



The Shofar

Shaare Tefila Congregation

Celebrating our 58th year

Vol.57 # 3

November 2008/Cheshvan



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY...

Preparing for the High Holidays

In case you missed it, I thought I'd share with you what I spoke about on the first day of Rosh Hashanah.

It was very difficult for me to prepare for this past High Holiday season. I had spent my month in Israel on sabbatical in July, studying in Jerusalem. There I was able to study and relax

knowing that we were still waiting to get bids from construction companies for the new building. Then, in August, much work was done behind the scenes (once the bids came in), to figure out what our next steps should be. It was a very tenuous and unstable time and it became very hard to focus on the High Holidays.

I also realize that many people may find it hard this year to get ready for the holidays. There are those whose loved one died and are now facing the holidays alone. How does one celebrate the New Year when one may only be in the mood to grieve? There are those also facing a diagnosis of an illness that is quite serious. How can one rejoice when one is anxious? And there are those who may be planning to retire and the stock market crash has adversely affected those plans. How can we observe the rituals when one has such a burden to bear?

The answer to those questions is threefold – family, friends, and community. I am now beginning my 15th year with Shaare Tefila Congregation. As we celebrate our 15th High Holidays together I've gotten to know almost all of you through life cycle events. We have been through a lot together and we have become family. We look around us and we see our friends sitting with us. We know we can turn to them for a hug or a shoulder to cry on. And we look around the room and we see the wonderful community that our shul is. We have founding members and members who joined a month ago. All see something in Shaare Tefila that made them want to join. They see the commitment and dedication of the members. They see the warmth and support that we give to one another.

No matter what we are going through, the holidays come around to force us to be grounded. They force us to recognize to whom we need to turn for love and support. Through the comfort we receive we are then able to observe and celebrate.

May this New Year be one of fulfillment and peace.

B'vracha (with blessing),

Rabbi Jonah Layman



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Bess Teller

Once again this article is due late-September and you are reading it 6 or 7 weeks later so you know more about the status of the building than I do (you can follow my thinking if you've seen "Terminator" or "Back to the Future").

So I'd like to write about a question I have for all of us, particularly at election time. Are we American Jews or Jewish Americans? The fairly recent PBS mini-series was entitled "The Jewish American Experience." It could (could it not?) have just as easily been entitled "The American Jewish Experience." When I sat down at my keyboard to write this, I thought it would be a snap: I'd google both versions (American Jews vs. Jewish Americans and Jewish Americans vs. American Jews) and extrapolate. Well, no dice – there is nada, nothing, zero other than a few blogs quoted.

Israel's Hayom newspaper discussed a survey in which it was found that 65% of Israeli Jews identified primarily as Jews and only then as Israelis, with 14% saying the reverse. 9% filled in that they didn't know. (I know it doesn't add up, but that's all that was reported.) How would you answer if you were asked your primary identity? Jew or American? Jewish American or American Jew?

In December, I think I feel more like a Jewish American, while around election day I feel like an American Jew. Does that make sense? During Yom Tov, don't we all more strongly identify with our religious self, and when we're involved in a more secular activity (watching baseball, or July 4th), we feel another pull? We've just gone through a month of introspection, when we focus on our identity of American, Jew and congregation member, specifically a member of Shaare Tefila. As assimilated American Jews, or assimilated Jewish Americans, we have to make a concerted effort to practice our Judaism, to be a member of a congregation (arguably the only way to practice and perpetuate Judaism). We have to decide how to be the best member of Shaare Tefila we can be (why do something and not do it the best we can). Each of us will come up with a different answer: for some, it will be by attending services more frequently; for others it will be by making a donation, perhaps larger than usual; for some, by attending a program not having attended before or taking a class not having taken before; and for some, volunteering on a new committee. And, hopefully, for all of you – a combination, or better yet, all of those opportunities.

I didn't start out intending to preach, but that's what the holidays did for me. So, when you buy scrip, or do any of the other options, ask yourself if you're doing it as an American Jew or a Jewish American – and tell me what the answer is.

Call me, write me, give me your ideas, your suggestions and of course your compliments,

Bess Teller

Home: 240-342-2352 Cell: 240-441-7132
president@shaaretefila.org

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MEMBERSHIP MENSCHENINGS

Stefanie Levy

The Membership Committee has had a busy and successful September thanks to the efforts of many people.

Thank you to **Marilyn Pontell** for planning the beautiful ceremony on September 6, which celebrated the June and July anniversaries of some of our congregants. Thank you to these couples for sharing a bit of "their story" with us and for treating us to a delightful Kiddush in honor of their celebrations: **Audrey & Bob Haber, Donna & Ben Meltzer, May & Norton Savage, Rabbi Tirza Schmelzer-Covel & Albert Schmelzer, Amy & Howard Schwartz, Sue & Sid Schwartz, Peggy & Dave Slade, and Joni & Gerry Sommer**. Please make sure that we have YOUR anniversary date in order to be included by contacting **Marilyn** at gpon-tell@comcast.net or at **410-964-9898**.

We've recently welcomed several new members to Shaare Tefila! I'm pleased to introduce **Marjorie & Mark Fuhrmann** to our congregation. The **Fuhrmanns** have moved to our area from Long Island, NY and **Marjorie** has already joined the Sisterhood Board. That's really no surprise, as she is a Member of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism National Board and chairs the eBay for Torah Fund Committee. Mark is a geochemist. Their son Joshua is a senior at Brown University.

