



CALENDAR

Monday, November 9

Parent Teacher Conference
(Grade 3 Only)
3:15 PM Math Counts
3:15 PM Band Make Up Lesson

Tuesday, November 10

Parent Teacher Conference
(Grade 1 Only)
2:45 PM Dismissal
(Emergency Drill)
3:15 PM Drama Kids
6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting

Wednesday, November 11

NO SCHOOL STUDENTS
Parent Teacher Conferences

Thursday, November 12

Parent Teacher Conference
(Grade 4 Only)
3:15 PM OVA

Friday, November 13

Candle Lighting times for November 2009

Friday, Nov. 6th—Light 4:25pm	Saturday, Nov. 7th—End 5:25pm
Friday, Nov. 13th—Light 4:17pm	Saturday, Nov. 14th—End 5:19pm
Friday, Nov. 20th—Light 4:11pm	Saturday, Nov. 21st—End 5:14pm
Friday, Nov. 27th—Light 4:07pm	Saturday, Nov. 28th—End 5:10pm

DVAR TORAH BY RACHEL ANISFELD

Avraham's hospitality is legendary. If you want to know how to do the mitzvah of *hakhnasat orkhim*, learn from Avraham. He runs with eagerness and excitement toward three passers-by. He asks them to stay in a way that makes it seem like they are doing *him* a favor, and he (and his family) cook them an elaborate meal, much more than he had even promised. He then stands at attention, serving them, while they sit and enjoy.

But the story doesn't start there. The parsha doesn't start with Avraham and his hospitality. It starts with God. *Vayera elav hashem*. "And God appeared to him."

Why does it start with this divine appearance? *Because Avraham learned his kindness toward others from his relationship with God*. God, too, was involved in a mitzvah that day, according to the midrash. Through His appearance to Avraham that day, God was doing *bikur holim*, visiting the sick, because Avraham was recovering from his circumcision (an event that happened at the end of last week's parsha).

So God was visiting the sick and Avraham was welcoming guests! How beautiful. The two mitzvot, the two good deeds, are mirror images of one another. In one it is the act of visiting which is the good deed, and in the other, it is the act of receiving visitors that is the good deed. How could both receiving visitors and *being* a visitor be acts of kindness? They are both acts of kindness when they are done in a way that focuses not on one's own needs but on the needs of the other, either the needs of the sick other or the needs of the temporarily homeless traveling other. Together, the two deeds create a circle of care.

Avraham's hospitality did not exist in a vacuum. It was part of a reciprocal relationship he had developed with God. You visit. I'll receive guests. The sages say that *mitzvah goreret mitzvah*. One mitzvah leads to another. Usually that phrase is understood to refer to a single person's actions. Once you start doing one good deed, it will lead you yourself to do another. But it is also true that there is a cycle of goodness in the world as a whole, that one person's good deeds lead to another's good deeds. Perhaps this explains why Lot could not exist in Sodom as a single person doing the good deed of hospitality -- because good deeds need to be done in a place where they can be returned and reinforced. Avraham and God together began such a cycle of goodness in the world.

PRINCIPALS' BOARD



1st Grader, Ariel Siegfeld was nominated for a host of reasons. She demonstrates kindness to her classmates, and will voluntarily give up something that she wants if she can make a classmate happy by doing so. Ari is also a great listener and student during learning times. She is always ready to help others and is very thoughtful!

1st Grader, Tani Israel was nominated for many reasons, but for these reasons especially as much as he loves to win, he handles losing a game with great sportsmanship. Tani offers good suggestions during learning times, works hard, and is an amazing helper with his classmates during clean-up time!



Volunteers Needed for November 9th and 10th

Volunteers Needed to help with assembling the school directory anytime Monday between 8:00—3:00 pm and Tuesday between 8:00-2:30 pm. If you can help, please email Liz Goldstein at emgold@nycap.rr.com



Picture Day is Thursday, November 12th

Please Dress to IMPRESS.

Order forms were sent home earlier this week. Please return them by Monday, November 9th, so that we avoid having to hunt down forms in backpacks or desks the morning of Picture Day. Sibling pictures will be available during our Spring Picture Day. All children will be photographed for the yearbook.



If you have any questions please contact Liz Goldstein at emgold@nycap.rr.com or 364-0108. Thank you

Shabbat Sponsor—November 6th

Sponsored by Gavin and Karen Setzen
in honor of their son Sean's 12th Birthday .





Middle School Bible Class

I have really enjoyed the first quarter! I teach Bible to 5th, 7th, and 8th grade students. During the first quarter, the fifth grade students learned about the transition of government in Egypt that precipitated the enslavement of the Hebrews. The students studied the enslavement of the Hebrews in Egypt. The students analyzed the connection that Moses felt to the Jewish people despite being raised by Pharaoh's daughter.

During the first quarter, through in depth study of the Book of Leviticus, the seventh grade students sharpened their analytical and language skills. The students compared and contrasted the Ten Commandments to the Seven Noahide Laws. The students analyzed the evolution of Jewish ritual from sacrifice to prayer through analysis of the major commentaries: Rashi, Maimonides, and Nachmanides.

During the first quarter, through in depth study of the Book of Genesis, eighth grade students sharpened their analytical and language skills. The students compared and contrasted stories about sibling rivalry and analyzed the role of family in ancient civilization. Students analyzed creation with the aid of Bible commentators and classroom discussion.

We look forward to learning more Torah together!

Rabbi Aaron Kaplan



5th Grade Takes a Trip to the Dead Sea

Fifth graders put Dead Sea mud on their faces and experienced the therapeutic results of the minerals from the Dead Sea.
Much fun was had by all!!





