



Bet Shraga
Hebrew Academy
of the Capital District



June 12, 2009
20 Sivan 5769

SHABBATON

Issue Number 35
Volume Number I

CALENDAR

Monday, June 15

10:00 5th Grade Fiesta

Tuesday, June 16

12:15 5th Grade Competition
3:30 Basketball Clinic

Wednesday, June 17

10:00 Kindergarten
Graduation
12:00 4th Grade Poetry Cafe

Thursday, June 18

8:30 Middle School Field
Trip (The Crossings)

Friday, June 19

Last Day of School K-7
8:15 3rd Grade Father's Day
Breakfast
11:00 School Wide Oneg

Candle Lighting times for June/July 2009

Friday, June 12th—Light 8:15pm

Friday, June 19th—Light 8:18pm

Friday, June 26th—Light 8:19pm

Friday, July 3rd —Light 8:18pm

Saturday, June 13th—End 9:26pm

Saturday, June 20th—End 9:20pm

Saturday, June 27th—End 9:30pm

Saturday, July 4th —End 9:29pm

DVAR TORAH BY RACHEL ANISFELD

This dvar torah is a tribute to the teachers and administrators of Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy. This week's parsha, *Beha'alotekha*, has something to say about them.

Moshe complains that he cannot do the job of leading the people alone. God has him organize 70 elders to come outside the camp and receive some of Moshe's prophetic spirit so that these elders can assist him. Meanwhile, inside the camp, two men, Eldad and Medad, begin to prophesy on their own. When Moshe is told of their activities, his assistant, Joshua, suggests that Eldad and Medad be locked up. According to a number of classical commentators, Joshua thought that Eldad and Medad were showing great disrespect for Moshe; the other elders all received their prophetic spirit *from* Moshe, while Eldad and Medad received theirs straight from God. Moshe, however, responded in a humble, fashion: "Are you jealous on my account? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that the Lord put His spirit upon them!" (Num 11:29).

Moshe kept his eye on the prize. He understood that the point was not his own grandeur but the people's connection to God. The more people involved in great God and Torah work, the better! Moshe didn't mind if that work wasn't under his control.

There is a famous rabbinic saying that by nature a person is jealous of every person other than his child and his student (Sanhedrin 105b). This may be true, but it is still difficult to maintain an educational institution based on the open, non-jealous attitude of Moshe. Nonetheless, this is the feeling one gets in Bet Shraga. Teachers and administrators have their eyes on the prize – the children's growth and education. There is no sense that the children's independence and initiative is in any way a threat, as Joshua suggested, but quite the opposite; children are given the tools to shine on their own, to make their own Torah and to be creative players in their own education.

The story begins with Moshe's appeal to God for assistants because the humble Moshe understood that this was not a job he could do alone. His humility made him open to all assistants, both the official ones outside the camp and the unofficial ones inside the camp. The same spirit can be felt in Bet Shraga, where there is a feeling that any and all help in the great project of Jewish education is welcome.

*For a dvar torah on whiny children, see my blog, <http://parshathoughtsmore.blogspot.com>

Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy Of The
Capital District Receives Substantial
Support From



PRINCIPAL'S BOARD



Alec Evan

is an 8th grader who is well known for his academic and athletic abilities. He has spent several years helping lead the Bet Shraga Lions (basketball team) to its winning records but that is not why he is on the principal's board. We would like to highlight Alec's enthusiasm in volunteering to help lead Middle School *Tefilah* (prayer). He will often agree to fill in when a student who was scheduled to lead is absent.

We are thankful to him for his efforts and we are proud of his leadership in this capacity.



Adina Kligerman

is a sensitive and caring 1st grader who cares not only about her friends and classmates, but also about her teachers here at Bet Shraga. It was the day of her *Siddur* Ceremony that we caught her coming into school carrying flowers. Knowing the first graders were not asked to bring flowers for the *Siddur* Ceremony, a principal asked

Adina who they were for and was told that the flowers were for Ms Crom who is having surgery at the end of the school year. We love seeing how thoughtful our students are towards their teachers. Great job Adina!



Jacob Wienman

is a responsible 2nd grader who can often be found helping other classmates. His thoughtfulness reaches far beyond the students of Bet Shraga. In fact, while students were waiting by the door to go outside for recess, Jacob noticed that the teachers were having a meeting in the nearby "board room". Realizing that the excited and noisy

students might be disturbing the Torah discussion taking place among the Judaic Studies teachers, Jacob closed the door and kept the noise out. This simple but meaningful action demonstrates Jacob's capacity to consider his own behavior and think of how it impacts others. Thank you Jacob for setting a great *dugma* (example).