We have a new "next generation" member. I'm happy to announce that **Sarah Nachlas** has joined our congregation. Sarah, and her parents **Celia & Ed**, have a long and strong connection to Shaare Tefila. **Sarah** became a Bat Mitzvah at Shaare Tefila in 1989, and it is an honor to have her continue her family commitment with us!

And, a warm welcome goes out to **Stefan, Lydia and Joshua Seigel!** **Joshua** is in the 3rd grade of Religious School and has already attended his first Machar event. Way to go!! We look forward to sharing many more events with the Seigels and with all of our new members.

By the time this comes out, many of us will have enjoyed the first Stay for Shabbat Lunch (SFSL) of the year. Thank you to **Meryl Schaffer** for coordinating this great program that is one of many that keep us together as a congregation. Please mark your calendars for the second SFSL on December 11. We have two generous host families, and I guarantee you will have a delicious lunch and a delightful Shabbat afternoon.

Directory Updates

Additions:

Marjorie & Mark Fuhrmann—700 Copley Lane/Silver Spring, MD 20904/301-388-0785/mariocat@gmail.com/snipe3583@gmail.com

Sarah Nachlas—9302 Willow Creek Dr., Apt. S/Montgomery Village, MD 20886/240-246-0473/snachlas@hotmail.com

Stefan & Lydia Seigel- 540 Longhorn Crescent/Rockville, MD 20850/240-632-2186/stefan.seigel@gmail.com/lydia.seigel@gmail.com

Corrections:

Larry Alpert correct email address: larry.alpert@comcast.net

Michael & Freda Goldberg's correct zip code is 20906

Meltzer children correct names: **Ethan and Ilana**

Carol Solomon correct email address: c_j_solomon@yahoo.com

THE SHOFAR

Shaare Tefila Congregation 10881 Lockwood Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20901

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FROM THE SISTERHOOD

Deborah Letow



I hope everyone has rested up from the busy Holiday Month!

I am off to convention, so our board meeting will be Nov 17 (3rd Monday). Every-one is welcome. Please join us Sunday, November 16, at the home of **Freda Krosnick** for jewelry making. A great Chanukah gift idea!!

Thank you to **Meryl Schaffer and Fran Kensky** for planning and organizing the Membership Dinner. We had a great speaker, Miriam Feinberg who talked about her book, Hear Her Voice. We also hosted **Gloria Cantor** our Region President and **Leslie Dellon** our Region VP of Membership.

Our next book club meeting is on November 5, 8pm at my house. We will be reading Daniel Silva's The Kill Artist, a mystery set in Israel and Europe. If you are interested in joining and want more information, please call **Peggy Slade**.

Rosh Chodesh is November 29. Join us for a great discussion.

Thank you to everyone who helps setting up our Kiddushes. And as always **buy Scrip**; it is our biggest fund raiser. Last year Sisterhood gave \$10,000 to the synagogue. Please help us raise more this year.

NATALIE BULITT BAT MITZVAH



Natalie Rae Bulitt will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with the Shaare Tefila Congregation at the Olney Theatre on November 8, 2008, at 4:30 pm. Natalie is an 8th grader at the Barrie School and a member of the girls volleyball team there.

Natalie sings, enjoys musical theatre and art. She loves spending time with her friends from Barrie, Rosa Parks and Camp Louise. She is terrific with younger children and thinks of maybe one day being a teacher.

Among those celebrating with Natalie will be her parents, **David and Julie**, her 3 sisters, **Amanda, Zoe and Josie**, and all four of her grandparents, **Sheldon and Bryna Kahalas and Bob and Marci Bulitt**.

2009 Entertainment Books
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Mike Binder
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR YOUTH

Aaron Auerbach
Melissa Kahn
Michael Kantzer
Zachary Kaye
Aliza Layman

Amanda Libby
Lianna Lieberman
Ethan Meltzer
Leah Ross
Alison Scher

The Shofar

ABOUT ADULT EDUCATION

Adriana Sandler

- ◆ **The Big Read** -The Question: If kosher meat is made in an unkosher atmosphere is it still kosher? Shabbat, Nov. 1, 2008, discussion during Kiddush. Facilitated by Rabbi Layman. The articles discussing Agriprocessors raid and resulting questions and suggestions. <http://www.shaaretefila.org/downloads/fliers>
- ◆ **To Be a Conservative Jew: What does it mean?** Taught by **Rabbi Jonah Layman** Tuesdays November 4-December 9th, 7:30 pm at the home of **Alan and Adriana Sandler** 14100 Blazer Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20906 Study of several Teshuvot of the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards of the Conservative Movement.
- ◆ **Shir Hashirim: A Love Story** Taught by **Cantor Wendi Fried** This monthly class, will explore the beauty of Shir Hashirim, one of our most controversial and provocative texts. We will study this love poem by delving into the words and the meaning behind the author's intent. Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am Oct 29, Nov 26, Dec 24, Jan 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27. Contact **Cantor Fried** for the location.
- ◆ Tifereth Israel Congregation extends an invitation to Shaare Tefila members. November 23, 2008, 10:15 am - 12:15, guest speaker: **Michlean Amir (Archivist US Holocaust Memorial Museum)** will speak about Israeli Literature.
- ◆ **Great Jewish Personalities** Taught by **Rabbi Jonah Layman**. Monthly Wednesday classes at 10:30 am Nov 19, Dec 17, Jan 21, February 18, March 18, April 22, May 20. Meet at the home of **Ed and Harriett Neufeld** in Leisure World. Great Jewish Personalities: Miriam, Deborah, Judith, Women of the Talmud, Rashi's Daughters, Henrietta Szold, Mathilde Schecter.
- ◆ **Community and Covenant Text Study**. Facilitated by **Tammy Paynter**, Sunday November 16, 9:30 am, at the Hebrew School Location (Stonegate ES). Drop off the kids, nosh on bagels and involve yourself in a discussion. This class focuses on Biblical and modern texts related to the theme of "community."
- ◆ **Yiddish Theater and Folk Music**. Jewish Music Lovers Association. Taught by **Cantor Wendi**. Monthly classes meeting 2 pm on **Thursdays. November 6** is the first day. Location TBD.

