



# THE UHI BULLETIN

## The Weekly Newsletter of United Hebrew Institute, Kingston, PA



*Dear Parents,*

The festival of Purim is almost upon us. The students have been learning about the story of Esther and Mordechai, and are excited to dress up for the Megillah reading and make noise when Haman's name is mentioned. This is a reminder to our parents that we will read the

Megillah at school during the day, but there is an equally important requirement to listen to the Megillah on Monday night. Please speak with me as soon as you can if you have any questions about where and when to hear the Megillah in the evening.

There is a theme that weaves its way through the entire holiday of Purim that must be noted in very clear terms. It is mentioned in the story of the Scroll of Esther and reinforced with the laws of Purim that are practiced throughout the day. I am very pleased that UHI is not only implementing the letter of the law, but also its spirit.

It is all too a recurring theme in Jewish History that when we are divided amongst ourselves our enemies have a much greater opportunity to do us harm. This was certainly true in the time of Esther. When Haman sought to influence Achashveirosh to enact an evil decree against the Jews, he stated, "There is one nation that is scattered far and wide..." Our Rabbis tell us that this was meant to convey much more than just geographic location. It also refers to the state of affairs within the Jewish population. There was discord amongst fellow Jews. This may have been on a personal level or on a communal level. Unfortunately most of us are too aware of both types of strife.

As the Jews came together to fast and pray for their salvation, their differences faded and they joined for a common cause; and this was the precursor to the eventual turnabout of events. This theme is reinforced with the mitzvot of Mishloach Manot (gifts of food to a friend or neighbor) and Matanot L'Evyonim (gifts of charity to the poor).

The students will partake of all the Mitzvot in school; however, I call upon all the parents to contribute to **Od Yosef Chai** the amount of money you would spend on a modest meal. I can assure you that the poor in Israel have much less than that with which to celebrate Purim. By contributing to this worthy cause, you are enabling everyone to enjoy Purim and this is at the core of the holiday.

I am also so pleased that **Bais Menachem** and **UHI** are co-hosting the Purim meal. The reservations are coming in at a furious pace and this is going to be a huge success. Clearly this is an example of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts. We hope that not only will everyone (UHI, our community, and the poor in Israel) have a festive holiday, but this to be the forerunner of continued and growing unity in our community and amongst all Jews.

*Shabbat Shalom and Chag Purim Sameach,  
Rabbi Raphael Nemetsky*

### A NOTE FROM TALY

**Reservations for the Purim Seudah dinner at the JCC must be made by Sunday, March 7. Please call either Malka Seewald, Jenny Rizel or myself for reservations or if you have any questions. Thanks to the tireless efforts of so many, this occasion will be enjoyed by all and everyone will know what Bais Menachem and the UHI PTA are all about!**

All the orders for the Shalach Manot baskets have been placed; and again, a special thank you to Barbara Bell for her hard work and dedication to UHI. Also, a thank you to all the moms and dads who volunteered to fill these baskets. We look forward to working with Fran Edley and Jody Stone in wrapping and decorating the Shalach Manot baskets. We need a few more volunteers to help wrap on Saturday night, March 7, 7:30 p.m. at UHI. Volunteers are also needed to help deliver the baskets on Monday and Tuesday. Please call me if you can help.

I would like to remind you that the PTA will not hold the Passover Chocolate Fund Raiser this year. Passover chocolate is available at Price Chopper and the Yeshiva Co-op.

The school lunch program continues to be a success with the children. A special thank you to our Moms and Dads for volunteering their time. Session 3 of the Lunch Program will begin on March 31. Please return all lunch forms as soon as possible.

A special Mazel Tov to Rabbi Nemetsky on the marriage of his son and the upcoming marriage of his daughter!



*Taly Kornfeld, PTA President*

### CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

- ◆ **March 9, 2:15 Dismissal, Fast of Esther**
- ◆ **March 10, 11:00 Dismissal, Purim**
- ◆ **March 13, begin regular Friday Dismissal at 3:45 P.M.**
- ◆ **March 18, Dismissal 11:45, Parent Teacher Conference**

**Mazel tov to:**

Rabbi Nemetsky on the marriage of his son Meir

**Get Well:**

Rena Schoenfeld

**Condolences to:**

Geveret Pernikoff in memory of her sister-in-law Rochel Pernikoff

**\*\*\*\*PASSOVER CANDY\*\*\*\***

The PTA will not hold the Passover Chocolate Fund Raiser this year. It looks forward to conducting this fund raiser next year. The Passover chocolate is available at Price Chopper and the Yeshiva Co-op.

