



בינינו

Benainu "Between Us"

Our #1 fundraiser is happening next week and we hope to see you there. If you can't attend, please make a donation and support the Annual Fund.

7th Annual Tribute – Sunday, March 29th



There's No Place Like Home... Our Home

Newsletter Date: March 20, 2009
Volume 6, Issue 22

Vayakhel-Pekudei
Candle Lighting: 6:53pm
Shabbat Ends: 8:03pm

NEWSFLASH:

Dr. Brown Announces New Judaic Studies Department Chair: Dr. Steven M. Brown, Head of School, welcomes **Rabbi Judd Levingston, PhD** to Barrack Hebrew Academy as the **chair of our school's Jewish Studies/TaNakh Department, starting this fall**. Dr. Levingston is a graduate of Harvard University with an A.B. Magna Cum Laude in history and science. He earned a PhD in Jewish Education from JTS, where he was ordained a rabbi. A published author and distinguished educator and administrator, he served as principal of the Solomon Schechter High School of New York, was Head of the Upper School of Chestnut Hill Academy, has been an instructor in Rabbinics at the Saligman Middle School for the last several years, and is an adjunct professor at Temple University in the Department of Religion. **"Dr. Levingston is known to many in our community as a wonderful scholar and teacher, and we look forward to his leadership and the contributions he will make to our faculty, students and community,"** shares **Dr. Brown** in the letter that was emailed to our school community. The letter is posted on the "News" page of our website.

Don't miss a special evening! It's not too late to make your reservations for our Tribute dinner set for next Sunday, March 29. This special evening will honor **Beryl D. Simonson** and support Barrack Hebrew Academy's vital Annual Fund. Call Randi Butow, 610-922-2324, or click on the **ruby slippers** that appear on our school's home page: www.jbha.org. We look forward to seeing you, and thank you for your support.

In Anticipation of Passover: Barrack Hebrew Academy will be closed for Passover from Monday April 6 through Friday, April 17. We would like to be among the first to wish you and your family a happy, healthy, sweet Passover.

Bagels and Learning News: Since our community will be busily preparing for Passover, Bagels and Learning **will not** take place on **April 3**. Sessions will begin again in May.

CONDOLENCES

With sadness, we inform you of the passing of **Gil Arem**, father of **Lawrence Arem (Marcia)** and grandfather of **Hannah '02** and **Jacob '07**. The funeral and shiva were held in Florida.

With sadness, we inform you of the passing of **Bernard Gollomp**, father of **Steven Gollomp (Randie)** and grandfather of **Kandace '00**, **Neal '03**, and **Elyse '08**. The funeral was held in New York and Shiva observed at the Gollomp home.

Heartfelt condolences to the Borgmann-Winter family on the death of **Egon Borgmann**, father of **Karin (John)**. John is a member of our science department.

שמחות

MAZEL TOV:

Double Blessings: **Joe Dougherty** of our science department welcomed two more grandchildren this week. His son, **Tim** and wife **MaryEllen** welcomed a little boy, **Matthew Joseph**. His son **John** and wife **Carla** welcomed a little girl, **Sienna**. Everyone is twice as happy!

Hats off to our Class of 2009 Graduation Speakers: Class of 2009 President, **Rachel Schwartz**, is pleased to announce the speakers for this year's graduation ceremony: **Daniel Weinblatt**, opening remarks; **David Carel**, address in Hebrew; **Joey Chriqui**, address in English; and **Ross Elkin**, closing remarks. Faculty member **Thomas McLaughlin** is the keynote speaker. Congratulations to all.

Congratulations to our new Student Association officers: **Adam Wachs**, president; **Harrison Grass**, vice-president; **Jackie Retig**, secretary, and **Emily Simkin**, treasurer.

Mazel tov to the new chief editors of M'et L'et: **Miriam Rock**, editor-in-chief; **Rebecca Saionz**, chief layout editor; **Ariana Berlin**, secretary and editorial staff coordinator; and **Jordyn Horowitz**, central spread editor.

