Volume 24, Issue No. 7 ELUL 5775 SEPTEMBER 2015

Coming Home



By Rabbi Adam Zeff

Ani hozer habaitah... I'm coming home..."

The lyric from this Israeli song (Hebrew words by Shimrit Or) were running through my mind as my family and I returned in July from a wonderful, enriching, and energizing sabbatical in Haifa. We are filled with gratitude to this amazing community for giving us the precious opportunity during those nine months to learn, to recharge, and to reconnect with each other and with the land and people of Israel. It was an incredible blessing to us. We are grateful to the lay leaders, rabbis, staff, and members who took it upon themselves to make sure our community continued not only to function but to grow and develop during our time away. And we are so happy to be back here with you. I am more conscious than ever of the privilege of being your rabbi in this community that I love so much, and I look forward to reconnecting with every one of you.

The High Holidays are a time of homecoming. Families and friends gather, we see faces we may not have seen for some time, and we feel once again rooted in time, in place, and in community with each other. Internally, the High Holidays are also a time of coming home to ourselves. We reflect on the past year, we identify the places where we have strayed from our highest vision of ourselves, and we try – through study, prayer, conversation, fasting – to return and recommit to that vision. For myself, my time in Israel in

the past year has given me the opportunity to recover some parts of myself that have been dormant as I have devoted myself to the rabbinate. I was reawakened to my identity as a musician and as an anthropologist, and I hope to integrate some of what I learned into my work and into our community's life now that I have returned. I also took the time to reflect deeply on my own goals, hopes, and dreams for myself and for our community, and I look forward to making some of those dreams into reality in the year to come

Music: In Israel, I had the opportunity to study the oud, a thousand-year-old lute with 11 strings that is core to both Arabic and Sephardic Jewish music, and I came back with a desire to see us have more music at GJC. So for the upcoming year, we have created a monthly series of musical programs, featuring our in-house band, G'vanim, outside musical groups, and jam sessions to bring together those who love music in our community. A very special part of this series will be a concert on October 18 by Yair Dalal, a world-renowned Israeli-Iraqi-Jewish oud player and, not coincidentally, my teacher. Nina Peskin will lend her beautiful voice to sing along with Yair, and I will also play a bit. Don't miss it!

Anthropology: I was lucky enough to study spoken Arabic through a class at Beit HaGefen, the Arab-Jewish Cultural Center in Haifa, which the GJC Israel Trip visited in December. Beit HaGefen runs an amazing variety of innovative programs to try to bring together Jewish and Arab residents of the city, including

children, teenagers, and adults. The Rabbi Charry Memorial Weekend this fall will feature Asaf Ron, the Executive Director of Beit HaGefen, along with an Arab and a Jewish teenager from Beit HaGefen's Arab-Jewish youth group, who will help us learn about the different dimensions of Israeli society and how Israelis are working peacefully together to bridge the gaps that divide them.

We have been planning an exciting Bregman program for Yom Kippur day on pursuing justice, a new niggun-based Friday night service called "Kol HaLev" (The Voice of the Heart) that will debut in October, a scholar-inresidence weekend with Maharat Rori Picker Neis in December, and much more. Please come and explore it all, and bring along those who are interested in GIC to see all that we offer!

As we enter the New Year, I encourage you to try something new, to open yourself up to ideas and activities that you may not have encountered before, to stretch and grow in new ways that you may not have previously imagined. The year stretches out before us like a blank canvas, waiting for us to fill it with learning, growing, and engaging with Jewish tradition and culture and with each other, enhancing the meaning of our lives together in new and exciting ways.

My wife Cheryl and our sons, Zeke, Avi, & Mati, join me in wishing you a new year full of the blessings of health, happiness, joy, and peace. L'shanah tovah!

President's Message



By Mathieu Shapiro, GJC President

s I reach my second year as President of the German-

town Jewish Centre, I want to share with everyone two things that most excite me about the coming year: (1) I expect Rabbi Zeff to be around the whole year; and, (2) I expect Rabbi Lewis to be around the whole year!

I could probably spend this entire column thanking those who helped us get through the past year – and still leave many people out. I won't do that, but I do want to thank:

- all of our members, rabbis and others, who took on extra leadership responsibilities in morning minyans, shiva minyans, and other religious and pastoral activities;
- of the rabbis who offered the amazing series of guest d'vars in the Charry;
- Rabbi Alanna Sklover, who took on all kinds of additional tasks;
- Rabbi Reena Spicehandler, whom we were very lucky to have available to us;
- Nina Peskin, who kept everything together; and,
- probably most importantly, all of you. I think we, as an institution, did a good job covering Rabbi Zeff's sabbatical and Rabbi Lewis's maternity leave, but I am quite confident that things happened that weren't up to our normal standards. I heard very, very little about it, however. And I am convinced I heard so little about it because the congregation understood that a simultaneous sabbatical and maternity leave put stress on the institution. So I thank you and extend my sincere gratitude to all of you for

pitching in, for your graciousness, and for banding together to ensure that we got through the year as strong and united and engaged as ever.

I remain as inspired as ever by the collective energy, commitment and engagement of this congregation.

In the coming year, I will continue to share our plans for development and fundraising. They are essential to maintaining our staffing level, and to ensuring our future.

I will also continue to talk about leadership development. We are working towards creating an executive committee in which the next three or four presidents are presumptively known, as they go through a standard progression of positions which provide a broad background in how our shul works.

If I have an identifiable new theme to add this year to those two, it is to make us a more welcoming community.

We have talked at length at the Executive Committee about how to make ourselves more welcoming to potential and new members. We have a physically confusing building. Our collective knowledge about and engagement in Judaism is one of the things I most love about GJC – but it can also be a barrier to those who are less comfortable with their own Judaism, knowledge of Hebrew, or even our particular practices. And, of course, it is both a gift and a barrier that simply picking a service to attend can be a challenging endeavor to a newcomer at GJC!

People frequently decide whether or not to join a synagogue based on their experiences in the community. Receiving a warm welcome can make all the difference in that decision-making process. One of the most powerful contributions each of us can make to strengthening GJC and ensuring its future is enthusiastically and warmly to welcome our guests, so they will choose to join GJC.

Of course, all of our other activities and initiatives are also moving forward, from engaging with Israel, to JAM, to POWER, to providing the countless services, programs and other ways for our congregants to engage with their Judaism that are the backbone and soul of GJC.

There is plenty going on, and plenty for all of us to do. As always, I invite anyone and everyone to call me, to email me, or to send me an old-fashioned letter. Tell me what we are doing well; tell me what we could do better. Tell me how to engage you in leadership. Tell me how to make the shul more welcoming. Tell me you want to know about meaningful ways to give money to the shul, either now or through an advanced planning gift.

In the meantime, thank you for being part of this community. Enjoy the fall, and our wonderful menu of tremendous High Holiday offerings. Jessica, Jake, Alex and I wish you all a happy and healthy new year. L'shanah tovah.

Would like to extend
thanks and gratitude to the
Wolfe Family Foundation
for generously supporting
and making our
programming possible.



(June 2015 – July 2015)

IN CELEBRATION...

Carol & Marty Kaplan on their 60th wedding anniversary

Tamar & Sam Magdovitz in honor of their son Joe's graduation from Tuck Business School

Molly Weingrod & Joey Weisenberg on the birth of their son, Emanuel Zvi Weisenberg

Justin Stuhltrager & Alison Stumacher on the birth of their son, Nathan Stuhltrager

Chain Dworkin & Linda Cherkas on the birth of their grandson, Noah Joseph Dworkin

Chana Rothman & Rabbi Kevin Kleinman on the birth of their son, Mishael Lev

Janine Jankovitz & Steven Pastor on their wedding

Allan Oster & Izhak Naveh on their wedding

Leah & Norman Schwartz on the birth in Jerusalem of their great-grandson, David Waitzberg, son of Elisheva & Ushi Waitzberg, and grandson of Tanya & Raphael Schwartz

IN MEMORIAM

Lee Reese, mother of Ellen Reese, mother-in-law of Gary Stein, and grandmother of Margot & Sam

Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod, father-in-law of Keira Chism Axelrod, and grandfather of Benjamin, Gabe & Max Leonard Alman Lurie, father of Arnie Lurie

Regina Brunner, mother of Eric Brunner, mother-in-law of Leah Weisman, and grandmother of Anna Weisman Brunner Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC

ISRAELI DANCING

Sundays in September-October at 10 AM beginning September 20

\$5 per session
For more information,
please call Tamar Magdovitz
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Shabbat Chai-Lites

September 5

- Charry Service: Mazal tov to Maya Goldshaw, daughter of Scott & Leona Goldshaw, on becoming Bat Mitzvah
 - S'lichot Program & Service
 - S'lichot Late Night Service

September 12

- Kol D'mamah (9:30 AM)
- Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit

September 19

- Musical Marching Minyan
- Minha: Mazal tov to Adin Esberg, son of Douglas & Tema Esberg, on becoming Bar Mitzvah

September 26

• BBMM Shabbat

October 2 & 3

- Erev Shabbat Service at 6:30 PM
- Charry Service: Interfaith Hospitality Network Shabbat honoring Milt Cohen and the work of the Interfaith Hospitality Network over the last 24 years
 - Kol D'mamah
 - Sukkah Walk

October 10

- BBMM Shabbat
- Charry Service: Mazal tov to Eitan Barash, son of Josh Barash & Devorah Lissek, on becoming Bar Mitzvah
 - Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit

October 16 & 17

- Kol Ha-Lev (niggun service)
- Charry Service: Charry Appreciation Shabbat
 - Musical Marching Minyan

October 24

- BBMM Shabbat)
- Charry Service: Mazal tov to Juniper Moscow, daughter of Dan Moscow & Sharon Strauss, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

October 30 & 31

- Rabbi Elias Charry Memorial Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat with Asaf Ron of Beit Hagefen, Arab-Jewish Cultural Center in Haifa
 - Kol Zimrah

Kabbalat Shabbat /Kol Zimrah Fridays at 6 PM (unless otherwise noted above)

Shabbat Morning
Services at 10 AM (unless otherwise noted above)
Kol D'mamah at 10 AM
Musical Marching Minyan at 11:00 AM
Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit at 11:00 AM

Shabbat Morning Kids Space - Room 305

Kids are welcome to play Shabbat-friendly games in Room 305 - bring your own and some will be provided. Please respect the space, clean up after yourselves and put all games away after use.