**News**

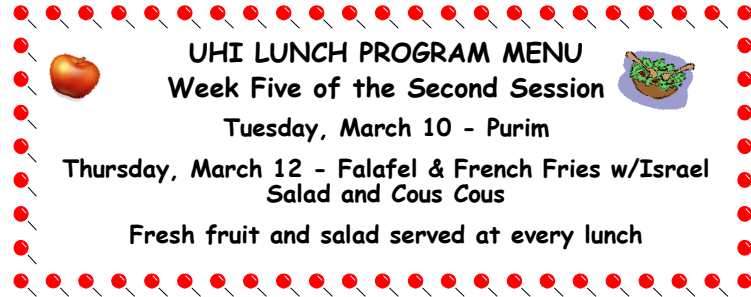
**UHI SCHOOL NEWS**

**News**

- ◆ The Mystery Reader program started this week in the K - First Grade. Parents will be contacted by Mrs. Baylor next week regarding their participation in the very popular Mystery Reader program.
- ◆ A variety of UHI bean bag animal mascots (wearing UHI T-shirts) are available for purchase. They are so cute and only \$4.00.
- ◆ UHI Fantastic Tour and Fabulous Pre-Passover Shopping Trip to NY on Sunday, March 22, starting at UHI onto Monroe, (Tour Kiryas Yoel), then to West Point and ending at with a driving tour, dinner and shopping in Muncy. Adults \$60, Children (16 and under) \$50, checks payable to UHI, reservations by March 10.
- ◆ UHI Junior Achievement Class will conduct a "Go Green Bag" fundraiser beginning next week. Under the leadership of Mitch Kornfeld, the proceeds of this entrepreneurial project will go directly to the students of UHI.



*Mitch Kornfeld, discusses business matters with a few of the UHI Junior Achievement students. L to R: Ashley Kaplan, Abby Schwartz, Mitch Kornfeld, Mitch Pizarz and seated is Andrew Sarnevit. Mr. Kornfeld is the proud Dad of Bekah, Coby and Zachary Kornfeld, all students of UHI.*



**UHI LUNCH PROGRAM MENU**

**Week Five of the Second Session**

**Tuesday, March 10 - Purim**

**Thursday, March 12 - Falafel & French Fries w/Israel Salad and Cous Cous**

**Fresh fruit and salad served at every lunch**



**PTA NEWS**



- ◆ Contact Barbara Bell or Malka Seewald with Parnas HaYom requests.
- ◆ Volunteers needed for Shalach Manot basket wrapping at UHI on Saturday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Also volunteers needed for basket delivery on Monday and Tuesday. Contact Taly Kornfeld
- ◆ Volunteers needed for the Purim Seduah Dinner at the JCC on March 10, contact Malka Seewald, Dror Levi or Taly Kornfeld.

**JCC COMMUNITY NOTES.**

- ◆ Month of March from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Rabbi Roger Lerner, Rabbi Larry Kaplan and Rabbi Nachman Bruce are leading an Introduction to Judaism class. This will be an 18-week class covering all topics such as history, textural Hebrew and more. Cost is \$18 plus cost of books. JCC 824-4646.
- ◆ March - April 1, JCC Institute of Learning will meet on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Center from January 14th thru April 1, contact JCC for topics, speakers and dates, 824-4646.
- ◆ March thru April (Thursdays), Eezy-Peezy Poetry Class at JCC from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., cost is \$25 per student plus cost of book. Instructor is Jim Landon, local poet and photographer. For more information call Barbara Sugarman at 824-4646.
- ◆ March 8, JCC Purim Carnival, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. There will be a costume parade, craft booths, new and fun games for all ages; entertainment will include DJ's, dancing, music, cartoons and more beginning at 12:00. Mitch Kornfeld will MC! Admission: Children 4-6 \$5, younger than 4 are free; adults \$5; family maximum in costume \$25, not in costume \$35; seniors \$3 includes congregational lunch and entertainment. All admissions include Cotton Candy. For more information contact Barbara Sugarman at the JCC 824-4646.

**JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE**

- ◆ JFS taking donations to fill the shelves at Sarah's Table for needy families during the Passover Holiday.
- ◆ JFS would like to buy two children new bicycles through the Samuel Nelson Bicycle Fund. Please call Lisa Morgan at 823-5137 with your request. All requests are confidential.