Congratulations to sophomores **Nicole Henzel** and **Shoshana Reich** for organizing *Strut Your Support*, an evening of fashion, food and fun, held this week at JBHA to **benefit the Tikva Children's Home in the Ukraine**. Kudos, as well, to all our beautiful and handsome student models, student committee members and community sponsors who helped make this event such a wonderful and WOW evening. A special thank you is also extended to **Sarah Waxman**, event advisor, and to our community whose generosity raised **over \$5,000 to provide homeless and abused Jewish children with hope, a safe home and a bright future**. Caterers **Max and David's** donated their services.

Mazel tov to faculty member Galit Crammer Bar-Tuv who won an award for being an excellent schlichah.

בוגרים

ALUMNI NEWS:

Condolences to I. Michael Heine '59 on the loss of his mother **Marion Z. Heine**.

Congratulations to Karen Pendrak '07 on her marriage to **Yitzchak Kraftmann**. They are both attending school in Philadelphia.

Mazel tov to Rebecca Shapiro Steinberg '94 and husband **Jonathan** on the **birth of Madelyn**. Grandfather, past president and Board member **Steven Shapiro** and grandmother **Judy** are delighted to welcome the newest member of their family, as are uncle and aunt **Josh** and **Lori Ferrara Shapiro, Class of '91**, and their children.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Stone '01 on her engagement to **Zachary Jacobs**. Elizabeth is a MD/PhD student at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. Zachary is an attorney in New York.

Mazel tov to Adi Cohen Weinsaft '95 and her husband **Jonathan** on the birth of a son, brother to **Ariel** and **Eliana**. Congratulations also to Barrack faculty member and Omah **Rony Cohen** and grandfather **Shalom Cohen**.

מה עוד חדש

SPORTS

Great Start of Baseball Season: Our boys' varsity baseball team, led by **Coach Kleger**, started off their defense of the Penn Jersey Championship season with a scrimmage victory over Lambertson High School, **10-2**. Led by sophomores **Josh Ackerman** (3 singles and 3 RBIs) and **Daniel Raikin** (2-2 with a single and a triple and 2 RBIs,) the team played flawless defense and had excellent pitching by different players. Also contributing to the victory were junior co-captain **Daniel Becker** and freshman **Noah Cohen**. Next week the team has games against Mercy, Masterman and Valley Forge Academy.

MORE NEWS:

Oh, What a Cabaret! Bravo, kudos, hurrah to all the "Broadway babies" who participated in Sunday evening's glittering Cabaret. You all did shine! Our talented student and alumni performers were superb and delighted an enthusiastic audience. Special thank yous are extended to **Dewey Oreinte-Cassidy**, drama director who performed in the show; **Tony Cassidy**, who wrote, directed, and performed in the show; and pianist **Jim Wade**; as well as the evening's producers, **Debbi** and **Michael Bass**. Thank you all for a truly enchanting evening.

Thank you to our Israel Club members for hosting the **Koby Mandell Foundation** that presented the San Diego Repertory Theatre's production of *The Blessing of A Broken Heart* at a special assembly for the entire school. Barrack Hebrew Academy was the only school in the area where students had the opportunity to see the entire production, part of the theater's national tour. The play is based on **Sherri Mandell's** book of the same title and follows her journey after her son, Koby, was killed by terrorists in Israel. **Rabbi Seth Mandell** spoke to the assembly after the play. He and his wife have transformed their grief into helping others by creating a foundation in their son's name. Students met with Rabbi Mandell and the actress in the one-woman show after the assembly. A special thank you is extended to **Eli Philip '10**, New Israel Club president who introduced the production and to **Oded Philip**, club advisor.

Good Government Seminar: Barrack's American Government and Economics Class participated in **State Senator Daylin Leach's Good Government** seminar at Cabrini College. JBHA was invited to attend along with students from Shipley, the Haverford School, and Radnor High School, among other schools in the 17th senatorial district. Our students participated in seminars focusing on environmental policy, educational policy and physician-assisted suicide. Following the seminars, they participated in a model senate. "I am pleased to report that our students represented JBHA with great distinction," shares faculty member **Minna Ziskind**. **Aaron Bloch** and **Joey Levinthal** served as spokespeople for the group that included: **Jake**

Beadenkopf, Sasha Borowsky, Daniel Gavrillov, Lisa Boxbaum, Mollie Goldstein, Leah Kelsen, Alex Lieb, and Zachary Sklarsky.

