



# THE UHI BULLETIN

The Weekly Newsletter of United Hebrew Institute, Kingston, PA



*Dear Parents,*

I was once at a security conference when one of the participants quoted the following comment from a source which I cannot recall, "If we want peace in the world, we must start with peace in our homes." I asked her, "So if we all got along with our children and spouses, Al

Quieda would not have attacked on 9/11?"

I think all reasonable people would want to have love and tranquility in their homes but would not be deluded into relying on that harmony to protect them from harm. In a similar vein, peaceful people get robbed and even murdered. Whatever G-d's plan is for each individual person, family, and even nation, there is no specific guarantee that one who practices peace will experience peace. (There is a specific guarantee that one who gives charity will not suffer deprivation because of the lack of those funds that were contributed. However, charity is an exception to the general rule.)

However, the Jewish people have a unique defense that is part of our heritage and history. If we keep peace amongst ourselves, we will enjoy G-d's supreme protection. This does not mean that we must agree. We can peacefully disagree without anger or rancor. Conversely, every great Jewish tragedy was preceded by great strife and divisiveness amongst ourselves. Unfortunately, our past is rife with so many instances where we could not be in peace with our fellow Jew.

This is a peculiar time on the Jewish calendar. We are in mourning for the 24,000 students of Rabbi Akiva who perished in the Hadrianic persecutions prior to the Great Revolt, 132-135 CE. They died during the days between the holidays of Pesach and Shavuot. (There are different opinions as to how they died and which specific days, but the overall tragedy is documented in the Talmud.) We use this time to spur us on to improved behavior and character. There is a long-standing custom to learn the "Ethics of the Fathers," a section of the Talmud that deals with proper moral and religious practices.

At the same time we are in mourning, many Jews will be celebrating Yom Haatzmaut, Israel Independence Day, which is a very festive event. However, even as we celebrate another year of its existence, we are painfully aware that Israel faces one of the greatest threats of modern times. Iran has called for Israel's annihilation and is building the capability to implement that desire, G-d forbid.

Although I am greatly impressed and encouraged that the European delegates walked out on Iranian Prime Minister Ahmidinijad's speech at the U.N., Israel's salvation is only through G-d. Israel is required even by Torah law to use all diplomatic means available, but ultimately, it is G-d who is protector. To that end, now more than ever we must create harmony and love amongst all Jews.

It is easy to get along with someone with whom you agree. It is a challenge to do the same with someone who disagrees with you. I would like to suggest that when we disagree with someone on an issue about which we are passionate that we consciously say to ourselves, "I disagree [insert adverb here] with this person and I think he/she is totally mistaken. However, I do not hate the person nor think less of him/her."

*Shabbat Shalom,  
Rabbi Raphael Nemetsky*

## A NOTE FROM TALY

*Hope that everyone had a wonderful Passover and great vacation!*

*I would like to give a special Thank You to the students, parents, teachers and staff of UHI for my surprise birthday celebration at the school and to my husband Mitch for coordinating it. It meant so much to me to be able to spend my special day with my UHI friends and family!*

*Please make every effort to attend the next PTA meeting on Monday, April 27, 7:30 p.m. at UHI. All parents and teachers are invited to attend and share their ideas for future events including the UHI Annual Picnic.*

*Thank You!  
Taly Kornfeld, PTA President*

*Excellent*

## CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

- ◆ **Wednesday, April 29 - YOM HAATZMAUT FLAG RAISING** at the Luzerne County Courthouse, 12:00 noon. Join with UHI faculty and students along with community dignitaries in raising the Israeli Flag in celebration of Israel's 61st Birthday. *All students are requested to wear blue slacks/skirt and white tops, the colors of the Israeli Flag.*
- ◆ **Thursday, April 30 - Lindsay Barrett George, renowned children's book author/illustrator will be visiting UHI and conducting workshops for Pre-school through Grade 7.** Thank you to everyone who ordered books for her book signing that day. *If anyone would like a book and did not order one, books will be available for \$7.50 (cash please) each on that day.*

