



# THE UHI BULLETIN

The Weekly Newsletter of United Hebrew Institute, Kingston, PA

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



*Dear Parents,*

Many Americans, and certainly most Jews, have been painfully aware of the attack in India last weekend. While it was certainly newsworthy to all, Jews have an inherent bond and instinctive reaction when a Jew is harmed anywhere in the world. So while the general press has allowed this latest act of savagery to recede into history, for Jews this story is very much alive and current.

I am sure that most of our students in the elementary grades, and certainly in the middle school have followed this story in the media. However, I felt it was important to discuss the incident with the middle school students. Before discussing such topics with students, I weigh the following factors to determine which events should be discussed in class.

The most important element to consider is whether the students in a given class can absorb and fathom the magnitude of the event. For example, when discussing the Holocaust, the number of victims, six million, is incomprehensible to many students. Thus repeating the number of victims is counter-productive because then the students are conditioned to repeat the number and not associate it with the severe impact it should engender.

I also considered whether discussing a tragedy would strengthen or weaken them psychologically, emotionally, or spiritually. Will it leave questions unanswered (Indeed, most questions of this sort are unanswerable.) and cause the listeners to remain in an unhealthy state of doubt and confusion, or will it edify them to face future challenges as they grow and mature?

Finally, I place greater emphasis on a discussion that has great relevance to the students, especially if there is something that the students can do to remedy or at least mitigate the situation. For example, when there is a dangerous situation, we have the students say extra prayers or psalms. Another example is to have students write letters to soldiers stationed in Iraq that sensitizes the students not only to the

(Continued on page 3)

## A NOTE FROM TALY

The UHI Hanukkah/Holiday Boutique will take place this Sunday, December 7, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and all parents, friends and the UHI Community are invited to participate in the festivities. A wide variety of gift items from national and local vendors will be available in addition to gift wrapping while you wait. You will be able to shop while the children are kept busy at a free craft table. Lunch will also be available. We look forward to your participating in this very festive event and feel free to bring along friends and family.

The first session of the UHI Lunch Program began on December 2 and was a huge success. The children really enjoyed the first school lunches of the year. There was a lot of excitement in the air as their appetites were satisfied. I would like to give a special thank you to Ziviv Bruce, Tali Drak, Cathy Roth and Lydia Lerner who helped clean the kitchen along with preparing and serving the food. Your efforts are greatly appreciated, not just by me but by all the children. Volunteers for the lunch program are always welcome and there is a free lunch incentive for the children of the volunteers. If you haven't already done so, please remember to send in your lunch slips. Also, please note that fresh salad and fruit have been added to our lunch program by a friend of the school.

It is so very important that we all support the efforts of our Parent Teachers Association as the success of our programs and events directly benefits UHI and ultimately our children. Feel free to give me a call at 574-5525 or leave a message at UHI if you are interested in volunteering for either the Holiday Boutique or Lunch Program.

**Thank You!**

**Taly Kornfeld, PTA President**



## CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

- ◆ December 7, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., PTA Holiday Boutique at UHI, see details on reverse side
- ◆ December 12 - Hearing test will be given to all UHI students.
- ◆ December 17 - First Grade Siddur Presentation
- ◆ December 22 - Preschool Chanukah Program
- ◆ December 24 to January 2, Winter Break, School Closed

Mazel tov to:

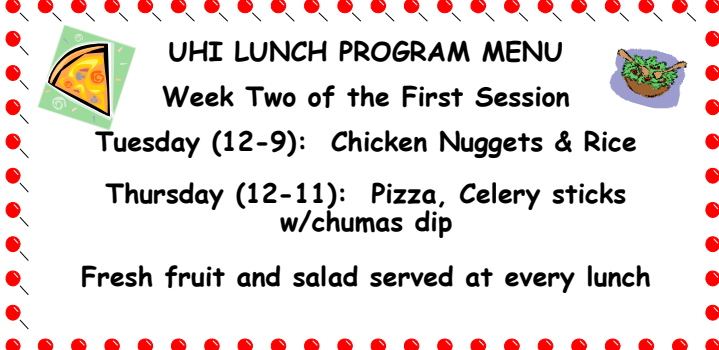
*Rabbi David & Rebecca Brownstein on the birth of a son  
Mr. & Mrs. H. Karten on the Bar Mitzvah of Marshall  
Mrs. B. Karten on the Bar Mitzvah of grandson, Marshall  
Art & Nancy Shuman on the marriage of daughter, Lynn  
Larry & Millie Kahn on the engagement of their granddaughter  
Elkin Kaplan on his 75th Birthday*

Get Well to:

*William Finkelstein  
Morris Vilensky  
David Maier  
Jean Hollock*

Condolences to:

*Rick Furman in memory of Mother  
Rhondi Nachlis on the death of her Mother  
Mrs. Joel Shaiman on the death of her Father  
The Hyman Family on the death of Sophie  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Toof in memory of Blanch Shore  
Jan Picker on the death of her Mother*



**UHI LUNCH PROGRAM MENU**  
 Week Two of the First Session  
**Tuesday (12-9): Chicken Nuggets & Rice**  
**Thursday (12-11): Pizza, Celery sticks w/chumas dip**  
**Fresh fruit and salad served at every lunch**

**PTA NEWS**

- ◆ The PTA will sponsor a special luncheon for all students on Monday, December 22, to celebrate Chanuka. Please do not send a lunch with your child that day.
- ◆ You will soon receive a form requesting your participation in the Teacher/Staff Gift collection. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Engel.

If anyone has a copy of the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 PTA Parent Handbook, please contact UHI at 287-9600 or bring the copies to the school at your earliest convenience.  
*Thank You! Sandy Himelstein*

**UHI PTA Holiday Boutique**

**Sunday, December 7th, 11am to 4pm**

1 Institute Lane, Kingston, PA

"One Stop Holiday Shopping"  
 Everyone is Welcome!



Glass for Thought  
 JCC Just Judalca  
 JCC Knitting Bee  
 Kar-Ben Books  
 Sugar Plum Chocolate  
 Blue J (Kids Fashion Accessories)  
 Lia Sophia Jewelry  
 Wire and Whimsy Decorative Dishes  
 Discovery Toys  
 Modern Vintage  
 Puppy Wear by Kathy Roth  
 Judy Smith (Purses and More)  
 Mia Bella / Candles  
 Beauty Control Skin Care  
 Janice Zarad USA Style  
 Linda Petro Jewelry  
 ..... and more!

**\$2 per Person**

**\$5 per Family**

**Theme Basket Drawings**

(Ticket included in Price of Admission)

**Hot Dogs, Potato Pancakes and Desserts**

**Unique Face Painting**

**Free Children's Craft Table**

**All Proceeds Benefit UHI Students**

for more information call,  
 United Hebrew Institute  
 phone: 570-287-9600

Thank You to Our Sponsors: Greenwald Berk Agency,  
 Advanced Pain Management Specialists P.C.,  
 Joan & Keith Kleinman & Family and Supporters of UHI

**Operation Warm-Up**

There will be a collection of new and gently used winter gear. This includes but is not limited to hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, coats, blankets and snow boots. Barrels will be placed at Temple Israel, JCC, Temple B'nai B'rith, and UHI for donations. This is a cooperative effort by Congregations Ohav Zedek, Jewish Community Center, Temple Israel, Temple B'nai B'rith, Bais Menachem, Jewish Federation and the United Hebrew Institute.

**JCC COMMUNITY NOTES.**

- ◆ Calling all children 2nd Grade and up. Join the JCC every Wednesday from 4:15 to 5:00 p.m. for the Jewish Community Choir directed by Cantor Ahron Abraham. The choir will perform at the Chanukah Community Celebration, Purim Carnival and other community event. Call the JCC at 824-4646
- ◆ December 14, Chanukah Workshop from 10:30 to 12:30 p.m., hosted by JCC, Temple Israel, Temple B'nai Brith and UHI. For more information call JCC at 824-4646.
- ◆ December 18, Oy Vegas II at Mohegan Sun, call JCC 824-4646
- ◆ December 28 (Sunday), 2008 Summer Day Camp Winter Reunion from 1 - 4 p.m. (slide show at 1:30). Cost \$5/pp, staff free. Call JCC for more information.

*Rabbi Nemetsky article continued . . .*

dangers of a war zone, but also to the isolation of being far from home, removed from everything that is familiar to the soldiers.

The events in Mumbai have shocked all of us. However, our middle school students have the capacity to deal with this tragedy. The message I imparted to the middle school students is that this incident must cause us to act, even if only in a minimal way. Minimal, however, is not the same as symbolic. Symbolic gestures usually accomplish nothing for the victims. Minimal action, though small, has some benefit for the intended recipients. For example, wearing a ribbon or lighting a candle is symbolic. Giving just a single dollar to a fund to support the two-year-old child who was left orphaned is minimal but certainly useful.

I am asking all parents to contribute one dollar to a collection that I will forward to the child's family in Israel that is raising him. I ask you to ask your child to give from his / her money to this same cause. In this way we are all sharing the grief in a constructive manner that will strengthen us a people. May such actions be unnecessary in the future

*Shabbat Shalom,*

*Rabbi Raphael Nemetsky*

*We are collecting \$1.00 donations for the two-year old boy who was orphaned in Mumbai. Please see the Principal's article for further information. Thank You!*

## Hebrew Language Program

**UHI is offering an afternoon Hebrew Language Program led by Ms. Einat Davidowitz.**

**Please see the accompanying flyer.**

**The first two sessions are FREE so you can "try before you buy." The cost is minimal, 12 sessions for \$60.00, and it includes a snack. Call the office to join.**

## LEARN-A-THON

UHI will conduct a "Learn-a-Thon" over the mid-winter break. This will be wonderful for students to continue studying Torah over vacation. Please watch the upcoming bulletins and homework

## 3Y PERFORMS AT THE JCC

*Judaic Teacher: Jenny Rizel*

The seniors at the Jewish Community Center were given a special treat yesterday. The adorable 3Y children performed a selection of holiday songs for them



**Our Precious 3Y Performers (L to R): Chesky Rizel, Ita Leah Brownstein, Chaya Seewald, Juliana Good, Cole Kranson, Simmi Hershkof, Lia Stone, Chloe Levi, and Molly Romanowski**



including their Thanksgiving song as well as one newly learned for Chanukah. Just the sight of these adorable children making their way up to the stage made everyone smile. They did a beautiful job as they sang clearly and loudly. Once they finished their performance they each had an opportunity to go up to the micro-



*Assistant Teacher Lee Levi making sure that Chesky, Simmi and Chloe (and all the children) are safe and happy on their way to the JCC!*

phone and introduce themselves. Needless to say the audience thoroughly enjoyed their performance and so did we.



**Great Job, 3Y !**

*Cheri Greenberg, JCC Kinderlach Coordinator, welcomes our 3Y students to the JCC*

**4Y IS THANKFUL FOR THEIR FAMILIES, WATERMELON, WATER AND PETS**

*Teacher: Angela Ziegler*



*Royce Deutschman*

The 4Y students have been discussing the holiday of Thanksgiving and its importance and the things they are thankful for including their families, watermelon, water and pets (and much more!). We have been very busy creating lots of fun art projects such as our silly, fat turkeys. We

created some of these projects by using our feet and hands.

One of our favorite things to do on a daily basis is to read



*Sarah Griver*



*Sarah Newman*

books. We have listened to many great stories about Thanksgiving and being thankful for all that we have. The children discussed the different kinds of foods that we eat during our Thanksgiving feast. After our in-depth discussion, we created our own book illustrating our favorite foods.



*Joseph Schwartz & Bekah Kornfeld*



*Esther Brownstein*



*Shlomo Kornblatt*

The children learned a beautiful song about being thankful for the trees, stars, our freedom, our friends, etc. and sang it at the Thanksgiving program. Everyone who attended the program enjoyed their performance of this special song.

*Look for more adorable Thanksgiving photos next week!*

**SPEED, AGILITY, AND QUICKNESS (S.A.Q.)**

*PE Teacher: Don Flynn*



*Andrew Sarnevit, Asher Schwaratz, Kyle Deutschman & Micah Kaplan making the catch!*

As the title indicates, S.A.Q. stands for speed, agility and quickness, meaning reaction time. Every sport or activity such as basketball, hockey, and kickball (to name just a few) has S.A.Q. It all ties together, resulting in keen vision and enhanced movement skills. S.A.Q. drills

cover the complete spectrum of skills from basic, low intensity activities to complex, high intensity ones such as skipping and jumping to quickly changing direction and ladder drills. The key is to get the students to know how to move effectively and feel comfortable with those movements. Of course, each



*Chava Kornblatt doing a great job on the line drill!*



*Mitch Pisarz, Ben Engel & Ross Kleinman, great hand/eye coordination!*

year the drills become more challenging. By creating a vision of "I can do that!" the students internalize the goal of raising their own expectation for performance. In class we aim to have fun and show the way to achieving this goal. All grades enjoy themselves and are learning things that they can take and use in any activity. Fifth Grade student Andrew Sarnevit said, "I'm getting

quicker, have better balance and have more agility." Sixth Grader Mitch Pisarz said, "I'm getting quicker for football, have better balance and quick feet." Finally, Seventh Grader Abby Schwartz said, "My hand and eye coordination is better, the ladder drills have help my feet to move more quickly - great for skiing!"



*Oriel Bruce, Samson Tillman, Sara Seewald, & Brook Lieberman running*

As the school year continues, I see the students at all levels becoming more adept. The drills get easier and are more fun. These drills include hopping, skipping, jumping to jumping rope, cone and ladder drills, change of direction drills, ball drills for hand/eye coordination, line drills for quick feet, hurdles, plus many more. All of the drills start with a stretch exercise; and as the student's ability develops, we keep an eye on our methods, approach and change.

The main focus of the S.A.Q. program is to insure that our students are advancing and having fun at the same time. It's a major plus when the students give a commendable effort. Someone once said, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."