Moot Beit Dinn Competition: **Leon Davis** and **Daniel Raikin**, two sophomores, will represent Barrack Hebrew Academy at this year's Moot Beit Dinn competition that will be **held in Denver, Colorado on Sunday, April 26**. Community Jewish day schools from throughout the United States and Canada will be participating in this Jewish version of "**You Be the Judge**." This year's case concerns the issue of whether a person can be compelled to donate bone marrow to a dying patient, where the would-be donor faces an appreciable risk of losing his or her own life in the process. Leon and Daniel have written a judicial decision in this case that advisor **Elisha Stein** would be pleased to share with anyone who is interested in reading the decision: estein@jbha.org. The boys and their advisor will leave for Denver on April 23 and return after the competition on Sunday.

Art Majors Trip: Barrack art majors visited the Philadelphia Museum of Art this week to experience the **Cezanne and Beyond** exhibit. The exhibit traces Cezanne's influence on many other past and contemporary artists. Our art majors are currently working on their own work influenced by Cezanne. The results of their efforts will be exhibited in a show sponsored by Advanta, a corporate sponsor of the PMA exhibit, reports **Laura Lyn Stern**, art teacher.

Middle School Chesed Trip Update: Our entire Middle School engaged in community service this week, reading to nursery school students, cleaning up the environment, and packing food for the needy. In the afternoon, they enjoyed a pizza party and roller skating, bonding with classmates. **Christine Farrell**, Middle School teacher and Chesed advisor, extends a special thank you to trip chaperones: **Kim Gillio, Judy Pransky, Lee Scarborough-Kirk, Wendy Shenberg, Suzanne Nahamo, Barbara Linietsky, Ricki Markovitz** and **Yael Sandler**.

Blood Drive: **The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at Barrack Hebrew Academy on Monday, March 23, 8:30am to 2:30pm.** The blood drive will be held in our gymnasium. Those volunteering to donate blood should bring a valid ID that verifies your date of birth. Driver's licenses and passports are suggested. Additionally, all donors are highly encouraged to stay away from caffeine 48 hours in advance of donating blood and to stay well-hydrated. If you have any questions, contact **Henry Steinberg '09**, student coordinator: henry.steinberg@jbha.org.

Proud to Sponsor Israeli Film Festival and Host Screening: JBHA was delighted to welcome a capacity crowd to the Israeli Film Festival screening of "The Beetle". Everyone enjoyed the film and the delicious dessert reception that followed.

"GREEN" Water Bottles: The Environmental Action Club is selling environmentally-friendly water bottles for \$8.00 each. Wet your whistle and benefit the environment at the same time. **Order forms** are available on the Benainu home page.

Human Rights Club T-Shirts & Fair Trade Chocolate: Our **Human Rights Club** is selling really cool t-shirts **for just \$13** to benefit the **Invisible Children, former soldiers in Uganda**. The Fair Trade Chocolate sale will help defeat abusive labor practices, especially those endured by over 284,000 children who toil in West Africa's cocoa fields. The t-shirt order form is available on the Benainu home page. Additional forms are also available at Mrs. Rubin's desk.

Help Create a Library in Africa: **Our Chesed Club is teaming up** with **Anne Prusky '14** who is collecting books to create a library in Africa as part of her Bat Mitzvah project. Please place donated books, including picture books, early readers, text books, K-9 novels, children's dictionaries etc, in the basket located under the TV in the main foyer across from Mrs. Rubin's desk. This is an easy way to help repair the world and encourage children's literacy in Africa.

Host Families Needed: In honor of Yom Ha'atzma'ut and Tel Aviv's 100th birthday, Barrack Hebrew Academy will host the Towers of Tel Aviv Choir, April 21- April 30. **Host families are needed to host the teens (9th-12th graders) and 3 to 4 chaperones.** Host families will be asked to provide home hospitality for 1 to 3 teens, room and board; transportation to and from school; and occasional lunches for day trips. Shabbat and/or Kosher observance are not a requirement, for most choir members are not observant. Interested host families should contact Dr. Sigal Strauss as soon as possible: sstrauss@jbha.org Thank you!

More Tuition Assistance and Merit Scholarship Funds: Pass the Word! Due to the generosity of Barrack benefactors, we have expanded our already existing tuition assistance and merit scholarship programs to help families of all economic backgrounds provide their children with a stellar Barrack education. We are currently providing funds to families with incomes ranging from \$20,000 to over \$200,000, depending on individual circumstances. Every new student who enters our school in September 2009 will receive a \$3,600 merit grant toward tuition. Our **Rabbis' Scholarship merit tuition grant** for new students has been **increased to \$5,000 for the first year and \$3,600 thereafter** for scholars in good standing. We also have increased tuition aid for existing families. Tell your family and friends about this exciting news. To schedule a visit and explore new opportunities, contact **Vivian Young**, today at vyoung@jbha.org or 610-922-2350.

SA Magnet Sale: SA is selling Cougar Paw magnets. **Cost: \$3 for one; \$5 for two.** Please make checks payable to JBHA Student Association. Any questions, email **David Barnett:** david.barnett@jbha.org

6th Grade Trip: Our sixth graders will visit the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology to tour the Greek and Roman exhibits on Thursday, **April 2.**

Tribute Cards available online: You can support Barrack through tribute cards. If you would like us to send a tribute card to someone and make a donation to our school, we can do that! Send a note of congratulations for a *Bar Mitzvah*, *Bat Mitzvah*, engagement, wedding, new home, new baby, thank you or a card in honor of someone that has done something noteworthy or a card in memory of someone. This can be done through *Online Giving*. Just logon to our website www.jbha.org click *Support Barrack* click *Online Giving*. Enter the information and let us know who you would like to send the card to and the reason in the Special Instructions at the bottom. (mimimum donation of \$10).

Or

Tributes cards are also available in **prepackaged packs** that are blank on the inside for you to send a personal note. These can also be purchased through *Online Giving* under the Special Instructions. **5 for \$36 or 12 for \$72**

Library Volunteers Needed: Parents, grandparents or grandfriends are needed to help perform light clerical duties in our beautiful new library. Please contact head librarian **Wendie Gabay** if you are interested in volunteering: wgabay@jbha.org Thank you!

Egalitarian Minyan: If you are interested in learning more about Barrack's egalitarian minyan, please contact **Sarah Waxman:** swaxman@jbha.org.

Best Cake Challah Sale: Senior fundraising continues with the sale of freshly baked challot from Best Cake Kosher Bakery. Great for Shabbat dinner, holidays, and everyday snacking. **Order forms** are available on the Benainu home page and can be submitted to **Mrs. Rubin** at the front desk. Thank you!

HSA Reminder: HSA sells kippot and benchers for special events. Please contact **Susan Rosen** at 610-405-5360.

השבוע הבא

LOOKING AHEAD:

March 23: JBHA Blood Drive

March 26: Winter Sports Banquet, 3:30 in Dining Commons

March 29: Barrack Annual Tribute Event

March 31: Last day of school for seniors; Community Service projects begin

April 2: 6th Grade Trip to Museum of Archeology and Anthropology

April 6-17: Passover Break. School resumes on April 20.

April 30: Middle School Open House

May 5: Open House

May 17-20: Upper School Musical: *Beauty and The Beast*

May 25: School Closed/Memorial Day

May 28: 7th Grade Schuylkill Center for Environmental Ed. Trip

May 29: School closed/Shavuot

June 1-3: Senior Class Trip

June 4: Class of 2009 Graduation Ceremonies

June 10: JBHA Annual Meeting

**If you have news directly related to the Barrack Hebrew Academy family,
please email it to Beverly Rosen at brosen@jbha.org.**