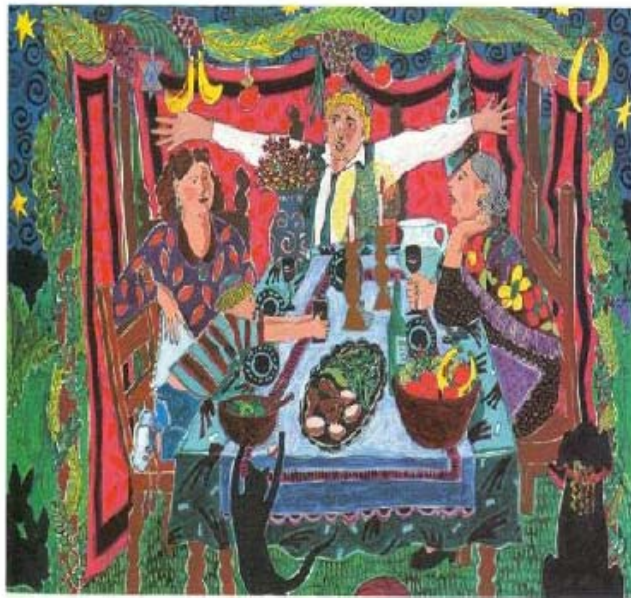
Rianna Young

is a sweet and kind 1st grader. Her Hebrew teacher Morah Chana was sharing with us how proud she is of the students in *kitah aleph* (1st grade). Morah Chana said that everyday, they put some of their money into the *tzedaka* box (charity). When a student forgets to bring

in money, Rianna has often offered some of her own money to share with the child who forgot so they too can participate in the *chessed* (kindness) of giving *tzedaka*. We are proud because not only is Rianna giving *tzedaka* but she is also giving other classmates a chance to give *tzedaka*.

Save the Date
Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Friday, October 9, 2009



54 Sand Creek Rd. Albany, NY 12205
518-482-0464 larcus@hacdalbany.com

"ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ROOTED IN TRADITION"



PARENT ORGANIZATION

SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM DEBORAH GOLD!!

Thank you to all of our Parent Org Volunteers!! You made 2008-2009 such a wonderful year for all of our children, faculty, staff and school community! You made a real difference in the school environment - warm and welcoming. Most of all we had some really fun events and great memories.

I have only been your volunteer coordinator since January and am very grateful everyone already was pretty well up to speed on what they needed to do in their respective roles.

We need to start planning for next year and are looking for ideas from our members.

Please email HACD.ParentOrg@nycap.rr.com.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

Did you know that at HACD you are automatically a member of our **Parent Organization?!** No extra dues or forms to fill out. Take a moment to consider how your own special talents can enhance our school community. We start every year with a clean slate - So, now is your chance! Review the list below of volunteer positions for the 2009-2010 school year. Email HACD.ParentOrg@nycap.rr.com to learn more. Act Now!

PARENT ORG – VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

I know what you are thinking, so many choices...which one can I help the most?! Contact Deb or Liz to ask questions about the various positions and learn where you can best utilize your talents! Email your questions to us at HACD.ParentOrg@nycap.rr.com. REMEMBER – next school year starts with a clean slate – Let us know what position you would like and we can add your name to next years list!

President

Co-President or Vice President

Secretary

- Parent Org Newsletter

Treasurer

Parent REPRESENTATIVES – Room Parents

- Parent Rep – K
- Parent Rep – 1st
- Parent Rep – 2nd
- Parent Rep – 3rd
- Parent Rep – 4th
- Parent Rep – 5th
- Parent Rep – 6th
- Parent Rep – 7th
- Parent Rep – 8th

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Fundraising Programs:

- School Pictures
- Ink Jet Cartridges & Cell Phones
- Box Tops
- Labels for Education

Food & Hospitality Coordinators:

- Lunch Committee Chair, coordinate volunteers & liaison for caterer, vaad, etc.
- Lunch Order Coordinator
- Lunch Servers Coordinator (may no longer be needed if Caterer is hired!)
- Teacher/Staff Workshop Breakfast
- Teacher Appreciation Day Lunch
- Teacher/Staff Hospitality
- Year End Picnic
- Rosh Hodesh Hallel snack (new program this year – need organizer)

Programs

- School Directory
- New Family Mentoring Program
- School Banking – *reintroduce program to school 2009-2010*
- Drama Kids

Misc Helpers: Lots of small projects; making & sorting copies, distributing prizes for contests, etc. a half hour to an hour. Many projects can be done from home!



Many Thanks

General Fund

Howie Teitelman in honor of Rabbi Rami Strosberg

Beth Schachter in honor of the birth of Ezra Moishe Knox

Rich and Amy Drucker in memory of Rabbi Gerald I. Wolpe

Ruth and Steven Rich in honor of Refuah Shelemah Rachel Arcus; Moody and Sharon Strosberg on becoming grandparents; and Rabbi Rami for being such a pleasure to work with.



