



Bet Shraga
Hebrew Academy
of the Capital District



May 8, 2009
14 Iyar 5769

SHABBATON

Issue Number 31
Volume Number I

CALENDAR

Monday, May 11

3:30 Play DRESS Rehearsal

Tuesday, May 12

3:30 Play DRESS Rehearsal

3:30 Basketball Clinic

3:30 Drama Kids

6:30 Cub Scouts

Wednesday, May 13

3:15 Band

3:15 Karate

Thursday, May 14

3:30 1st Grade Siddur

Decorating

7:00 Oklahoma School Play

Sunday, May 17

2:00 Oklahoma School Play

Candle Lighting times for May 2009

Friday, May 8th —Light 7:44pm

Friday, May 15th —Light 7:52pm

Friday, May 22nd —Light 7:59pm

Friday, May 29th —Light 8:05pm

Saturday, May 9th —Ends 8:51pm

Saturday, May 16th —Ends 9:00pm

Saturday, May 23rd—Ends 9:08pm

Saturday, May 30th —End 9:15pm

DVAR TORAH BY RACHEL ANISFELD

That woman in the supermarket who told me, “Enjoy your kids now; it goes by so quickly,” was certainly right. It does go by quickly. But what are we to do about it? How can we hold on to the moment, to appreciate its fleeting, precious character as it flies by?

Maybe that is the purpose of sefirat ha-omer—the counting of the 49 days between the holidays of Pesach and Shavu’ot. We are in the midst of this counting right now (about half way through), and the commandment to do such an official count also happens to be in this week’s parashah, Emor (Lev 23:15).

The counting is done each night with a blessing followed by an official pronouncement of the count, for example: “Today is the 26th day of the Omer, which is 3 weeks and 5 days.” (It’s around now that the math gets too complicated for me).

Why count these days? The Torah connects the counting to the grain harvest.

We count from the beginning of the barley harvest, celebrated on Passover, to the beginning of the wheat harvest, celebrated on Shavu’ot. The sixteenth century Italian biblical commentator Sforno suggests that the purpose of this counting is to remind people daily to be thankful to God for the harvest, to remind them that the bountiful blessings they are receiving from the land all ultimately derive from God.

Counting is a way of stopping, in the very midst of the bounty of springtime, to note our good fortune and be mindful and appreciative of it. Counting implies that each thing is to be valued and appreciated on its own. That is what it means to count our blessings, to note each one and give true thanks, in the knowledge that it could have been otherwise. It means to be conscious in a daily way of the preciousness of that day of life, that day of food, and that day of our children’s lives.

It’s true. It does go by quickly, our children’s childhood, and life in general. Counting the Omer teaches us that the proper response to such life blessings, to the good fortune of food and children and life, is to be present and aware of the blessing which is each passing moment, and to give thanks to the Source of blessing.

As Psalm 90 says, “Teach us to count our days rightly.”

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



SCIENCE FAIR A HUGE SUCCESS



SUPPLIES NEEDED

The 5th Grade is in need of paper towel or toilet paper rolls for their Piñatas.

Please send any you can spare into the office.
Thank you!!

The HACD Concert
has been moved to
June 10, 2009.



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
05/15/09			
05/22/09			
06/05/09			
6/12/09			
6/19/09			





HACD Annual School Picnic
 For students, families, faculty and staff
Wednesday June 3rd @ 5:00 p.m.



(RAIN DATE - Thursday June 4th @ 5:00 p.m.)

Everyone is Welcome!

Come and end the school year with a yummy barbeque, games, rides & fun!

The Parent Organization will provide a kosher barbecue picnic of:

- Hot dogs • Hamburgers • Veggie burgers • Veggie dogs • Garden salad • Fruit • Drinks



Bouncy Bounce, Face Painting and More!!

To help Parent Organization cover the cost, a charge of **\$10.00 per family** is needed.

We need volunteers to help in this event. Please email Sherry Ashery at sashery@nycap.rr.com and let her know how you can help *(see form below)*.

Fill out the form below and return it to the office by May 26th

School Picnic Form - \$10.00 per family. Checks made payable to: HACD

Name: _____ Check#: _____

No. of Adults: _____ No. of Children: _____ Cash: _____

I would like to volunteer for: (please select)

- shopping (the more the merrier) set up grilling serving clean up

Please let the office know of any dismissal changes!





Thursday, May 14 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 17 2:00 p.m.

Tickets Prices:

In Advance (by May 12):

\$5.00/Adult (9th Grade and Up)

\$3.00/Child (Pre/K-8th Grade)

At the Door:

\$7.00/Adult (9th Grade and Up)

\$5.00/Child (Pre/K-8th Grade)

To purchase tickets in advance (on or before Tuesday, May 12) Please complete the form below and return it to the HACD office with a check made payable to "HACD" in an envelope labeled "Play Tickets, c/o Howie Goldberg."

*Note: Tickets purchased in advance will be held at the door; they will **not** be distributed via "kiddie mail."*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

	# of Tickets Thursday, May 14	# of Tickets Sunday, May 17		\$ Total
Adult (Grade 9 and up)			@ \$5.00 each	
Child (Age 2 – Grade 8)			@ \$3.00 each	
			Total Enclosed	\$

Please Support the play fund and buy merchandise....

Western Leather Braided Bracelets \$2.50 each
(One size fits all adjustable hand-made bracelets)

Blinking Light Up Magnetic Pins: \$1.75 each

- 1) Cowboy Hat Pins
- or
- 2) Cowboy Boot Pins

***Order via kiddie mail and will receive purchased items the next day via kiddie mail.
Please send envelopes to Jo-Beth Evan.***

Thanks for supporting the HACD Play Fund



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 15-16

Temple Israel Scholar in Residence Program. Cantor Rebecca Fletcher - Actress, Singer, Playwright A Weekend of Cabaret Show and Lectures. **Friday, May 15** - Services at 6:00 pm followed by Shabbat dinner and lecture by Cantor Fletcher. Cost is \$18/ adult, \$6/child. **Saturday, May 16** at 9:00 am Shabbat services with Cantor Fletcher as a guest speaker. Saturday, May 16 at 9:15 pm - Cabaret Night - "A Little Yearning". Concert tickets are \$18 each. Please RSVP no later than Friday, May 8 to Linda Young at 438-7858, ext. 117.

May 28

Congregation Ohav Shalom invites you to attend A SHAVUOT EXTRAVAGANZA. Please join us for a celebration of the Shavuot holiday, commemorating the giving of the Torah from 7-9:30pm. For more information please call or mail us 489-4706 or nancy@ohavshalom.com.

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

May 31

Ne'imah Jewish Community Chorus will mark its 17th anniversary by presenting a concert at WAMC's Performing Arts Studio, the Linda, at 318 Central Avenue on Sunday evening, May 31, at 7:30pm. The concert entitled *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav* (Jerusalem of Gold) will present songs in English and Hebrew. Special guest artist, Rebecca Teplow, composer and song stylist will join in the program. Tickets for the performance will be available at the door. General admission is \$14, Seniors, children and students \$10.00 Any questions, please call 438-9561

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.

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54 Sand Creek Road Albany, NY 12205
Phone: 518-482-0464 Fax: 518-482-0129
www.hacdalbany.org www.hacd@hacdalbany.com

