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Hillel Yeshiva's
HAPPENINGS
"Where a first-class education is a very Orthodox idea"

This week's "Happenings" and Hillel Yeshiva's Learning are

In Loving Memory of

Chaim Braverman

Chaim Ben Zeusha A"H

Sponsored by
The Braverman Family

1st Yartzeit

September 26, 2008, 26 Elul, 5768
Candle Lighting 6:28 PM, Shabbat Ends 7:25 PM

[Steven Shalom's Dedication](#) [Seymour Shalom z"l Student Activities Lounge](#)



On Friday, September 12th, school leaders, high school students and faculty joined with Steve and Adrienne Shalom, their friends and family, to dedicate the Seymour Shalom z"l Student Activities Lounge.

Steve and Adrienne, who are devoted supporters of Hillel, have a special feeling towards teens and high school students. They know very well that by investing in children during the critical teenage years will bear wonderful results for the children, our community and the Jewish people. It is most befitting that the Student Activities Lounge is dedicated in memory of Steve's father, Seymour z"l, who throughout his life was a man of impeccable truth and honesty. It is our merit that all berachot made in the lounge will be in the memory of Seymour z"l.

Joey Bouganim, Student Council President, Rabbi Bald, Head of High School, Rabbi Saul Kassin, Halakhic Authority and Sammy Saka, President of Hillel Yeshiva, all thanked Steve and Adrienne for their devotion to Hillel and for the wonderful makeover to the

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lounge that includes couches and coffee tables, a complete sound system, a Student Council store, cubbies for tefillin (carachas) and siddurim and new lunch tables.

Hillel Yeshiva High School thanks the Shalom family for their generosity and love.



Exciting Dedication of the Jeffrey and Juliette Saka and Family Outdoor Playground at Hillel Yeshiva ELC.

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At Hillel Yeshiva, preparing your children for higher education is our mission. Making sure that they arrive there with Torah values is our life's work.

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Friday, September 12, 2008 was a monumental day at Hillel Yeshiva. After many months of planning and coordination, the Jeffrey and Juliette Saka and Family Outdoor Playground at Hillel Yeshiva ELC was ready to open officially. Individuals involved in this project were treated to a beautiful breakfast in honor of this occasion. Heartfelt words were expressed by Dr. Ruth Katz, Rabbi Saul Kassin and president, Mr. Sammy Saka. Mrs. Ruchie Czermak introduced Hillel's Kindergarten students who presented a most impressive musical performance accompanied by ELC music teacher, Morah Sima Goldofsky. It was hard to believe that such a feat could be accomplished within the first few days of school!

Before cutting the "ribbon" with his family, Mr. Jeffrey Saka expressed his thanks to all those involved in this wonderful accomplishment and his deep Hakarat Hatov to Hillel Yeshiva for providing his children with an education par excellence. The highlight of the ceremony was watching the children stream across the bright, colorful, rubberized playground floor to play on a playground that can best be described as a child's "dream come true."





**Message from Dr. Ruth Katz
Head of School,
ELC/ES/MS**

Dear Parents and Friends,

On behalf of our administration and faculty we wish you a Shana Tova Umetukah, A happy and sweet New Year.

Tizku L'shanim Rabbot



High School Back to School BBQ

Hillel Starts Year off With Not One BBQ but Two!

How do we rev up school spirit and welcome students back to the high school-with a mega barbeque of course! On September 4th, our high school students were treated to a BBQ sponsored by the

student council. Student Council president, Joey Bouganim, and our Student Activities Committee not only arranged for fabulous eats, they also arranged for three moon bounces; a bungee, slide, and tower which were set up on the Hillel tennis court. With Dr. Herrmann and Dr. Leibowitz manning the grill, the perfect hot dogs and hamburgers were served up to students and faculty alike. David Krady, Chair of our Techno Committee, made sure that tunes were blasted loud enough for all to hear and enjoy. The "survey says" that this was a phenomenal way to start the new school year!

But that was not all!