Religious School

Pinat Ha-Hinuch (Education Corner)

What We Learned on Our Summer Vacation... A spotlight on Professional Development!

New Models @ NewCAJE

by Rabbi Alanna Sklover

or a week this summer, I went to camp. No, no – not the week I spent up visiting, camp-rabbiing, and playing across the Jewish Summer Camps in the Poconos – for a week this summer I went to camp. During the first week of August, I joined hundreds of my colleagues from across North America for the NewCAJE6 conference. At NewCAJE, rabbis, early childhood teachers, school directors, artists, 5-hour-a-week Hebrew school teachers, cantors, musicians, and principals gathered to put our heads - and our hearts together to collaborate and deepen what lewish education can look like in our ever-changing Jewish landscape. I wanted to share with you a few snapshots of this powerful and energizing week of learning, networking, and visioning.

Sunday: Jewish Bluegrass?! At the end of our first evening of learning together, a very special concert that is 2 parts liturgy, 1 part ruach (spirit!), and 1 part Nashville! I will never hear Esa Einai the same way again or think about American Jewish music as a monolith. With an eve to inclusion, all group sessions and performances are sign-language interpreted. Monday: At breakfast we learn that the University of Hartford (our hosts for the week) has not only Kashered the entire main dining campus dining hall for our conference, but brought in mashgichim from across the state. We are the largest Jewish event the campus has ever hosted, the Director of Hospitality Services announces with a huge smile on her face! Tuesday: Learning new children's music and about

all of the important developmental and spiritual tools each song can build and reinforce from Ellen Allard (http://www.ellenallard.com/). Wednesday: I k'vell about the amazing success that our Religious School has enjoyed piloting Hebrew Through Movement this year, and swap best practices with other teachers and Education Directors on how to grow and support this ground-breaking program. Thursday: At the NewCAJE Young Professionals post-conference, three inspiring ELI Talks (inspired http://elitalks.org/) by myself and two other colleagues on "The God Gap," "Overcoming Fear In Jewish Institutional/ Community Building," "The Power of Integrating Living and Living Jewishly."

As the summer winds down and we prepare to re-enter into our fall routines, may we all take a moment to stop and reflect on the many many lessons learned, gems uncovered, and new skills acquired on all of our summer vacations. And, as we return to this place, may we gather them up, hold them close, and use them to strengthen this incredible GJC community that we all build together!

A Fresh Look at B'nai Mitzvah Tutoring – and at Inclusion

by Leah Garber

recently attended B'nai Mitzvah Training: Making Accommodations and Modifications at the Jewish Learning Venture. Gabby Kaplan-Mayer of the JLV, and Rabbi Michelle Greenfield, who has tutored many of our GJC students for their B'nai Mitvah, presented the training. It was nice to meet several of the cantors, rabbis, and B'nai Mitzvah tutors from shuls in the area. A surprising number of out of

town folks also attended- several from New York, and one even from Boston. It was heartening to see many people interested in the important work of including all students in this important life-cycle milestone.

GJC, both as a community and as a Religious School, has in my experience been committed to inclusion as a value we find important. Indeed inclusion is part of tikkun olam (repairing the world). I am proud to participate in inclusion at GJC by serving as the Special Needs Coordinator for the Religious School. One of the things that was so pleased to observe is that several of the strategies raised in this rich and full training are already in place at GJC. For example, we encourage all students who would like to have their b'nai mitzvah on Shabbat morning in front of the congregation to do so. However, for those who prefer to avoid that kind of pressure, a ceremony in one of the minyanim, or a mincha Bar or Bat mitzvah can also sometimes be an option, in collaboration with our rabbis.

The training also discussed adjusting expectations to meet the needs of the individual child. Gabby and Michelle emphasized that there is *no one way* to have a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*. Suggestions included modifications for kids with sensory sensitivities. Occupational therapist Jamie Bassman gave a pertinent presentation on visual processing. Attendees also discussed modifications for minimally verbal kids on the autistic spectrum.

With our large incoming 7th grade class beginning their *B'nai Mitzvah* year, I am looking forward to being a resource for students and continued on page 5

Religious School

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their families as they approach this very exciting time in their lives!

Fruitful Collaborations

by Melanie Berman

y mind has been busy this summer! I've been working together with Rabbi Alanna on a number of curriculum projects for the GJC Religious School. Each of these projects has involved doing research on both content and pedagogy, and I've come up with some great new teaching ideas and resources. These projects are for a variety of grade levels, so I've been able to stretch myself to make sure that each curriculum is developmentally appropriate.

My first project has been to review best practices for teaching beginning literacy, so that we might strengthen our introduction to Hebrew reading and language in the earliest grades. We'll be utilizing a variety of new strategies to introduce Hebrew letters and vowels, and provide lots of links to active Hebrew language learning. My second project has been the development of a curriculum in Jewish history for the Daled (4th grade) class, based on one of my favorite teaching resources, the book The Mystery of the Coins, by Chaya Burstein. Two children become immersed in the

study of Jewish history by encountering stories from various locations and time periods linked to a mysterious coin collection. There are wonderful opportunities for project-based learning presentations should be highly engaging for our students.

Finally, I'm in the beginning stages of developing a GJC Religious School teachers attend the wedding of curriculum for our future Hei Leah Garber and Andrea Lankin (5th grade) class on the Jew- Rebecca Barger Photography

ish community of Philadelphia, and the special impact that GJC has had upon our city. We'll be tracing the ties that our students' families have to our city, and explore the ways in which the Jewish community has grown and changed. I hope to involve many members of our congregation will share their memories and experiences with us. Please contact me through the Religious School for more information.



CONNECT

Membership & Welcoming by Naomi Klayman

We have been busy over the summer. Rabbi Fredi Cooper led a challah baking demonstration in Chestnut Hill as a way of expanding the number of neighborhoods within Philadelphia that GJC touches. Volunteers at the demonstration handed out individual braided challah rolls that Rabbi Cooper had baked, talked about our welcoming community, and invited people to the Summer Sampler. We hope to do more of these touches in different neighborhoods throughout the year, starting with the Mt. Airy Village Fair on Sunday, September 20th. The best way for prospective members to get to know our community is through our members. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at research@naomiklayman.com.

SUMMER SAMPLER SUCCESS! Our annual Sizzlin' Summer Sampler event on August 9th brought many members and visitors to Germantown Jewish Centre. Our new Family Fun Fair hosted a moonbounce, face painting, carnival games and crafts. Inside the building, creative and innovative workshops such as Musical Meditations (with Mikael Elsila), Global Tikkun Olam (with Betsy Teutsch), The Biblical Gourmet (with Kathy Amrom), and a Hazak Poetry Slam (with Helen Feinberg) took place. Rabbi Lewis gave us a taste of our Coffee & Commentary series, and Rabbi Zeff spoke of his trip to Israel, teaching all who attended Hebrew and Arabic in mere minutes. Children enjoyed a Mini- JAM (Jewish Arts & Movement) program led by ZoomDance, and the GJC-staff-made ice cream cones (donated by Coleman Poses, creator of delicious Chilly Philly) and live improv music jam session were a great way to end the evening. Germantown Jewish Centre would like to thank and recognize everyone who made this event extraordinary, those who donated their time, energy and creativity in so many different ways. Many thanks to YOU, our community, for being so welcoming throughout it all!

The High Holidays are another time when your warm smile and greeting will highlight the welcoming community we are. The High Holidays bring many guests, family, friends and members who may attend regular services infrequently. Although we will have official greeters by our doors, extending that warm greeting throughout the building can be accomplished by a few simple actions:

- Greet people you do not recognize, and those you do, with a smile.
- If someone looks lost, offer to help them get to various activities.
- Be aware of people standing by themselves, or looking around for a seat at kiddush. Introduce yourself, then introduce them to someone you know.

····· Summer Happenings at GJC ······

2nd Annual Interfaith Iftar Dinner & Discussion By Jonathan Harmon

n July 16th, GJC welcomed a group of Muslim students from Turkey in the Temin Canteen on the final night of Ramadan for their celebration of Iftar or fast breaking (related to the Hebrew root PTH, Pay-Tet-Resh, meaning in Hebrew to set free or to separate). GJC collaborated with Peace Islands Institute, a national nonprofit that "aspires to [act] as an island of peace for all peoples in a society of different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds" according to their website www.peaceislands.org.