ONGOING CLASSES

- Talmud Classes** Taught by **Rabbi Layman** Sundays 10:30- 11:30 am at the Hebrew school location.
- Torah Study** Taught by **Rabbi Layman** Fridays 9:30 – 10:30 am at the Bresler House.

MUSIC SOOTHES THE SOUL, JEWISH MUSIC ENRICHES IT.

I received the following web site through the USCJ Presidents' listserv. It is a library, at Florida Atlantic University, of over 7000 musical pieces, both albums and singles, covering cantorial, chassidic, Yiddish, Israeli, comedy, and children's music. Some of the recordings go back to 1902. They have all been digitized to play on your PC. They include old standbys such as Moyshe Oysher, Koussevitzky, and Belarsky. They are modern including Tassat. You can play singles and albums.

The web site is: (<http://faujsa.fau.edu/fsa/home.php>)
Visit and enjoy! Maury Potosky

FROM THE COLLEGE MOMS

THE SHAARE TEFILA CHALLENGE TAKE THE COLLEGE MOM'S QUIZ!!!!!!!!!!!!

Match the name of one of our 49 undergraduate and 5 graduate students to his/her school. (Warning: Some schools have more than one Shaare Tefila student, for example, the University of Maryland has 10 students from our congregation).
Good luck to you and all of our students!

Steven Abraham
Dana Balin
Julie Balin
Amy Byer
Sharon Byer
Zachary Carroll
Daniel Froehlich
Joshua Fuhrmann
Daniel Green
Daniel Grosberg
Dara Grosberg
Aaron Gross
Beth Hagler
Daniel Hagler
Cara Hedgepeth
Eric Hysen
Sarah Ifft
Melissa Kahn
Madison Kantzer
Mark Kaye
Brian Kaye
Lauren Kensky
Aaron Kraut
Julia Kraut
Saul Krosnick
Elisheva Layman
Nathan Lefler

Daniel Levine
Zachary Levitt
Jacob Marder
Jesse Marder
Benjamin Mellman
Rebecca Morgenstern
Daniel Norken
Elana Plokin
Steven Radnor
Molly Rochester
Melissa Ronis
David Rosenberg
Evan Rosenberg
Ben Ross
Sheri Sagall
Aliza Sandberg
Chana Sandberg
Hedi Sandberg
Alex Schotz
Andrew Stiller
Ravid Tilles
Shira Tober
Sari Weiser
Lauren Yedlin
Victoria Yedlin
Rachel Zarney
Renie Zitomer

SCHOOLS ATTENDED:

Boston University	Northeastern University
Brown University	Pennsylvania State University
Carnegie Mellon	Sheridan Technical
Dickenson College	Swathmore College
Emory University	Towson University (5)
Fuchsberg Ctr. for Cons. Judaism	Tufts University(2)
George Washington University	UCLA
Harvard College	UMBC
Hofstra University	University of Delaware (2)
Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya	University of Florida
Jewish Theological Seminary (2)	University of Maryland (10)
Johns Hopkins University	University of Vermont
Kent State University	University of West Virginia
McDaniel College	University of Wisconsin
Mitchell College	Virginia Comm. University
Montgomery College (4)	Wagner College
Naval Academy	West Chester University
North Carolina School of the Arts	

Answers on Page 8!

FROM CANTOR WENDI FRIED



My Dear Shaare Tefila Family,

Another holiday season has come and gone. During this time, I hope many of us have taken the opportunity to reflect on our lives and who we want to be in the coming year. For my part, I have been exploring the words “gratefulness” and “gratitude.” In looking up these words, I came across several wonderful quotes that expressed my sentiments beautifully!

Albert Schweitzer, recipient of the Noble Peace Prize, had this to say about gratitude. “To educate yourself, for the feeling of gratitude means to take nothing for granted, but to always seek out and value the kind that will stand behind the action. Nothing that is done for you is a matter of course. Everything originates in a will for the good, which is directed at you. Train yourself never to put off the word or action for the expression of gratitude. ...At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”

This past season has left me thinking of how much I have to be grateful for. When I looked around at our congregation I was so proud of who we are as Shaare Tefila and what we stand for. All of you reading this publication are part of what make this community what it is! There are those who have done more behind the scenes, and those that have more visible positions, but in our community, every person counts and we wouldn't be who we are without you! I am grateful to be part of this congregation and to be privileged enough to play a small part in helping to make this special place continue its living legacy.

At this point I would like to start my gratitude list, admitting that I am a bit overwhelmed by how many people there are to be grateful for!! It is incredible how this community has banded together and it has been through the process of making this list that I truly understand what it means to be a member of this community!

There are many for whom I know my life would not be the same and I would like to publicly thank them for helping to make life at Shaare Tefila run smoother and easier. Here's to all the incredible people who work in the office without whom we would be lost and uninformed... **Jill Goldwater** and **Mary Margaret Bayo!** There are also several congregants who donate their time each week to help out in the office whether it's to raise money, put out mailings, or just simply do what needs to be done... **Norman Stuppel, Elaine Stein, Marilyn Pontell, Barbara Fink, and Deborah Letow.** We all thank you!

For this next part of my gratitude list, let me start by saying, that I might as well just refer all of you to the directory and ask you to find your name there! Believe me when I say that I would like to list all of you, but that would take the entire bulletin and I don't have that much room... however, there are definitely certain groups that need mentioning and they will be mentioned in no particular order.

First I would like to extend my gratitude to the morning minyanaires, who come religiously to help make minyan and insure that people who need, can say Kaddish. What a huge Mitzvah! I also thank **Howard Rummerman** for coordinating the evening minyan and all of you who have done your duty throughout the year!

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the **Bess Teller**, the executive board, and the general board along with all of the auxiliary

committees that are included. I would like to extend my thanks to the Religious Committee, and especially to **Ben Meltzer, Dennis Kaye, and Paul Tilles** for all the extra work done over the year to insure that all the details, especially for High Holidays honors, service locations, finding Torah readers, and Rabbi duty while the Rabbi was away, were taken care of. Under that category as well, are all the people who have lead services, all the regular Torah and *Haftarah* readers, as well as our *Gabbaim* and people who have done *Divrei Torah*. Thank you!

To our two fabulous **choirs**, you are my dream come true! I do not know what I would do without you and your dedication. Each year you get better and I cannot wait to see what this year will hold for us and our whole community. I cannot thank you enough!!

To all those who take care of our community on a regular basis... the Chesed Committee and all of its volunteers, all the members of the Sisterhood as well as the Kiddush Committee, the good and welfare people, and the Membership Committee ... you all deserve a HUGE *yasher koach* for everything you do for our members and our community! Without your love and nurturing, our members would not get the care and attention that they so dearly need and deserve. It is my belief that it is because of all of you that Shaare Tefila can bask in the reputation we have of being a warm and caring community.

To our communications gurus, **Sue Schwartz, Jack Teller** and everyone responsible for the production of the *Shofar*, **Jack Teller** for his upkeep of the website, and **Julian Rosenberg** who coordinates all of our communications—you help us stay together as a community and keep us informed. What would we do without you?

I would also like to thank all the schleppers who have helped to insure that we had everything we need on our travels. To **Lanny Plotkin, Hy Grosberg, Lisa and Dovid Arber, and Jay Hagler, Joe Kraut, Mike Binder, Mark and Gary Weiser, Rabbi Tirza, and the chief schlepper, Rabbi Jonah Layman**...thank you for your continued support in all of our efforts to have the best programming we can and everything we need, where we need it, to make that happen! Your hard work has helped immensely!

To the other movers and shakers...those on the relocation committee headed by **Wendy Abraham**, we have faith in you and will stand behind you. You have lit the flame in us and although it might waver from time to time, know that we will and must all help to make sure that the continuity of this flame and its vibrancy is fed and shared by us all.

Finally, to our beloved staff... we made it through another year!!! I cannot express enough gratitude for the family that I have found in you. We each have our strengths and I believe that we have succeeded because we have learned that leaning on each other and supporting each other is the only way to be successful! Without you and your guidance, I would not be who I am today. Each of you has been a beacon of inspiration for this community. We have all benefited from your continued efforts to make the best out of every situation to come our way and to let our programming, our services, and our education reflect our belief in this community and its bright future. I have learned more than any of you realize from each of you. I come away this year knowing that with our strength, we can face whatever lies ahead and come out on top! I love you all dearly and thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Best selling author, Melody Beattie said, “Gratitude

[Continued on Page 6]

**Smith Center Shaare Tefila Community Shabbat dinner!
Friday, November 14, 2008**

6:00 pm Shabbat Service 7:00 pm Shabbat Dinner

Cost: \$18Member/\$22NonMember (ages 13+ /adult) \$10Member/\$12NonMember (ages 5-12)
Under age 5 (free)

[Children attending Youth Shabbaton- dinner is included in Shabbaton fee—see below]

RSVP no later than Friday, November 7, 2008

Send this registration form and check directly to the office to hold your spot!

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Adults (13+) attending: _____ Children (5-12): _____ Children attending Youth Shabbaton: _____ Children < age 5: _____

Total # attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Please volunteer to help out with: _____ set-up; _____ serving; _____ clean-up

Questions? Call the Mary-Margaret at the office: 301-593-3410 x104

Youth Shabbaton

5:30 pm Friday, November 14
to 6 pm Saturday, November 15
Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Center,
5110 Meadowside Lane, Rockville, MD 20855
Cost: \$65

Includes: Lodging, all Meals and Activities

Open to all Shaare Tefila youth, from grades K-8.

Want to bring non-Shaare Tefila friends?

No problem! Their cost is \$75.