On the heels of the Student Council BBQ, just a few days later on September 7th, Hillel held it's first ever BBQ Kickoff for parents and students. Shelly and Albert Antebi graciously offered their beautiful home as the venue for this unbelievable event. Not only was there a delicious catered BBQ arranged by Mrs. Vicky Shamah and Mrs. Violet Galapo, there were also a laser tag course, an illusionist, ping pong, and a stunning sunset for all to enjoy! Needless to say, the event was a resounding success that is the talk of the town. Thank you to the many wonderful sponsors who helped make this amazing evening a resounding success!

High School New Faculty

It is with much excitement that we announce the following new faculty to the Hillel Yeshiva High School family.

Rabbi David Becker is the new Director of Student Activities. Rabbi Becker brings his enthusiasm and vibrant personality to this position and has already added much to our programming and school spirit. Rabbi Becker held the same position at YULA Boys High School in Los Angeles, California.

Rabbi Victor Gindi, is well known in the community. Rabbi Gindi brings his knowledge and expertise to our Judaic Studies faculty and he is also the Director of Technology.

Mrs. Jessica Savitt is teaching both English and Science. Fluent in Hebrew as well, she brings with her an inspiring and rigorous approach to education. Mrs. Savitt has an outstanding reputation at the Jewish Educational Center in Elizabeth where she taught previously and she is a devoted member of the Elizabeth community.

Ms Julie Anzaroot is teaching TSBP and Humash to the girls of our high school and in addition she is the girl's Israel Guidance advisor. She is a graduate of Yeshiva University's Stern College and has earned a MS in Secondary Jewish Education from the Anzereli Graduate School. She also holds a Certificate in Talmud from Yeshiva University's Graduate Program.

Rabbi Jeffrey Eisenstein brings his previous experience at the Mesivta of North Jersey to our Judaic Studies department. He is also involved in our Business Academy as he is a C.P.A. and holds a M.B.A. in Finance from Baruch College.

Ms. Rane Abbruzzese is our new full time History teacher, Librarian and Model U.N. advisor. She holds a B.A. in History and a M.A. in Labor and Employment Relations from Rutgers University. Ms. Abbruzzese brings her energy and enthusiasm to her position. She is also one of Mr. English's former top students and she is passionate about girl's hockey.

Rabbi Yosef Tawil contributes so much to our community that we are so pleased he is a member of our Judaic Studies faculty. Rabbi Tawil is also leading our 11th and 12th grade minyan.

Mrs. Kathleen Heitz has joined our mathematics department. She has many years of experience teaching in high schools in the Jersey shore area. She brings so much enthusiasm to her teaching that we are sure she will inspire our students to both enjoy and understand math.

A Breeze of Israel in Yeshivat Hillel



The pages of a Hebrew-English dictionary were being flipped in haste as a freshman boy was eager to impress our Israeli visitors, "what books do you recommend?" Sharing literature tastes while speaking in another language - talk about two birds with one stone.

The traditionally white brick walls of the Hillel classroom were lit up with colorful conversation in the 9th grade Ivrit- Hebrew class last week. Dana and Hila are doing their national service - Sherut Leumi - by spending time educating students at Hillel Yeshiva High School about Israeli life and culture. After a brief introduction, the students quickly engaged in conversations with our guests, and challenged themselves to create fluid dialogue. Our students found themselves relating to the girls easily as Dana and Hila are only a couple of years out of high school themselves. The conversation was conducted in Ivrit and it was inspiring to hear how every student utilized their vocabulary in order to make the class more of a conversation than an interview. Our students were not intimidated to ask about life in Israel, nor to question the girls about their alternative (to army service) service to Israel by coming to New Jersey. The necessity to use Hebrew with Dana and Hila, gave our students a sense of appreciation of their own language skills. The 12th grade also benefited from the visitors as we spent a class discussing sports in Israel. We look forward to the increased Israeli involvement in our school and the Hebrew fluency of our students this year and in years to come.

Apple Picking Trip



The Nursery, Pre-K and Kindergarten children experienced a very "fruitful trip" at Battleview Orchards where they picked apples in honor of the holiday of Rosh Hashana. The picture-perfect weather combined with the enticing smell and color of the apples in the orchard helped us appreciate the beautiful world Hashem created for us. Each child had the opportunity to pick six apples to enjoy at home. Our apple picking guide, "Mrs. R." taught us the correct way to pick apples to preserve the health and strength of the tree and its branches. They learned that our climate in New Jersey is the perfect environment to produce delicious apples. It was a delightful treat to bring home ripe, juicy, red delicious apples just in time for us to enjoy at our holiday tables!





