



THE UHI BULLETIN

The Weekly Newsletter of United Hebrew Institute, Kingston, PA



Dear Parents,

It's hard to imagine that Purim is actually behind us. After weeks of preparation by teachers, students, parents, and communal volunteers, the day has come and gone. (Sort of like a wedding, but I digress.) But is the day really gone? Do not the memories linger on in the minds and hearts of so many who benefited?

One could make the case for much of what we do beyond what is required for basic survival. We eat a delicious meal, but what is really left after the food has been consumed? We visit an exotic location, but really what remains after we return home? The mementos, souvenirs, and keepsakes (In Yiddish we use the word "Tchotchkes" to whimsically describe all of the above.) may be physically present, but the experience and the emotions attached are really intangible.

Yet we crave to create and retain such memories because they form an important part of our personalities. We draw upon the good times we have experienced to sustain us through the mundane components of our lives. We may also reflect upon our experiences to buoy us through life's difficult challenges. Whatever the motivation, it is a natural desire to do that which is unusual as a respite from our routine. The question before parents and teachers is how to plan and craft such events so that they contribute to a child's healthy development.

Purim, which we just passed and Pesach, which will soon be upon us present just such opportunities. If you joined us at the JCC for the Purim festivities, you know to what I am referring. Families sat together to hear the Scroll of Esther (Initial reports seem to indicate that the reading was well done.), watch a slide show of the story, or play bingo. It was followed by a great Purim meal with entertainment provided by the students of Bais Menachem.

What will children remember? Here are a few possibilities that come to my mind. Being Jewish can be very

enjoyable and doing things together as families can be fun. On a more sophisticated level, some of the older students might have appreciated that we are stronger as a community when we combine our efforts. On a spiritual plane, when Jews do a Mitzvah together it increases the glory of G-d.

When I first became a principal my father admonished me to be very careful with the immense responsibility that was placed upon me. He said that children come to school as a clean slate and the school has the job to fill the slate with information. The school has the obligation to choose wisely what will be placed into the knowledge base from which children will progress. I try to keep this mind and apply the same advice to the many wonderful and constructive activities we provide for the children. I am pleased that this week we placed another important and meaningful entry on the children's intellectual, emotional, and religious slate.

UHI STUDENTS WIN AWARDS IN THE PATRIOT'S PEN CONTEST



Congratulations to the winners! First place, Ross Kleinman; second place, Abigail Schwartz; and third place winner, Asher Schwartz. Pictured above are Ross Kleinman, Asher Schwartz, Abigail Schwartz and Social Studies Teacher, Mrs. Barbara Welch. (See article on page 4)

CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

- ◆ March 16, Sign-Up, Parent Teacher-Conference
- ◆ March 18, Dismissal 11:45, Parent-Teacher Conference

Mazel tov to:

Jeff & Kathy Roth for being "Volunteers of the Month" at the JCC
 Brian & Lydia Newirth on the birth of a granddaughter
 Malka Kaufer on the birth of a great-granddaughter

Get Well:

Ed Duncan
 Neil Duncan

Condolences to:

Mr. & Mrs. Ken Greenberg in memory of father

******PASSOVER CANDY******

The PTA will not hold the Passover Chocolate Fund Raiser this year. It will conduct this fund raiser next year.

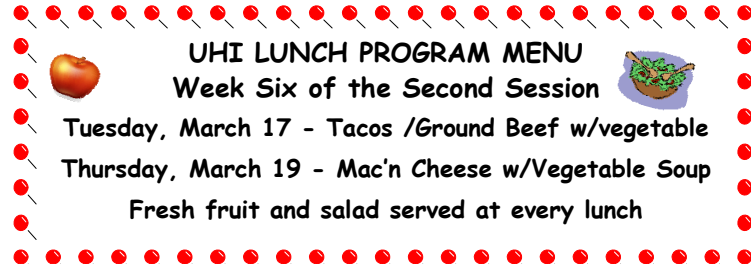
News

UHI SCHOOL NEWS

News

- ◆ The Mystery Reader program started last week in the K - First Grade. Please contact Mrs. Baylor if you would like to be a Mystery Reader. The children really enjoy this 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 received a \$45.00 check from Target's Take Charge of Education Program to be used towards the purchase of school supplies for the students.

◆ **THE HAPPY FACES OF PURIM**



UHI LUNCH PROGRAM MENU

Week Six of the Second Session



Tuesday, March 17 - Tacos /Ground Beef w/vegetable

Thursday, March 19 - Mac'n Cheese w/Vegetable Soup

Fresh fruit and salad served at every lunch

PTA NEWS



◆ Contact Barbara Bell or Malka Seewald with Parnas HaYom requests.



TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS



UHI placed in the top 100 schools in total tape value and has won a Califone Wireless Presentation Pro PA System! Thank You to all who participated!

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE

- ◆ JFS taking donations to fill the shelves at Sarah's Table for needy families during the Passover Holiday.

OHAV ZEDEK

- ◆ Pasta Dinner w/bingo to follow, Sunday, March 29, at 5:00 p.m., adults \$6, \$3 children (5-13) under 5 free. Sponsored by Ohav Zedek Sisterhood, reservations by March 22. Call 288-0081, 283-1176 or 288-7435. Malka Seewald is Dinner Chairperson.

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, textual 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.



A NOTE FROM TALY

VERY SPECIAL PURIM

Wow, what a month this has been! Between the UHI PTA's Shalach Manot baskets and the Purim Seudah co-hosted with Bais Menachem, we were all running in super high gear. But it was well worth it, everything just came together and was wonderful! I feel that our PTA really shined and showed what the UHI family is all about!