A dozen male college students studying throughout the Philadelphia

region met with about 2 dozen GJC members. Rabbi Adam Zeff opened the evening and introduced Imam Bakir, also from Turkey, who explained the Fast ("sawm" in Arabic, linguistically identical to the Hebrew "tsom" for all the Semitic language wonks out there) and the month of Ramadan during which Muslims are entreated to fast daily from dawn till sunset ("magrib" in Arabic, linguistically identical to the Hebrew "erev"). Ramadan 1436 H (Year of the Hijra) began on June 18th on the purely lunar calendar followed by Muslims which has no leap years, hence Ramadan may occur at any time of year.

The Imam explained a host of proscrip-

tive behaviors followed during the month such as refraining from sexual relations and false speech, and that such fasting and self-control is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. Our Muslim guests prayed both before and after breaking their fast while facing east (toward Mecca). They invited the rest of us to join them in a delicious kosher and halal feast that they provided for all.

The evening was filled with questions and listening, observations and laughter as Jews and Muslims engaged in meaningful sharing under GJC's welcoming roof.

The Humans of

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Hours

Sun 9am-12:30 Mon closed Tues/Wed 12-7:30 pm Thurs/Fri 12-5 pm



Lucy and Janet Kroll recently purchased a "yad" as a celebratory gift for Lucy's grandmother's bat mitzvah (see the wide selection behind Lucy!)



Mark Fallon enjoys buying the Kosher wines.

For High Holidays, come browse for shofars, lulay and etrogs, new calendars, New Year cards, kiddush cups, kippot, and hostess gifts

Special Discounts

- Mention Lucy's grandmother and get 10% of any vad!
- In honor of Mark, there is a 10% discount on a bottle of Baron Herzog Red Zinfindel during the month of September

Women's Club News

So many programs! So many projects!

By Yona Diamond Dansky and Marcy Fish, Co-Presidents, with Dena Lake

Welcome Back Brunch on Sunday morning, September 20th

In a slight change in our tradition, Women's Club is partnering with Men's Club, Hazak and the Social Action for this year's Welcome Back Brunch. GJC author Betsy Teutsch along with Cheryl Bettigole will be discussing Betsy's new book, 100 Under \$100: One Hundred Tools for Empowering Global Women. Please join us for this important and timely program. Books will be available for purchase and Betsy will be happy to sign yours. Women's Club will also be sponsoring a Bake Sale that morning. A wise woman author, Ernestine Ulmer, stated it perfectly, "Life is uncertain. Eat dessert first." Look for the delicious home made desserts.

Women's Club & Men's Club Paid-Up Membership Brunch on Sunday, October 8th

Alex Keiper and Cara Noel Antosca, both of 11th Hour Theatre, will entertain us. Alex has also been in shows at the Walnut, the Arden and Theatre Horizon. Cara recently returned to the area and has performed at the Eagle Theater. If your membership in Men's or Women's Club is current, there is no charge for this event.

Women's Club & Early Childhood Program

Last summer, Women's Club members began volunteering with ECP as storytellers, challah baking helpers and craft teachers. The fun continued this year as well, as you can see in the photos. Kathy Amrom kicked off the "summer of the earth" with a puppet show, while Gina Michaels gave the children a lesson in making casts, using clay to create the mold for a plaster cast. You can learn more about the wonderful work of Women's Club members on the Early

Childhood Program's page.

On a warm Sunday morning in June, long-time GJC member, Anne Shlay in-



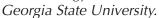


tained us with a presentation of her newly published book, The Jerusalem: Spatial Politics of a Divided Metropolis. Addressing the large crowd she added her thoughts about Women's Club, "Joining the board and becoming active

formed and enter-

was the single most important decision I made in my over 20 years of a GIC member."

We wish Anne Shlay the best of luck in her new position as Department Chair of Sociology at



Torah Mantles: Preserving the Old & Planning for the New

Many of the High Holiday and purple and gold Torah mantles used in the Charry Sanctuary were woven more than fifty years ago, some by GJC members. Over the past year, a group of dedicated and talented women worked tirelessly to repair these cherished Torah mantles until we were able to replace them. This year, our Building Beautiful Project will be to raise money to purchase new Torah mantles. We would love to hear your stories of how these beautiful Torah mantles were made. Please contact the GJC office if you have any details.

Intergenerational Women's Gather-

ing was held on Sunday morning, August 30th, with the topic, "We're All Grow-



ing Older." This group meets monthly. For more information on upcoming dates, see the Women's Club calendar on the GJC website (on the Get Involved Tab, scroll down to Women's Club) or contact Nina Gordon at ngordonclay@hotmail.com.

The Perks of Women's Club Membership

Please join us in actively sustaining the synagogue. When you join WOMEN'S CLUB by paying \$45 annual dues you help sponsor enriching programs and important projects that everyone enjoys. You can also contribute your talents by helping with these projects. By being part of WOMEN'S CLUB, you keep GJC in the forefront of the congregation and of the community. You become part of a very special, very caring community. For more information, email Peninah Berdugo, peninahberdugo@gmail.com or Vilma Lieberman at vilmabluex@yahoo.com.

We would like to wish everyone a healthy, happy and peaceful year. As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude and appreciation.

*Note: Both Betsy Teutsch's and Anne Shlay's books are available in THE LITTLE SHOP and also on Amazon. Please be sure to visit THE LITTLE SHOP for a great selection of holiday and gift items. If you purchase anything on Amazon, please do a mitzvah when you shop online: remember to first register on Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com); please check off Germantown Jewish Centre when you register. Women's Club applies the proceeds for GJC projects.



Noel Eisenstat and Beth Rosenbaum

Beth Rosenbaum and Noel Eisenstat, both 55, have been active members of GJC for decades. Beth, in fact, jokes that she was a member of GJC before her birth, since her parents joined in 1949, well before she was in utero.

Beth was born in East Mt. Airy. Her parents, Lila and Richard, owned Rice's Hardware Store on Wadsworth Avenue and the family stayed in the area when many of their neighbors moved to the suburbs. Beth's mother, Lila, was a longtime educator in the Cheltenham schools before developing a second career as a communications consultant. After her parents joined GJC, her grandparents also joined, making Beth and Noel's twin sons, Ben and Aaron, the fourth generation at the synagogue.

Beth attended Akiba Hebrew Academy (now called the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy) from 6th through 12th grades. "I had a really good experience at Akiba," she recalls. "I got my (Judaic) skills through my Jewish education there and at Germantown." Beth does have considerable skills that she uses to contribute to the Charry service, including reading Torah and Haftorah on Shabbat and High Holiday services, volunteering as a gabbai for Torah readings, leading Torah services or Musaf and singing in the High Holiday choir.

She has been a Torah reader since her Bat Mitzvah. "I was greatly influenced by Ben Meisner, the cantor with Rabbi Charry," Beth recalls. "He kept kids involved and engaged. Back then, after our B'nei Mitzvah through high school, we would tutor the younger kids learning their B'nei Mitzvah. We

Member Spotlight

By Linda Kriger

looked forward to it. I'd go every Shabbat. I've always participated in the High Holiday services. Lately I've been a regular for Haftarah for Rosh Hashanah. And I've been on committees for different things over the years, including the High Holiday Honors Committee last year".

Beth attended Clark University where she met Noel during her sophomore year. Noel had taken a gap year between high school and college to join the Young Judea program in Israel. When he enrolled at Clark, he received enough academic credits to graduate in three years. "We knew each other through common friends," Beth said. "He had a car and would drive me to the Philadelphia area." They began dating in 1980. Beth received a Masters in clinical social work from Smith College while Noel worked in New Jersey government. They married in 1986.

Beth's first job was as the child therapist at the Paley Branch of Federation Daycare. "I was a general social worker for their clients. Back then, they believed that every family should have a social worker available to them for free counseling if they needed it," she said. At that time Noel was working on his masters degree at Penn and they were living at 47th & Pine in a house made into apartments. "The landlord kept knocking on our door when Noel was cooking, a nottoo-subtle hint to be invited to dinner," Beth said drily. Noel is an excellent and inventive cook and has cooked for Beth and others since they met.

Ben and Aaron, 24, were born on their fifth anniversary. Ben now works and attends college in Orlando, FL. Aaron lives outside of Ft. Lauderdale, having received a certificate in television production and lighting.

In Atlantic City, Beth was hired as a therapist at the Family Service Association of Atlantic County, a social service agency that served the entire population of the county. She became a clinical supervisor, and then became pregnant. After her leave, Beth went back to work part time with the intention of going back full time, when Noel was offered a job with then newly elected Philadelphia mayor, Ed Rendell.

They moved to Philadelphia, where Beth continued a small private psychotherapy practice like one she'd had in Atlantic City, until her sons began elementary school. "Then I wanted to be home after school and in the evenings," she said. She worked at Jewish Family and Children's Service for 13 years. "It was an ideal place to support me working and being available to my family," she explained. "My hours were whatever the school bus schedule was."