PreK & Kindergarten Students Enjoy A "Shofar Show"



Toot Toot! Where does a shofar come from? The children in PreK and Kindergarten were invited to find out as they participated in a hands-on shofar demonstration. A shofar comes from the head of a ram. We marveled at the life size models of a ram's head and we're able to see where the shofar grows on its head. Although we saw horns from different animals like a bull, and a buffalo, we understood that the shofar we use on Rosh Hashana comes from a ram. The children watched and helped transform a raw horn into a beautiful shofar. We sawed, drilled and sanded until there was a hole big enough to make a loud sound and smooth enough to blow. The children enjoyed this interactive and informative workshop. Each class received a real shofar and a deeper understanding of this special mitzvah.



**Unprecedented Attendance at
Hillel Yeshiva ELC's Back to School Event**



We couldn't have asked for a more glorious day for our ELC Back to School Event on Sunday, September 21, 2008! Upon arrival, children were treated to creative crafts hosted by our very own seventh grade girls. The day's attractions were almost too good to be true! A wonderful concert by Miss Sherri kept the atmosphere

filled with music and enthusiasm. Our brand new outdoor playground was a major highlight for children of all ages. The icing on the cake was lunch by Slices and ices by Igloo.

Thank you to Mrs. Jennifer Labaton and Mrs. Esther Epstein for organizing every detail of this event and following through from beginning to end. Thank you to PTA presidents Mrs. Sarah Chrem and Mrs. Michelle Zekaria for their valuable input and advice. A note of appreciation to Mrs. Yocheved Steinfeld, Mrs. Zeeva Sheinberg and Mrs. Tzipora Lieff for coordinating and supervising the seventh grade girls. We are so very proud of Hillel's seventh grade girls who took time out on a Sunday to help make our event enjoyable and exciting. This year's unprecedented attendance of ELC families indicates that Hillel Yeshiva's parents and students continue to enjoy this excellent opportunity to get to know each other, share quality time and have loads of fun!



"I Count"
Orientation Day at Hillel Yeshiva ELC



On Wednesday, September 3, 2008, Hillel Yeshiva ELC welcomed 156 students of grades Pre-Nursery, Nursery, Pre-K, and Kindergarten to an exciting orientation event! Parents and their children marveled at the beautifully equipped classrooms and met the ELC teachers. Kindergarten students had their first opportunity to explore the new outdoor playground. Thank you Lou & Frieda Shalam for their donation of our ELC themed t-shirts that each child received. It is our hope and goal that each child's innate strength and talents are recognized and cultivated as each child "Counts" at Hillel Yeshiva ELC.

"Nursery Bees Prepare for Rosh Hashana"



E2K Gruss Program

The E2K Gruss program is an after school math & science enrichment program for 6-8 grade students. It got off to a smashing success on Tuesday, September 16th. The 6th graders were with Mrs. Tallman in the lab, and the 7th & 8th graders were with Mr. Novick in Rm.314. Mrs. Tallman had the very eager 6th graders working on capillarity and solving a riddle with a long term goal of determining what is in the mysterious beaker. Mr. Novick had his students "hunting for rectangles" whereby they learned strategies for a game where they will compete in a tournament that involves simply the fractions of $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. This will lead to an exciting 2nd module that involves a magician in a strange land.

Bar Mitzvah Middle School Celebration at Hillel



Mabrook to Isaac Tawil and his family on the celebration of his Bar Mitzvah, the first in school celebration of the year. On Monday, September 8, Isaac read the Torah and received his Aliyah in the Middle School Minyan. His family then sponsored a nice breakfast for the 7th & 8th Grade boys so they could share in the occasion.

Anyone interested in celebrating a Bar Mitzvah with friends, relatives and classmates here in school should contact Violet Galapo or Rabbi Davis for more information.