Shalach Manot Baskets:

Barbara Bell must be acknowledged; "Yashir Koach" to you Barbara! Barbara coordinated the mailing, organized the orders and prepared the scrolls; oh, and she also helped deliver the baskets. How in the world have you been doing the Shalach Manot (from nuts to bolts) on your own for so many years? I don't think anyone realized all the time and work that went into coordinating and preparing the Shalach Manot baskets. I would also like to thank the Shalach Manot Basket Committee that worked so tirelessly and were so willing to do whatever was needed for the Mitzvah of Giving. A special thank you to Harris Cutler for his continued support of all UHI endeavors. Thank you to Daphne Hoyt for allowing us to use her very sweet, original sketch of UHI students as a gift card.



Members of the Shalach Manot Committee from L to R: Malka Seewald, Jenny Rizel, Janice Zarad, Fran Edley, Jody Stone and Taly Kornfeld

With the help of Malka Seewald, Janice Zarad, Fran Edley, Jody Stone, Dror Levi, Jenny Rizel, Nora Tillman, Jill Kranson, Molly Rutta, Lydia Lerner, Joan Kleinman, and Sara Pisarz, Shalach Manot was enjoyed by so many. Malka and Janice did so much running around bargain hunting, shopping and seeking donations for Shalach Manot. Malka, Janice, Dror and Sara Seewald then helped put the baskets together and the special wrapping with the special finishing touches were done by Fran Edley and Jody Stone. After they were so beautifully wrapped, Malka and Jody got them ready for delivery by matching the labels with the scrolls. Finally, it was time for the much anticipated delivery. What would we have done without those who made the special deliveries? Thank you to Malka Seewald, Barbara Bell, Kevin Greenberg, AW, Bill Finklestein and Rabbi Lerner for making the deliveries. Thank you to Kathy Roth for handling the finances of this project. We have to remember and thank Mori Bell who was put to work by everyone. I too had the pleasure of making

deliveries that day and was able to see the expressions of surprise and appreciation on the faces of the recipients; it warmed my heart! *"We did it; the baskets were outstanding, fabulous!"* Again, thank you everyone for all that you did to bring happiness to so many!

Purim Seudah:

Everyone who entered the room for the Purim Seudah dinner co-hosted by Bais Menachem and UHI on Tuesday evening was instantly taken aback by the beauty of the decorations, the aroma of delicious food and festive music filled the air. It was a huge success, approximately 200 people enjoyed themselves tremendously. First of all, we would like to thank the JCC for allowing us to hold the Seudah there and to its staff for doing such a great job in setting up the room. A special thank you to Rabbi Pearlman for opening the Seudah with a Kiddush and to Rabbi Nemetsky for his reading of the Megilla. Also, thank you to Malka Seewald for making all of the arrangements for the Seudah including the Megilla bingo, Janice Zarad for decorating the room so beautifully, to Dovid Brownstein for emceeding the event, Mendy Seewald for collecting the reservations and payments, Jenny Rizel for making the lovely flyers and ordering just the right amount of food and to Dror Levi for driving all the way to New Jersey to pick up the Chinese food. Thank you for the monetary donations that helped to defray the cost of the Seudah. A special thank you to Ross Kleinman and Mitchell Pisarz for writing and reading their Dvor Torah and Sara Seewald for filling in for Ben Engel who was under the weather. Also, thank you to all the servers, you did a great job!! Last but not least, thank you to all those who attended the Seudah, there was a great sense of community in the air.

There was such Simcha in the room as the sound of Jewish music filled the room, followed by the lively and spectacular entertainment performed by the Bais Menachem students. The audience, children and adults alike, were in awe of the entertainment. There wasn't a sound in the audience when watching Mendy, Mendy, Jama, Levi, Dovi, Gavriel, Ari and Zevy who juggled, break danced and unicycled to the sound of festive music. *This was the first community event co-hosted by UHI and Bais Menachem with more to come in the future! It also is a day that the children will long remember as a very memorable Purim! Thank you all so very much!*

Taly Kornfeld, PTA President

**UHI STUDENTS GARNER AWARDS IN
PATRIOT'S PENN CONTEST**

Language Arts Teacher: Barbara Welch



Pictured from the left are Mr. Martin Flannery, Mr. Richard D. Evans, Mr. Frank Long, Ross Kleinman, Asher Schwartz and Abigail Schwartz.

Mr. C. Roberts Tilghman, Chairman of both the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen contests for VFW Post 283 and the 11th District, Department of Pennsylvania, Veterans of Foreign Wars, notified Ross Kleinman, Abigail Schwartz, and Asher Schwartz that they have placed first, second, and third, respectively, in this year's Patriot's Pen contest on the post level. In addition, Ross Kleinman placed first on the district level. According to Mr. Tilghman, students in grades six through eight were eligible to compete and wrote their essays responding to the statement "Why American's Veterans Should Be Honored."

In Ross Kleinman's essay he wrote, "We, the people of the United States of America, are so fortunate because we have great people who will do anything to keep us safe. That is why it is so important to honor veterans." Ross quoted both author Maya Angelou and Congressman John Doolittle in his first place essay.

Abigail Schwartz, second place winner, quoted Franklin Delano Roosevelt in her essay. Roosevelt said on June 19, 1941, "...We, and all others who believe as deeply as we do, would rather die on our feet than live on our knees...." Asher Schwartz wrote in his third place essay, "The American veterans should be honored because they sacrificed themselves, earned our freedom, helped people in war, and kept us safe."

Ross, Abigail, and Asher are students at the United Hebrew Institute, Kingston. Ross is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Kleinman, and Abigail and Asher are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schwartz. They each received a medal and a certificate at the Kingston VFW Post 283 award ceremony recently. Ross will be honored in the near future for placing first on the district level.

**PURIM AT UHI
A VERY HAPPY TIME
(Pictures speak louder than words!)**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOLLY!