

Our spotlight family this week has been a Silver Academy family for some time. Josh and Vivian First are the parents of Isaac, who is currently in 6th grade. They also have two daughters, Shoshana (20) and Nina (17), who are graduates of The Silver Academy.



Where do you live? Harrisburg

Where else have you lived? I am from Brooklyn, New York, and had lived in the Washington, DC, area for 12 years before moving to Harrisburg. My husband is from central PA and has lived in Nashville, TN, and the Washington, DC, area, where we met.

What do you like about living in central Pennsylvania? We love the beauty of the woods and proximity to wild areas as well as urban destinations.

What do you like best about The Silver Academy? The Silver Academy is family. The parents are so closely connected to the school that we form friendships with other parents. We keep track of all children long after they graduate, and the kids know that we cheer them on and delight in their accomplishments.

What is your occupation? I (Vivian) am an attorney with the Patent & Trademark Office in Alexandria, Va.

Do you have any favorite family activities or interests? Our family has hikers, hunters, runners, fishermen, boaters, and backyard vegetable gardeners. Yitzi and his father are great fishermen. Every summer they take a NY State road trip and fish all the way up to the Adirondacks and back. Sometimes they canoe out to an island and camp out there for the night.

What is your family's favorite vacation spot? The Hamptons. Our favorite place is a quaint little town called Greenport in the North Fork with its ice cream parlors, jukeboxes, art deco theater, and long history.

What is your family's favorite holiday tradition? Pesach is family gathering time in Los Angeles. It includes Extended family Seders, Malibu hikes and adventure trips (like our failed boat trip to an island called Anna Cappa where it rained so much that we were all caked in mud while eating our matzah).

What does your family like to do on snow days? Hot chocolate in front of a fire after a sled ride when someone is freezing cold.