



HACD is proudly supported by



**E-Shabbaton #2**  
Friday, September 12, 2008  
12Elul 5768

Friday, September 12, 2008  
Shabbat September 13, 2008

Light Candles at 6:49 pm  
Shabbat Ends at 7:47 pm

Submissions for the Shabbaton should be emailed to [bstein@hacdalbany.com](mailto:bstein@hacdalbany.com) by Wednesday at 12noon.

**Calendar Reminders:**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Monday, September 15, 2008   | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade to TEVA<br>3:00pm Math counts<br>7:30pm Board meeting |
| Tuesday, September 16, 2008  | 3:30 – 4:30pm Drama Kids  |
| Thursday, September 18, 2008 | 3:30 – Chess Club   |
| Friday, September 19, 2008   | 1:40 Oneg Shabbat   |
| Tuesday, September 23, 2008  | 3:30pm Drama Kids Bring a Friend day  |
| Tuesday, December 9, 2008    | 3:30pm Drama Kids Fall Workshop   |

**Reminder: Send in Rosh Hashanah card Forms**

**A Dvar Torah from Rabbi Rami**

This week's Torah portion, *Ki Tetzei* is known for having the most mitzvot (commandments) out of any *Parsha* (section) in the Torah.

One of these mitzvot teaches an idea we may not have considered.

"You shall not reject an Egyptian, for you were a sojourner in his land (23:8)". The Torah tells us not to reject an Egyptian even though they cruelly threw the Jewish male babies in the Nile River and enslaved the Jewish people for many years. This mitzvah is understood to mean that the descendants of these same Egyptians can marry into the general Jewish-born population after three generations as converts.

Why should they be allowed to join our faith (after conversion), marry into our people and become part of our nation? The second half of the verse helps explain the answer to this question.

"... for you were a sojourner in this land"

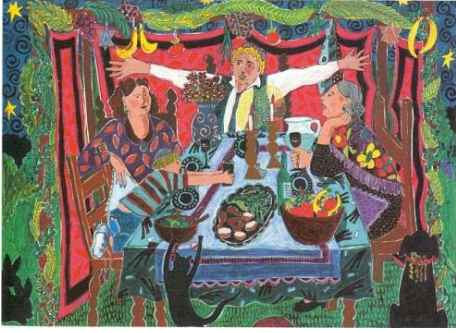
We owe the Egyptians some gratitude because they were our hosts at a time of need. We can't forget that when Yaakov and his family came down to Egypt to escape the famine in Canaan and reunite with his son Yosef, King Pharaoh allowed them to settle in the region of Goshen. There they were given food and shelter and were treated with respect and generosity. Goshen is where the family grew into a people, where we were transformed from a family of seventy into a nation of millions.

The lesson of this mitzvah is that a small measure of good is not thrown out with a large measure of bad. This principle is the foundation of good interpersonal relationships. If one is the beneficiary of kindness, the debt of gratitude exists even if on a later occasion, the benefactor causes discomfort to the beneficiary.

As we approach the New Year, let us be grateful for all we receive from our teachers, our friends, our families and from God.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Rami Strosberg



## *Grandparent & Special Friends Day* is being held at HACD on Friday, October 17, 2008

10:30am-2:00pm

- Guests will join the students during class time for specially designed lessons that will include the students and guests in a wonderful learning experience.
- Guests will join the students in the sukkah for a specially prepared lunch.
- After lunch, guests will join together for a short program.
- At 1:40 our guests will join with the students for the Friday Oneg Shabbat.

\*If you haven't submitted names and addresses of grandparents or special friends to Lorraine Arcus ([Larcus@hacdalbany.com](mailto:Larcus@hacdalbany.com)), please do so ASAP.

\* Please check that your invitees have received the invitation and responded.