Happy Birthday

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

July 1	Jonathan Ancowitz
July 4	Noah Fisher
July 6	Zachary Waldman
July 9	Jesse Levine
July 12	Jessica Levine
July 12	Julia Vitkin
July 13	Zachary Wasserman
July 19	Evan Schaffer
July 20	Celia Rosen
July 27	Sarah Kaziyev
July 31	Emily Honen
July 31	Rachel Lapiner

HACD Received Special Thanks from:

Daughters of Sarah Jewish Foundation, Inc.— “Your students and staff have done a special mitzvah by donating their flowers to Daughters of Sarah Nursing Center for the Shavuot holiday. Your most thoughtful gift spread the beauty of flowers throughout the building, bringing smiles to all who saw them. Knowing that these flowers came from children who cared, especially the present and past 6th graders who visit with residents throughout the year, made the yom tov of Shavuot that much more special.”

Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York— “Thank you for your most recent donation of **71 pounds of food** to the Regional Food Bank. Your contribution means so much to our member agencies. Last summer, 12,433 meals were served through the Food Bank’s Summer Food Service Program. We hope to reach even more children this year and with your help, we’ll do just that.”



CHALLAH FOR SHABBAT



Challah for Shabbat delivered at School!

8th Grade parents will send challah home on Friday with your child.

Please make check payable to **HACD** and send along with this form to Julie Adler via Kiddie Mail,

Orders MUST reach Julie by 5pm on Wednesdays.

No orders will be taken over the phone. A check, payable to **HACD** with Challah in memo line, must accompany every order.

All proceeds benefit the 8th grade trip to Israel.

** HACD is not responsible for credits for snow day challahs. Efforts will be made to deliver to your home, or challahs will be frozen and sent home the next school day.

Challahs are from Rockland Bakery, and are Pareve/Kosher Certified and the price is discounted if you buy more than one each week.

Questions, please contact Julie Adler Jamminwithjulie@gmail.com

Send home with: _____ Grade: _____ Phone: _____

	One Challah per week Check off the week	More than one Challah per Week Write # per week	
Delivery Date	1 Pound Challah \$4.50 each	1 Pound Challah \$4.00 each	TOTAL
6/19/09			

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

To All The Parent Volunteers for helping with the annual school picnic! Over 250 people attended! A lot of planning goes into this event and the more helpers, the easier it is.

A Special Thank You To: Janelle for the face painting! The kid's looked great. Liz Goldstein for supplying some gifts to our kid helpers. Misha Brenner & his friends for supervising the Bouncy Bounces. Linda & Chris Carothers, Jen & Rich Honen, Debbie Herr, Karen Setzen, Wendy Schaffer Sheila & Paul Koppel, Adam Elias, Charles Kearns, Rachel Anisfeld, Barbara Asal, Chana Israel, Julie Pollack, Ruth Heller, Dale Katz, Tanya Tazelman, Anna Rosen, Ira Zackon, Andrew Salem and Joel Weingarten. A special thanks to Nate and Amy Horwitz for donating the veggie hamburgers & hotdogs. Looking forward to seeing all of you at next year's barbeque!

Sherry Ashery



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 13

Israel Center Café presents The Comedy of Lewis Gray. Tributes to Adva Golan, Yael Shavit, and Chananya and Sara Roseblum. 10:00 pm-12:30 am. \$10 suggested donation per person.

June 14

Calling All Cub Scouts and Prospective Cub Scouts!

Come to the annual Blue and Gold pancake brunch! HACD CAFETERIA, Sunday, **June 14, 10 am -12 noon**. Comic Entertainment! Scout Games! Learn about our Jewish Cub Scout Pack! Free to all prospective scout families, registered cub scouts and those under 8. Others only \$3 per person, Family Max of \$10.00. Please email hacdpack18@hotmail.com by June 11 to R.S.V.P

To put a community wide event in our e-shabbaton, please email a text only version to ndaigle@hacdalbany.com

June 29

Camp Givah's 50th Season June 29 is approaching fast!!! Do not forget to enroll your child(ren) in Camp Givah for its Spectacular 50th Season. Forms and brochures are out and available now. Contact Gregg Fox at givahdirector@gmail.com with any questions or visit the Camp Givah website at www.campgivah.org.

June

The Sidney Albert Albany Jewish

Community Center and Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. welcome the return of scouting to the JCC. Troop 33 will be meeting throughout June on Thursdays at the JWV room at the Albany JCC. Meetings begin at 7:15PM.

For information about Boy Scout Troop 33, contact Troop co-Leader Bob Adler at bobadler@nycap.rr.com or Twin Rivers Jewish Committee on Scouting chair and Cubmaster of Pack 18 Adam Selsley at hacd-pack18@hotmail.com.

Submissions for the
Shabbaton should be sent to
ndaigle@hacdalbany.com by Wednesday

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ROOTED IN TRADITION

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