RSVP by Friday, November 7! (Check & permission form due)

RSVP to Mary-Margaret in the Main Office, mmbayo@shaaretefila.org

More information can be found in the Parent Handbook

Questions? Please Contact:

Rabbi Tirza Schmelzer-Covel at rtschmelzercovel@shaaretefila.org

Karen's Korner

Karen Radnor



By the time you are reading this, the hurrying to prepare for the High Holidays will be over, and hopefully, we will all have had time to reflect on the past year and what we can do to increase acts of Tzedakah in our everyday lives. Remember, any person, no matter his or her age, has something to contribute to make this world we live in a better place. OK- I'm leaving my soapbox now to report all the

news that's fit to print.

As many of you are aware, our shul president, **Bess Teller** and husband **Jack** moved into their dream home, getting closer to our new synagogue site, in late August 2008. **Bess** and **Jack** report they would love to have visitors, BUT...., you might want to wait until the heated pool is re (opened) in the spring... But meanwhile, there's the hot tub and the pool table and the hammock, (hmmmm... maybe I'll swing by one lazy Sunday when my Redskins aren't playing and catch up on all those books I didn't get to read this summer!) the playground and the greenhouse and the lake, and, of course, deer, all on 3.2 acres. **Bess** and **Jack** are hoping their previous house, on Chilton Drive, has sold before you read this, but if not, they are offering a \$500.00 finder's fee to anyone who brings in the buyer, plus a \$500.00 donation made to Shaare Tefila in honor of the finder! Sounds like a win-win situation to me.

Al Kliman reports that he spent Rosh Hashona in the Boston area with his children and grandchildren. He seems to have come full circle. Just as he was known in his younger days as "**Iris** and **Stuart's** father," he is now known in his daughter **Iris's** shul as "**Iris's** father." **Al** said he had a great time in Bean town, and was pleased the shul was so receptive and gracious towards him, even making room for him on its list of members who receive special honors.

Stefanie and **Michael Levy** were beaming with pride listening to daughters **Emily** and **Alycia** sing in the Shaare Tefila youth choir for Rosh Hashana. **Grandpa Larry Sanders** attended services to kvell over the melodious sounds coming from both his granddaughters. Mazal Tov to the entire family!

Shelly and I were at shul the 1st Saturday of October and were happy to hear a wonderful announcement from Rabbi Layman. **Max Heller**, grandson of **Rita Rubinstein**, is being honored as *Potomac Youth of the Year*. He will ride in a motorcade in mid-October, and will receive further accolades at a dinner celebrating all the honorees at Normandie Farms restaurant on November 13th, 2008. The nominating committee was quite impressed with all of **Max's** involvement in his school and community, as well as his moving DVD about the events of Sept 11th. The entire family is extremely proud of **Max**, as it should be. **Max**, a hearty Mazel Tov from your entire Shaare Tefila family, which is equally as proud of this fantastic accomplishment! Way to go, **Max**!

Maurice and **Charlotte Potosky** are participating in the Capital Area, *Walk Now for Autism*, walk to be held on November 8, 2008 at the Mall in Washington DC.

Remember, this is *YOUR* column. I'm just here to report all the news that's fit to print! Unfortunately, I didn't hear from many people, which is why the column is shorter than the previous two for September and October. So, please don't be shy- drop me an email (krrrad@aol.com), and for those of you without email, you

may call me on my cell (202-744-8020) and I promise to return your call promptly.

I hope everyone has a Thanksgiving holiday surrounded by family and friends and overflowing with items for which they are thankful.

Please don't forget to buy scrip and Israeli products at least once a week. Love to all, and see you in shul.

FROM THE FEDERATION

I want to wish each of you a wonderful year of good health and happiness ahead. I also want to extend those blessings to anyone in our community who, because of the sharp economic downturn, feels unprepared for the year ahead. I want to reassure you that we as a community are there for them. Our Federation has a long history of being a safety net for the Jewish community – here and around the world, and of embodying the enduring values of *tzedaka*: charity and compassion. It is one of the essential reasons for our very existence as the successor to communal charity funds that have been an integral part of Jewish communities for centuries.

Federation leadership is already mobilizing resources as well as proactively working with our local agency partners to help respond to individuals and families being impacted by the economy. A "warm line" has been set up at Jewish Information and Referral (1-866-950-4AID) to field calls for help and referral to appropriate community resources. Federation has also established a Community Emergency Fund so that our agencies have the needed resources to ensure that anyone who needs help gets what they need as soon as possible. Partner agencies in our local service network have told us about the existing impact and potential impact of this changing economic climate on our community members. I want to share a few examples of these needs with you:

- Our Jewish Social Service Agency has a growing number of requests for financial help from formerly middle-income families who have experienced sudden **job loss** and exhausted all their personal available resources, including 401(k)s.
- Jewish Vocational Services reports a **300%** increase in clients requesting subsidized vocational services.
- As of September 2008, 30 area seniors are on a **waiting list** for kosher Meals on Wheels, and that number will grow in the weeks ahead as funds are limited. These individuals rely on the food the Jewish community provides.
- Five of the eight Jewish day schools have distributed an additional **\$640,000**, beyond original budget projections, in tuition assistance since July. Overall this represents a 10% increase in scholarship dollars across the day school system.
- The JCC preschools have received nearly **double** the amount of requests for scholarships to families. Several families already have left the preschools because they did not receive enough in scholarship funds.