Dear Parents,

We have been asked by Equinox to donate mixed fruit cups for the annual Thanksgiving dinner that Equinox traditionally prepares and serves. The need this year is especially great, and Equinox has indicated on November 20, it will gratefully pick up as many fruit cups as we can donate.

If you are able to send in mixed fruit cups, there will be collection boxes near Mr. Chuck's office. If you would prefer to make a cash donation towards the purchase of fruit cups, the office will see that any cash donation is sent to Tracey McQuay who will purchase the fruit cups.

Richard Eckstein, Maxx Evan, Daniel Fuhrman, and Eli Kligerman, the eighth graders on the Thanksgiving committee, have asked that the fruit cup collection be in addition to our usual food drive. We are seeking your generous support of the Equinox collection as well as the usual Thanksgiving food collection.

Sincerely,

The Thanksgiving Committee



PARENT ORG.

The hot lunch program has been successfully launched by Parent Org and is has been turned back over to HACD for ongoing administration. Questions, comments, etc., should all be sent to the front office. Our first **Box Top** submission for the October 31st deadline was **\$136.90**. Our first **Rosh Hodesh Hallel** special treat of the year was donated by the **Asal** family. Coming soon... Our school directory!

HANUKAH DINNER: MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Sunday, December 13, 2009 - Our annual social event for our Members is really shaping up nicely! We have a Klezmer band for singing and dancing, a magic show and of course a Caterer with warm yummy latkes, suganyot and more. We have lots of moms working on the Committee – Now we really need a few strong **DADs** to help with set-up and a few more for take down of the tables and chairs (4-6 would be great!). HACD.ParentOrg@nycap.rr.com.

BOX TOPS: This is a very rare and special program that actually provides **CASH** for our school. Not supplies – actual cash. We can earn up to \$20,000 from the basic program and up to \$60,000 if we utilize all three components of the program. That would be like sending three kids to HACD for free or 12 at half tuition. **WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY!** We need a new coordinator with lots of enthusiasm for this great program. This is a bit more involved and can be lots of fun – especially if you have young kids at home. Email Deborah Gold to learn more HACD.ParentOrg@nycap.rr.com.

Box Tops for Education: Great News!!! Only two months into the school year and our October submission is **\$136.90!** Special thanks to our super-duper champ collectors ZAHAVAH SHERIDAN, 6th grade with a whopping 392 box tops! Kira Gold, 4th grade collected 116 and Levi Kovach, 5th grade submitted 108. *Zahavah will have to share some of her collecting secrets with us – watch our newsletter to learn more!*

PARENTS: Please register online and support HACD at <http://www.boxtops4education.com>. We still have lots more Members who can join our booster club and help us earn some **FREE MONEY** for HACD! That's right, every time someone **NEW** joins the booster club on line at <http://www.boxtops4education.com> we earn **MONEY!** Check it out and join now! **Collection tips** to get you started:

- The Box Top coupon **MUST BE INTACT** and **INCLUDE** the **EXPIRATION** date to be valid
- Box Top coupon must not have expired – check the dates!
- Please do not submit Betty Crocker points or Campbell Soup Labels on the Box Top form.
- Box Tops should be trimmed and glued in sheets of 10 or 25.

(collection sheets available on line or email HACD.ParentOrg@nycap.rr.com to have some emailed to you in ez 2 print PDF form)

HEY! It's that time of year again – you know – when **Price Chopper** helps HACD. Help us keep the #1 slot for HACD by buying your groceries at Price Chopper and **always** use your **AdvantEdge** Card!

PRICE CHOPPER “TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS” August 2, 2009 through February 13, 2010! HACD had 283 members enrolled last year – are you registered? Register online now at: <http://www2.pricechopper.com/toolsforschools/single.shtml> just enter your Price Chopper AdvantEdge card number, and our school code of **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. Stacy Cohen. 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

2nd Annual

Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy
Family and Alumni
Adult Comedy Night

Thanksgiving Weekend
at HACD

Saturday, November 28th 8:00_{pm}

Featuring the Humor of
Joel Chasnoff

The Jewish Comedian Who's Redefining Jewish Comedy

Bring your fellow Alumni, family, and friends for a night of
unforgettable fun and laughs!

Social Hour with dairy Hors D'oeuvres before show,
Dessert reception following

Limited seating- please reserve your tickets now-

Current & former HACD teachers are free!

Mail reservations & check to: HACD
54 Sand Creek Road Albany NY 12205

for Credit Card call:
518.482.0464

Advance Tickets:
\$20/ea, \$36/2

At the Door:
\$25 each



www.joelchasnoff.com



8th GRADE FUNDRAISER

This Fall, the 8th Grade will be offering yard work assistance
in order to raise money for their Israel Trip.

If interested, please contact Ilana Kovach at jilanak@msn.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 7

Teen Café. Saturday, November 7th from 7-10 pm at The Israel Center. Organized by and for Jewish Teens. A place for Jewish teens to hang out together on Saturday nights. Munchies, games, lots of space, movies and great company. **More information: www.JERNY.org**

November 15

The Coalition for Tomorrow Presents :
JFed Mitzvah Day—Connecting Through Social Action. November 15th from 1-5 PM at the United Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York. Questions, call Leah at Federation 783-7800 ext. 222/email:lgolby@jewishfedny.org Register online at www.jewishfedny.org.

November 28

SAVE THE DATE — 2nd Annual Alumni Adult Comedy Night. Saturday, November 28th at 8:00 PM at the Hebrew Academy. Featuring the Humor of Joel Chasnoff, The Jewish Comedian Who's Redefining Jewish Comedy. Tickets at the Door \$25.00 EA. Advanced Tickets, \$20.00 EA or \$36.00/2. Mail reservations and check to: HACD or for credit card payment call 482-0464.

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

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ROOTED IN TRADITION

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