additional $4 credit card handling fee per ticket.

Let me know if you hear about any arts or cultural events in and around the city that you think would be of interest to other congregants. Also, if you are an artist or performer in the congregation, please let me know so that we can share your talent with our members.

Finally, please RSVP to me at jon46feinman@hotmail.com for the scheduled events listed above so that I can get an idea of the approximate size of the group that will be attending.

Additional High Holy Day Thank yous…
Honey-Tasting-Oneg, Break-the-Fast, and Sukkah Decorations

Alan & Deborah Casnoff
Neil Cohen & Debra Weissbach
Nathan Frarbman & Bonny Hohenberger
Jonathan Feinman
Michael & Carole Rochester
Gerry Schneeberg
Deborah Shapiro
Rick Summers & Merrily Williams
Jared Susco
Alton & Mona Sutnick
Rosemarie Weinberger
Harvey & Bonnie Weiner
Jay Wussow & Emily Zimmerman
Barbara Zalkind
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Bat Mitzvah of  
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| 2 AM Clocks turn back 1 hour  
9 AM SS  
9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi  
11 AM HS  
11:15 AM Bad Things Good People with Nathan | 7:15 AM Minyan  
4:15 PM HS  
7 PM Bad Things Good People with Nathan  
7 PM Hebrew with Bruce Hirsch | 6:15 PM Interfaith & Learners Service  
Va-yera  
9 AM Torah Study  
9:30 AM  
Bar Mitzvah of Ben Rosin  
10 AM Shabbat Study with Rabbi Berman |
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| 9 AM SS  
11 AM HS  
11 AM Bavli & Bagels with Rafi  
11:15 AM Bad Things Good People with Nathan | Veterans’ Day  
7:15 AM Minyan  
4:15 PM HS  
7 PM Hebrew with Bruce Hirsch | Grandparents Day  
5 PM PS Shabbat Dinner  
No Services “Guess Who’s Coming to Shabbas?”™  
Hayyei Sarah  
9 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Aleph Class Service & Luncheon  
11 AM KinderBat |
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| 9 AM SS  
9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi  
11 AM HS  
11:15 AM Bad Things Good People with Nathan  
Dim Sum Sale | 7:15 AM Minyan  
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7 PM Buddhism with Rabbi  
7 PM Hebrew with Bruce Hirsch | 6:15 PM TGISHabbat featuring Charles Salinger  
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9 AM Torah Study  
9:30 AM  
Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Feinberg |
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| 9 AM SS  
9:15 AM Buddhism with Rabbi  
11 AM HS  
11:15 AM Nosh & Schmooze with Rabbi | 7:15 AM Minyan  
4:15 PM HS  
7 PM Buddhism with Rabbi  
7 PM Hebrew with Bruce Hirsch | Thanksgiving Day Building Closed  
Office & School Closed  
6:15 PM Service  
Va-yetzei  
9 AM Torah Study  
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Avi Winokur, Rabbi
Bob Freedman, Cantor
Debra Stewart, President
Betty van de Rijn, Executive Director
Sahar Oz, Education Director
Gloria Parris, Playschool Director