If your congregants are in need of help, please do not hesitate to contact the Federation's Warm Line at 1.866.950.4AID. If you know of someone who can help, please contact the Federation's Jewish Volunteer Connection at 1.888.246.1818. We can only be here for you, if we are all here for each other.

May we all be inscribed for a good year.
B'shalom, **Misha Galperin**

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- Teen's school performance?
- Relationship with your spouse, boss or your parents?

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or visit us on the web: www.jssa.org

JSSA has been helping people across the Washington metropolitan area meet emotional, social and physical challenges for over 100 years helping - the youngest child to the most fragile senior - from individuals to entire families. Our wide range of high-quality counseling, educational and career services, in-home support, special needs, hospice, nursing care and social services assist more than 15,000 people a year.



Jewish Social Service Agency
Rockville • Fairfax • Silver Spring



JCA SeniorTech November/December Classes

Computers - They're Not Just For Kids Anymore . The JCA SeniorTech Computer Training Centers, is a service of the Jewish Council for the Aging. All JCA SeniorTech sites offer a range of courses from basic to advanced, using the Windows XP operating system, Microsoft Vista and high-Speed internet service. Courses are taught by volunteer instructors and coaches who are 50+, and most feature hands -on experience. Sites are located at the Asbury Methodist Village, Bethesda Vital Living Center, Landmark Mall and Northern Virginia. All classes are open to seniors 50+ and every student is afforded the opportunity to use the site for free practice weekly for one year after their first enrollment. All sites have easy access via metro or bus and ample parking is available.

[From Cantor Wendi, page 4]

unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."

Each of you here at Shaare Tefila have played a part of creating our vision for tomorrow with your actions of today. You have poured so much of yourselves into this community and I am grateful for each and every one of you. Each of you is a blessing and I only pray that we will continue to be lights unto each other as our future dreams unfold.

JOKER'S CORNER

SADIE HAD A PROBLEM

Sadie had a problem, and so she went to see her rabbi. Her rabbi welcomed her into his office, and made some small talk. Finally, he asked, "Sadie, how can I help you?"

Sadie said, "Rabbi, Sol Horowitz & Sam Shapiro are both in love with me. Who will be the lucky fellow?"

The rabbi replied, "Sadie, you will marry Sol Horowitz, but Sam Shapiro will be the lucky man."

Thanks to **Ruth Newhouse**

JEWISH BUSINESS SIGNS

On Yitzhak the plumber's truck - "I repair what your husband fixed."

Also on Yitzhak the plumber's truck - "Don't sleep with a drip. Call me."

On Cohen's Pizza shop- "7 days without pizza makes one weak."

Also on Cohen's Pizza shop - "Buy my pizza. I knead the dough."

On a maternity room door at a Jewish hospital - "Push. Push. Push."

At Benny the optometrist's office - "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

In Abe the podiatrist's office - "Time wounds all heels."

In Shlomo the veterinarian's waiting room - "Back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

In Izzy's restaurant window - "Don't stand there and be hungry. Come on in and get fed up."

In the front yard of Isaac's funeral home - "Drive carefully. I'll wait."

Thanks to **Susan's** friend, Frank Pastor

EINSTEIN & MENDEL

Einstein and his prized student, Mendel, went on a camping trip. After a bottle of Schnapps, they slept. Suddenly, Einstein awoke, nudging Mendel.

"Look at the sky and tell me what you see."

"I see millions and millions of stars."

"And what do you deduce from that?"

Wanting to impress his mentor with his mavenhood, he said, "Well, astronomically, there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Meteorologically, we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you, professor?"

Einstein, silent for a moment answered, "Mendel, you shlemiel! Someone stole our tent!"

-A LITTLE JOY/A LITTLE OY

Please submit jokes to

Susan Goldsamt at 301-649-2768 or email at suedgold@aol.com

Please mark your calendars for a lecture on **November 16, 2008**, entitled, "**Depression, Dementia among the Elderly: How to tell the Difference and what YOU can do to help.**" This will be held at the Kemp Mill Synagogue, 11910 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, 20910. The lecture begins at 10 a.m. and is free.

For more information, please e-mail info@bikurchoimgw.org or call 202 231-4481 for more information.

This lecture is part of the Eldercare Series sponsored by Bikur Cholim and is co-sponsored by six local synagogues.

The Shofar

ANSWERS TO MOM'S COLLEGE QUIZ:

Aaron Gross	Carnegie Mellon
Aaron Kraut	University of Maryland
Alex Schotz	University of Maryland
Aliza Sandberg	Tufts University
Amy Byer	University of Delaware
Andrew Stiller	Dickenson College
Ben Ross	Tufts University
Benjamin Mellman	University of Vermont
Beth Hagler	West Chester University
Brian Kaye	Fuchsberg Ctr for Conservative Judiasm
Cara Hedgepeth	University of Maryland
Chana Sandberg	Towson University
Dana Balin	McDaniel College
Daniel Froehlich	Kent State University
Daniel Green	North Carolina School of the Arts
Daniel Grosberg	Virginia Commonwealth University
Daniel Hagler	Towson University
Daniel Levine	University of Maryland
Daniel Norken	Hofstra University
Dara Grosberg	University of West Virginia
David Rosenberg	George Washington University
Elana Plokin	University of Florida
Elisheva Layman	University of Maryland
Eric Hysen	Harvard College
Evan Rosenberg	UMBC
Hedi Sandberg	Towson University
Jacob Marder	Johns Hopkins University
Jesse Marder	Naval Academy
Joshua Fuhrmann	Brown University
Julia Kraut	Interdisciplinary Center in Herzila
Julie Balin	Montgomery College
Lauren Kensky	University of Maryland
Lauren Yedlin	Montgomery College
Madison Kantzer	Pennsylvania State University
Mark Kaye	Sheridan Technical
Melissa Kahn	Towson University
Melissa Ronis	University of Maryland
Molly Rochester	Wagner College
Nathan Lefler	University of Maryland
Rachel Zarney	Emory University
Ravid Tilles	Jewish Theological Seminary
Rebecca Morgenstern	University of Maryland
Renie Zitomer	Montgomery College
Sarah Ifft	Swathmore College
Sari Weiser	UCLA
Saul Krosnick	University of Maryland
Sharon Byer	University of Wisconsin
Sheri Sagall	Mitchell College
Shira Tober	Boston University
Steven Abraham	Jewish Theological Seminary
Steven Radnor	Towson University
Victoria Yedlin	Montgomery College
Zachary Carroll	Northeastern University
Zachary Levitt	University of Delaware

List of Tributes

Building Fund

Speedy Recovery To

Marianne Kleiner
Marianne Kleiner

Donor

Bill & Barbara Harkaway
Jay & Joyce Feinstein

Donor

Wishing a Shanah Tova to the Layman Family

Harry & Jeanette Zubkoff

In Honor Of

The Chesed Committee

Engagement of Ravid Tilles and Yaffa Garber

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Joseph Kraut & Rhea Siers

Larry Alpert's New Decade Birthday

Bess Teller

Morton & Phyllis Lessans
Ralph & Ecille Shapiro

Deana Stempler's Birthday

Sadie Blicher

Ron & Gayle Miller's Wedding Anniversary

Saul & Sherry Cohen

In Memory Of

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Ruth Kolmaister

Ethel Dosik

Shimon Pinczuk

Lois Stuppel

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Roz & Lee Goldberg

Susan & Milt Goldsamt

Cilla & Hy Grosberg

Stan & Fran Kensky

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Freda & Jay Krosnick

Fran & Julian Leidman

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Susan & Gershon Levin

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Moishe & Charlotte Potosky

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Nikki & George Reinhardt

Harriet & Marvin Roth

Rita Rubinstein

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Dave & Peggy Slade

Elaine & Harold Stein

Bess & Jack Teller

Betsy, Herb, Devora &

Stefanie Wolk

Irving Hutter

Henry Hutter

Belle Fay Levin

Ila Swartz

Cecil Gelburg

Jules & Zelma Fink

Matthew Ginsburg

Manny & Biddie Ginsburg

Jeane Goldberg

Michael & Judy Goldberg

Ethel Goldstein

Morton & Ina Goldstein

The Shofar

Samuel Mellner
Ron & Gayle Miller's new Granddaughter
Morton Buckberg

Robert & Audrey Haber
Saul & Sherry Cohen
Yetta Buckberg

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In Memory Of
Sadie Grossman

Donor
Marcia Patz

D. Joseph Williamowsky Scholar-in-Residence Fund

Speedy Recovery To
Diane Holsten

Donor
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In Honor Of
The Dick's 60th Anniversary

Donor
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In Memory Of
David Kolt
Belle Levin
Chaim Williamowsky

Donor
Joel & Diane Miller
Manny & Biddie Ginsburg
Paul & Sarah Dick

Education Fund

In Honor Of
Jordan Kramer's Bat Mitzvah
Paul & Sarah Dick

Donor
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Louis & Paula Rubenstein

In Memory Of
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Yetta Cohen
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Ruth Sheinhorn
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Sarah Block
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Tillie Fink
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Bess Zajic
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In Memory Of
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Martin S. Halpern Adult Education Fund

In Memory Of
Grace Goldberg

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Ralph & Ecille Shapiro

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Speedy Recovery To
Marianne Kleiner

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In Honor Of
Rita & Ami Frydman's Grandson
Martin & Leora Weinstein
Dara Grosberg's engagement to Steven Radnor

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In Memory Of
Lois Stuppel

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Rabbi's Discretionary Fund - Chesed

Speedy Recovery To
Rah-Sha Brindle

Donor
Sylvia Potash

In Honor Of
Ravid Tilles & Yaffa Garber's engagement
Your Help
Ravid Tilles and Yaffa Garber's engagement
Ravid & Yaffa Garber's Engagement

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In Memory Of
Theodore Frank
Sylvia Frank

Donor
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Sidney & Sue Schwartz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund - Regular

In Honor Of
Rabbi Jonah Layman

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Ira & Ethel Levine

In Memory Of
Lois Stuppel
Judy Bonnett Stein

Donor
Ralph & Ecille Shapiro
Ruth Newhouse

Siddur or Chumash Dedication

In Honor Of
Wedding of Eliana & Naftali Maeir
Bat Mitzvah of Stephanie Neuwirth

Donor
George & Marilyn Kessler
George & Marilyn Kessler

In Memory Of
Lifcha and Levek Shabasson

Donor
Julian Rosenberg & Zella Shabasson

SHAARE TEFILA HAS ITS VERY OWN DISCUSSION GROUP

In a discussion group you can raise questions, discuss issues, explore topics, get to know other congregants, etc.

