



CALENDAR

Monday, October 4

Tuesday, October 5

Kindergarten Field Trip

Wednesday, October 6

3:15pm Band Practice Begins

Gr.5&6 Field Trip to Camp

Olam

4:15pm Cross Country Meet

@ Menands

Thursday, October 7

Friday, October 8

1:40pm School Wide Oneg

Candle Lighting times for September/October 2010

Friday, Oct. 1st - Light 6:21pm

Friday, Oct. 8th - Light 6:08pm

Friday, Oct. 15th - Light 5:56pm

Friday, Oct. 22nd - Light 5:45pm

Saturday, Oct. 2nd - End 7:18pm

Saturday, Oct. 9th - End 7:06pm

Saturday, Oct. 16th - End 6:55pm

Saturday, Oct. 23rd - End 6:44pm

DVAR TORAH BY RACHEL ANISFELD

On Simchat Torah we read the last parsha of the Torah, Vezot Habrachah. The very last verse of that last parsha speaks of the great and mighty deeds Moshe did before the eyes of all of Israel. Rashi's comment, his last on the Torah: This refers to Moshe's breaking of the tablets in front of Israel at Sinai.

What a strange way for Rashi to end the Torah, with a reminder of the broken tablets of the Torah, with a reminder of the brokenness of Torah.

Rashi points us to the broken way in which the Torah itself ends. Moshe is left outside of the land of Israel, peering in to the Promised Land but not allowed to step foot in it. He dies and the people mourn him. Yehoshua takes over, the Torah tells us, and we know that Yehoshua does eventually take the people into the land of Israel, but we, the readers, like Moshe, are left outside, with a sense of incompleteness and fragmentation, a vague worry that, now that Moshe has died, the Torah's brokenness will never be repaired.

Here is where our work begins. Moshe did not do the whole job. Vezot Habrachah also includes the famous line, *Torah Tzivah Lanu Moshe, Morashah Kehillat Ya'akov*. "Moshe commanded us the Torah, the inheritance of the congregation of Ya'akov." There is a progression here; Moshe is the one who first brought the Torah down for us, but even after he dies, it continues to be an inheritance for the whole congregation, now belonging to all of us.

We continue his work. Moshe left the Torah incomplete, and it is our job to make it whole again, to keep it alive and regenerating in every generation.

And so, on Simchat Torah, we do not leave the Torah hanging, broken and discontinuous at Vezot Habrachah, but begin again with Breishit, making it clear that the Torah is not a linear book, but a circular one, whose ending and beginning roll smoothly into one another. And, in celebration of the circle which is our Torah, we dance *hakafot* -- circles around the Torah. These are circles of continuity and regeneration, a promise to ourselves that the Torah will never end.

We do not make those circles alone. One person cannot a circle make. After Moshe, the Torah is the possession of *kehillat Ya'akov*, the whole congregation, and can only be carried on and repaired through the joining of hands and minds.

Rashi says that God congratulated Moshe on the breaking of the tablets. Why? Normally we think of God's approval for this action as confirming its appropriateness as a reaction to the people's sin. Perhaps, though, God was congratulating Moshe for something else, for giving the people a fragmented, incomplete Torah because it required the people's continued participation and interpretation. Here was a Torah that would require many minds and hearts, for generations to come, to make sense of, in the process creating circles of community and continuity. Perhaps, this, according to Rashi, was Moshe's greatest act of all.

Recruitment efforts for 2011 incoming students are in full swing.

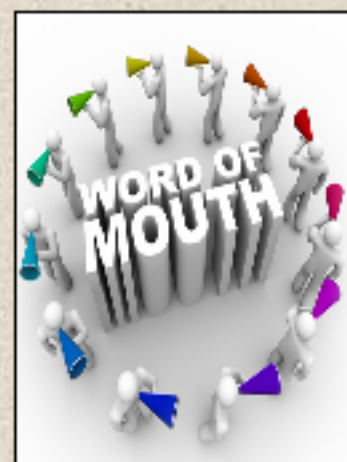
Here's how you can help:

Spread the good word!

Talk about positive aspects of Bet Shraga:

1. Warm & welcoming community
2. Outstanding integrative curriculum in General & Judaic studies
3. Nurturing Jewish environment
4. Strong math & science at all levels
5. Older children care for the younger children
6. Trust among school community members
7. Students develop self confidence – character building
8. Inclusive environment
9. Lifelong friendships – strong lasting bonds between classmates
10. Inter-generational programs with the school & greater community
11. Find our promotional video on YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TwqyIJzIt8>



Invite families to attend our Open House
for next year's Kindergarten and First Grade

Monday, October 11, 2010

9:00-11:00am

Special 2 hour program for parents and children



Students in Grades K-6 are invited to
Bring a Jewish Friend to School

On Monday, October 11, 2010



Invite families with young children to "Meet a Beekeeper"

