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# שבת שלום

Solomon Schechter Day School of Raritan Valley



## D'Var HaMenahel—A Word From Rabbi Saposh

The Torah Readings the last few weeks have concentrated upon the many details of the construction of the *Mishkan*, the first “synagogue”, the portable sanctuary *B'nai Yisrael* carried through the Sinai on the way to *Eretz Yisrael*. Included in all this detail are the instructions for many of the objects to be placed and used within the *Mishkan*, the alter, menorah, ark, and eternal lamp, as well as the special clothing to be worn by the *Kohanim*. The Torah also details the major “fundraising campaign,” necessary to support all this construction and building.

At our Middle School *tefilot*, we’ve been talking about the giving aspects of this time in our people’s history and its natural connection to today, when we are also called upon to give, often in the form of *zedakah*. Recently at Schechter, we have been collecting *zedakah* targeted for a specific purpose, fulfilling the great *mitzvah* of Purim, *Mishloach Manot* The Sharing of Gifts of Food with the soldiers of the IDF/Israel Defense Forces. We should be so proud of our students, families, faculty and staff, for this week we were able to send to Israel, along with many cards and letters to the soldiers composed by our students, close to one thousand dollars. This will provide *Mishloach Manot* to two full units, 60 soldiers, and to an additional 13 soldiers. What a powerful and successful experience in reaching out to support our people on the front lines of defending our beloved homeland, and in a centuries’ old, traditional fashion. *Ye’asher Kochechem* to all who participated in this program.

*Shabbat Shalom*

Rabbi Stuart Saposh, Head of School      [saposhs@ssdsrv.org](mailto:saposhs@ssdsrv.org)

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March 4, 2011      t "ga, wt rst jf

Friday Candle lighting      5:32pm  
ohkea ,arp - hsup ,arp

- **Monday, March 7 Through Thursday, March 10**  
**Standardized Testing**
- **Friday, March 11**  
**Standardized Testing Make-Up Day**
- **Monday, March 14**  
**“Pi” Day – Details To Follow**
- **Tuesday, March 15**  
**Mishloach Manot Order Forms Due**
- **Thursday, March 17**  
**Fast of Esther – Aftercare Available**
- **Sunday, March 20 - Purim**  
**Purim Packing – 5:30pm-7:30pm**
- **Monday, March 21**  
**Shushan Purim**  
**School-wide Celebration**  
**Aftercare Available**
- **Sunday, March 27**  
**Main Event**
- **Friday, April 1**  
**Regular Friday 3:30pm**  
**Dismissal Resumes**
- **Sunday, April 3**  
**Israeli Dance Festival**

A beneficiary of  
Jewish Federation of  
Greater Middlesex County;  
United Jewish Federation of  
Princeton, Mercer Bucks; and  
NJ Region, United Synagogue of  
Conservative Judaism

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## From The Office

### **Enrollment For The 2010-2011 School Year**

Please note that the deposit for re-enrollment is \$975 if paid by April 1. If you have any questions, please contact Gail in the office.

If you would like to register a new student or know of someone who is interested, please contact Ruth Bash at 732-238-7971 (x158) or bashr@ssdsrv.org

### **Tuition Assistance**

Requests for tuition assistance for the 2011-2012 school year are due by Friday, March 11. The application should be submitted utilizing the online service of Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST). You can access FAST from the link on our website.

If you plan to request tuition assistance for next year, please prepare your tax returns

early or schedule an appointment immediately with your preparer so that you will have sufficient time to complete all the documents our committee requires. The deadline is firm, and the committee cannot accept any paperwork after that date.

### **Standardized Testing**

Standardized testing will take place from Monday, March 7 through Thursday, March 10. The make-up day is set for Friday, March 11.

**All tests are scheduled for the morning. Please make sure that your child comes to school on time, is well rested and has eaten breakfast.**

### **SSDS Main Event**

The Main Event has been scheduled for Sunday, March 27. It will be a fun evening with comedian Judy

Gold. You can see some of her material at [www.judygold.com](http://www.judygold.com). The evening will also honor Mickey Kaufman and Will Schafer's great contributions to the school. Please see attached flyer for additional details.

We look forward to seeing you!


### **Extended Deadline For Ads**

Please note that because we started a bit late this year, the deadline for getting ads in to Schechter has been extended to Monday, May 2. But, remember if company ads are to be seen at the Main Event, they should have their ads in to us by Sunday, March 20. Send the completed forms to Rhona at [berberr@ssdsrv.org](mailto:berberr@ssdsrv.org).

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## Our Students Are Doing So Much

### **Israeli Dance Festival**

The Israeli Dance Festival will take place on Sunday,  April 3 in Manhattan.

The remaining rehearsals will be held on the following dates from 3:30pm-5pm in the Ballroom: March 9, March 16, March 23 and March 30.

Please call Gail or Pat in the office if you have not already advised us of your child's transportation arrangements on these days.

### **Dancing To The Music!**

SSDS's Israeli Dance Troup is in need of percussion hand instruments (rhythm sticks,

maraccas or hand rattles) for their upcoming Israeli Dance Festival performance. Please consider donating any outgrown musical instruments of this type to the school. Items can be dropped off at the school office. Thank you very much!

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**Pi Day Is Coming!**  
**Monday, March 14**

Pi Day is a nationally recognized day that helps raise excitement and interest in math.

This year, under the direction of Math Teacher Stefani Kovler, our students in each grade will be involved in a "math" event symbolizing the theme of Pi Day. We look

forward to a week of fun and learning!

Additional details to follow.

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## PTA News

**Mishloach Manot**  
**Chag Purim, Chag Purim.....**

The next three reasons for celebrating Purim are:

4. Purim is easier to spell than Khanuka, Chanukah, Chanuka, Hanuka -- the Hebrew name for the Festival of Lights.
5. You don't have to *kasher* your home and change all the pots and dishes.
6. You don't have to build a *sukkah* and eat outside.

Stay tuned for the finale.

Today, we are sending home with your oldest child the *Mishloach Manot* order forms

(paper ordering) and your personalized letter that contains your username and password (online ordering). We are encouraging people to go online and look around the site, create your own greetings, and share your Purim sentiments. Deadline for ordering is Tuesday, March 15.

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Thanks to the efforts of Michele Bernstein, ACME East Brunswick have agreed to donate 50 shopping bags, Lori and Walter Nagel, owners of Nagels Bagels and More, who donated packets of Herr's popcorn and to Saker Shoprite

for donating a \$25 gift card. *Todah Rabbah* to our wonderful donors.

We welcome volunteers to help packing on Sunday, March 20, in the fitness room, EBJC at 5:30pm-7:30pm. If you are able to help out (for any portion of time), please contact Ilana Lutman at 732 672-0468 or [ilana\\_lutman@hotmail.com](mailto:ilana_lutman@hotmail.com) We look forward to your participation! Lehitraot. Misloach Manot Committee Ilana Lutman, Sue Kamens and Jennifer Fried

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## Jewish Community Events Around Town

**Sunday, March 13 – 9am**  
**Neve Shalom – Metuchen**  
**Parent Education Program**  
**300 Ways To Enhance Your Seder!**

Presented by Dr. Murray Spiegel and Rickey Stein  
No Charge – For addition information, contact [can2r11@aol.com](mailto:can2r11@aol.com) or 732 548-2238 (x14)

**Sunday, March 13 – 3pm**  
**Crossroads Theatre in**  
**New Brunswick**  
**Break Out In Song:**  
**Celebrating Contemporary**  
**Jewish Music**

An Afternoon With Makhelat Hamercaz – Jewish Chior of Central NJ and Friends  
For additional information, contact -[www.Crossroads TheatreCompany.org/visit](http://www.CrossroadsTheatreCompany.org/visit)



StandWithUs has been advised that March 30th has been designated as a Global BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) Day of action by the boycott movement against Israel. We have received a memorandum that says the following: *"The BDS National Committee (BNC) is calling on its supporters to unite in different capacities and struggles to join the Global BDS Day of Action on Land Day, 30 March 2011."* Boycotters have been energetically lobbying stores across North America to drop Israeli products, from local co-ops to Costco and Trader Joe's.

We are therefore working closely with the pro-Israel, pro-peace community to **use March 30 as our next "BIG (Buy Israeli Goods) Day"** and we need your support and help to promote it. Let us show anyone that calls for boycotts of even one or two stores, that it will always be met with a much larger counter-movement to buy Israeli goods.

StandWithUs and the America-Israel Chambers of Commerce calls on schools, college campuses, synagogues, community organizations, and individuals to designate **Wednesday, March 30**, as the day to actively Buy Israeli Goods. Go to your local stores and request Israeli products. Whenever a boycott is called, respond by purchasing the very Israeli goods that are being targeted and let store managers know they should keep them well-stocked on the shelves.

While you go shopping for Purim and Passover, choose presents from the wonderful array of Israeli-made items, from fine Israeli wines to the high quality Ahava beauty products, Israeli jewelry, shoes and clothing lines, and of course, food. Select Sabra or Tribe hummus, great Israeli wines and Osem cookies to grace your holiday party.

We must defeat the boycotters who advocate destructive instead of constructive measures, who undermine hopes for peaceful co-existence, and whose only goal is to defame, cripple and damage Israel.

We can defeat them if we join together.

On **March 30<sup>th</sup>**, go shopping for Israel no matter where you live. Buy for Israel. Buy for peace. Be a big part of this BIG (Buy Israeli Goods) Day.

Shop with friends, and please take pictures and videos of yourself purchasing Israeli products, and send them to us. Make entries for youtube, make them positive, fun, and/or funny. Email your photos or links to your videos and pictures to [big@standwithus.com](mailto:big@standwithus.com).

AND:

Visit this website: [www.BuyIsraelGoods.org](http://www.BuyIsraelGoods.org) --- The website includes a locator so that you can find stores in your area that carry Israeli products. The BIG campaign is a partnership between StandWithUs and the America-Israel Chambers of Commerce and like-minded organizations.

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[www.standwithus.com/chapters/nyc](http://www.standwithus.com/chapters/nyc) - [www.standwithuscampus.com](http://www.standwithuscampus.com) - [www.learnisrael.org](http://www.learnisrael.org) -  
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