**Mazel tov to:**

*Taly Kornfeld on her special Happy Birthday  
Anne Williams in honor of her son Matthew's marriage  
Leo Gutstein on the birth of a granddaughter  
Sandy Himelstein on her upcoming special Happy Birthday*

**Get Well to:**

*Sam Zatcoff*

**Condolences to:**

*The Lynn Family in memory of Henry  
Thomas Harris, Esq. & Family in memory of sister Nancy  
Ann Goodstein in memory of brother Leo  
The Rubin Family in memory of Bernie  
Mrs. Roseann O'Connor in memory of father Michael Naples  
Mrs. Luciana Deluca in memory of Eugene  
Meredith & Matthew Schuler in memory of Christine Mathna  
Mr. William Umphred in memory of Constance*

**UHI LUNCH PROGRAM MENU**  
**Week Three of the Third Session**

Tuesday, April 28 - Chicken Nuggets w/Noodles  
 Thursday, April 30 - Falafel, Tuna Fish & Egg Salad

Fresh fruit and salad served at every lunch

Please note that some of our students are requesting more than the allowed two main course servings. Because this is a planned lunch, we must adhere to the two servings limit and request that the students enjoy the plentiful side dishes (fruits & salads) along with their main course. Any questions, please call the UHI office at 287-9600.

**UHI SCHOOL NEWS**

**Winners of the Holocaust essay contest sponsored by the JCC are as follows:**

- ◆ Fifth Grade - Kyle Deutschman, 1st place
- ◆ Sixth Grade - Ashley Kaplan, 1st; Mitchell Pizarz, 2nd; Ross Kleinman, Honorable Mention
- ◆ Seventh Grade - Meitar Dougherty (representing B'nai B'rith) 1st place; Ben Engel, 2nd.

Five out of nine awards went to students representing UHI. Meitar represented her temple in the contest. The students read their essays at the JCC on Tuesday evening, April 21. Thanks to Mrs. Malka Seewald for practicing with the students.

**JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

- ◆ **YOM HAATZMAUT FLAG RAISING** at the Luzerne County Courthouse on Wednesday, April 29, 12:00 noon. Join with UHI students and community dignitaries to raise the Israeli Flag and to further our celebration for Israel's 61st Birthday. Call Barbara Sugarman at 824-4646 for more information.

**OHAV ZEDEK**

- ◆ **YOM HAATZMAUT CELEBRATION** on Wednesday, April 29, 5:00 p.m. at the Ohav Zedek Synagogue. Come join with your friends and family for Israeli food, music, children's activities and a program designed especially for you. Adults \$6, Children (3 - 10) \$4; Maximum per family

**WILKES-BARRE  
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER  
DAY CAMP  
JUNE 22-AUGUST 14  
(NO CAMP FRIDAY, JULY 3)**

**CHILDREN 2-15 YEARS OF AGE  
WELCOME  
9:30 AM-3:30 PM  
MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**LUNCH-SNACK-TRANSPORTATION  
INCLUDED IN CAMP FEE**

**OVER 20 DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES  
OFFERED WEEKLY**

CALL RICK EVANS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION AT 824-4646 OR 947-6766



**LITTLE MENSCHEN**



**K'TON TON**



**NAGILA/  
KADIMA**



**MITZVAH**



**NOAR**

**JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE**

- ◆ Art Contest 2009, "Jewish Life" - deadline for entries, April 30. Call JFS at 823-5137 for more details.
- ◆ JFS Silent & Live Auction on Sunday, May 17, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the JCC. Live Auction 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Great Items, Food, Entertainment, Celebrity Donations and Art!! Proceeds benefit JFS community Services.
- ◆ Third Annual Grandparent's Conference, "Raising Grandchildren: Empowering the Intergenerational Family," on Friday, May 8, 7:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., at Genetti's Hotel & Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre. Workshops and Education Credits Available. For more information or to register call Annette Grella @ 570-822-1159, Ext. 2429.