**EVERY** student will have an adult special friend. They may:

- Invite a grandparent or special friend
- Pair up with a classmate and 'share' the guest
- Make a new 'friend'. There are many adults who are former faculty members or are alumni parents who would love to be included in this event as a new friend or surrogate grandparent. (Contact Lorraine Arcus).
- Families who have more than one child in the school are welcome to invite a guest for each student or have their guest rotate around the classrooms.

**PLEASE CONTACT LORRAINE ARCUS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008 TO HELP PREPARE OR ON FRIDAY TO HELP WITH THE DAY'S EVENTS.**

### Ideas Generated From Our Parent Brunch

*Need a conversation starter or enhancer?*

Here are positive WOM (Word Of Mouth) points about Bet Shraga as generated by parents at the "Bagels and Coffee" event on Tuesday, September 9, 2008. They will remain on the board in the Faculty Room. Attend the next parent event on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 and add to the list or just stop in to visit with others!

1. Enrollment is increasing
2. Great events to come:
  - Adult programs
  - Class reunions
3. Great principals
4. Warm & welcoming community
5. Really solid education in General & Judaic education
6. No need for after school Judaic classes
7. As teens, they are comfortable in synagogue
8. Nurturing Jewish environment
9. Strong math & science in middle school
10. Older children care for the younger children
11. Trust among school community members
12. Students develop self confidence – character building
13. Inclusive environment
14. Lifelong friendships – strong lasting bonds between classmates
15. Inter-generational programs with the school & greater community
16. Bonds among student of varying ages
17. Jewish pride

## **Hebrew Academy Names Alumni Association President**

Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy is proud to announce the formation of the Capital District Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy Alumni Association. Newly appointed President, Julie Massry Knox, will be continuing the efforts of the official outreach initiated by long time kindergarten teacher, and now Director of Admissions and Community Outreach, Lorraine Arcus. Knox graduated Hebrew Academy in 1994 and now is Marketing Director of Tri City Rentals. A member of Temple Israel in Albany and Beth El in Troy, Knox makes the Capital District her home with husband, James Knox and their one year old son Isaac.

"We are very excited to bring alum together to reminisce about the past and help solidify the future of HACD" says President Julie Knox.

Julie Knox also serves on the board of associates of The College of St. Rose, the foundation board Center for Disability Services as well as other local fundraising committees.

Already, an Alumni reunion has taken place in New York City. Another gathering planned for the 1998/99 graduates on September 26th will take place at Hebrew Academy. This reunion includes a luncheon hosted by the school and participation in the weekly Oneg Shabbat celebration with the students of Hebrew Academy.

Arcus began this effort in the spring utilizing Facebook. New to the world of Facebook, Arcus learned the process and discovered how far reaching the web world can be. She has accumulated approximately 150 contacts from all around the country. "The excitement in communicating with past students has been remarkably rewarding", says Arcus.

As Knox now will continue the efforts of outreach to Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy Alumni, plans to include alumni in other school and community-wide events are underway. "Our commitment to preserving the Hebrew Academy day school as an excellent academic institution for Jewish children in the Capital Region will be a priority for the Alumni Association" says Knox. "Bringing our graduates together will also serve as one of my priorities", she concludes. Knox has many plans for the outreach to the hundreds of graduates from Hebrew Academy. For now, establishing a current contact list is top priority.

Plans for future reunions are in the works for Washington, Florida, California and Baltimore. For more information about upcoming Alumni Events, email Julie Knox at, [jmassry28@yahoo.com](mailto:jmassry28@yahoo.com) for additional information about becoming a HACD Alumni Association member.

For additional information: Wendy Schaffer 439-4765 home, 209-8255 cell

## **News from Israel by Jerny's Banot Sherut**

1. Researchers from the University's hospital Hadasa En-Karem (in Jerusalem) have come to a breakthrough of discovering a new medicine for Multiple Sclerosis which is the most common cause of neurological disabilities for youth.
2. The Israeli swimmer Inbal Pizro won this week two silver medals in the handicapped Olympic games.
3. An old Japanese ceremony took place yesterday in Jerusalem for the 60th anniversary of Israel. The members of the "Agun Sho" association threw sticks with the wish of "world peace" into the fire.

## **MathCOUNTS**

More than half of HACD's middle school joined Ms. Schmidt Tuesday for a short informational meeting on MathCOUNTS, the national middle school mathematics competition. Our MathCOUNTS season begins next week and will run through the end of January. Meetings will be most Mondays from 3:15 until 4:30. The permission slip lists the dates and must be returned in order for students to participate.

Due to our high number of motivated participants, Hebrew Academy was recognized as a Silver Level School in last year's MathCOUNTS-sponsored Math Club program. With many 8th graders returning for their third year of MathCOUNTS, I'm looking forward to a year of great mathematics and great student leadership. As we say, students come for the cookies, and stay for the challenge and the teamwork!

--Alexandra Schmidt

## Parent Organization Page

September 2008

Dear HACD Families;

Welcome back! Now that you are all settled in and the second week of school has come and gone, I wanted to reiterate the excitement I feel about heading up the Parent Organization this year!

We have a wonderful school, with fantastic administration and staff, teachers and kids – but most of all, we have a terrific group of parents out there whom I know are eager to get involved in the Parent Org!

If you are not aware of whom your Parent Reps are, I have included a list of names. Please get to know the representative in your grade as they will assist me in helping to plan future Parent Org. initiatives. Also, if you are a new parent and would like to be “Mentored” by other families who have been involved with the school for awhile, let me know. I am trying to connect a group of Mentors and Mentees!

### **Parent Reps for 2008-2009 are:**

Kindergarten: Linda Carothers

First Grade: Elana Kameir

Second Grade: Barbara Asal

Third Grade: Cheryl Ginsburg-Smith

Fourth Grade: Marci Galinkin

Fifth Grade: Marian Alexander

Sixth Grade: Paul Binyamin

Seventh Grade: Ilana Kovach

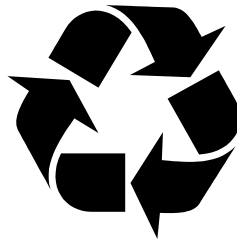
Eighth Grade: Sue Adler

On a personal note, we have moved over the summer – the Weinstein Family (Paul, Nicki, Delia and Samuel, grade 2) now live in Colonie! Our new phone number is 459-2461. We live off Sand Creek – a mile from the school! Give me a call to let me know any volunteer interests – or just to chat! I would love to get to know more of you!

I hope you all have a peaceful High Holy Day season.

Sincerely,

Nicole Weinstein, President  
HACD Parent Organization



### **RECYCLE and benefit HACD - TURN YOUR TRASH INTO CASH!!!**

Drop your used ink cartridges into our new **COLLECTION BIN** in the school office!

Used cell phones? Drop them off at the front office in the collection bin, too.

High volume of ink cartridges at work? Contact Deborah Gold at [daygold@nycap.rr.com](mailto:daygold@nycap.rr.com) for details on how to ship direct and help HACD earn more!

**STOP! Don't throw away that empty package or lid  
until you check for these special fundraising opportunities!**



Look for the “Labels for Education” logo (pictured right) on products:

Simply save the **UPC codes** and caps from your favorite and drop them off at HACD via kiddie mail to Deborah Gold (Kira) **The UPC must be intact.**



participating  
Campbell brands  
–3<sup>rd</sup> grade).

Learn what products participate on line: <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/default.aspx>

**Box Tops for Education:**

**PARENTS: Please register online** and support HACD at <http://www.boxtops4education.com>.



**Shop online and make a difference for HACD!**

Over 60 popular online stores have teamed up with Box Tops. Our school earns cash on every qualifying purchase made, up to

\$20,000, at no additional cost to you. Just click on a store and start shopping.

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace/Default.aspx>



**Earn cash for HACD with every purchase you make!** With the Box Tops for Education Visa® card you can make a bigger difference every day. It's unlike any other card you carry because our school will earn a full **1% cash back on every purchase** you and other cardholders make (up to \$20,000). Use your Box Tops Visa® card at over 20 million locations worldwide for everyday purchases like groceries, gas or dinner out – it's just that easy!