At JFCS, Beth coordinated support groups and educational workshops and created continuing education programs for clinical professionals. She created an eating disorder prevention program and anti bullying programs that were run in day schools and synagogues. She then transitioned into working with senior adults before leaving at the end of 2010. She began working at the Renfrew Center in 2011 as a primary therapist and outpatient supervisor. She runs therapy groups, sees patients and supervises staff and student interns. Her work is exclusively with women who struggle with eating disorders.

Beth's mother, Lila Booth and father, Richard, who are divorced, still go to Germantown. Her two brothers, David and Robert, were very involved in GJC while they grew up. All three of them were active in GJC's USY chapter, which existed at the time.

Noel was born in Vineland, NJ on the first night of Rosh Hashanah. His mother, Lorraine, went into contractions and her water broke while in synagogue. "Made a big mess," Noel said, with characteristic understatement.

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Member Spotlight

Continued from page 8

His mother, then 21, liked Noel Coward, the playwright and composer and Ellery Queen, a pseudonymous mystery writer, so she named her son, Noel Ellery.

At the time, Vineland had a vibrant Jewish community. It was originally settled in the 1880s by Russian Jewish escaping from immigrants pogroms, and later became home for many Holocaust survivors. Vineland became the commerce center of the region, which was dotted with small agricultural communities. "Jews were subsistence farmers, then production farmers and then they got into the food processing business," Noel said. "First they grew just enough to eat for themselves, then they grew enough to sell to others, then they became merchants, and then they told their children to become professionals, and they stopped coming back."

Noel struggled with a learning disability and left public school to attend a very small private Catholic Boys High School. He went to Hebrew school and to Israel after high school as a way to defer college and get away from home. "Back when there was no Internet, no cell phones and it was-n't so easy to call," he said, "I was really away."

Whatever learning issues Noel struggled with, he has compensated for them by forming, nurturing and maintaining relationships that have served him in his career. Those relationships opened doors to government jobs, the first one being in the New Jersey Division of Housing in Trenton, where Noel helped to plan and administer revitalization programs in distressed neighborhoods, which involved doing door-to-door surveys. He also worked to stabilize housing and community conditions. After months, Noel went to the University of Pennsylvania to study government, taking most of his electives at Wharton

Business School and in the department of City and Regional Planning, where he focused on urban development.

At the same time that he worked towards a Masters degree in government, Noel worked in Atlantic City in municipal government, mostly coordinating governmental affairs with county and state governments. He then went to Rutgers Law School, continuing to commute between and Atlantic City. "I wanted to leave what I was doing and I didn't know what to do but to go to law school," he recalls, adding, "but it turned out to be immensely valuable, in fact, crucial" to his career. "It allowed me to be much more effective in government, because it provided my credentials in dealing with government lawyers."

From 1987 to 1991, he became the Executive Director of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority in Atlantic City, directing a small sliver of the money from three casinos mostly into community development projects Noel left that job in August 1991 to finish law school and study for the bar.

"In January, 1992, while I was studying for the bar, I was approached for a series of interviews with the Rendell Administration. I was an outsider. I wasn't from here. It was unique for a person from the outside to run the City's Redevelopment Authority." Noel spent eight years there, and during that time, he oversaw the renovation of Reading Terminal Headhouse, as well as renovations of portions of the city's public housing stock. Noel was involved in much of the early HOPEVI program that used federal and private funds to knock down and rebuild some of the most notorious public housing projects, including the Southwark and Schuylkill Falls.

After the Rendell years, Noel went to work for the National Passenger Railroad Corporation, the legal name for Amtrak, as Senior Vice-President for business planning and commercial development. He was there for two years. Before his Amtrak job, he would some-

times take his boys to 30th street and before all the security was in place, take them downstairs so they could "look down into the locomotives at the knobs, dials, and controls," he said. "Sometimes, the engineer would lightly blow the horn."

At the end of 2002, Noel decided to open up a consulting practice. "I have a pretty eclectic set of clients that range from for-profit housing and nonprofit developments to large institutions mostly focusing on project finance and real estate development," he said. "Much of my work is about attracting capital and financing to undertake mostly urban development projects that are difficult to finance and need the help of the public sector." A few years ago, when the Co-op was renovating its Mt. Airy store and building a new one in Chestnut Hill, Noel volunteered his efforts for Weavers Way. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Housing **Finance** Agency since 2003 and after years as an active member, serves as vice-chair of Philabundance.

At GJC, in the early 1990s, Noel was co-chair of the social action committee with Seth Lieberman. He applied his professional expertise after the capital campaign was completed and the money already earmarked because the need arose to borrow money to do major renovations to the school building. He spent eight years as an officer on the executive committee and the board as well as chairing two spring concerts.

For both Beth and Noel, membership at GJC has merged community with spirituality. Beth's parents and grandparents found a home here. Beth and Noel got their footing in the community when their sons attended the Early Childhood Program and Beth organized potluck dinners for young families. Now that baton has been passed to another generation and Beth and Noel have moved into another satisfying phase of life with GJC.

Adult Education at GJC 2015-16/5776: Fall Courses at a Glance

Take the plunge into adult Jewish learning! The listings below represent our fall course schedule as of 8/1/15. We often add courses along the way. So check back in the next issue, on our website and with the office, for additional updates. Advanced registration is requested for all courses.

Contact the office if you have questions or to register.

Title	Instructor(s)	Timing	Dates	Cost Members/ Non Members
Center City Lunch & Learn The Development of an Ethical Legal System: From Bible to Present Day	Rabbi Zeff	Wednesday 12:15-1:30 PM	Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2	\$150/\$200 (add. CLE fees may apply)
Coffee & Commentary (ongoing Torah study)	Rabbi Zeff & Rabbi Lewis	1st Thursday at 11:00 AM @ Mt. Airy Read & Eat 3rd Wednesday at 2 PM @ Chestnut Hill Coffee Co.	Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3, Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5 Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 17, Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18	FREE
Learn Haftarah Trope!	Eve Pinkenson	Tuesday 7:00-8:30 PM	Oct 13, 20, 27; Nov 3, 10, 17, 24; Dec 1, 8, 15	\$125/\$150
More Tough Social Issues in Israel	Rabbi Zeff, Rabbi Lewis & Guests	Sunday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Nov 1, 8, 15, 22	\$60/\$80



jkidphilly is celebrating Grandparents! 9.20.2015

Join us for the

2nd jkidphilly Grandparents' Celebration on
Sunday, September 20th, 2015
from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
at the Morris Arboretum in Chestnut Hill, PA.
From babies to bubbies, attendees will enjoy
an afternoon of fun, social, and musical
Jewish educational experiences geared to
children through age 10.
For more information visit
jkidphilly.org/grandparents-celebration
or contact Lori Rubin at

215.320.0402 / Irubin@jewishlearningventure.org.

Marey

Marcy Bacine

Shelley Menkowitz

Co-Chairs, 2nd jkidphilly Grandparents' Celebration

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Hazak

News from Hazak (55+ Programs)

By Coleman Poses

he dog days of summer could not suck the vibrancy out of our Hazak programming. Co-chair Helen Feinberg facilitated a "Senior Poetry Slam," at GJC's summer sampler.

What could possibly compete with this battle of the poets? Why, a battle of the Verdi baritones that Sam Feinberg hosted the following week during his celebrated "Opera Under the Stars," of course. As always, Sam provided rare footage of wonderful opera productions, which was followed by socializing and noshing on wine and cheese.

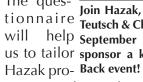
But wait, there's more! On Sunday, September 20, Hazak is co-sponsoring a "Welcome Back" event, featuring Betsy Teutsch and Cheryl Bettigole, who will discuss Betsy's new book 100 Under \$100: 100 Tools for Empowering Global Women a won-

derful compilation of projects and products from around the world that make life healthier, safer and more livable. Other sponsors of this event include Women's Club, Men's Club, and the Social Action Committee. Betsy's book will also be on sale. How much? Here is a hint. It is well under \$100.

And on Sunday, October 25, Rabbi Dayle Friedman will discuss her new book, Growing Older - Wisdom + Spirit Beyond midlife, in a morning event co-sponsored by Hazak, and Women's Club. Those who attended Hazak Shabbat in April were fortunate to experience Dayle is extensive knowledge about aging and her amazing ability to make it all right. In October we will have the opportunity to hear more, as well as to purchase her book to learn even more.

Also, we have sent both the electric

and paper versions of the new Hazak questionnaire out during the summer. The ques-





tionnaire
Join Hazak, along with Betsy
Teutsch & Cheryl Bettigole, on will help September 20th as they cous to tailor sponsor a kick-off Welcome

grams to the wishes of our consti-Anyone 55 and over is eligible to complete it. Please take the time to complete and return it; your responses will enable us to plan the events and activities YOU WANT! If you have not received a copy, please contact Coleman Poses at 215-510-1750. Thanks!