Tuesday, October 19, 2010 - 1:15pm



Beekeeper :
Nissa Armstrong



**Bring a Jewish Friend to School
October 11, 2010
Registration**

Name of Guest: _____

Name of Host Student: _____

Guest's Information: Visiting in Grade: _____

Current Grade: _____ Birthdate: _____ Current School: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Cell: _____ Parent/Guardian 2: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Medical Information and Release

Does the guest student have any serious allergies or require any medication during the day? _____

Please specify _____

*** If medication needs to be dispensed, please call the school by October 7.**

As a Parent/Guardian of _____, I give permission to staff members at Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy to obtain medical care for my child in the event of an emergency. Every effort will be made to contact me at the above numbers.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Would you like a tour of the school when you drop off your child? _____

***All guests must register by Thursday, October 7, 2010**

**Thank you for completing this form!!
Please return to Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy**

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ROOTED IN TRADITION

54 Sand Creek Road Albany, New York 12205
518-482-0464 phone 518-482-0129 fax
www.hacdalbany.com hacd@hacdalbany.com

NEWS FROM PARENT ORGANIZATION

PLEASE COME TO OUR FIRST MEETING OF THE SCHOOL TERM. HELP WITH THE STRUCTURING OF YOUR PARENT ORG. EXECUTIVE BOARD AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVES. SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS FOR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS. JOIN US IN CHOOSING WHICH PROGRAMS AND EVENTS TO IMPLEMENT THIS YEAR. TOGETHER, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE WONDERFUL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO KEEPING BET SHRAGA THE WONDERFUL SCHOOL WE ARE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 6TH, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND, PLEASE EMAIL US ANY THOUGHTS AND IDEAS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US. LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FILLING ANY OF THE OPEN POSITIONS OR, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER IN AN UPCOMING PROGRAM AND/OR ACTIVITY. FINALLY, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE PARENT ORG UPDATES DIRECTLY FROM US, PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL AGREEING TO RECEIVE EMAIL FROM US. ALL EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO PARENT ORG. UPDATES AND WILL BE SENT AS A BCC. YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WILL NOT BE VISIBLE TO OTHERS, NOR WILL IT BE SHARED WITH ANYONE OR ANY ORGANIZATION. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THESE UPDATES, PLEASE SEND US A SEPARATE EMAIL CONTAINING THE SUBJECT WORDS "ADD ME TO THE PARENT ORG. EMAIL UPDATE LIST".

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF PARENT ORG.



HACD LIONS SOFTBALL TEAM - The 2010 Tournament of the Temples Softball Champions!



Front Row(kneeling) - Artie Brenner, Pete Benson(Capt). (Standing) - Jessica Benson, Jen Honen, Sherry Ashery(Asst. Capt), Mark Israel, Rich Bernhardt. Back Row - Josh Kaplan, Ryan Miller, Mark Doling, Andrew Zampariollo, & Rich Drucker. Not pictured but on team - Dave Fenichel, Adir Saati, Ira Zakon, Mike Kaplan, Misha Brenner & Jerry Goldstein.

Jewish Scouts Plan October 3 Event

HACD Cub Scout Pack 18 will be hosting a kick-off to the 2010-2011 year on Sunday, October 3, at Temple Israel, 600 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Parents and youth alike are invited to a Kosher barbecue to learn about Pack 18. Pack 18 offers fun to boys in grades 1 to 5. There will be planned activities for boys and an opportunity for parents to hear about the activities of the Pack, as well as to answer questions. All parents and boys interested in joining a Jewish Pack are welcome to attend; all affiliations are welcome. Pack 18 is chartered through the Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy of the Capital District (HACD).

Scouting is learning by discovery and discovery by doing. It's fun, friends, and family where skills are learned, confidence is built and stories are born. A Scout who knows the buddy system learns to trust and be trusted. A Scout who hikes and camps learns to appreciate the outdoors and to take care of it. And a Scout who is part of a den, and a pack or troop has a genuine sense of belonging.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Nicole Weinstein, Cubmaster, Pack 18, 459-2461, Adam Selsley, Pack Committee Chair, 368-8713 or hacd-pack18@hotmail.com.

Etrogim Donations to Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class is learning about Etrogim.

If anyone has Etrogim they are finished with, the Kindergarten class would appreciate your donation
Thank you!



The Israel Center Café

Chaim Schaffer

Appeared in numerous theatrical production over the past 40 years



Theatrical reading of Jewish short stories

Gourmet vegetarian buffet

Warm, café-style setting

\$10 suggested donation

October 9, 2010

8:30-11:30pm

The Israel Center

199 New Scotland Ave., Albany NY

TheIsraelCenter.org

Please enter through the rear parking lot entrance.
Handicap accessible.



The
Israel Center

Nurturing Positive Connections with Israel
www.JERNY.org

www.theIsraelCenter.org

Supported by
Jewish Federation
of Northeastern New York



199 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY 12208 (518)459-0065 jernymail@jerny.org

Log on to TheIsraelCenter.org for more exciting Israel events!

Community Event Calendar

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



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