Because it is private, that is we have reserved it for members of Shaare Tefila Congregation only, you have to establish an account, but, it's FREE! It may sound hard, but it isn't!

The discussion group is set up through a free Google service. The instruction sheets (6 pages) are mostly pictorial and they walk you through the various steps needed to :

1. Create an account
2. Enter the discussion group space
3. Start/respond to a discussion issue
4. Exit the discussion space

Once you have done that, it is easier than making a telephone call, and provides you a forum to communicate on topics, both weighty and light, with all of your fellow Shaare Tefila members. **Anyone, and everyone is encouraged to join.**

Please send me an email request and I will forward a pdf copy of the instructions on how to become a discussion group participant.

ST.Web.Master
shaaretefilawebmaster@comcast.net



Shaare Tefila reaches out to the Olney Community at the Olney Community Exchange on Thursday, October 2, 2008. The Membership Committee at the Olney Community Exchange.

Karen Radnor, Stefanie Levy, Deborah Letow, and Bess Teller.

Picture taken by Steven Franklin

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November 2008

3 Cheshvan 5769 - 3 Kislev 5769

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 3 CHESHVAN נח מוצאי שבת 5:49 9:00 am Shabbat Svc. Olney Elementary Shalhevet, Tot Shabbat, Jr. Congr. The Big Read 7 pm Machar Sleepover
2 4 CHESHVAN No Religious School 8 am Professional Day 10 am Bonim Men's Club Breakfast 10:30 Talmud Class w/Rabbi Layman @ B. Fink house	3 5 CHESHVAN 8 pm Choir Practice Board Meeting	4 6 CHESHVAN Election Day! 12:45-3 pm Kadima Group of Haddasah 7:30 pm -To Be A Conservative Jew- w/Rabbi Layman @ A. Sandler house	5 7 CHESHVAN 8 pm Sisterhood Book Club (The Kill Artist by:Daniel Silva) at Deborah Letow's 4:30 pm Religious School	6 8 CHESHVAN 2 pm Yiddish Theater/Folk Music w/Cantor Wendi	7 9 CHESHVAN 4:42 9:30 am Torah w/ Rabbi Layman, Bresler House 6 pm Shabbat Svc. Olney Elementary	8 10 CHESHVAN לך לך מוצאי שבת 5:42 9:00 am Shabbat Svc. Olney Elementary Family Shabbat 4:30 pm Bullit, Bat Mitzvah-Olney Theatre
9 11 CHESHVAN Religious School 10 am Torah Trope Class w/Cantor Wendi 10:30 am Talmud w/Rabbi Layman Sisterhood Convention	10 12 CHESHVAN 8 pm Choir Practice Sisterhood Convention	11 13 CHESHVAN Veteran's Day 7:30 pm -To Be A Conservative Jew- w/Rabbi Layman @ A. Sandler house Sisterhood Convention	12 14 CHESHVAN Sisterhood Convention 4:30 pm Religious School	13 15 CHESHVAN	14 16 CHESHVAN 4:36 9:30 am Torah w/ Rabbi Layman, Bresler House 6 pm Shabbat Svc. and Shabbat Dinner Youth Retreat (Smith Center)	15 17 CHESHVAN וירא מוצאי שבת 5:37 9:00 am Shabbat Svc. Olney Elementary National Donor Shabbat Youth Retreat (Smith Center) B'Mazel
16 18 CHESHVAN Religious School and Pre School Program 9:30 am Text Study - w/Tammy Paynter (Stonegate Elementary) 10:30 am Talmud w/Rabbi Layman 1:30 pm Sisterhood Jewelry Making	17 19 CHESHVAN 8 pm Choir Practice Sisterhood Board Meeting	18 20 CHESHVAN 7:30 pm -To Be A Conservative Jew- w/Rabbi Layman @ A. Sandler house	19 21 CHESHVAN 4:30 pm Religious School 10:30 am Great Jewish Personalities w/Rabbi Layman	20 22 CHESHVAN 7 pm Education Committee Meeting	21 23 CHESHVAN 4:32 9:30 am Torah w/Rabbi Layman, Bresler House 6 pm Shabbat Svc. Bresler House USY Convention	22 24 CHESHVAN חיי שרה מוצאי שבת 5:32 9:00 am Shabbat Svc. Olney Elementary Mini Minyan Honoring Arthur Bresler USY Convention
23 25 CHESHVAN Mitzvah Day + Religious School 10 am Trope Class w/Cantor Wendi 10:30 am Talmud w/Rabbi Layman USY Convention	24 26 CHESHVAN 8 pm Choir Practice Religious Committee Meeting	25 27 CHESHVAN 7:30 pm -To Be A Conservative Jew- w/Rabbi Layman @ A. Sandler house Membership Committee Meeting	26 28 CHESHVAN NO RS 10 am Shir Hashirim: A Love Story w/Cantor Wendi	27 29 CHESHVAN Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	28 1 KISLEV ראש חודש כסלו 4:29 6 pm Shabbat Svc. Bresler House Office Closed	29 2 KISLEV תולדות מוצאי שבת 5:30 9:00 am Shabbat Svc. Olney Elementary Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh
30 3 KISLEV						

Shaare Tefila Congregation

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Rabbi Emeritus	Martin S. Halpern, Z"L
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