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>.

**PRICE CHOPPER “TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS”**

**August through December 2008 (dates TBA)**

HACD had 242 members enrolled last year – are you registered? online now at:

<http://www2.pricechopper.com/toolsforschools/single.shtml>

Enter your Price Chopper **AdvantEdge** card number, and our school



Register

code 15939.

**ANYONE can register to support HACD – REMEMBER to ASK – Grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends...**



**HANNAFORD HELPS SCHOOLS**

We will be participating again in the “Hannaford Helps Schools Program”! When you purchase 4 participating products, you will receive a \$3.00 school dollar certificate at the checkout register. If you purchase 8 participating products, the certificate will be for \$6.00, and so on. If you are shopping at the Hannaford Supermarket on Central & Colvin, you can turn them in there, otherwise, send them into school via kiddie mail, Attn. Jenn Jarose. Remember to **ASK** relatives and friends to help you in raising money for HACD!

In March we will receive a check for the total certificates collected. In addition, each Hannaford Supermarket will award a \$1,000 education grant to the registered school that raises the most dollars.

Learn more at: [http://hannaford.com/Contents/Our\\_Company/Community/wh\\_hannafordHelps.shtml](http://hannaford.com/Contents/Our_Company/Community/wh_hannafordHelps.shtml)

# Cub Scout Pack 18

and the

Twin Rivers Council Jewish Committee on Scouting  
presents

**Jewish History and Culture  
Hiking Club**

## A Fall Kick-off BBQ

Who: All Jewish boys in grades 1-5 who want to have fun!

Where: Albany JCC

When: Thursday, September 18 from 6-9PM

What: BBQ and Rosh Hashanah activities

Contact: Adam Selsley at [hacdpack18@hotmail.com](mailto:hacdpack18@hotmail.com)

or call 724-3743 Come and join Jewish Cub Scouts –  
lots of boys from all affiliations

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**New Friends and Adventures!**

**AWARDS!**

**Pinewood Derby**

**Bat Mitzvah Club invites all girls (Moms too!) in grades 5-6 to:**

- ~ Explore the meaning of Rosh Hashana & Bat Mitzvah thru Bees 'N Honey!
- ~ Discover Rabbi Laber's own Beehives
- ~ See a Fascinating Multi Media Presentation
- ~ Try your Hand at Extracting Honey from the Honeycomb
- ~ Taste Fresh Honey & Bake Honey Bee Cookies and more...
- ~ For Girls in grades 5-6 and Moms too!
- ~ Bat Mitzvah Club Open House & Orientation

**Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008 @ 1:00 pm**

Laber Residence  
2155 13th St. Troy, NY

To RSVP: Call Nechama at 518-727-9581 or e-mail [Info@capitalBMC.com](mailto:Info@capitalBMC.com)

BEE a Part of BMC! Don't Miss Out!!!!!!!!!!!!

Nechama Laber  
2155 13th St.  
Troy, NY 12180  
727-9581

[www.jewishgirlsretreat.net](http://www.jewishgirlsretreat.net)  
[www.jewishgreenbush.com](http://www.jewishgreenbush.com)

Light up the World with your Mitzvah!

## **The Israel Education Center**

**Rochie Rubin, Program Coordinator**

**THE ISRAEL CENTER**  
**199 New Scotland Avenue**  
**Albany, NY 12209**  
**(518) 459 - 0065 ext 202**  
**Email: [rochie@jerny.org](mailto:rochie@jerny.org)**

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*Visit our Website:*

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## **The JERNY Israel Resource Center**

**Yoel Hirschfeld, Israel Specialist**

**THE FEDERATION GOLUB CENTER**  
**184 Washington Ave. Ext.**  
**Albany, NY 12203**  
**Phone: (518) 694 - 9943**  
**Email: [yoel@jerny.org](mailto:yoel@jerny.org)**

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