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- √ No Antibiotics
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Pick up your order at GJC every 2 weeks, or ship directly to your home

Social Action Update

POWER Highlights

By Andrea Moselle

GJC Contingent Joins Local Jewish Faith Leaders in Harrisburg Sound the Shofar for School Funding

s State Senators debated this year's budget proposal, GJC's Rabbi Annie Lewis and a group of GJC members joined over 30 rabbis and Jewish lay leaders for a rally and public action calling for full fair funding of public education as part of POWER's participation in a statewide "Moral Takeover of the Capitol" by interfaith leaders and public school parents from across the state. On June 29, the 10th and final day of the initiative, Rabbi Lewis and

co-leader, Rabbi Avi Winokur of Society Hill Synagogue, led the group in prayer and study before marching to the Senate Chamber during a session and to key legislative offices throughout the Pennsylvania Capitol building blowing multiple *shofarot* to awaken lawmakers to a call for justice through a fully and equitably funded education system.

shofar in the tradition of ancient Israelites as a warning that if schools
continue to be underfunded, the
whole community will suffer. Rabbi
Lewis said "The voice of the shofar is
a prophetic voice, calling on us to find



Jewish faith leaders sounded the ofar in the tradition of ancient lselites as a warning that if schools on the properties of the GJC contingent on the PA Capitol Steps. From L to R: Ilene Blitzstein-Poses, Andrea Moselle, David Mosenkis, Ed Lake, Rabbi Annie Lewis, Cantor Naomi Hirsch

our prophetic voice. It calls on us and all our legislators to do justice, mercy continued on page 13

Story Hour at the Henry School

By Ellen Frankel

Storytelling to my first graders each week is the high point of my week! Where else can I enter a room and be greeted with cheers, a flurry of high fives, hugs, and "see you next week?" Each year it's a love fest between me and the kids, who love stories and love the special attention.

During my very first two years in my first grade teacher's class, I told Greek myths, beginning with the Iliad and Odyssey (abridged!) and then went on to famous legends like Medusa, Theseus and the Minotaur, and the Labors of Hercules. Last year, we spent the first half of the year hearing African folktales, principally tales about Anansi the Spider, and a few by Rudyard Kipling from his "Just So Stories." During the second half of the year, we heard African-American stories that grew out of these African slave roots, mostly from the Uncle Remus collection, as retold and "liberated" by Julius Lester. The kids loved these tales about Brer Rabbit and the Tar Baby, Brer Bear and Brer Fox, Brer Coon and Brer Turtle, and Mammy-Bammy Big-Money.

I tell the stories rather than reading from a book. I print out images I find online: cartoons, fine art, black and white sketches, illustrations from books, graphic art, and old-fashioned images. I do this to show the children that each artist interprets the characters, and even the actions of a story so differently. And therefore, they can, too! Whenever possible, I also download a video from YouTube or Vimeo of the story we are doing in class, so the students can absorb the tale through different mediums. I especially love when the kids jump up spontaneously, and begin to dance to the music on many of these videos!

I will be back next year in Room 101 for another group of budding storytellers -- and more of those hugs and cheers.

At Henry School, GJC volunteers continue our Centre's longstanding commitment to our Neighborhood School. Each Volunteer regularly visits 1/2 hour each week, to read to children in grades K-3. Maxine Margolies (mmargx@aol.com) and Sandy Meyer

(sms@meyeroneagle.com) coordinate the program, which was founded by Renee Levine (of blessed memory).

Community Volunteers has been at the Houston School for more than ten years when the Thursday Literacy section was conceived, created, and coordinated by GJC member Barbara Bloom. Five years ago, Elayne Blender joined Barbara in a leadership role and has since added math tutoring and library staffing components. In tutoring literacy or math, the volunteer and child are usually together the entire year providing an opportunity for the adult to develop the best ways to develop skills of and provide encouragement to a particular student. In this time of funding cuts, under Elayne's leadership, the program has also been able to open the library to teachers and their classes to check out books for research or general reading. Volunteers are welcome for all of these. For more information, contact Barbara Bloom (215-247-2311) or Elayne Blender (215-248-0413).

Social Action Update

Continued from page 12

and follow God's ways. We blew the shofar throughout the Capitol today because all of Pennsylvania's children deserve the resources they need to learn and grow."

Earlier in the day, Jewish leaders led a Teach-In on the Capitol steps about education funding, including study of classical Jewish texts on the basis for supporting education. GJC member, David Mosenkis, gave a presentation on progress that has been made toward a fair formula and how to resolve racial inequities which research he conducted revealed. Rabbi Carl Choper of Harrisburg, President of the Interfaith Alliance of Pennsylvania, said, "Education affects everyone's future. The kids we're teaching today will be the people running our society tomorrow. As a matter of justice, students in every place should have equal access to education."

As we go to press, the Pennsylvania state budget is still being debated and funding for schools across the state, including Philadelphia, remains in question. GJC members continue to be active in POWER's work on education.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact David Mosenkis (dmosenkis@gmail.com) or Andrea Moselle (amoselle@comcast.net).

Conversation on Race at GJC

On June 9th, 22 GJC members gathered for "A Conversation About Race", hosted by the Social Action Committee. Earlier in the year during Granger Shabbat and at a panel discussion about Abby Perkiss' book "Making Good Neighbors", we heard from many of those who attended that they found the rich and lively conversations helpful and hoped there would be opportunities to continue talking. We were also building upon positive experiences of other congregations who are part of the POWER interfaith network.

The session was designed to provide a safe space to share personal experiences around race and provide a structure to better comprehend these experiences and those of others. We also hope this discussion and others which follow will help us gain a deeper understanding of the role race plays in our lives and our society and enable us to develop new ways of communicating and working across diverse groups.

Designed and facilitated by Steve

Weinberg, Seth Goren, David Mosenkis and Andi Moselle; the program used a mixture of small and large group discussion to explore how race has impacted our lives. Working in pairs and then groups of four, participants felt that they were able to comfortably share their own experiences, and nearly everyone expressed interest in follow-up programs. GJC members can look forward to opportunities coming up this fall that include:

- A series of professionally facilitated discussions building on the first programs.
- A book/article discussion group. The first book will be the recently published book by *Atlantic* columnist Ta-Nahisi Coates, "Between the World and Me"
- Exploring the possibility of getting together with an African American congregation

Watch upcoming GJC bulletins for more information. If you are interested in learning more, contact Andrea Moselle (amoselle@comcast.net) or David Mosenkis (dmosenkis@gmail.com).

Towards a Sustainable Energy Hub

By Maxine Margolies

On April 26, the Social Action Committee, with co-sponsoring by a number of groups, including the GJC Social Action Committee, Weavers Way Food Cooperative, Interfaith Power and Light, the Shalom Center, the Men's Club, Women's Club, PennFuture, and Hazak, held an Earth Day discussion of the dangers of a fossil fuel energy hub in Philadelphia and the great advantages of developing a renewable energy hub here instead.

The event began with "Boom," a ten minute film that recounted the devastation of Lac Megantic - a town in Quebec - on July 6, 2013, by the derailment and explosion of a train carrying crude oil. The film was followed by a presentation from Robert Altenburg, JD, director of PennFuture Energy Center, who questioned our continued reliance on fossil fuels when renewable energy seems to be a more economical and earth friendly alternative. Mr. Altenburg's talk was followed by GJC's Ken Lande, who tied the Lac Megantic tragedy to the proposed fossil fuel energy hub for Philadelphia, which would convert fossil fuels into refined fuels, manufactured goods, etc. While warning of the increased dangers of such an energy hub,

he proposed an alternative renewable energy hub, one which would manufacture the massive wind turbine components such as the blades and towers, assemble these components into wind turbines as well as serve as a center for off shore deployment and installation of these wind turbines. Philadelphia's unique geography makes it an ideal location for such a manufacturing complex, one that would be both economically as well as environmentally sustainable and employ a large number of people far into the forseeable future.

POB

Join People of the Book for another year of great discussion:

September 8th Marjorie Morningstar by Herman Wouk

October 13th

Ten Green Bottles: The True Story of One Family's Journey from War-torn Austria to the Ghettos of Shanghai by Vivian Jeanette Kaplan

November 10th
The Elegance of the Hedgehog
by Muriel Barberry

December 8th
The Aleppo Codex: In Pursuit
of One of the World's Most
Coveted, Sacred, and
Mysterious Books
by Matti Friedman

January 12th *The Fundamentalist*by Mohsin Hamid

February 9th

The Catcher Was a Spy: the Mysterious Life of Moe Berg by Nicholas Dawidoff

> **March 8th** Henna House by Nomi Eve

April 12th *Little Failure*by Gary Shteyngart

May 10th

Thirteen Days in September: the Dramatic Story of the Struggle for Peace by Lawrence Wright

June 14th

All the Light We Cannot See
by Anthony Doerr

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM in the Quitman Library

Early Childhood Program (ECP)

Reviewing our Camp Keshet summer, and looking ahead to a great year!

By Anna Goldberg

his summer we decided to give the children a camp experience that would leave them with no question that they had been in CAMP. We wanted the feeling of sun, earth, and water to be their biggest impressions of this summer. Our brainstorming of this "Summer of the Earth" led us to open a space behind the playground for the children to romp in, extending their outdoor time, and giving us more room to plant gardens, erect tents, experiment with materials, and generally have a good time. We imagined ways for the children to get their hands in the dirt, and got busy programming with community members and parents to enrich the summer experience. We are so gratified to acknowledge that the experiment worked! From homemade popsicles to water squirts, to gardens, to time with clay, mosaics, and plaster, the children have had a truly rich summer.

Looking ahead, we are working on ways to bring family and community members into the preschool on a regular basis. Our Holiday curricula are a special focus for innovation. Stay tuned for reports of interactions between preschoolers and religious school children, special High Holiday events, and new ways to experience the unfolding of the Jewish calendar!