4th & 5th Grade Club Program Begins for the School Year 2008-2009:



"What a wonderful start to our new year!"
 Clubs started this Wed. with its usual bang.
 Sports club lead by the 1 and only Mr. Shlomo Weiss
 Computer Club by Mrs. Sharyn Martuscelli
 An all new Dollar\$ And \$ense by Mrs. Rishty
 Learn Archaeology with Rabbi Rosenswieg.
 Open W I D E if your in Morah Dahlia's Makhela Lets hear those voices!

Dance club by Sherut Leumi Tali and Efrat.
And of course our popular Arts and crafts Club with Mrs. Fellner.

6th Grade Girls Intergenerational Chesed Program



This past week, the sixth grade girls participated in a intergenerational chesed program with the senior citizens of the Sephardic Bikor Holim and of the JCC. Some of the meaningful moments of the program are highlighted below:

Shoshana Sutton: Talking to everyone and more!
 Chana Chrem: Knowing that I made a Kiddush Hashem!
 Aliza Dayan: Talking and laughing with everyone.
 Gila Tawil: Making the people feel good and letting them know that we care about them.
 Mazal Cohen: Seeing my grandma
 Hadassah Sitt: talking to them and hearing their stories.
 Adina Cojab: Learning about them, meeting Esther Saka, and singing happy birthday to Lucy.
 Shanie Wittner: Wishing them a happy holiday.
 Ayalet Nahem: Bonding with Esther Saka
 Sara Goldman: I liked every part of it!
 Batya Marcus: Watching people eat grapes
 Mazal Dabbah: Making the people feel happy and not as lonely.
 Yaffa Cohen: I liked that everyone was happy.
 Rachel Tova Cohen: meeting the people and seeing my great aunt.
 Ayelet Ades: Waving and smiling at people
 Gemila Gemal: Singing lovely songs and seeing them clap for us!
 Melissa: I felt it was special to make the elderly happy.
 Geri: I had a lot of fun listening to stories about their grandchildren.
 Raquel: We had a lot of fun talking to the seniors and singing with them.
 Jacquelyn: We did great mitzvoth by entertaining the seniors and singing for them what a great experience.
 Haley: We did a lot of outstanding mitzvoth for the elderly and I really think they enjoyed the entertainment.
 Ariel: Some people told us stories about their life and it was exciting to have been there.
 Vera: I had a great time at the JCC. We sang all types of songs and I really would like to do it again.
 Rachel: To me it felt like seeing them happy made me happy.
 Alyn: I was so glad to do a mitzvah.
 Rochelle: I was very inspired by all the chessed in that room.
 Vicky: It was amazing because we got to talk and connect with the seniors.
 Sally: I liked talking to the seniors and hearing their life stories.

Carley: When I walked over to them and they smiled at me I felt so nice.

Rebecca: Socializing with the elders was a great mitzvah so that is what I like about it.

Elayne: Visiting with the elders was a fantastic mitzvah. I can't wait to do it again.



Shofar Workshops



On Monday, September 22nd Hillel Yeshiva students joined representatives from Chabad of the Shore in our annual shofar workshops. Pre-K, kindergarten, 3rd and 5th grade students learned about the different animals that shofrot come from, and which kinds of animal horns are not acceptable. This was followed by a demonstration on how a ram's horn is made into a shofar. In addition to the demonstration, all 5th grade students had the opportunity to make and take home their own shofrot.



Middle School Yom Iyun Program



In honor of the upcoming holiday of Rosh Hashana, Rabbi Joey Haber visited Hillel Yeshiva to Inspire the students and teachers of grades 7 and 8 with divrei Torah. Rabbi Haber enumerated several steps one should take to properly prepare for the Yamim Noraim. He explained to the students how these steps can also be used to help them succeed in their studies, as well as in many other practical situations.

Contact Us

We welcome your suggestions, corrections, or comments about our "Happenings". Please direct any communications to Elizabeth Beckerman at 732-493- 9300 x 350 or by email to ebeckerman@hillelyeshiva.org

****Sponsorships**

To sponsor the weekly Happenings and a week or month of Hillel Yeshiva's learning, contact Elizabeth Beckerman at (732) 493-9300 ext. 350 or Rabbi Saul J. Kassin at ext. 303

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