Nina Gordon donated her talents as a potter expert for a morning.



The children participated in coloring the cloth, which we used to construct this teepee tent. It is a wonderful addition to our "outdoor classroom".



Throughout the summer, the children gardened and planted. Here they planted beans in recycled containers.



Recipe for a car wash: water, sponges, cars, children. Mix.



We enjoyed sign-language story time with GJC member Sheila Erlbaum, sponsored by the Women's Club. Most of our programs took place outside, weather permitting!

JEWISH ARTS & MOVEMENT

at Germantown Jewish Centre

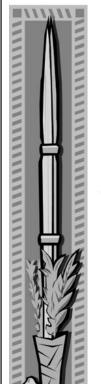
COME ONE

SEPTEMBER 13th at 6 PM ROSH HA-SHANAH JAM with Chana Rothman & ZoomDance!

Call 215.844.1507 to REGISTER & MORE INFO

program@germantownjewishcentre.org





LULAV & ETROG SETS

Pre-order through the Little Shop

Erev Sukkot is September 27th

Reserve your own Lulav and Etrog set for SUKKOT. Each set is \$40 and MUST be pre-ordered and pre-paid. Make checks out to the Little Shop. You can pay cash or credit in the shop.

Orders will be accepted until SEPTEMBER 11, 2015

Your order will be available for pick up at GJC on:

Friday, September 25th from 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm Sunday, September 27th from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Order forms are available online at www.germantownjewishcentre.org or throughout the building.

High Holidays 2015/5776 Special Programs for Adults

Engagement

Endowment Fund

In addition to our Charry, Dorshei Derekh & Minyan Masorti services,we invite you to participate and be renewed by the following programs:

Yoga & Chigong led by Leah Weisman

Rosh ha-Shanah Day 1, 9:30-10:30 AM Yom Kippur, 4:00-5:00 PM

Kol D'mamah Contemplative Service

Rosh ha-Shanah Day 1 (TBA) Yom Kippur, begins at 10:00 AM

Israel Garden

Open Meditation Space

5:30 PM in the Quitman Library

Text Studies

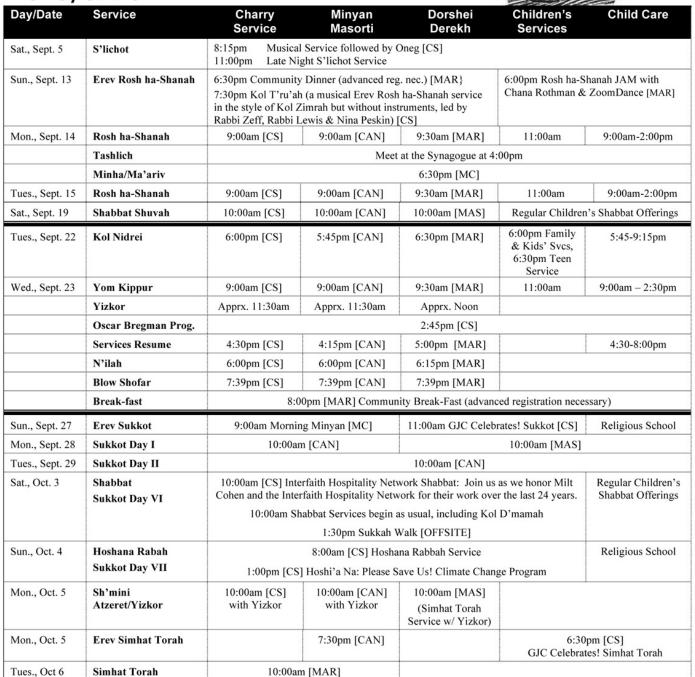
Rosh Hashanah Day 1, 12:00-1:00 PM (w/ Rabbi Lewis) Rosh Hashanah Day 2, 10:00-11:00 AM (w/ Herb Levine) Yom Kippur, 12:30-1:30 PM (w/ Rabbi Lewis)

Yom Kippur Oscar Bregman Memorial Program: Moving the World Toward Equality

Wednesday, September 23rd at 2:45 PM with Justice Jane Greenspan as moderator



High Holiday & Sukkot Services 2015/5776



CS: Charry Sanctuary MAR: Marcus Auditorium MAS: Maslow Auditorium CAN: Temin Canteen Room MC: Magil Chapel

Parents must pre-register for Childcare, Children's Services & Children's Lunch.

Forms are available online and throughout GJC. See separate flyers for details on childcare and supplemental programs for teens & adults.

www.germantownjewishcentre.org/Prayer/High_Holidays



Get Involved with the Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network

Join us on **Saturday, October 3rd** in the Charry Service for a special Shabbat as we honor Milt Cohen & the work of the Interfaith Hospitality Network

he work of Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network is up close and personal. A mother of three whose husband died, leaving her unable to cover the rent on one income..... A devoted working father of two children who tried to make the family unit work, but left with the kids to prevent them from a mother unable to overcome drug addiction..... An aged out- of foster care mother who wandered the streets with her baby having no place to stay; a single mom who was doing OK until she lost her job and lost her apartment; a woman whose husband began drinking and beating her. These are just a few stories from our neighborhood. Homelessness happens to people who are trying their best, working hard and "playing by the rules," but find themselves in a perfect storm of unfortunate circumstances. These people are our neighbors and friends, fellow congregants and classmates. At a point when supportive community means the most is where PIHN makes the difference. This is the work of Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network, involving 1500 volunteers from 50 congregations and community institutions who work together to make a difference for at-risk neighbors.

Based in Northwest, and more recently in Northeast Philadelphia, PIHN starts with the basics- food, clothing and shelter, and moves on from there to supportive services, financial, career, education and housing counseling, and from there to family and self- care, all with the support and encouragement of compassionate volunteers. The end goal.... A family that can manage to live a secure and self- sufficient lifestyle, with children who know and trust that they have a secure place to call "home."

The day center at 7047 Germantown Ave. is a space where all families, those who are without homes or those who are couch surfing and staying with others, can come for a place to be... to work on computers, to enjoy a quiet day and play, to eat a snack, to do homework or write a paper for school. It's a place to regroup and move forward. Families without homes receive hospitality in area congregations, allowing them to remain in Northwest Philadelphia, the area in which they are familiar, have supports, and where their children attend and can remain in their schools. Homelessness is a wrenching experience, but losing one's community and absolutely everything familiar puts salt on the wound, making moving forward much more difficult.

Germantown lewish Centre is a founding congregation of PIHN. In fact, GJC's own Elaine Dushoff and Howard Spodek were among the group of founding organizers. In later years, Howard went on to serve as President of the (N)PIHN Board. Elaine and a small group of representatives from several other local congregations associated with Northwest Interfaith Movement, learned about the work of a small coalition of congregations in New Jersey and modeled our program after their program. Now that little New Jersey program has grown into a national program with nearly 200 affiliates offering emergency hospitality to homeless families across the United States (even in Hawaii and Alaska!). PIHN has grown as well, expanding our services to Northeast Philadelphia in addition to Northwest Philadelphia and also broadening the scope of our work to serve alumni, who remain at risk, even when they achieve the goal of moving to housing.

People really do want to solve the problem of family homelessness, but it

feels so overwhelming and complicated that it's hard to know what to do first. Breaking the problem and work down to one family at a time makes it easier to get a handle on things. That's what PIHN does, and so can you. Please join us in our work. Cook a meal, play a board game, overnight host, become an adopted Santa, coach a family with their budget, tutor a child, tutor an adult, help a teen apply to college, support our office crew, do a random act of kindness driving a parent to a job interview. Share your strengths and abilities by helping a neighbor. It's simple and it's effective. It makes the difference.

With thanks to GJC and to our caring community of congregations, organizations, and volunteers!

Rachel Falkove, Executive Director and Rev. Amy Yoder McLaughlin, Board President

For more information on the Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network and how you can be involved, please contact Debbie Stern at *debstern502@msn.com*.



High Holidays Guest Tickets Request Form 2015/5776

"How good it is for brothers and sisters to sit together." (Psalm 133)

During Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and year-round, our synagogue is full of life, song, study, prayer, community, and opportunities for connection. Germantown Jewish Centre welcomes family and friends of our members to attend High Holiday services in the Charry Service, Dorshei Derekh, Minyan Masorti, Kol D'mamah, and children's services, and to enjoy meaningful programming throughout the building.

In order to sustain our abundance of activity and to ensure that we can accommodate all who want to celebrate the holidays with us, we ask that our members request guest tickets for those who will be joining you. We welcome your children of all ages; no tickets are necessary for children through their college years. We suggest a donation of \$36 for full-time students beyond college-age. For all other guests, there is a suggested a donation of \$200.00 per ticket.

GJC participates in a reciprocal ticket program. If your guests are members in good standing at another synagogue, they are eligible for free tickets at GJC. To receive reciprocal tickets, please provide a letter from your guests' synagogue to the GJC office, confirming their membership status.

You can help us grow our membership by inviting guests who are new to the area or considering joining GJC to High Holiday services. We are happy to make guest tickets available to them for one year, which would later be applied toward dues if they choose to join our community. If you have friends who fit this category, please encourage them to be in touch with Rabbi Lewis. In her new role focusing on outreach and engagement, she would be delighted to get to know them and to speak with them about our GJC community, our High Holiday programs and services, and membership. She can be reached at 215-844-1507, extension 16, or by email at rabbilewis@germantownjewishcentre.org.

Thank you in advance for filling out the form below and returning it to the office by **Wednesday, September 9, 2015** so that we may accommodate your request. We look forward to welcoming your family and friends to join us in community this High Holiday season!

High Holiday Guest Ticket Request Form

Please return by Wednesday, September 9, 2015 to the GJC office (400 W. Ellet St, Philadelphia, PA 19119).

Member's Name: ______ Phone: _______

Address: ______ Please mail these tickets to the above address.

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ to cover the cost of guest tickets for:

Guest Names & Relationships: ______

Address: _____ Guest Names & Relationships: ______

Address: ______ Please send me reduced price tickets for my children who are full-time students beyond college-age:

Names:



High Holiday Childcare for ages 6 months-1st Grade Advanced registration necessary by Thursday, September 10th

Childcare program inc	ludes:
-----------------------	--------

Rates:

Light Snacks & festival foods, stories and supervised play-time

\$45/one child, \$65/family (2+ children)

PLEASE SEND A DAIRY OR PAREVE LUNCH or REGISTER FOR LUNCH BELOW

If you register your children for lunch, please escort them yourselves to lunch and return them
to childcare afterwards or deliver the lunch to your child yourself. Thanks!

2015/5776 Schedule		
Rosh ha-Shanah I	Monday, September 14	9:00am - 2:00pm
Rosh ha-Shanah II	Tuesday, September 15	9:00am - 2:00pm
Kol Nidrei	Tuesday, September 22	5:45pm - 9:15pm
Yom Kippur	Wednesday, September 23	9:00am - 2:30pm
Yom Kippur Minha/N'ilah	Wednesday, September 24	4:30pm - 8:00pm

Germantown Jewish Centre would like to thank The Betsy and Hershel Richman High Holiday

Childcare Endowment Fund for generously supporting our High Holiday childcare.

PLEASE print the name, age and check the childcare slots you request for each child listed.

Child's Name	Age	Day 1	Day 2	Kol	Yom	УК
		R.H.	R.H.	Nidrei	Kippur	Minha/N'ilah
					55, 152	

Parent(s) name	Cell Phones #			
DETACH	DETACH			
	High Holiday Lunches for Children (Pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah Age)			
We are pleased to provid	e lunch after children's services for children under Bar/Bat Mitzvah age on both days of Ros ha-Shanah (Sept. 14 & 15) and on Yom Kippur (Sept. 23).			
Cos	t is \$15.00 per child. Register by September 9th.			
Parent(s) Names:	Phone #:			
Plea	ase print the name and grade of each child you are registering for lunch:			
CHILD'S NAM	GRADE (as of Sep. 2015)			

All questions and registrations should be directed to Kate Lawn, Program Director at 215-844-1507 ext. 19 or program@germantownjewishcentre.org.



High Holiday Programming for 2nd - 6th Grade (Kids' Camp!) Advanced registration necessary by Thursday, September 10th



Morning Programming: Join us for supervised games and activities by our amazing & fun teen-madreichim (counselors). \$5/child per day, 9:30-11:00 AM

Lunch: Registration form on separate page. \$15/child for all three days.

Afternoon Programming: After lunch join us for interactive and experiential learning that connect our "campers" to the themes of the holiday & invite them to go deeper. \$5/child per day, 1:00 PM-conclusion of adult services

Kol Nidrei: Join us for a special Kol Nidrei service geared towards 2nd-6th graders followed by supervised play through the conclusion of the adult services. There is no charge for attending the service alone, which will run from approximately 6-7 PM). \$10/child, 6:00-8:30 PM

N'ilah: Usher out Yom Kippur with an afternoon of story-telling, low-key activities & other thematic programming. \$10/child, 4:30-7:30 PM

PLEASE print the name, age and check the childcare slots you request for each child listed.

Parent(s) name Cell Phones # Child's Name Day 1 Age Day 1 Day 2 Day 2 Kol YK YK YK Total RH PM **RH AM** RH PM RH AM Nidrei AM PM N'ilah \$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$10 \$5 \$5 \$10



Join Rabbi Zeff and his family for a delicious vegetarian meal provided by Centre Catering to break your fast immediately after
Yom Kippur Services on

Wednesday, September 23rd at 8:00 PM at Germantown Jewish Centre.

\$15.00/person Children 7 and under are free

RSVP is necessary by Thursday, September 17th to program@germantownjewishcentre.org 215-844-1507 ext 19



5776/2015 Kol Nidrei Food Drive

This is my chosen fast — share your bread with the hungry.

from *Yom Kippur Haftarah* (Isaiah 58:6-7) When you come to GJC for Kol Nidrei on Tuesday, Sept. 22, from 5-5:45 pm,

PLEASE BRING...

- √ TUNA FISH
- √ CREAMY PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY (Plastic Containers Only)
- √ MAC & CHEESE
- √ CANNED GREEN BEANS, CORN, PASTAS & FRUIT
- $\sqrt{\text{HOT & COLD BREAKFAST CEREAL}}$ Please note...
 - O Please bring SMALL OR INDIVIDUAL SIZED items that have been recently purchased
 - O No old, dented, corroded, or soiled cans
 - O No other kinds of food or supplies

The fastest way for your contribution to be processed is for you to fill out a Contribution Form (available in the office or on our website) and return it to the office along with a check. Or just send in a check with a note.

Contributions For the period of June, 2015 through July, 2015 Todah Rabbah!

Todah Rabbah!		
Sincere thanks and appreciation to t	hose who remember to honor their fri	iends and loved ones through their generous contributions.
FUND	BY	OCCASION
Chesed Fund	Lynne & Art Ellis	in memory of Lorna Carroll, mother of Sherry Pomerantz in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher
	Rachel Falkove	in memory of Leah Greenberg Solomon, aunt
	Neil Kitrosser	in memory of Benjamin Kitrosser, father
	Alex Seldin	in memory of Ruth Seldin, mother
	Naomi Young	in memory of Katherine Wieselman, mother
Dorshei Derekh	Mikael Elsila & Dina Pinsky	in memory of Leonard Alman Lurie, father of Arnold Lurie
	Dena & Edward Lake	in honor of Allan Oster & Izhar Naveh, on their marriage
Early Childhood Program Fund	Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman	in honor of Anna & Phill Goldberg, on being honored as GJC's Congregants of the Year
	Linda Dzuba	in memory of Nathan Routhinstein, father
	Jodi Gordon	in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod
	Neil Kitrosser	in memory of Beatrice Kitrosser, mother
	Louise Leibowitz	in memory of Jack Leibowitz, father
	Tamar & Sam Magdovitz	in honor of Dveera Segal, on her birthday
		in memory of Aryeh Stein-Azen, son of Rabbi Margot Stein
	Robin Minkoff	in memory of Arlene Ostrow Smolar, mother
	Sherry & Bob Pomerantz	in memory of Jean Cohen, mother of Amy Cohen
	Brian & Elana Shaw	in honor of Debbie & George, for being incredible mensches
	Elana Shaw	in appreciation of Tamar Magdovitz, for her help when Elana broke her wrist
	Joan Silver	in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod
	Debbie Stern	in memory of Paul & Eva Klepper and Murry & Anna Schoen, grandparents
Floral Fund	Anne Bonn	in memory of Belle Greenwald, mother
	Evelyn Caplin	in memory of Dora Nierenberg, mother
	Vincent DiLorenzo	in memory of Sophie DiLorenzo, mother
General Fund	Neil Actor & Nini Engel	in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher
		in memory of Lorna Carroll, mother of Sherry Pomerantz
		in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod
	1: D1 1 G ::1 0 M 1 G ::1	in memory of Lee Reese, mother of Ellen Reese
	Liz Bloch-Smith & Mark Smith	in honor of Dveera Segal, on her birthday
	Martin & Brenda A. Brenner	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Gary Charlestein	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Amanda, Daniel & Olivia Ebbin	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Mikael Elsila & Dina Pinsky	in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod
	Rachel Falkove	in memory of Naomi Falkove, mother
	Jerry & Helene Feldman Norman & Marilyn Hardy & Family	in memory of David Mermelstein, father of Andrew Mermelstein
		in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Jeremy & Shellie Holl Audrey Isdaner	in memory of Aryeh Stein-Azen, son of Rabbi Margot Stein in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Kate & Peter Kelsen	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Tracy King	in memory of Steiney 3: Stein, a rong-time member of GSC in memory of Lorna Carroll, mother of Sherry Pomerantz
	Diane Ajl & Neil Kitrosser	in honor of Ned & Karen Kripke on the marriage of their son,
	Indah Lahavita	Joe Kripke, to Stephanie Winheld
	Judah Labovitz	in memory of Clara Levy, mother-in-law
	C1-1 % D I	in memory of Deborah Labovitz, wife
	Gerald & Rosemary Lorenz	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC in honor of Dveera Segal, on her birthday
	Jim & Sandy Meyer	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
		in honor of Elana Shaw and family
	Martin Millison	in memory of Mamie Millison, mother
	Janet Neufeld	in memory of Regina Brunner Holmes, mother of Eric Brunner
	Allan Oster & Izhar Naveh	in memory of Florence Leichter, mother
	Daniel Piser	in memory of Regina Brunner Holmes, mother of Eric Brunner
	P'nai Or Philadelphia	in memory of Regina Brunner Holmes, mother of Eric Brunner
	Steven & Belinda Raikin	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Genie & Ameet Ravital	in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod
	Howard B. Rosenblatt	in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC
	Chuck & Martha Schleifer	in memory of Bertha "Bunny" Stein, a long time member of GJC
		in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher

in memory of Benjamin Bateman, father

in memory of Robert David Friedman, husband

in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC

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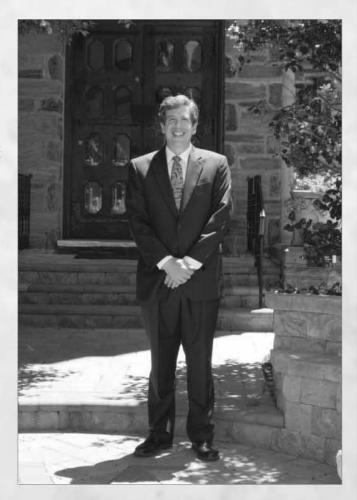
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in memory of Rosa Heimann, mother

granddaughter, Amira Taeaolasi King

in memory of Ruth Winderman, mother

in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod

in honor of Nina Gordon & Lou Walinsky, on the birth of their

Susan Rothschild

Joan Stern

Leah & Norman Schwartz

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Conditional	Continued
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Joe Kripke, to Stephanie Winheld Kathryn Hellerstein in memory of Mary Hellerstein, mother

Jerry Kutnick in memory of Esther Kutnick, mother

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Chuck & Martha Schleifer in honor of Ned & Karen Kripke, the aufruf & marriage of their son, Joe Kripke, to Stephanie Winheld

in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher Leah & Norman Schwartz

Evelyn Caplin in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored at this year's Spring Concert

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in honor of Lou Walinsky, on his 70th birthday David Major & Evelyn Eskin in honor of Betsy Richman, on her special birthday refuah shleimah to Linda Needleman

in memory of Claire Moselle, mother in memory of Esther Myers, aunt

in memory of Lorna Carroll, mother of Sherry Pomerantz in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher

in memory of Martin A. Myers, MD, uncle of Martha Schleifer

in memory of Lee Reese, mother of Ellen Reese in memory of Henry S. Mandel, father in memory of Benjamin Rosenbaum, father

in memory of Herman K. Hellerstein, father

in honor of Ned & Karen Kripke, on the marriage of their son,

in memory of Majorie Kopeland, mother in memory of Emanuel Burd, a long-time member of GJC in memory of Emanuel Burd, a long-time member of GJC

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in memory of Al Denniberg, grandfather in memory of Rebecca Tobias, wife in memory of Stephen Weinrach, brother in memory of Benjamin Weinrach, father

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in memory of Simon Itzkowitz, father

in memory of Lucy Winifred Kuriloff, mother

in memory of Frank M. Lissy, father

in memory of Mark J. Rosenberg, husband

in memory of Theodore "Ted" Charles Bloch, father of

Elizabeth Bloch-Smith

Cyrilla Rosen in honor of Anna & Phill Goldberg, on being honored as GJC's

Congregants of the Year

in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher

in honor of Betsy Teutsch, on the publication of her new book

in memory of Annabelle Cohen, mother

in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher

in memory of Jules Bacine, father in memory of Edward Becker, father in memory of Stanley Charap, father

in memory of Philip Blumenthal, father in memory of David Mermelstein, father of Andrew Mermelstein

in memory of Gladys Major, mother in memory of Edythe Fleishman, mother in memory of David Freedman, father

in memory of David Mermelstein, father of Andrew Mermelstein

in honor of Dveera Segal, on her birthday in memory of Kenneth A Lieberman, husband in memory of Melvin Goodfriend, father

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Rabbi Zeff's Discretionary Fund

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Rabbi Lewis's Discretionary Fund

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Contributions Continued		
Rabbi Zeff's Discretionary Fund	Sherry & Bob Pomerantz	in honor of Dveera Segal, on her birthday
	Ellen Reese	in memory of Jacob W. Reese, father
	Judy Rohtbart Meyer Rohtbart	in memory of Zoltan Teller, father in memory of Molly Rohtbart, mother
	Priscilla Roslyn	in memory of Joel Roslyn, husband
	Gloria Salmansohn	in memory of Adelheid Tilla Benjaim, friend
Religious School Fund	Rosalie & Sidney August	in memory of Dr. Sayre Schatz, husband of Letta Schatz
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	Sofia Colon	their daughter Erica
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Social Action Fund	Nan Myers & Mark Lipshutz Eleanor Brownstein	in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod in memory of Joseph Brownstein, father
Social Action Fund	Rachel Falkove	in memory of Naomi Falkove, mother
	Betty Ann & David Fellner	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
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		in memory of Lorna Carroll, mother of Sherry Pomerantz
		in memory of Florence Leichter, mother of Pesha Leichter in memory of Lee Reese, mother of Ellen Reese
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	George Stern	in memory of Carlyn Stern, mother
Special Education Fund	Michael Rodin	in memory of Esther Akselrod, grandmother
	Stefanie & Alex Seldin	in memory of Jean Cohen, mother of Amy Cohen
Spring Concert Fund	Gary D. Stein & Ellen Reese Adina Abramowitz &	in memory of William Stein, husband of Libby Stein
Spring Concert Fund	Naomi Klayman	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored at this year's Spring Concert
	Barbara Bloom	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
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	Amy Cohen & Mark Spiller	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
	Ramy Djerassi	at this year's Spring Concert in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
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	Linda & Richard Feder	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
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	Shellie Holl & Famly	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
	Ned & Marian Levine	at this year's Spring Concert in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
		at this year's Spring Concert
	Maxine Margolies	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
	ALL 8- Day D 5-1-	at this year's Spring Concert
	Abby & Dan Pozefsky	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored at this year's Spring Concert
	Marcy & Greg Rost	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
		at this year's Spring Concert
	Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
	Index Colors of Dex Coitabile	at this year's Spring Concert
	Judy Schwartz & Jay Seitchik	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored at this year's Spring Concert
	Joan Silver	in honor of Josh Goldblum & Debbie Fishman, for being honored
		at this year's Spring Concert
Torah Restoration Fund	Diane Ajl	in memory of Samuel Ajl, father
	Diane Ajl & Neil Kitrosser	in memory of Lee Reese, mother of Ellen Reese
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	Lymic with Lins	Joe Kripke, to Stephanie Winheld
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	Maxine & Maurice Feldman	in memory of Bette Sinett, sister of Carol Kaplan
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in memory of David Mermelstein, father of Andrew Mermelstein in memory of David Mermelstein, father of Andrew Mermelstein in honor of Bev Somerson, on being honored at the Women's Club

Torah Fund Brunch

in honor of Judy Schwartz, on being honored at the Women's Club

Torah Fund Brunch

in honor of Linda Cherkas & Chaim Dworkin, on the birth of

their grandson, Noah Joseph Dworkin

in memory of Max Gold, husband

in memory of Morris Malmaud, cousin

in honor of Bev Somerson, on being honored at the Women's Club Torah Fund Brunch

in memory of Donald B. Hackel, father

in honor of Bev Somerson, on being honored at the Women's Club Torah Fund Brunch

in honor of Judy Schwartz, on being honored at the Women's Club

Torah Fund Brunch refuah shleimah to Nan Daniels

refuah shleimah to Linda Needleman

in honor of Matthew & Yoel Solis, on the Bat Mitzvah of their

daughter Erica

in honor of Mathieu & Jessica Shapiro,on the Bat Mitzvah of their

daughter Alexandra

in honor of Rabbis Lewis & Goldman, on the birth of their daughter

in honor of Erica Solis, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

in memory of Vivian Rabineau, aunt

in memory of Jerold G. Klevit, brother of Linda Hahn

in memory of Lorna Carroll, mother of Sherry Pomerantz

in honor of Ellyn Phillips, on the marriage of her daughter, Amy

in memory of Steve Asher, husband of Louie Asher in memory of Bart Axelrod, father of David Axelrod

in memory of Jake Taylor Pontz, grandson

in memory of Regina Brunner Holmes, mother of Eric Brunner

in memory of Sidney J. Stein, a long-time member of GJC

in memory of Harry Pontz, father

in honor of Mathieu & Jessica Shapiro, on the Bat Mitzvah of their

daughter Jessica

in memory of Jacob Sternthal, father





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Please submit all articles via email to program@germantownjewishcentre.org.

Deadline for the November issue is October 1st.



Save the Date September

Rosh ha-Shanah JAM (Jewish Arts & Movement) with Chana Rothman & ZoomDance September 13

Welcome Back Event & Women's Club Bake Sale September 20

Yom Kippur Oscar Bregman Memorial Program: Moving the World Towards Equality September 23

> GJC Celebrates! Sukkot September 27

Tot Sukkot Potluck September 30

Save the Date October

Interfaith Hospitality Network
Shabbat honoring Milt Cohen & IHN
Sukkah Walk
October 3

Hoshi'a Na Climate Change Program
October 4

GJC Celebrates! Simhat Torah October 5

Charry Appreciation Shabbat October 17

Women's Club & Men's Club Paid Up Brunch Yair Dalal Concert October 18

Rabbi Charry Memorial Weekend October 30-31